



Mission Tapestry

Arlington District United Methodist Women

Vol. XXXII, No. 4

November/December 2011

PURPOSE of the United Methodist Women

The organized unit of 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.

The Mission Tapestry is a publication of the Arlington District United Methodist Women. Its goal is to keep units at the local/congregation level informed about opportunities for living out our PURPOSE. It is published quarterly and mailed to all unit leaders, pastors, former Arlington District Presidents, and Virginia Conference UMW leaders. All articles for publication should be directed to ArlingtonDistrictUMW@gmail.com.

District President's Message

We are United Methodist Women. We are a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ. To that end we have joined together in several events this past year, including our Spring Prayer Breakfast, when Dr. Teresa Smith spoke to us on "Finding Peace on Your Journey", and led us in healing prayer.

We develop creative, supportive fellowships in these gatherings, such as our Bi-District Day Apart in June, with the Alexandria district women, as we focused on children and the issue of obesity and what faith groups can do to help.

We expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. At our Annual Meeting we celebrated our support of local and conference missions through our mission fair, and our speaker, Ann Klotz, led us in an overview of United Methodist Women's history in mission.

We continued to focus on mission at our Advent Event, as we looked at Radical Hospitality, and issues

surrounding immigration.

We are United Methodist Women. Come join us as we explore what that means.

Karen McElfish

President,
Arlington District United Methodist Women

Wishing you a blessed, joyous Christmas and a New Year filled with peace.



Vice President

Marci Schiller

We have 5 Arlington District UMW events planned for 2012. We need to find sites for three of them. Our annual Training Morning will be held on January 14 at Korean of Greater Washington. The Alexandria district is handling the logistics this year for our bi-district Day Apart. But we still have our Spring Prayer Breakfast, our Fall Annual Meeting,, and our Advent Event to find homes for. If you want to make it really convenient to attend an event and/or if you want to practically ensure good attendance from your UMW members at a district event, volunteer to hold the event at your church.

Please call me if you'd like more info.

Joyfully,
Marci B. Schiller
[703-517-1315]

Treasurer

Mary Williams

On October 29-30 I attended the Virginia Conference United Methodist Women Annual Meeting. During our officers training I learned something I had not thought about prior to the meeting. They pointed out that if UMW units continue to give large amounts of money to organizations such as Cancer Research, Heart Fund, Kidney Foundation, etc., we will lose our tax exempt nonprofit status. Gifts to such organizations should not total more than 20% of you unit's income for the year. Please keep this in mind as you prepare your 4th quarter reports.

I would like to remind Treasurers that I need your 4th quarter reports by December 10th. I have to send my report in by December 15th. You can send an additional report for any income that comes in after the 15th and before December 30th. These will be counted for 2011. Any reports I receive after December 30th will be considered part of 2012.

I encourage all Treasurers to attend Officers Training Day in January. New information will be presented and a lot can be learned from our question and answer portion – perhaps questions you hadn't thought to ask are answered.

If you have any questions, call me at 703-281-3346 or email at stmawms@cox.net.



*Giving through the UMW
is a gift that keeps on giving.*

Spiritual Growth

Ruth Mulkey

We passed out a survey at our last two events to try to find out how the district UMW team can be of more value to you. A copy of the survey is included in this newsletter and we hope you will fill it out and return it. We don't have a lot of responses yet (31) but I'll share what we have received so far.

In what area are you most interested?

- Local missions—29
- State missions—7
- International missions—8

Which area is of most interest to you?

- Children's issues—12
- Youth issues—5
- Women's issues—22

Which social action initiatives interest you most?

- Peacemaking—7
- Environmental Issues—10
- Famine and Nutrition—14
- Disease cure and prevention—10
- Education—21
- Human Trafficking—5
- Aging—15
- Poverty—8
- Housing—1
- Domestic violence—1

What would make District events more relevant?

- o Topics—16
- o Speakers—12
- o Location—9
- o Time—1
- o Date—1
- o Advanced advertising—1
- o A mission Study

Should we reinstate the District Spiritual Life Retreat?

- o No—5
- o Yes—19
- o For a weekend—14
- o For a day—5
- o Held locally—8
- o Held in Blackstone—3

What topics would you like to see explored?

Aging, Hunger, Children at risk, Inner peace, Environment, Mission study, Radical hospitality, Officer training, Disease, Domestic violence, Ministering to immigrants in our community, Ways to join resources to support others

Please take the time to let us know what you think.

