

# North Country Breezes

North District United Methodist Women Desert Southwest Conference

Volume 34, Issue 3

September 2021

### President's Message

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God has done from beginning to end."



David and I have just returned from our first RV excursion! Through the majestic mountains and peaceful valleys of Nevada, Utah, and Colorado, the proliferate fields of corn and hay and abundant cattle of Nebraska, lowa, and Illinois, we began and ended every day of our adventure praising and giving thanks to our awesome creator God! We are blessed beyond words.

I am looking forward to the combined

#### Karen Dallatore



North District President, Karen Dallatore, and her husband, David

Annual Celebration coming up on October 9, 2021. Districts will have a "break-out" meeting during which we will present budget and financial reports and honor our sisters in Christ who have gone to their eternal reward. We will also discuss unit achievements, (awards will be presented in January of 2022). Please register for this event as soon as possible!



President's Message	1
Annual Celebration	2
Believe It!	3
9/11 Anniversary	4
Climate Change	5





United Methodist Women Desert Southwest Conference and all four Districts: East, South, North, and West Invite you to register now for our upcoming...

Annual Celebration "Come Along: Follow and Hold Fast"

A virtual event for all to enjoy. ... Celebrating our Conference United Methodist
Women together with four District Meetings!
Consider gathering for watch parties together.
Sing, pray, listen in fellowship.
Speaker: Gloria Kimbwala

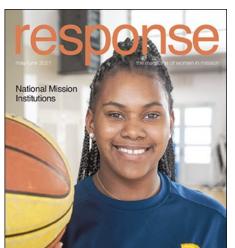
Here is the link to the registration page:

https://dscumc.org/2021-umw-annual-celebration/

We are ready to celebrate, hope to see you there! Further information on the registration page.....

Volume 34, Issue 3 Page 3

## Responsively Yours: Believe It!



"United Methodist Women, remember the power of the creative, supportive fellowship that characterizes our structure.

It is strong."

Harriett Jane Olson

Harriett Jane Olson, General Secretary, United Methodist Women As seen in the May/June 2021 issue of response: the Magazine of Women in Mission

In the first chapter of 2 Timothy, Paul reminds Timothy of his reasons to believe, of the depth of the relationship between them and of the legacy of faith he received from his mother and grandmother. He urges Timothy to be powerful, loving and disciplined. Paul is saying: your authentic faith is strong, and God's gifts to you continue. Believe it!

How appropriate these admonitions are for United Methodist Women in these times! United Methodist Women, remember the power of the creative, supportive fellowship that characterizes our structure. It is strong. Believe it! Remember the power of the Gospel, the fact of God's love for you, for me, for every person we encounter and for the world. Believe it. Remember the call of God to do justice and love mercy, to care for the sick, the prisoner, the oppressed: and to stand for justice. Believe it. Remember the history of faith and action in which we stand—our foremothers crossed boundaries, innovated, raised funds, started over, started over again and persisted in spreading God's love—and so can we. Believe it.

Now wouldn't it be nice if all we had to do was remember? Paul's letter to Timothy reminds us that from time to time we also need to do the work to rekindle the gift. He called Timothy to remember these foundational principles because something was awry. Paul's letter is to nurture, to support and to strengthen Timothy in his calling. It reminds us that this fervency of belief is not a constant state.

As we work toward the future of United Methodist Women we must ask: What are we called to today? What are the needs of women and children today? Where are we called to serve and to advocate? How should we organize to best be a place where women can deepen their faith and be carried deeper into Christian community? How can we help women to hear the cry of the needy to impel them to join in collective action to counter forces of injustice? How can we rekindle the gift of God in our own

beloved organization to make a difference in the church and in the world?

