



West District

Cactus Patch

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President Colleen Becker

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2020 Theme
"Changing the World With ACTION"

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.
 ~ Peter 4:10*



West District Scandal...

**THE
 DIRECTORY
 DISASTER**

♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪♪
 (theme to Mission Impossible playing)

Your mission...should you choose to accept it is to save the West District Directory to your desktop each time an updated and corrected digital version will be sent to you. Put all others in the trash. If you prefer a paper copy, make changes to your own paper copy of the directory. To avoid this problem in the future, please send Cheryl your new officer list as soon as you have elections. (The list is due in Nov. if possible.) When there are changes, please notify Cheryl as soon as possible. In the future, a digital copy of the directory will be available to all members in West District.

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
DESERT SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE
WEST DISTRICT
LOCAL ORGANIZATION CALENDAR**

Western Jurisdiction April 17 – 19, 2020
Doubletree, Tempe

Cactus Patch Articles Due **May 15, 2020**

DSW Annual Conference (church) June 11 – 14, 2020
Mesa Convention Center

Mission u, East/West Districts July 31 – Aug. 1, 2020
Lakeview United Methodist Church, 10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ

Cactus Patch Articles Due **August 15, 2020**

West District Annual Celebration October 3, 2020
Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church, 13658 W. Meeker Blvd., Sun City West

West District Training with Conference Officers October 23, 2020
St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 8051 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson 85710

Desert Southwest Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting October 24, 2020
St. Paul's United Methodist Church

Cactus Patch Articles Due **November 15, 2020**

Please send Cactus Patch articles to Cheryl Buchholtz: westsecBuchholtz@yahoo.com.

DUE DATE	WHEN REPORTS ARE DUE	SEND TO
Mar. 30	Census Report Form	National Website
May 15	Marilyn Jean Chapman Scholarship and Marilyn Sue Stout Scholarship Applications	District President
Sept. 1	Memorial List	District Membership Care Coordinator
Nov. 30	Your local organization's officers information for new directory	District Secretary
Dec. 10	Local Organization Final Financial Report	District Treasurer
Dec. 10	Reading Program Participant's Information	District Secretary of Program Resources
Dec. 31	Living the Charter for Racial Justice Reporting Form	District Social Action Coordinator
Dec. 31	Mission Today Forms	District President
Dec. 31	Outstanding Local Organization Form	District Education for Mission Coordinator

Conversation with Colleen

United Methodist Women DSW WD President Colleen Becker

cbecker14@cox.net



Many thanks to all of you who attended the Leadership Development Days at First United Methodist churches in Yuma and Sun City. Both days had very good attendance. We officers appreciate the input from each of you sharing your experiences from your local units. We love the opportunity to reunite with familiar faces but also there were many new ones. Leadership is hard work but very rewarding.

Jurisdiction is our next event. We will be meeting at the Doubletree in Tempe, April 17-19. I hope many of you are registered to attend. Ubuntu activities begin on Friday morning. You will have opportunities to share your love in service while learning about the Tempe community. Keynote speaker will be Professor Katherine Hayhoe. We remember her from 2018 Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. Saturday evening plans to be exciting when the talented performers from Yellowbird Productions will join us for a celebration of Native American Culture through dance and storytelling. We will also hear from Molly James-Vickery, a United Methodist Deaconess. Shannon Priddy and Harriet Jane Olson will be special guest speakers. There are several workshops to choose to attend.

Looking farther ahead Mission u will be coming up. Be thinking about someone you know that has never attended to apply for scholarship. Applications need to be sent to me by May 15. You just never know that person might become a West District Officer.

Blessings and I'll leave you with something to think about:

"Act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." Micah 6: 8.

Colleen Becker, West District President

Check out the world maps indicating the various missions supported by United Methodist Women. They make a great display on United Methodist Women Sunday.
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/maps/mission-maps>

Notes from Eva Ndavu

United Methodist Women DSW WD Vice-President

erndavu@yahoo.com



Black History Month: A Time for Action

February's celebration of Black History in America offers opportunities to study or reflect on our diversity. It is not only for honoring Civil Rights leaders and other historical figures but also for taking a broader look at how we can change our society for the better, especially for future generations. One of the UMW social action campaigns is broad-based in its approach to the criminalization of communities of color. It aims to interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline and destroy the practice of mass incarceration based on prejudice. One way to approach this very important problem is to use the Bible study provided on the UMW website (or contact Emily Jones, ejones@unitedmethodistwomen.org).