Yours in service,
Ruth Mulkey
703-524-1776 or RMulky@aol.com

Nominations

Roberta Spence

Do you know someone who you think would make a great addition to the local, district, or state UMW team? Is there a way that you would like to contribute to the UMW? If you don't want to commit to an officer position for a year, there are still individual projects that you could help with. Do you have a subject that you would like to see a program on and would be willing to help with? Are you interested in VUMAC and its future? Do you know of a mission project that you think we should be supporting? Please pass your input on to Karen or any of the other district officers.

I have enjoyed serving as a district officer and getting to know all of you. I am stepping down for a while but hope to be able to keep in touch. Roberta

Social Action

Gladys Packett

“Domestic Violence: Understanding the Problem, Dealing with the Issues”

In you, O Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. (Psalm 31: 1-2)

Psalm 31 was the opening scripture reading at a recent program sponsored by Lincolnia United Methodist Women, in Alexandria, Va. I'm sure that many persons involved in the cycle of domestic abuse find these words very comforting. Guest speaker, Karen L. Bune, a Victim Specialist in the Domestic Violence unit of the State's Attorneys' Office for Prince George's County, Maryland, was the spokesperson at this gathering.

Karen is an adjunct professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia and Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia, where she teaches victimology; consultant for the Training and Technical Assistance Center for the Office for Victims of Crime and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U. S. Department of Justice; nationally recognized speaker and trainer on victim issues; a Fellow of the Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress and the National Center for Crisis Management; author of numerous articles and recipient of many recognitions and awards.

Unfortunately, based on her experience, Karen has seen everything in her line of work and she is very passionate about defending victims of domestic violence. She shared with us that most victims suffer in silence and most times are cut off from the rest of the world. Today, she said, “domestic violence” is no longer just about females, but there are a number of males who are victims as well. She commented that domestic violence is all about control. According to her, most abusers isolate their victims and make them feel worthless, ashamed and unwanted. In most cases the victims have no job, no family, and low self-esteem and therefore they choose to stay in this poisoned relationship, sometimes due to economic dependency.

Karen said that domestic violence has no boundaries. There are victims in all walks of life from high level politicians, highly educated women, down to the janitor. She also shared that most abusers were raised in a home where the mother was abused. Karen said that most victims do not realize that abuse in front of a baby, six months or older, can have a lifetime affect on them. Abuse can start with a scratch on the face, a push, or a slap on the arm, but eventually it can escalate to using more dangerous weapons including bats, machetes, guns, etc., which in some cases leads to death. Unfortunately, domestic violence sometimes goes unreported. In most cases this is due to fear. Karen explained that domestic violence has three faces: Tension, a violent phase, and reconciliation, or what is known as “the honeymoon.” This is where the abuser gains control again with apologies, roses and promises that it will not happen again.

Although abusers are all about control, they may not have a problem with their victims attending church, Karen told us. Some of these victims may be sitting next to us on Sunday morning. This is the reason that churches need to be aware of how to deal with the issue of domestic violence. If the victim chooses to report the crime, the Pastor and others in the church need to gain knowledge of the resources that are available to stop the cycle of violence. Please consider having a guest speaker come to your church and talk about this important issue. Karen closed the meeting with Wesley's great words: “Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can.”

Resources:

First response (Northern VA Family Services 703-370-3223)

Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-SAFE or TTY 1-800-787-3224)

REMEMBER TO WORK TOWARD THE SOCIAL ACTION AWARD. The form is on the District Website under the Arlington UMW.

Gladys

879 N. Jacksonville Street
Arlington, VA 22205-1323

or

gpackett@verizon.net

Mission Education & Interpretation Linda Arsenault

Grace and Peace in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

I attended the Va. Conference UMW annual meeting. It was a wonderful time of hearing reports of the great work our women have done this year, learning in focus groups, getting updates on missions, sharing ideas and fellowship. The keynote speaker was the President of Ferrum College who shared an inspiring story about a needy student so moved by the love and care shown him at the school that he wants to go into ministry. I really encourage you to attend the Va. Conference UMW events. They are a lot of fun and you can see how faith, hope and love in action can produce miracles in mission.