Belief is not purely a matter of the will. Belief is action—belief is a matter of the heart as well as the mind. Over and over again Scripture refers to believing with our heart. We don't just think that God loves the world—we believe it! We don't just think that United Methodist Women is called to serve

## United Methodist Women Marks the 20th Anniversary of 9/11



Reflecting Pool at One World Trade Center (Ground Zero)

NEW YORK – United Methodist Women today issued a statement coinciding with the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11.
Harriett Jane Olsen, General Secretary and CEO of United Methodist Women, spoke on the organization's behalf:

"On this 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks on the United States, United Methodist Women pauses to remember a tragic event that has forever changed our nation and world. We remember the many who lost their lives on that day and their families. We honor the frontline workers, including U.S. service members, healthcare workers and public

Yvette Moore
United Methodist Women Communications 9/9/2021

safety officials, many of whom have since died of diseases contracted while they selflessly served amid the 9/11 catastrophe. We also remember our neighbors who were targeted for abuse after the attacks.

"That the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 9/11 attacks now also marks the fall of the Afghanistan government is a cruel reminder that two decades of war did not lead to the peace we hoped for. "We honor the lives lost in the 9/11 attacks and the ongoing dedication of U.S. service men and women by recommitting to listening, learning, and the things that make for peace: "to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8).

United Methodist Women is the nation's largest denominational organization for women. Members turn their faith, hope, and love into action raising more than \$10 million annually to support community centers and other programs empowering women, children and youth in the United States and around the world.

Link to article: United Methodist Women - United Methodist Women Marks the 20th Anniversary of 9/11

#### **Responsively Yours...**

Continued from page 3

and to advocate for women, children and youth—we believe it! We don't just think there is a role for us to play—we believe it!

Since the onset of the pandemic, many of you showed with your actions that you believe you are called upon to make a difference. You contributed to the Giving Now event in May 2020 to help national mission institutions respond to unprecedented need. You made masks. Many masks. Thousands of masks! Masks for schoolchildren, health workers, national mission institutions, the Navajo Nation and mission organizations around the world. You spoke up for racial justice during this year of "crisis revealed." You were invited. You invited others. You responded. You acted, believing you could make a difference. And you did.

Remember your relationships. Remember your legacy of faith and action and the women who have gone before us. Remember God's love for us and for the whole world. Now is our time to remember and to rekindle and to believe that God is at work.

Volume 34, Issue 3 Page 5

### To Address Climate Change, Address Gender Inequity

Opinion Piece by Elizabeth Chun Hye Lee From an article in the Religion News Service September 3, 2021

(RNS) — Hurricane Ida has devastated communities in Louisiana, leaving many without electricity during one of the hottest months of the year. Because of a lack of resources or reliable transportation, many people have not been able to evacuate the region, even as their current environment remains uninhabitable.

It is not uncommon for disaster management plans to assume people have middle- or uppermiddle-class assets like a private vehicle when evacuating natural disasters. But it is difficult to evacuate when one lives in poverty, lacks reliable transportation, is a primary caretaker for children and the elderly and lacks credit cards with sizable credit lines.

The fact is that much of Ida's impact will fall on women, especially women living in poverty and women of color.
This was the reality for

the disproportionate number of Black women who were impacted by Hurricane Katrina, and it is the reality for Black women, Native women and others in Louisiana today. It is true of nearly all of the increased disruptions — heat waves, fire weather, droughts, tropical cyclones, extreme rainfall and coastal flooding — of climate change.

It is time for advocates to be more vocal about the effect of the climate crisis on women, especially women living in poverty and women of color in the United States. For organizations that place women's and children's needs at the center of their advocacy, this issue is of utmost importance.

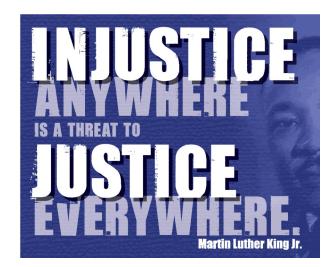
Elizabeth Chun Hye Lee serves as the Executive for Economic and Environmental Justice and Climate Justice Lead for United Methodist Women



Jerilyn Collins returns to her destroyed home with the assistance of a Louisiana National Guard highwater vehicle to retrieve medicine for herself and her father, and a few possessions, after she evacuated from rising floodwater in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida in LaPlace, La., Monday, Aug. 30, 2021. (AP Photo/Gerald Herbert)

Link to news story:

<u>To address climate change, address gender inequity</u> (religionnews.com)





**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.