The UMW reading program has included meaningful books (both fiction and non-fiction) about African-American experiences. Readers surely remember Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy*, a selection for 2018 that was recently made into a movie. It is about people in Mississippi and Alabama who were jailed for crimes they did not commit; because of the unjust local courts system, some were even given the death penalty. I recently finished Edward E. Baptist's *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the making of American capitalism*. This is a revealing analysis of our economic history which needed to be told. *So you want to talk about race* by Ijeoma Oluo is a hard-hitting commentary by a woman with American and Nigerian roots. Her chapters are short but sharp in their impact. She discusses topics such as racism, privilege, brutality, affirmative action, intersectionality, cultural appropriation and microaggressions. Linda Triolo and I attended the Martin Luther King, Jr. concert at Pilgrim Rest Church (the starting point for the next day's MLK parade) in downtown Phoenix. The large choir included singers from many local churches, each group wearing their individually designed colorful African costumes. This was a refreshing and inspiring experience that gave us insight into how people celebrate their experiences and their relationship with God.

Many thanks to all those VPs who attended our leadership training. We were blessed with attendance by Pat Goss who has just stepped in as VP for the Desert Southwest Conference. Hoping to see all of you in Tempe in April for the Jurisdiction Quadrennial meeting,

PS: February has passed but this topic is appropriate at all times of the year.



Chatter from Cheryl - westsecBuchholtz@yahoo.com

United Methodist Women DSW WD Secretary **Cheryl Buchholtz**

Being secretary is a very exciting job in any organization - especially if you are one of those people who always wants to know **WHAT** is going on. That is actually what this job is all about. Secretaries take notes, keep track of what happens at the executive board meetings and the unit meetings; secretaries put together file folders (or notebooks) to keep track of agendas, minutes, treasurer's reports, communications, and copies of auditor's letters, The secretary is custodian of all records and official documents (another file, ladies) The most difficult part of this job is dropping the reports into the correct folder.

Secretaries keep a list of local leaders of the unit, including addresses, ZIP codes, telephone numbers and emails. The secretary sends all of this information to the District Secretary immediately after elections so the District Secretary can put together the District Directory and get it published in time for Leadership Training.

I encourage any and all of you to consider giving this job a try, especially if you are an organizer. It is an important job and I am always here to offer support and offer assistance to help you feel comfortable in this position.

I had a friend refer to her desk as an archeology dig or a black hole and I have felt that way at times too...but this is a job that will encourage you keep that desk organized and those reports current. And, it is also a position in your unit that will enable to be in contact and in fellowship with some pretty wonderful sisters-in-Christ.

Committee on Nominations

United Methodist Women DSC WD Chair **Vicki Keel**
vkeel55@gmail.com



As chair of Nominations, I am growing into my role. I had the honor and privilege of meeting some of the District officers at the leadership trainings held in Yuma and Sun City in January. As most of the units don't have a Nominations person; the Nominations Training Folders were distributed to the President of your church.

I was able to attend the Vice President and the joint Social Action and Education for Missions training. As a result, I know better what is expected of those offices. To me, the first requirement is a willingness to serve followed by a little time to commit (office dependent). It was also good to learn that there so many resources to use when serving as an officer. I was also impressed to hear what so many of our units (and churches) are doing.

I want to thank all of those at the meetings who turned in their "My Talent Is- My Passion Is" forms. Some of the passions are Missions (not at all surprising), Helping where needed and UMW itself! Some of the talents are Organizing, Crocheting and Sewing and Music. However, I'm fairly certain each of you have similar talents and passions; many of which are being put to use in your meetings and activities that support UMW. I will be sharing forms with the Nominations Committee in the near future. As a reminder the Nominations Committee members are Helen and Pam Jackson, Janet Rummel, and Paula Sallas.