I hope you are using the new program book when you plan your activities for the last quarter of 2011 and 2012. There is also useful resource material on the CD at the back of the book. The production cost of the program book has increased dramatically and in 2013 the conference will no longer provide them. The local units will need to purchase their own program books after 2012.

The conference goal for 2012 is to get 75% of all units to achieve Mission Today status. That would be 18 churches for our district, since there are 24 active units. For 2011 the only districts in the conference with 75% or better participation were Harrisonburg and Winchester districts. Come on ladies! You are doing great work and I know with prayer and careful planning we can meet the challenge! Remember in your planning to make your pledge to mission, the first step toward achievement of Mission Today status. Making and meeting your pledge is mandatory for a Mission Today unit. United Methodist Women was founded on mission and is what we are all about so it is of utmost importance. The reporting form for 2012 has been revised, reorganized, more "user friendly" and is included in this newsletter. Several items have suggestions on fulfilling that particular requirement but you are not limited to the ideas listed. They are only included to guide you in the right direction and inspire your creativity. I know you are all doing great work as the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing God's love and hope to "the least of these" children of God. Working together we can accomplish much. Please contact me if you have any concerns or questions. If I can't answer them I'll find out from Ann Klotz, the conference E&I resource person.

Have a blessed Christmas!

Blessings,

Linda Arsenault

Linars51@gmail.com

43979 John Mosby Hwy, Chantilly, VA 20152

Phone (H) 703-327-3591, (W) 703-558-6547, (C) 703-682-8182

Virginia Conference United Methodist Women

THE PURPOSE OF MISSION TODAY IS TO fulfill the PURPOSE of UMW by:

- Energizing United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action;
- Increasing contacts between units and mission personnel and projects;
- Encouraging use of mission resources; and
- Expanding concepts of mission including social justice as mission

Becoming a Mission Today Unit is a way to increase emphasis on what United Methodist Women have been doing for more than a century: turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Period covered in this report: September 1, 2011– August 31, 2012

How to become a Mission Today Unit:

All units must complete item # 1. The number of additional items required is then dependent on the size of your unit.

() A MISSION TODAY UNIT: includes eight additional items, including four (*) items, or, for Units with 15 or fewer members, a minimum of four other items, including two (*) items.

() A MISSION TODAY SILVER UNIT: 13 additional items, including at least six (*) items.

() A MISSION TODAY GOLD UNIT: 20 additional items, including at least twelve (*) items.

*** 1. THE UNIT WILL MAKE AND MEET ITS PLEDGE TO MISSION. (Must be completed)**

- (*) 2. At least two members, other than a District or Conference Officer, attend the District or Conference Annual Meeting.
- (*) 3. At least one member, (other than a District or Conference officer *that has their way paid by District or Conference*), attend the Conference Spiritual Life Retreat or the District Spiritual Life Event. (If a District or Conference officer goes to the Spiritual Life retreat paying their own way, they may count themselves as going representing their unit.)
- (*) 4. Have at least one member, other than a District or Conference officer, attend the Conference School of Christian Mission, or a District Mission Celebration/Mission School event.
- (*) 5. Sponsor a young woman to attend the Conference or a District Young Women's Event.
Name of event attendee: _____
- (*) 6. Use the Prayer Calendar at each Unit Meeting to pray for mission workers and mission projects for women, children, and youth.
- (*) 7. Use at least two programs from the UMW Program Book during the year. Which ones:

- (*) 8. Each Unit, Circle, or Subgroup include a "response Moment" where an item from *Response* magazine is lifted up as a way to tell a mission story.
- (*) 9. The Unit, Circle, Subgroup, have at least one mission study from the School of Christian Mission during the year. Which one: _____
- (*) 10. Include having the UMW Purpose at every meeting.
- (*) 11. Qualify as a Five- or Six-Star Unit by contributing to five or six Channels of Mission Giving.
- (*) 12. Increase the local unit Pledge to Mission for the coming year.
- (*) 13. Invite a District or Conference Officer, other than a unit member, to one of your Unit meetings during the year and/or United Methodist Women's Sunday.

