President’s Message

Karen Dallatore

“So, he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed by him, and cast his mantle upon him.” (1 Kings 19:19)

“And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.” (2 Kings 2:9)

Eileen Guillermo has served for five years as President of the North District United Methodist Women with passion, compassion, dedication and superb organizational skills. She has been tireless in planning and leading quarterly officer meetings, annual celebrations, leadership training and Mission u events. Along with the other members of the leadership team, she has kept the North District viable and active in the Desert Southwest Conference, Western Jurisdiction and National United Methodist Women. Eileen has now been appointed Conference Representative for the Legacy Project and as such will continue promoting and encouraging supporting this fund. As of January 2020, Eileen has “passed the mantle” to me. I am not bold enough to ask for a double portion of Eileen’s spirit (that would be a bit overwhelming!) but I do pray for a portion of her spirit sufficient for the tasks of leadership.

Among many accomplishments in 2019, in December, Eileen and Allie Lakey were present and assisted Green Valley United Methodist church as they formed a United Methodist Women’s unit and installed officers. This is a great addition to the North District, and the members of Green Valley United Methodist Women have even agreed to hosting the 2020 Annual Celebration! Thank you so much!

New Kid on the Block

Jane Ann Murray

Hello, North District United Methodist Women! Allow me to introduce myself. I am Jane Ann Murray, Deaconess of the United Methodist Church. It is an honor to be your new District Treasurer following in the big footsteps of Sharon Scobie. Please give me grace as I am still learning where items go within the system.

My husband and family (3 cats and dog) moved to the Lake Havasu City over a year ago because God was asking me to go “where the rocks cry out.” (Long story – I can tell you if you ever have time.)

My calling has been to serve children of all ages showing love and respect for all. The
Deaconess Order has embraced my calling, willingly and enthusiastically, as I serve His mission. Here is a little bit about my journey to now.

My experience includes business, nonprofit, and ministry. I left my corporate job, where I served as Divisional Manager for AAA in 2000 to assume the Executive Director position at Gallatin C.A.R.E.S. in Tennessee. C.A.R.E.S. is an acronym for Christian Association for the Relief of Economic Suffering. That organization provided emergency financial assistance and food to the general community in need. In the summer of 2009, and with the support of our base church (Rehoboth UMC), we created Gallatin C.A.R.E.S. Worship Center and started offering Sunday evening worship services from the donations area of our thrift store. Over the next 9 years, I served as a local licensed pastor under the Cumberland River District of the Tennessee Conference. In 2016, I was consecrated as a Deaconess at General Conference in Portland, Oregon.

Gallatin C.A.R.E.S. Worship Center grew into a 5,000 sq. ft. facility and functioned as a storefront congregation. Our congregation consisted of the most marginalized, homeless, disabled and unchurched members of the community. In that capacity we provided worship every Sunday, bible study, free walk-in health and wellness clinic, special weekly sessions for a group of intellectually and developmentally disabled individuals, and served in excess of 60,000 hot meals to those who otherwise might not have access to nourishment and a sense of love and belonging on that day.

Along the way I taught Christian Yoga to sex traffic survivors using a Trauma Sensitive program – Human Trafficking of TN and Special Needs adults. I am currently serving as Mohave County Area Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child. As a year-round volunteer, I develop and lead an Area Team to mobilize and equip individuals, Churches and groups in designated areas to become actively involved in sharing the hope of Jesus Christ through Operation Christmas Child. Embodying the life-giving love of Christ. Commitment to a lifetime relationship in servant ministry in love, justice, and service.

*** If you would like to hear or have questions about the Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner Ministry please don’t hesitate to reach out to me or go to the United Methodist Women website.

Grace and Peace,

Jane Ann Murray
Hello Everyone!

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Rhonda Glaze. I am one of the new Social Action Coordinators of the North District, Southwest Conference for the United Methodist Women. It is an honor to be a part of such an awesome organization!

In this article, I wish to inform you all of what has happened since I became a Social Action Coordinator and the events that lead up to this moment.

I took on this position as of January 1, 2020. When approached at the United Methodist Women’s Retreat in Mt. Charleston last August, for this position, I was afraid to even think about doing this job. However, God’s voice whispered in my ear saying, “You will do this.” When God speaks, I listen!

So far, this journey has been so very fulfilling and as I grow spiritually, I am reminded that we are all children of God and through Jesus Christ, all things are possible.

This year has started off with a bang! I went to two District Conferences in January for Leadership Development. (Lake Havasu City, AZ & Henderson, NV). The fellowship and support of one another was truly inspirational. Through the help of some very special ladies, I have learned so much, but I realize that I have much more to learn about my position with the UMW and am eager to do so!

My local unit at Desert Spring United Methodist Church is working on the completion of the Charter For Racial Justice. I am also going to forward this charter to other local units in the North District, so that they all can participate as well.

Next year in 2021, I plan on attending an upcoming event at the Aria Hotel here in Las Vegas. It is the Climate Reality Project leadership training. Ann Jarrell, a Climate Reality leader, informed me of this event. I look very forward to attending this training. Al Gore, former U.S. Vice President will be hosting the event, along with other esteemed colleagues worldwide. Out of the four main social campaigns, Climate Justice is one of them. I intend to use what knowledge I hope to gain towards my work with the United Methodist Women, to help people become aware of how serious and detrimental the effects on global warming and climate change are having on our planet. My purpose is also to get people interested in getting involved with this campaign. As of now, I am going to Climate Reality chapter meetings.

I spoke with Ann Jarrell in that same conversation asking if she would speak to members of our church and anyone else in the North District churches who wish to attend. The subject is for Climate Justice. I am happy to say that she will come to Desert Spring UMC to speak about the reality of climate change. All are invited to attend on Saturday April 25, 2020 in our multipurpose room! All churches in the local units for the North District are welcomed and encouraged to attend. I hope you will all pass the word along to family and friends.

In the next quarterly issue of the Desert Southwest Conference United Methodist Women’s newsletter, my focus will be on Maternal/Child Healthcare and Economic Equality/A Living Wage For All.

I thank you all for allowing me to be of service to the United Methodist Women organization. It is my honor. The most important thing is that we are all serving God as instruments of communication and advocates for the empowerment of women, children and youth. Climate issues and Racial Injustice affects everyone, especially to vulnerable groups like women and children.

Blessings to all.

Rhonda Glaze
Social Action Coordinator
Desert Spring UMC and North District
Desert Southwest Conference
United Methodist Women

Did You Know?

If just 10% of United Methodist Women members (80,000 women) used a reusable water bottle for 365 days rather than buying water in a bottle, we would save at least enough energy to power an average household for 552 years!

“So far, this journey has been so fulfilling and as I grow spiritually, I am reminded that we are all children and through Jesus Christ, all things are possible.”
In Memoriam

Margaret Ann Crawford
March 11, 1938 - February 10, 2020

Margaret Crawford was baptized as an infant in the Mallalieus Methodist Episcopal Church in Marshall, Texas, where her funeral service was also held on February 20, 2020.

She came to Las Vegas from Texas in 1960 with an MA in Special Education and Rehabilitation Counseling and accepted a teaching position at Kit Carson Elementary School, teaching in Las Vegas for 33 years.

Margaret organized United Methodist Women units at Zion United Methodist Church and Advent United Methodist, serving as president of both units, and later serving as North District President of United Methodist Desert Southwest Annual Conference, among many other notable organizations. She believed that if you were a member of an organization, you supported it with your talent, skill, time and money. She will be missed by so many. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

A memorial service will be held at Advent United Methodist Church in Las Vegas April 3 at 2:00 p.m. The North District has made a gift in her memory to United Methodist Women National.

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Green Valley United Methodist Church, Henderson

This is an excellent review of Make a Difference, which was a book the new Green Valley United Methodist Women studied last fall. We all enjoyed the book and out of the study began a Teddy Bear Ministry in our congregation. The bears are currently hibernating but will be out for Lent and Easter.

Make a Difference: Following Your Passion and Finding Your Place to Serve
Author: Rev. James A. Harnish (Abingdon Press)

In 2019, United Methodist Women of two churches, First Henderson and Green Valley United Methodist Churches, got together and enjoyed our joint reading and discussion time.

This book is quite short with only 6 chapters. Two churches took turns leading the group. I took one session and it was quite easy and comfortable doing so because two additional resources, both the leader’s guide book and DVD, were quite helpful covering the “Table Talk” and “Questions for Reflection.”

I have two points to share:

First, his book was very relevant to me because many experiences and stories shared in this book came from the context of Methodist churches and their ministries.

Secondly, as we discussed among ourselves reflecting the stories shared in the book, focusing on how to engage service and mission, I personally experienced quite often advanced desire to engage and connect my passion and gifts more actively to heal the wounds and needs in the church, community, and the world.

I highly recommend this book for any group in the church to challenge ourselves to deepen our faithfulness to God’s call which is a God-given gift to each one of us.

Reviewed by Jungrea Chung Co-President

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Purpose
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 community and to expand concepts of mission through participation of the global ministries of the church.

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Diana Higgs, Vice-President

“I personally experienced ...desire to engage and connect my passion and gifts more actively...”

2020
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN READING PROGRAM
Join the Desert Southwest Conference
United Methodist Women
at
2020 Mission U
“The Way of Peace: Our Longing for Community”

2020 STUDIES

NEW Spiritual Growth Study
“Finding Peace in an Anxious World”
by Erin James-Brown
Spiritual teachings to help us find Serenity-Acceptance-Courage-Wisdom

NEW Social Action Study
“PUSHOUT: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools”
by Monique Morris
Learn how we can work to improve the lives of these girls.

2nd Year Study-Sun City only
Women United for Change-150 Years in Mission”
By Ellen Blue

Be inspired. Be challenged. Respond to God’s call. Continue the powerful legacy of compassionate service and passionate advocacy.
ALL ARE WELCOME TO EVERY EVENT!

DATES & LOCATIONS

July 10-11 Advent UMC 3460 N. Rancho Dr. Las Vegas 89130
July 31-Aug 1 Lakeview UMC 10298 W. Thunderbird Blvd. Sun City 85351
Aug 21-22 Catalina UMC 2700 Speedway Blvd. Tucson 85716
Day of Giving 2020:
Save The Date Post highlighting Day of Giving 2020 on Monday, March 23, 2020 is in the mail. This year we hope you will continue to tap into the creativity and energy so evident in previous years to celebrate the 151st Anniversary on March 23, 2020. We are entering Day of Giving season with a significant match from anonymous donors, to leverage gifts received on that day. Please email your photos to legacy150@unitedmethodistwomen.org or to Christi, Kenya and myself so that we can share the marvelous ways United Methodist Women is being uplifted on that special day.

Quadrennium—Jurisdiction Events:
Please register to attend upcoming Jurisdiction Events and volunteer at the Legacy Fund Booth. Each event will include a Legacy Fund Offering and acknowledge the service of Conference Legacy Liaisons and Steering Team members during this quadrennium. At each jurisdiction there also will be 1869 Society Receptions thanking planned giving donors and to connect with potential donors interested in making a planned gift. So please register for your jurisdiction events, if not done already.

Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign Timeline:
The campaign will continue through the end of 2020, with fundraising for the Legacy Fund moving beyond 2020 to reach and surpass the $60 million goal. We understand that life happens, and situations and circumstances may change. So, if you are unable to continue on as Conference Legacy Liaison in 2020, please connect your assigned development officer. Attached is a letter from Harriett Jane Olson presented to Conference Presidents at this week’s LDD, outlining the importance of Conference Legacy Liaison’s continued connection to The Legacy Fund.

Special Thanks:
Surpassing the half-way point of the campaign is an example of how bold women united around common purpose and mission can support each other to do great and wonderful things. There’s still a lot of road ahead – yet with a new year and entering a new decade, the future is hopeful, and possibilities are endless. Together, we are building our legacy.

Development Staff/National Office/United Methodist Women
SAVE THE DATE: Climate Reality Conversation

SAVE THE DATE: April 25, 2020
10:00 am

You might know something about what’s happening to the planet — rising temperatures, changes in weather and climate patterns, increased air and water pollution, wildfires and drought, and hunger and disease. But often most of us have questions and concerns that are difficult to say out loud.

Ann Jarrell, a Climate Reality speaker and United Methodist EarthKeeper, will look at climate change — especially how it affects Nevada and the Las Vegas Valley — in a conversation about the climate. After a PowerPoint presentation, she will answer questions and help you look more closely at part 1 of the proposed United Methodist Social Principals and how they can help you address climate change.

Ann trained with The Climate Reality Project and former Vice-President Al Gore to serve as a volunteer Climate Reality leader. She’s a member of the Trinity United Methodist Church and has lived in Las Vegas since 1988.

The 2019 program in Atlanta provided a deep understanding of the latest climate change science, as well as exposure to public speaking, use of social media, community outreach, and organizing. The training also focused on how people of faith are part of the solution. She will serve as a mentor at the March 2020 Climate Reality Project training in Las Vegas at the Aria Resort and Casino.

We encourage all United Methodist Women in the Las Vegas Valley to attend. This presentation is sponsored by Desert Spring United Methodist Women. Watch for flyers that you can share with others.

There is strength in numbers! We must take action to preserve our planet, its wildlife and all of its people, as this is the planet that God created for us. It is our responsibility as children and servants of God to protect His creation of Earth.

If you have any questions you’d like to ask Ann ahead of time, contact me and I’ll pass them on to her.

Thank you all for your support!

Rhonda Glaze
Social Action Coordinator
Desert Spring UMC and North District
Desert Southwest Conference
Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting

Judi Nibbelink

Our women are gathering in Tempe, Arizona on April 17 – 19 for our Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting. Registration is underway and we have already surpassed our expectations! The Jurisdiction leadership team is excited to welcome you to the Quadrennial Meeting and Mini Assembly. Exciting worship, Ubuntu activities, educational workshops, guest speakers, a social action event and a Native American cultural evening await us at the beautiful Doubletree Hilton Tempe.

The leadership team has just added two new opportunities for learning on Friday afternoon from 1 – 5 pm. Ebony Diaz from United Methodist Women National will be leading a Cultural Shift Orientation. Sherri Hill will be sharing on MMIW, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. This is a serious problem in our Native American communities. Several sessions will be offered for each class and they are open to everyone who is registered for the jurisdiction event.

We have all our conferences working to help us as we prepare for the event. Each conference is bringing a cross for the altar representing one or more of the indigenous groups within their geographic boundaries. What a joyful way to celebrate the diversity in our jurisdiction!

You may register at wjumw.com. Mark your calendar today and plan to join us. We’re looking forward to seeing you!

Judi Nibbelink
Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women President

St. Michael’s United Methodist Church, Lake Havasu City

Cyndy Montgomery

On February 25, 2020 Genevieve Skidmore and her daughter, Shinoa came to St. Michael’s United Methodist Women’s meeting as the guest speakers.

Genevieve is the director of NAOMI House in Joseph City, AZ. It is Native American Outreach Ministries, Inc.

Their purpose is to provide a safe and loving home and or emergency shelter for Native American children in need. To care for the whole child and their needs: spirit, soul and body.

Their mission is to provide a loving Christ centered home for Native children where they can heal from the trauma of abuse and neglect.

NAOMI House is a licensed emergency shelter. Ninety percent of the children have been molested or raped. One hundred percent of the children are placed at NAOMI House by the Navajo Nation Department of Social Services. Navajo Nation prepares all paper work and does assessments as to when child can go home. Sometimes the children are at NAOMI House until they are 16. Some can be there longer, if they want to attend Community College. Many of the kids who are reunited with their family or grandmother do well.

Currently the children range in age from preschool to age 16. Care givers are available around the clock. School age children are taken by bus to Joseph City schools for their education. They eat breakfast and lunch at school. There are currently 25 to 27 students at NAOMI House 365 days a year.

There are currently 7 full time staff. Staff are volunteers who receive room and board and a small stipend. They are in need of a lot more help. One child grew up at NAOMI House and is now a staff member.

Half of their funding comes from Navajo Nation with monies pooled from Federal Government Bureau of Indian Affairs. The other half of their budget comes from private funding.

Just before Easter, our church, St. Michael’s United Methodist collects non-perishable supplies and basic foods along with gift cards to give to the program. We put together 30 Easter baskets with candy and goodies for the children to enjoy.

If you would like to know more about the program, please contact Genevieve Skidmore at: genevieve@thenaomihouse.org. Her phone number is 928-587-5737.

Cyndy Montgomery, President
St. Michael’s United Methodist Church