One of my passions is the continuation of a strong UMW; so I want to remind you that each and every one of you are part of Nominations. When you are at a circle meeting, a church event, or attending Mission U; don't forget to be on the lookout for future officers. If you are interested in becoming more involved let myself or one of your officers know. I would love to hear from you. Let's step out in Faith to ensure UMW continues for another 150 years.

Blessings,
Vicki Keel
Chair of Nominations
Email: vkeel55@gmail.com

Meet Inspiring Women at
WESTERN JURISDICTION
Calling u
April 17-19, 2020
Tempe, Arizona

Learn more and register on this site:

https://www.wjumw.com/?fun_cid=15664259331815937614



Linda's Lines About Education for Mission for Education/Social Action

United Methodist Women DSC WD Linda Triolo lindatriolo@cox.net

Linda's notes on Simplified Structure Webinar, hosted by District Superintendent Nancy Cushman, January 28, 2020

Hello, sisters:

In addition to my UMW local and district jobs, I'm the Lay Leader at my church, First United Methodist Church of Glendale. This year we have adopted the simplified governance structure for our church, where we have one meeting per month that includes finance, trustees, staff parish relations, nominating committee and three members at large, instead of having separate meetings for each. (Some churches may meet quarterly.) I conduct the meetings. We had a good January meeting. We are learning as we go. Some of us read Simple Governance: Liberating Your Church for Mission, by Stephan Ross.

I went downtown (Phoenix) to the Desert Southwest Conference center for the webinar, out of curiosity and mistrust of technology. The webinar was video segments of Kay Kotan, author of Mission Possible: A Simple Structure for Missional Effectiveness, speaking to a large church group about simplified church governance structure. (I have since ordered the Mission Possible book from Amazon Prime, for \$18.)

She also mentioned Winning on Purpose, by John Edmund Kaiser.

She talked about the church's true mission, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and that the motivation for streamlining the church governance model is to become a "lean, mean, disciple-making machine". She talked a lot about accountable, mission-driven leadership. It was noted that section 247.2 in the 2016 Book of Discipline suggests this structure.

Kay Kotan talked about structure driving the church vs. mission driving the church. With structure driving the church, money and the buildings are the focus. (Rings a bell with me.)

Also, management style vs. governing style: In management style, the focus is on the details, but there may be no one looking at the big picture, steering the ship while others are laboring to keep it afloat. Keeping our eyes on our mission was emphasized. "If we aim at nothing in particular, that's what we'll hit."

She discussed an organizational chart. The owner is Jesus Christ. The first beneficiaries are people *outside* the church, who need Jesus. The second beneficiaries are the people *inside* the church. The pastor should be the head of the nominating committee, and people should not nominate themselves. The nominating committee should develop leaders. There should be a small number of decision makers, freeing, enabling and equipping a larger number of members to be in ministry, disciple makers. The minister provides vision, direction, teaching.

Benefits of the simplified structure:

1. Marries responsibility, authority and accountability.
2. Promotes church unity.
3. Functions on a high level of trust.
4. Decisions are made quickly.

I'm still learning, and always will be, like everybody else. I think we are on the right track.

Read, Read and then Read Some More

United Methodist Women DWC WD Program Resources Coordinator

Christine Jones jones.sensei@gmail.com



What an exciting beginning to the year we have already had. The Leadership Development Day (LDD) training in Yuma was particularly fun for me because Cheryl couldn't make it and I got the chance to see the secretaries again as well as to introduce myself as the new Secretary for Program Resources.

When the training was offered in Sun City, Cheryl and I did a joint training, which allowed a lot of the participants to see the crossover of a lot of duties, and more importantly some great ways to support each other. So many of us have duties that can cross over, which means we can get help from a lot of different avenues.

There have been a lot of changes in Program Resources since last year. I think some people were really worried about the changes, but I am super excited. I want to share a few of the suggestions that were made in the Leadership Development Day meetings.

First, you can use the local library to help you with your United Methodist Women's Reading Program. Check if they have the books that you want to see on your lists. If not, ask if they can order a copy. A lot of times, they can! They may even be able to get several copies if you want to do a reading circle. The library makes a great partner.