(continued)

- (*) 14. Select a mission project which is supported by funds from Women's Division (Wesley Community Service Center), or the 2012 Ministry Grants of VA (listed in the conference yearbook) and visit and/or contribute needed resources. Name of the project: _____
- (*) 15. Add at least two new members to the roll, or one new member for Units with 15 or fewer members.
- (*) 16. Have at least two members who subscribe to *Response* magazine.
- (*) 17. At least two members participate in the Reading Program and complete Plan I.
- (*) 18. Implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in one way during the year. Some ideas include:
- Have two or more members attend a District Charter for Racial Justice Program/Workshop
 - Have members read books and articles about other races and cultures; give report to unit.
 - Plan a joint unit meeting with a unit of a different racial/ethnic background.
 - Hold a joint Vacation Bible School with a church of a different racial/ethnic background.
 - Encourage your church to support a refugee family.
 - Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, programs serving a low-income population, civil rights, etc.
- Describe what you did _____
- () 19. One or more members participate in hands-on mission such as gleaning, working in a food pantry or clothes closet, bagging potatoes, etc.
Describe what you did: _____
- () 20. Have "Green Meetings" or make some other special effort toward saving God's earth (i.e. recycling, using glasses instead of disposable cups, etc.) Describe what you did: _____
- () 21. Participate in the Campaign for Children (Children's Sabbath Service, support public education, etc.). Some ideas for action:
- Help sponsor a church or community program for children or youth needs.
 - Get involved with children in mentoring or tutoring programs.
 - Visit and show support to your local schools, (attend school board meetings, sponsor a class, provide funds or items of special need)
 - Write congressional representatives regarding children's issues.
- Describe what you did _____
- () 22. Have at least one member attend the United Methodist Day at the Virginia General Assembly.
- () 23. Have at least one member attend UMW Day at Ferrum College.
- () 24. Provide at least ten UMCOR kits and funds for shipping for the VA Annual Conference.
- () 25. Members shall write at least once a year to five mission workers listed in the Prayer Calendar
- () 26. Have at least one person join the UMW's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information. The on-line registration can be found at:
<http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umw/act/network/>

UNIT/CHURCH _____

Number of members in your unit _____

President/Contact Person _____

Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

Mail to <Linda Arsenault 43979 John Mosby Hwy, Chantilly, VA 20152>

E mail: linars51@gmail.com Phone: 703-327-3591

by: September 10, 2012

Secretary of Program Resources

Frances Ellis

Why I Am a United Methodist Woman

I asked the women at my church why they became United Methodist Women and why they continued to belong to United Methodist Women. Almost unanimously it was because their mother or grandmother or aunt was a UMW (or WSCS) member and took them to circle meetings when they became old enough. If they weren't from a Methodist background, it was because a friend invited them to join. Their role models were United Methodist Women and expected them to become active in the UMW too. As for why they have continued to belong, it is for the friendship, the fellowship with other like-minded Christian women, the opportunity to belong to an organization that is making a difference in the world for other women, children, and youth. Who have you invited or encouraged to join the UMW lately?

We had a small but fun gathering at the Advent Event. We explored hospitality and immigrants. We made place-mats for a prison ministry and played The Immigrant Game from the Program Book. I have 11 sets of the game that can be borrowed if any of you are interested in playing the game at your church.

Welcome to the new officers. We look forward to seeing you at Training Day on January 21. Please let me know if there are any resources that you need for your units.

I hope each of you has a joyous Christmas.

Frances
fwellis@aol.com
703-476-1127



2012 Spiritual Growth Mission Study will be Immigration in the Bible
2012 Geographic Mission Study will again be Haiti
2012 Issue Study will be Poverty

Remember –
"Mentoring" is not
necessarily a
commitment of extra
time – instead it is
"doing what you
already do" just with
somebody younger.





Arlington District United Methodist Women 2012 Calendar

PURPOSE of the United Methodist Women	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
<p>The organized unit of 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.</p>	Arlington District UMW Training Day @ Korean of Greater Washington UMC	January 21, 2012
	UM Day @ General Assembly	February 2, 2012
	Arlington District Spring Prayer Breakfast @ TBA	April 14, 2012
	Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat @ VUMAC	May 4-6, 2012
	Bi-District Day Apart @ TBA	May 19
	UMW Day @ Ferrum College	June 9, 2012
	VA Annual Conference @ Roanoke	June 21-24, 2012
	UMW Breakfast @ Conference	June 23, 2012
	School of Christian Mission, @ VUMAC	July 27—August 1, 2012
	Conference UMW Young Women's Event @ TBA	September 21-22, 2012
	Arlington District Annual Mtg @ TBA	September 22, 2012
	Virginia Conference UMW Annual Meeting	October 27-28, 2012
Arlington District Advent Event TBA	November 17, 2012	