Second, are you familiar with the Libby app? Many of our local libraries are connected to the Libby app. It allows you to check out books online, through the app. If the library has a copy of one of our great books in Libby, you could read it online in one step. Check with your librarian and ask about the [Libby app](#).

Third, many of the ladies are making full-size reading circles and including men. Why not? The books on our list are there to encourage more than just the ladies. Many of the books have great discussion points and some of them are so good you could get everyone involved in the discussion. You can even do a reading circle in the community and be open to anyone and everyone. If you are reading United Methodist Women's titles from 2015-2020, they count no matter where or with whom you are reading.

Fourth, did you know you can read to others and get the credit for the book? This is true of the Youth and Kids books too. Last year, I did a circle program for my local unit and I read "Red" by Jan De Kinder aloud. Then, I handed out the reading program forms and had everyone fill in the form. It counted for everyone in the group. If you are a children's or youth leader, you can read one of the books to the kids and get credit for reading it. Even better, get the children to read to you! I even saw a story in the Desert Southwest Conference news about Animals 4 God where children were [reading to animals](#). That would work too!

Finally, did you know that you can use Kindle (or other e-reader programs) to read the books? Now, the truth is that I am a little old fashioned in that I love reading with a book in my hands. But even I have found there are times when I can't carry a book with me. The convenience of having the book on the e-reader is nice to have when I need it. In addition, you can also get the audiobook version. This is really helpful when I am folding laundry or doing chores. I can listen at the same time and I feel productive at the same time. Another shout out to the library, many have audiobooks available too.

I have so much that I want to share with you, but I will have to save some for next time. Remember, you only need to read 5 books to get the first certificate. Don't forget to read Response Magazine too.

God bless you and keep you safe.

Your Sister in Christ,

Christine Jones

Membership Care

United Methodist Women DSC WD

Barbara Kelton minebk@outlook.com



Greetings to all of you in the West District United Methodist Churches.

My name is **Barbara Kelton** and I am now the Chairperson of Mission Membership Care. While I am a member of First United Methodist Church in Sun City and a member of the United Methodist Women, this is my first office on the District Board, so I am in a "learning mode" about this position.

- As I understand my work, I am to encourage the various Units to attend District and Conference activities. It is also necessary that we get as many members as possible to attend Mission U. Attendance has been slumping and it is important that we attend - not only to learn about critical issues in our world today, but it is a very important time for all of us to have meaningful fellowship and conversation with our Sisters-in-Christ. Lasting friendships are made at this event.
- One of my most important jobs is to make sure that each unit submit their census information to me so that we can accurately report our active membership to National.
- I will also be the District person who will plan and deliver the Memorial Service at the October Annual meeting. That means I need each unit's accounting for members who have passed during the previous year.

That's it for now. I look forward to meeting each of you at our various functions and please contact me if you have questions. If I don't know the answer, I will point you in the right direction to get the help you need.

Your Sister-in-Christ,
Barbara Kelton

THE PURPOSE OF THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to **experience** freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

\$\$\$\$ Money Matters \$\$\$\$

United Methodist Women DSC WD

Michele Justice



Greetings to all United Methodist Women! As your West District Treasurer, I want to thank all the unit treasurers for their tremendous reporting and submissions for their Unit pledges, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, World Thank Offering, Special Missions U Scholarship donations. When I meet people who are new to United Methodist women, they are astounded by our numerous acts of goodwill that we sponsor and pledge to help financially and in other ways. I am so please to report that all West District Active Units for 2019 met **ALL** the requirements for be awarded

5 STAR 2019.

Please plan to attend our Annual Celebration in October so your UMW can be recognized for all your work throughout 2019 and receive your 5 Star Award.

The West District Leadership Team has some new members and some who are returning and we held our first quarterly district meeting on February 15th. We are excited to start 2020 off just right and we will be reaching out to each of our United Methodist Women groups to help in any way we can. A big Thank You to all the unit Treasurers who attended the Leadership Training last month. We discussed the new reporting methods that National office has our district to submit directly to UMCOR and the Legacy Fund. I am looking forward to our work ahead of us and if you have any questions or need forms or documents, please just send me an email or give me a call.

Sincerely,
Michele Justice
West District Treasurer



Any woman may be a member of United Methodist Women by choosing to become involved in our organized mission movement and may join by committing herself to the **PURPOSE** through participate in meetings, prayer, giving, study, action or service. (The president of the unit is the only one who must be a member of the United Methodist Church.)

AN IMPORTANT REMINDER:

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 23rd

Annual United Methodist Women DAY OF GIVING

Join United Methodist Women members around the country on March 23rd for the Fourth Annual Day of Giving to The Legacy Fund, part of our five-year 150th anniversary celebration! The Legacy Fund is a permanent endowment to support the work of future generations of United Methodist Women.

It's easy to give!

- Online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund.

By phone: 800-278-7771 (8 am-6 pm EST, Monday-Friday).

- Text Legacy 150 to 41444.

- By check to: Office of the Treasurer
United Methodist Women
475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115

Let's show our support of this great organization!!

Ladies....it is time to plan now for **Mission u 2020**.
Start looking for candidates for scholarships now - We have
terrific topics this year.

July 10 - 11

Mission u North

Advent United Methodist Church, Las Vegas

July 31 - August 1

Mission u East/West

Lakeview United Methodist Church, Sun City

August 21-22

Mission u South

Catalina United Methodist Church, Tucson



What's Going on in the Neighborhood?

Mountain View United Methodist Women Cottonwood, AZ

A new year, a new decade, 2020 is here and Cottonwood Mt. View ladies are ready with offices filled, programs lined up and activity and project planning underway. But before moving ahead a quick look back at the winding up of 2019.

Looking Back:

The holiday season began in October when many of our United Methodist Women members, who are also a part of Angels Attic, participated in the Angels Attic Craft Show. In November, United Methodist Women ladies helped with cooking and serving at Mt. View's traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Immediately after Thanksgiving, ovens began "humming" as "zillions" of cookies, plus candies, sweetbreads and pies were made for the UMW Cookie Walk. This year there were many happy canines in Cottonwood as doggie treats were an added attraction. But along with the work, there was also a time for us when we caught our breath, enjoy our holiday pot luck and program of singing Christmas songs and recalling the origins of many of our Christmas traditions.

Looking Ahead:

In 2020 we will continue to do United Methodist Women's monthly breakfasts and hope to keep having fun with the "Who Am I" teenage pictures of UMW members. Our United Methodist Women Sunday will be March, UMW Rummage Sale April 17th and 18th and our Woman's Fun Day May 16th.

Each and every one of you are always invited to any of our 2nd Tuesday of the month general meetings and to any of our special activities. We wish all of you a beautiful Spring.

New Song United Methodist Women

January saw a very busy month for the United Methodist Women at New Song Church. The first monthly meeting was a showcase of our activities. Tables were set up by each of our groups: Needlers, Knit Wits, Dabblers, reading program, Eve's Place, Bible Study, Membership and Parrish Nurse. Each group was given time during the meeting to show ladies how they could be involved in the church. There was even a surprise baby shower for one of our members Caries Kiel.

Most of our officers were able to attend the Leadership training at First United Methodist Church in Sun City. All of us took home new ideas and inspiration from our time with others from the West District.

January 26 saw the celebration of United Methodist Women Sunday. Ladies led both services and we even enjoyed an all ladies choir. Our guest speaker was Cheryl Buchholtz, past president of the West District. She spoke on "Being a Part of the Body of Christ." A special recognition pin was awarded to member Kathy Norris for her outstanding service over the past year.

The annual auction held on February 9 was a big hit as always. Church members enjoyed bidding on items and services donated from fellow members. As always, the bidding was lively and we raised \$1700 for various missions in the church.

We look forward to a very special program for our March meeting. ***Faith in Peace: Exploring Racial Tensions and Cycles of Violence*** will be the topic explored. **This will be open to all of our church family as well as any friends, family or people from outside our church.** It will take place on Saturday, March 14th beginning at 10:00 am at New Song Church in Surprise. Anyone interested in attending please contact Janet Rummel or Sally Hamill for more information and directions.

Kimi Ivey

Communications Chairperson

New Song United Methodist Church

FAITH IN PEACE

EXPLORING OF RACIAL TENSIONS & CYCLES OF VIOLENCE

This study will be sponsored by the **New Song United Methodist Women** on Saturday March 14th at 10 am. This is an **ALL CHURCH EVENT** in which **YOU** will participate in exploring the ideas surrounding these issues. We are responding to a letter from Bishop Bob Hoshibata written on August 6, 2019. His request to study these topics was in response to the shootings in El Paso, Texas. This will be an interactive, intergenerational, and spiritual study into the issues. Mark it on your calendar now!! Lunch will be provided following our study.

*Willowbrook United Methodist Women
Sun City, Arizona*

March 21, 2020

*Save
the
Date*

*Women's Spiritual Retreat, March 21, 2020 at
The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake Pleasant
Sponsored by Willowbrook UMW*

What: Willowbrook UMW Retreat

When: March 21, 2020

*Where: The Desert Outdoor Center at Lake
Pleasant, 41402 N 87th Avenue, Peoria, AZ*

Times: 9:00 - 4:00

Theme: Promise of Flowers

Facilitator: Rev. Ruth Blum



*Cost: \$40.00 per person & includes continental breakfast and lunch
For Information, call: Nancy Prevost 623- 476-5277 or email
nancybp7@gmail.com Come enjoy a spiritual, fun, exciting day!*

All church Women are welcome!

Trinity United Methodist Women, Phoenix

Busy, busy, busy time at Trinity. Right now, our President, Elaine Baldrige and Vice President, Deb Herrmann are in Africa visiting family. We are all anxious to have them safely home and hear about their adventures.

Other than that, we continue to stay busy:

- Chili Cook-off Jan. 26 was huge success netting over \$1000 for Missions.
- United Methodist Women Sunday on February 9 welcomed a representative from CASA to speak about advocating for foster children.
- Melonie Leach and Jen Kistler were awarded the Special Mission pins.
- February 24, Esther Circle cooked and served Monday meal for Family Promise.
- March 11 Unit meeting will feature the Prayer and Self-Denial program.
- April 5 is the Trinity Cantata and United Methodist Women pie sale to raise money for missions.
- April 16 - 19 Jurisdiction
- May 9 Mother's Day Luncheon

Gila Mountain United Methodist Women

Gila Mountain United Methodist Women have had a busy time since December 1st. We have three very active circles. The Rebecca and Naomi Circles meet every week. Abigail Circle meets monthly and the general meeting of UMW meets monthly. The Rebecca Circle (quilting circle) has made and presented over 25 quilts to Crossroads Mission.

Naomi Circle (craft circle) made centerpieces and favors for the annual Christmas Tea. The entertainment was provided by the Arizona Western Choir and they were wonderful. Naomi Circle's goal is to raise the funds needed to support the UMW missions.

Abigail Circle (library/reading circle) ordered 2019 books in November and 2020 books in January. There were numerous members who completed the Level 1, Level 2, and Level 4 reading programs.

Our 2020 officers attended the Leadership Development Training session at First UMC. This has always been a very helpful, informative meeting. We want to thank the trainers for coming to Yuma.

Judy Nibbelink, President of the Western Jurisdiction, was the speaker at the UMW Sunday services. It was very informative and we appreciated Judy (and her husband) coming to Yuma.

If any UMW member is ever in Yuma, please contact one of us so we can welcome you.

Secretary

Mary Barefoot, golden43girl@yahoo.com



Liberty United Methodist Women

At Liberty United Methodist Church we are blessed to have an active United Methodist Women's unit. We have a number of dedicated, caring members. One of our shining stars is a special woman who inspires us all. Genie Mancuso has shown her generosity and love of mission work over many years. Over 40 years ago Genie started taking part in the annual national Walk for the Hungry (also called the CROP Walk) sponsored by Church World Service.

She thought it made sense that it was one way to do something for others and it was nice to meet up with other like-minded people and walk in a group. She made many friends through the years and still keeps in touch with some, like the wife of a minister in Tucson.

In 1987 Genie went to North Carolina to take part in the Walk for the Hungry sponsored by Church Women United. She still sleeps in the t-shirt she was given at that one. Some years she walked 10 miles and some years 5 miles. One year she rode in a car and still made more money than anyone else!

Throughout this time Genie has kept track of the donations she has received and is pleased to have raised over \$20,000 for those in need. Genie confided in me that she has a secret to raising money. She always accepts any donation however small because even \$1 or \$2 adds up. But the trick for the large amounts is to ask those who can write off the donations, like doctors and dentists.

The last couple of years Genie has lived in a retirement home and been confined to a wheelchair. But she has not let that stop her from her mission work. This year she sat in her wheelchair, pushing herself backwards with her arms and legs, around her retirement home. She made a little over \$1,000 for the hungry!

Genie has lived a life of service, doing many small things; collecting and distributing recyclables, and big things; starting up the WHEAT clothes silo in 1985. She has done so much that she even received the Bishop's Award as an outstanding lay person at the southwest annual conference one year.

She actively encourages all of us to be aware of what is going on in the greater UMW World. and to read the Response Magazine. Just this year she read 15 books in the UMW reading program. And she has presented both book reports and reports on Response Magazine articles at our monthly meetings.

Genie's many small acts of giving continue to inspire us every day.

Prescott United Methodist Women

Hello, U.M.W. Sisters, we had a very successful Cookie Walk on Sat. Dec. 14, 2019 for our 4th Annual U.M.W. Cookie Walk. We made \$1521 which we think is the most we've made! We had so many great decorated and yummy cookies. However, we were short-handed for workers due to several of our gals being in the Christmas Cantata that same evening with practices all week and that day. We even had to recruit two husbands to help with handing out the cookies. We usually have 2-3 people behind each table but we were working with one person per 2 tables so it was wild when a large group came at the same time. Sorry, we did not time to take any pictures this year. January has started out big-time with 2 memorial services already and another due on the 30th and one set for early February so far. Plus, when you mix in the annual Martin Luther King Jr. community march and celebration on January 20 which ends at our church campus for breakfast snacks and coffee etc. which we serve. It's a busy month!

After the march there are community speakers and pastors and great music from some of the local African churches in the area. It's a busy day but it's for a good cause and many people in the community attend.

Four of us are looking forward to the Leadership Training on January 25 and we are excited to hopefully see many you there along with our wonderful District Team. (Go TEAM U.M.W.!) Blessings for a wonderful 2020, Karon Keeler, Pres.

West District Photo Gallery

West District Leadership Team on Leadership Development Day at Yuma, Arizona. Featured in this picture is Michele Justice, Barbara Kelton, Colleen Becker, Eva Ndavu, Linda Triolo, Christine Jones, Vicki Keel and Jen Kistler.

(Where's Cheryl? Playing in the snow in Wisconsin!)



An introductory skit at **LDD training held at First United Methodist Church in Sun City** introduced the West District leadership team and explained a small amount about what each job entailed.

On February 11, at Esther Circle, **Eva Ndavu presented Linda Triolo with a 150 year UMW Legacy medallion necklace.**

Linda is certainly deserving of this award because of her volunteerism at Glendale First United Methodist Church and her work in both the local United Methodist Women as well as her work with the West District United Methodist Leadership Team. Linda has served as Chair of Trustees and is currently Glendale's lay leader and is serving as President of United Methodist Women. Eva awarded Linda the medal before a crowd of UMW sisters. Linda said, "It felt like maybe the nicest thing anyone ever did for me. The applause of my sisters and recognition really meant a lot to me."

Those of us who know Linda know that she is truly deserving of this recognition. ~ Cheryl



What a clever idea. At the Mountain View Cookie Sale, one of the featured items was "doggie treats". For those of us who are dog owners and like to spoil our fur babies, this is still another way to raise money for missions. Great going, gals! ~ Cheryl

A message from your Cactus Patch Editor:

Just a few reminders for those of you who submit articles to the Cactus Patch:

- Please do not send me your article as a PDF. I cannot edit a PDF, or can I copy and or move around any content, including pictures.
- Please spell out United Methodist Women or United Methodist Church instead of using the acronyms UMW or UMC. This is a request from National.

Thank you ladies and keep those articles coming, Blessings, Cheryl
westsecBuchholtz@yahoo.com