Arlington District United Methodist Women Officers for 2012

ELECTED OFFICERS

President

Karen McElfish
721 N. Emerson Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1407
703-522-6837
James.McElfish@verizon.net

Vice President

Marci Schiller
703-517-1315
MarciSchiller@aol.com

Secretary

Vacant at this time

Treasurer

Mary Williams
407 Adahi Road SE
Vienna, VA 22180-5906
703-281-3346
stmawms@cox.net

MISSION COORDINATORS

Education and Interpretation

Linda Arsenault
43979 John Mosby Highway
Chantilly, VA 20152-1363
703-957-6906
LinArs51@gmail.com

Social Action

Gladys Packett
879 N. Jacksonville Street
Arlington, VA 22205-1323
703-522-0341
gpackett@verizon.net

Membership Nurture and Outreach

Vacant at this time

Spiritual Growth

Ruth Mulkey
4201 Lee Highway, #102
Arlington, VA 22207-3152
703-524-1776
rmulky@aol.com

Secretary for Program Resources

Frances Ellis
2933 Fox Mill Road
Herndon, VA 20171-1527
703-476-1127
fwellis@aol.com

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Vacant at this time

APPOINTED OFFICERS

VUMAC Representative
Vacant at this time

Editor of the *Tapestry*

Vacant at this time



For general information about Arlington District UMW, e-mail
arlingtondistrictumw@gmail.com



Arlington District UMW Training Day

Saturday January 21, 2012

(Snow Date January 28)



9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

At

Korean of Greater Washington

1219 Swinks Mill Rd.

McLean, VA 22102-2426

703-448-1131

Return this survey to Ruth Mulkey at .4201 Lee Highway, #102, Arlington, VA 22207-3152

Arlington District United Methodist Women

Name _____

Church _____

In which area are you/your unit most interested?

- a. Local missions (specify) _____
- b. Conference missions (specify) _____
- b. International missions (specify) _____

Which of the following areas is of most interest?

- a. Children's issues
- b. Youth issues
- c. Women's issues

Which social action initiatives interest you most?

- a. Peacemaking
- b. Environmental issues
- c. Dealing with famine and malnutrition
- d. Disease cure and prevention
- e. Education of women and girls
- f. Human trafficking
- g. Issues of aging
- h. Elimination poverty
- i. Other _____

How many of the 2011 District events did someone from your unit participate in? _____

Training Day

Prayer Breakfast

Day Apart

Annual Meeting

Advent Event

The events that you do not participate in – why not? _____

In 2011, the subjects that were covered in the events were Officer Training, Finding Inner Peace, Childhood Obesity, Celebration of the UMW in Mission, and Radical Hospitality. What topics would you like to see explored in 2012? _____

What would make the District events more relevant to your unit and attract greater participation?

Topics _____

Speakers _____

Location _____

Time _____

Other _____

Has anyone from your church attended a Young Women's Event? _____

Survey (continued)

Would you like for us to reinstate the District Spiritual Life Retreat? _____
If so, for one day or a weekend? _____
Local or at Blackstone? _____
Time of year? _____

We have the following positions open at the District level:

Secretary,
Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach,
Nominations Committee Chair and Members,
VUMAC Representative.

Would you be willing to hold any of these positions in 2012? _____

Do you know anyone that you think would be willing to hold any of these positions in 2012?

Will you volunteer to be a host site for one of our events in 2012? _____

If so, name of church and preferred event _____

How can your District officers support your local unit? _____

Other comments or suggestions?

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN LOCAL UNIT OFFICERS – 2012

Please **print** the information for your local unit officers. Return this sheet to Frances Ellis 2933 Fox Mill Rd, Oak Hill, VA 20171. If you have any questions, please contact Frances at 703-476-1127 or FWellis@AOL.Com. Please print additional officer information on the reverse side of this sheet.

Please return this information sheet by December 31, 2011.

Church: _____

President	Vice President
Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:	Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:
Secretary	Treasurer
Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:	Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:
Education and Interpretation	Membership Nurture and Outreach
Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:	Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:
Social Action	Spiritual Growth
Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:	Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:
Secretary for Program Resources	Chair of Nominations
Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:	Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:
Pastor	Other Position
Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address:	Name: Address: Telephone: e-mail address: