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.

BLUE RIDGE DISTRICT

2017 UNIT OFFICERS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

For New AND Returning Unit Officers

Central United Methodist Church
November 4, 2017
9:30 Registration, 10:00 Classes

This event is not just for unit officers, but for every UMW member. Come and learn new ideas!

Love Offering: UMW Institutions affected by the hurricanes

Hands-on Mission Project: Health Kits (see page 18)
(If child care is needed, please contact Beverly-Hill at beverlyhill19@gmail.com.

Directions: I-40 West towards Asheville: Take exit 53B for Interstate 240 W/U.S. 74 Alternate W toward Asheville, Keep left, follow signs for UNC Asheville and merge onto I-240 W. Take exit 4C toward Haywood St/Montford Ave, Merge onto Cherry St N, Turn left onto Montford Ave, Turn right onto Haywood St, Turn left onto Carter St, Turn left onto Patton Ave, Turn right onto Church St Destination will be on the right.
I-40 East towards Asheville: Use the left lane to keep left at the fork and stay on I-40 E, Use the left lane to take exit 4B to merge onto I-240 E/I-26 W toward Asheville, Continue to follow I-240 E, Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 4B for Patton Ave toward Downtown, Follow Patton Ave to Church St, Continue onto Patton Ave, Turn right onto Church St; Destination will be on the right.
I-26 North towards Asheville: Keep right at the fork to stay on I-26 W, Follow signs for Interstate 26 W/Asheville/Interstate 240, Continue onto I-240 E, Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 4B for Patton Ave toward Downtown, Follow Patton Ave to Church St, Continue onto Patton Ave, Turn right onto Church St, Destination will be on the right.
I-26 South towards Asheville: Merge onto I-26 E/US-19 S/US-23 S, Use the left 2 lanes to take the Patton Avenue exit toward Downtown, Continue onto Patton Ave, Turn right onto Church St; Destination will be on the right.

Attending the leadership training fulfills criteria #11 of Mission Today Unit!!

Blue Ridge District United Methodist Women
Blue Ridge District United Methodist Women
2017 OFFICERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Joanie Strohm</td>
<td>(Weaverville)</td>
<td>(828) 649-1156</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ssjsmars@charter.net">ssjsmars@charter.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Beverly Hill</td>
<td>(Black Mountain)</td>
<td>(828) 778-9309</td>
<td><a href="mailto:beverlyhill19@gmail.com">beverlyhill19@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Karen Anderson</td>
<td>(Skyland)</td>
<td>(828) 628-9385</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ksanderson95@gmail.com">ksanderson95@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Carol Bryson</td>
<td>(Grace)</td>
<td>(828) 776-0678</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csbryson64@gmail.com">csbryson64@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Growth, MC</td>
<td>Lucy Ears</td>
<td>(Oak Grove)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MC Education &amp; Interpretation</td>
<td>Gwen Harris (Windom)</td>
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<td>Social Action, MC</td>
<td>Kathy Kennedy (Grace)</td>
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<td>Membership Nurture &amp; Outreach</td>
<td>Carole Gilham (Groce)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary of Program Resources</td>
<td>Leith Tate (Black Min.)</td>
<td>PO Box 208</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communications Coordinator</td>
<td>Peggy Sanders (Skyland)</td>
<td>206 Ewarts Hill Rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parliamentarian</td>
<td>Betty J. Letzig</td>
<td>(St. Paul’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
<td>(Looking for volunteer!)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Committee on Nominations for 2017

Chairperson, Fran Jordan, PO Box 447, Black Mountain, NC 28711 (Black Mountain)
(828) 778-8087, fjordan93@aol.com (Class of 2020)

Barbara Blevins, 108 Montford Ave. #7, Asheville, NC 28801 (Acton)
(678) 234-2615, barjsep20@gmail.com, (Class of 2018)

Maureen Carr, 1680 Hendersonville Rd Apt B-08, Asheville, NC 28803 (Central UMC)
(828) 277-7065, mcparishnurse@aol.com, (Class of 2020)

Anna Hull, 600 Summit Road, Tryon, NC, 28782 (Tryon UMC)
(828) 859-9468, aph2@windstream.net (Class of 2020)

Delores Meadows, 248 Cardinal Road, Mills River, NC 28759 (Mills River)
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Honorary Member at Large
Martha Phillips P.O. Box 49 Linville Falls, NC 28647 (828) 765-7009 mcwphillips@gmail.com

Western North Carolina Conference District Advisor for the Blue Ridge District
Dixie Liggett, 8 Springside Park, Asheville, NC 28803 (Skyland)
(828) 684-1831, lliggett3@charter.net, (Class of 2017)

The Blue Ridge District Newsletter is published quarterly. Send any information you would like to have included to the Editor below.
(Acceptance of articles will depend on space available and interest to the entire District.)

Editor: Peggy Sanders, 206 Ewarts Hill Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28739; (828) 606-7947; peggy.sanders0522@gmail.com
2017 NURTURING PARTNERS (SHEPHERDESSES)
Your Nurturing Partner is a personalized connection between your district leaders and your unit. Please call your Nurturing Partner during the year if you have any questions or needs. She will be notifying you to remind you about special events throughout the year. Your Nurturing Partner would like to come visit your unit and would appreciate an invitation. Our goal is to visit every unit throughout the district during the year.

**PLEASE ASK YOUR NURTURING PARTNER TO VISIT YOUR UNIT!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nurturing Partner</th>
<th>Church</th>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Anderson</td>
<td>Fairview Sharon</td>
<td>Kathy Kennedy</td>
<td>Dix Creek</td>
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<tr>
<td>828-628-9385</td>
<td>Oak Hill</td>
<td>828-231-3229</td>
<td>Oakley</td>
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<td>Trinity-Asheville</td>
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<td>Biltmore</td>
<td>828-883-7289</td>
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<td>Carol Bryson</td>
<td>Avery's Creek</td>
<td>Beverly Hill Miller</td>
<td>Clinchfield</td>
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<td>828-776-0678</td>
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<td>Emma</td>
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<td>Maureen Carr</td>
<td>Hope UMC</td>
<td>Jo Pyatt</td>
<td>Concord</td>
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<td>828-277-7065</td>
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<td>First UMC Rutherfordton</td>
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<td>Lucy Earls</td>
<td>First Forest City</td>
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<td>Nebo</td>
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<td>828-453-8566</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
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<td>Oak Grove</td>
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<td>828-223-1325</td>
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<td>Carole Gilham</td>
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<td>Peggy Sanders</td>
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<td>Gwen Harris</td>
<td>Bald Creek</td>
<td>Joanie Strohm</td>
<td>Addie's Chapel</td>
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<td>828-682-4589</td>
<td>Caroleen</td>
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<td>Alexander Chapel/Clark's Chapel</td>
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<td>Anna Hull</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
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<td>Gilboa</td>
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<tr>
<td>828-859-9468</td>
<td>Saluda</td>
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<td>Fran Jordan</td>
<td>Piney Mountain</td>
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<td>828-778-8087</td>
<td>St.Paul's</td>
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<td>Betty J. Letziger</td>
<td>Balfour</td>
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<td>Salem</td>
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<td>828-255-0414</td>
<td>Fletcher</td>
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<td>Leith Tate</td>
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<td>Swannanoa</td>
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</table>
Blue Ridge District United Methodist Women
2018 Officers

(New officers or officers taking a different position in **Bold**.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Fran Jordan</td>
<td>PO Box 447, Black Mountain, NC 28711</td>
<td>(828) 778-8087</td>
<td><a href="mailto:fjordan93@aol.com">fjordan93@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Gwen Harris (Windom)</td>
<td>215 Grand View Lane, Burnsville, NC 28714</td>
<td>(828) 682-4589</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gwenaharris68@gmail.com">gwenaharris68@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Karen Anderson (Skyland)</td>
<td>9 Chestnut Mt. Ridge, Asheville, NC 28803</td>
<td>(828) 628-9385</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ksanderson95@gmail.com">ksanderson95@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Carol Bryson (Grace)</td>
<td>14 Buckner Road, Leicester, NC 28748</td>
<td>(828) 776-0678</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csbryson64@gmail.com">csbryson64@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spiritual Growth, MC</td>
<td>Lucy Earls (Oak Grove)</td>
<td>913 Race Path Church Rd., Ellenboro, NC 28040</td>
<td>(828) 453-8566</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jearls@att.net">jearls@att.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MC Education &amp; Interpretation</td>
<td>Jeanette Byrd (St. Paul)</td>
<td>203 Aurora Dr., Asheville, NC 28805</td>
<td>(828) 230-5308</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jbyrdasheville@aol.com">jbyrdasheville@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Action, MC</td>
<td>Kathy Kennedy (Grace)</td>
<td>PO Box 2556, Leicester, NC 28748</td>
<td>(828) 683-4678</td>
<td>cell (828) 231-3229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Nurture &amp; Outreach</td>
<td>Connie Martin (Addie’s Chapel)</td>
<td>350 Holly Hill Dr, Marion, NC 28752</td>
<td>(828) 652-5506</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bcmartin350@yahoo.com">bcmartin350@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary of Program Resources</td>
<td>Leith Tate (Black Mtn.)</td>
<td>PO Box 208, Montreat, NC 28757</td>
<td>(828) 669-5564</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tateleith@gmail.com">tateleith@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications Coordinator</td>
<td>Peggy Sanders (Skyland)</td>
<td>206 Ewarts Hill Rd, Hendersonville, NC 28739</td>
<td>(828) 606-7947</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peggy.sanders0522@gmail.com">peggy.sanders0522@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Processing</td>
<td>Carolyn Hall</td>
<td>237 Pleasant Hill Rd., Marion, NC 28752</td>
<td>(828) 442-3292</td>
<td><a href="mailto:c.annehall@gmail.com">c.annehall@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentarian</td>
<td>Betty J. Letzig (St. Paul’s)</td>
<td>266 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801</td>
<td>(828) 225-0414</td>
<td><a href="mailto:letzig@msn.com">letzig@msn.com</a></td>
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</table>

**Committee on Nominations 2017**

**Chairperson,** Anna Hull, 600 Summit Road, Tryon, NC, 28782 *(Tryon UMC)*
(828) 859-9468, aph2@windstream.net *(Class of 2020)*

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**Member at Large**

Jo Pyatt, PO Box 1621, Marion, NC 28752-1621 *(East Marion)* (828) 652-2530 pyattjo@gmail.com

**Honorary Member at Large**

Martha Phillips P.O. Box 49 Linville Falls, NC 28647 (828) 765-7009 mcwphillips@gmail.com

**Western North Carolina Conference District Advisor for the Blue Ridge District**

Dixie Liggett, 8 Springside Park, Asheville, NC 28803 *(Skyland)*
(828) 684-1831, lliggett3@charter.net, *(Class of 2017)*

- 4 -
A Message from Your President

Recently my sister and I were going through a scrapbook put together by our maternal grandmother. Grandma was an activist for women’s rights, a reader, a woman of deep faith but best of all, she was a good listener. She listened carefully to what we had to share, rarely gave advice but made comments that helped us grow into womanhood with an appreciation for other’s opinions. I know I need to be a good listener and encourager. I do not always meet that goal! Jesus was a patient listener, he was slow to criticize and quick to encourage. Every woman, young, middle-aged or seasoned, needs to have a voice AND a listener who also encourages.

Encouraging you: to carefully read the new Mission Today criteria and I am sure you will find your unit is doing some things that meet the criteria without you even realizing it. The beauty of the Mission Today criteria is that it keeps United Methodist Women living our Purpose.

Encouraging you: to invite your Nurturing Partner (if you haven’t already) to come to a meeting, church service, bring a program or attend a special event at your church. You will be blessed and your Nurturing Partner certainly will be blessed.

Encouraging you: to take part in Ubuntu Day of Service, October 14, 9:00am to 2:00pm. You can participate at Brooks-Howell, Bennett College, Pfeiffer University, or Bethlehem Centers in Winston-Salem and Charlotte. Register online.

Encouraging you: to attend the District Leadership Development Day at Central UMC in Asheville, November 4. Anyone can attend; current leaders, past leaders and potential leaders. Everyone will learn and contribute.

I complete my tenure as an officer of the Blue Ridge District, December 31, 2017, but I will continue to love and appreciate all of you. I have met many of you at meetings, events, and through notes, phone calls and emails. Thank you for richly blessing my life. You are amazing United Methodist Women—be good listeners and encouragers!

Joanie Strohm, Blue Ridge District President

Vice-President

What is leadership? A simple definition is that leadership is the art of motivating a group of people to act towards achieving a common goal. If our common goal is defined in the purpose of United Methodist Women, then it is up to us all to be in leadership to get to that goal. And leadership is not defined as a single person leading a group but rather a group effort. Come November 4 to get inspired, learn new ways that you can do your part in UMW. We need everyone, particularly if you will be a part of the leadership team in your UMW. Spend the morning at the “Creating Strength in Leadership” and invest in moving your unit toward the goal! There is something for everyone.

I am fresh “off the bus” from the Blue Ridge District UMW tour to Washington DC. Talk about being inspired! Not only were the seminars enlightening, the museums spectacular, but equally inspiring to me was traveling with women from other units sharing what they are doing for Jesus Christ and UMW.

And as this is my last year on the district leadership team, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your encouragement, inspiration and enthusiasm. It has been a privilege to work on such a gifted district team and alongside all of you in your units. Blessings to each of you!

Beverly Hill Miller, Blue Ridge District Vice President
**Treasurer**

It seems almost impossible, but our 2017 UMW year is almost over. We have had a wonderful year in giving to mission. I urge each unit to celebrate your UMW year. The giving of each unit is important as we move toward reaching our Pledge to Mission.

Our total amount sent to Conference Treasurer through third-quarter of the year is **$67,111.14**. Undesignated giving totaled **$50,594.94**, which is applied to our 2017 pledge to mission of $80,000. As you can see, we can make our goal. Let’s close out 2017 with a bang. Remember that UMW fiscal year ends December 1st. Your Unit Treasurer will be sending all reports and monies to me by that date.

Fourth quarter is historically our largest quarter in undesignated giving. As all units seek to complete the five channels of undesignated giving, world thank offering, and walk for mission. Be in prayer that the Blue Ridge District again exceeds our yearly Pledge to Mission. Encourage your unit to meet and exceed their Pledge again this year.

I am very proud to congratulate you for contributing **$5,103.08** to the Legacy Fund through the third-quarter. Let’s keep up the good work and insure United Methodist Women Missions will survive to serve future generations.

Many of our units may be small in the number of members, but we are all big in heart and in working for United Methodist Women. I am very proud to be serving you as District Treasurer. It is a pleasure to meet many of you at District and Conference events. I encourage you to contact your Nurturing Partner for a visit to your unit meeting or to discuss any issues you may have.

*Carol Bryson, Blue Ridge District Treasurer*

---

**Spiritual Growth**

As I sit here writing this, I wonder how could I possibly be writing an article for the 4th quarter newsletter. One thing is sure . . . time is marching on and it is not waiting for any of us.

We have had such a wonderful year in our Blue Ridge District. We have been blessed with many opportunities to gather in prayer, study, celebration, travel, and fellowship with our fellow United Methodist Women. Our lives are so enriched because of the many times we gather in our local units, as a district, or at conference events to be about the work of mission to women, youth, and children. I have been so inspired this year as I have visited with different units and witnessed what wonderful mission work they are doing.

Plans are already being made for the 2018 year. We will begin our year with our **Prayer Breakfast** to be held on **Saturday, March 17**, at First United Methodist Church in Forest City. Put this on your calendar NOW. Please read your newsletters and take advantage of all the opportunities you will have in 2018 to be an active participant in the work of the United Methodist Women.

Blessings for a great fall and winter season.

*Lucy Earls, Blue Ridge District Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth*
**Education and Interpretation**

It's hard to believe that we're entering the final quarter of 2017! UMW has had a very good year with high-quality, well-attended events. Leadership training for conference and district and the Ubuntu Day of Service remain on our calendar.

There's still plenty of time to work on Mission Today criteria. The criteria give us a sense of what UMW does in our country and around the world. They encourage us to use UMW resources, such as the program book, response, the prayer calendar, the Charter for Racial Justice, and the reading list, among others. They provide a nice framework for living out our purpose.

We need to be very much aware of the need for UMCOR kits. All varieties of kits are needed because of the natural disasters in our own country; among our neighbors in the Caribbean basin, Central America, and Mexico; and around the world. Health/hygiene kits are the hands on project for district leadership training in November.

Looking ahead, our district mission study for 2018 will be on April 28. Betty Letzig and Barbara Campbell will be our facilitators. The study booklet is entitled Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States. We don't have a location yet, but save the date and find some time this winter to read the book.

I hope to see you at Ubuntu Day of Service and leadership training!

*Gwen Harris, Blue Ridge District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation*

**Social Action**

Never has the opportunity for social action been so great. Whether its protecting our environment or standing for social and economic rights, it is up to us as members of the human race to make a difference. The UMW website has excellent resources and information on how we can get involved. For example: Sign up for Action Alerts to learn about key legislation. Acts 18:9 says "Speak and do not be silent." or The September issue of Response has an article entitled "Who Will Intercede"? based on Isaiah 59. Read it online if you do not currently receive Response. (See page 19) Will you accept the challenge? Little changes make big differences and everything begins with just one.

*Kathy Kennedy, Blue Ridge District Mission Coordinator for Social Action*

**Communications Coordinator**

If you did not get to attend the Annual Meeting, it was a great success. It was a wonderful meeting. Please see the pictures on pages 10 and 11. As usual if you would like the Blue Ridge District United Methodist Women to know what your unit is doing to help women, children, and youth, please send me your information via email if possible. Below are the deadlines for submitting articles.

**2018 Deadlines** for information for the District Newsletter are:

January 15, 2018 (Newsletter emailed or mailed first week of February)  
March 15, 2018 (Newsletter emailed or mailed first week of April)  
June 15, 2018 (Newsletter emailed or mailed first week of July)  
Sept. 15, 2018 (Newsletter mailed first week of October)

*Peggy Sanders, Blue Ridge District Communications Coordinator*
Hi Everyone!

These titles are just a handful of the books on our Reading Program list that are about racism, and stories of racism and inequality make up more than half of the total number of titles. So do you think it’s important for us as United Methodist Women to dig deep and learn all we can about these important topics? Experience racism as told in these stories, learn its history, especially in white America where the “progress” of people of color is tied to very minimal standards of equality, in controversies over e.g. hurricane Katrina, in legislation concerning undocumented workers, and in lower levels of income, education, and health.

United Methodist Women are waking up. We can’t go to sleep. Ever. We may not be able to march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, but we can learn about the why’s, when’s and how’s of those who did. Educating ourselves is very, very powerful. And it’s one of the first steps for United Methodist Women to TAKE ACTION.

Let me know what piques your interest and I’ll get you the information to order the book just as soon as possible. Heck if you don’t have a computer, I’ll order the book for you. Just READ!

‘See you at the Leadership Development Training workshops!

P.S. Thank you to Anna Hull who wrote two book reviews for our last newsletter--how thoughtful of Anna to share her take on two important books in our Reading Program! So who's next?

Leith Tate, Blue Ridge District Secretary of Program Resources

Committee on Nominations

Thanks to a great job by our nominations committee, we have filled all the positions except the Historian. Please see the list of new officers for 2018 on page 4. (And I look forward to being your President next year!)

Fran Jordan, Blue Ridge District Nomination Committee Chair
Something totally unexpected has come over me. That "something" is the desire to give more. I am surprised at myself because I have always been so cautious with my money. What has happened? Well, as a Director a few years ago and now as a Program Advisory Group member, I have seen up close many of the institutions and projects supported by United Methodist Women's giving. And as a member of the national Legacy Fund steering committee, I see the need and opportunity to give to the future mission work of United Methodist Women.

So, like many of you, I am committing more than the minimum asking of $18.69 to the Legacy Fund. I also know the need to continue our "regular" giving through the Five Channels of Giving. And I am finding ways to increase my giving there. Confession: I have been fairly faithful sending Gift in Memory cards, almost always with the minimum $5.00, but now I will start giving $10.00 with each card.

I am convinced that you, too, will be inspired to give more when you visit one of our mission institutions (Brooks-Howell, Bethlehem Centers in Winston-Salem and Charlotte, for example). Even if you are unable personally to visit any of these, you can "visit" by reading articles in RESPONSE about where our money goes.

I am available to help you promote the Legacy Fund and other giving. Call me at 828-684-1831 or e-mail me at lliggett3@charter.net

Dixie Liggett, Western NC Conference District Advisor for the Blue Ridge District

(More information on The Legacy Fund on pages 13 and 14)
Blue District Annual Meeting  
Held on August 26th at  
FUMC of Rutherfordton

The UMW of FUMC of Rutherfordton  
had their fellowship hall beautifully  
decorated. Children’s clothes were  
centerpieces on each table to be donated  
to the Bethlehem Center in Winston-  
Salem (along with donations brought by  
all the attendees.

The Mayor of  
Rutherfordton,  
Jimmy Dancy, spoke  
to our group

Leith Tate, Secretary of Program Resources
Fran Jordan 2018 Blue Ridge District President and Joanie Strohm, current President

Cute skit regarding the legacy fund given by some of the executive committee members

Caroline Edwards Beam, First Rutherfordton’s UMW president

Karen Anderson, Blue Ridge District Secretary and Carol Bryson, Blue Ridge District Treasurer

2018 Blue Ridge District Officers
The purpose of promoting a Mission Today Unit is to:
Energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action. Increase contacts between units and mission personnel and mission projects so the United Methodist Women understand where their money goes. Encourage the use of mission resources through United Methodist Women. Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

What is a Unit?
A unit is any organized group of United Methodist Women within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles, which periodically get together for a unit meeting.

How Do We Become a Mission Today Unit?
In order to be recognized as a Mission Today Unit, UMW groups must complete a minimum of twelve of the following criteria, including six of those marked with an asterisk (*). #1 of the Criteria is not optional. You must complete this one to become a Mission Today Unit! Activities conducted between January 1-December 31, 2015, will be recognized at annual meetings in 2016. This is an ongoing program, so strive to become a Mission Today Unit!

Criteria for a Mission Today Unit:
*1. The Unit will make and meet its Pledge to Mission. (Must be completed)
*2. Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and our mission work with women, children and youth.
*3. The unit will use at least two programs from the Program Book during the year.
*4. The unit or circle will conduct or participate in at least one mission study each year. Contact your district or conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation to learn what the studies are for each year. (If members of your unit, other than a conference or district officer, attend MISSION U or your District Mission Study and your unit takes an action growing out of the study...Gift to Mission, ministry related to the study, etc., your unit will meet this criteria.)
*5. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to response. (1 member subscribing with units less than 15 members.)
*6. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least two ways during the year.
*7. Become a member of the Western North Carolina UMW Justice Today.
*8. The unit will add at least two new members (one member for units with less than 15 members) to its roll.
*9. The unit will have one program from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2013-2016.
10. At least one member of the unit (other than a conference or a district officer) will attend MISSION U or your District Mission Study and your unit takes an action growing out of the study...Gift to Mission, ministry related to the study, etc., your unit will meet this criteria.
11. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members), other than a conference or district officer, will attend the district or conference annual meeting and report back to the unit on classes and events they experienced.
12. The unit will have at least one person joining the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information at least three (3) times a year. (To join, contact Women's Division Washington Office, 100 Maryland Ave. NE, Suite 530, Washington, DC 20002). (Attach to Mission Today report what you responded to and what action was taken.)
13. Members will correspond with five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar at least once a year.
14. The unit will co-sponsor, with the local church, a Children's Sabbath. (This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children.) The United Methodist Women National Office and the Council of Bishops support this effort. Contact Children's Defense Fund for materials at 25 E. St. NW, Washington, DC 20001. Telephone 202-628-8787.
15. The unit will contribute to all five channels of Mission Giving. (See page 10)
16. Each unit or circle meeting will include a "Response Moment" where an item from response magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
17. The unit will sponsor one teen member (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman member (ages 18 to 39) to at least one Conference event during the year.
18. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members), other than a conference or district officer, will attend a district Prayer Breakfast, district Day Apart or conference Spiritual Growth Retreat.
19. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) other than a district or conference officer will complete Plan 1 of the Reading Program and give a report to the unit on one of the books read.
20. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year and/or for their United Methodist Women's Sunday.
21. The unit will add one new teen (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young women (ages 18-39) circle during the year, or one new teen member (ages 12-17) or one new young woman member (ages 18-39) during the year.
22. The unit will be responsible for supporting at least one local mission project and participate in one Conference Hands On Mission Project during the year. The local project should be listed on your Mission Today report.
United Methodist Women assemble every four years to celebrate, to lift up, to learn, and to return to their communities better equipped for mission.

United Methodist Women Assembly 2018 is a time for fellowship, it is also an opportunity to empower faithful women to be stronger discipleship leaders in their communities. Through moving worship, inspiring speakers, immersion experience exhibits, riveting workshops and town hall-style meetings, members will leave Assembly with the knowledge, courage and determination to change the world as part of a daring and compassionate 150 year-old movement.

It is an exciting experience to be part of this large gathering of United Methodist Women. Make plans to join us in Columbus!

Travel Information for the Western North Carolina Conference

Chartered Bus Trip:
Columbus...Bold and Courageous!
May 16 - May 21, 2018
Mark your calendar and plan to go with us!
Exciting Details and Reservation Form on Back!!

Registration for Assembly 2018
Register for the Assembly ONLINE at www.umwassembly.org. The Assembly 2018 registration fee is $295.00 per person if you register ONLINE on or before November 30, 2017. After that date, the registration fee goes up to $330.00. Register early to take advantage of the discount! If you need assistance with online registration, contact Lynne Gilbert (336-207-3479) or Sara Williams (336-699-8079). Note: Two healthy lunches (Friday and Saturday) are included in the Assembly registration fee.

Columbus Hotel Reservations - Non-Bus Passengers
We have arranged a protected block of rooms for Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women at the Hampton Inn and Suites Downtown across the street from the Greater Columbus Convention Center. The room rate is $181.00 (including tax) per night, plus a $5.00 handling fee.

Persons not travelling on the bus trip should contact Lynne Gilbert (336-207-3479) or Sara Williams (336-699-8079) to reserve rooms in our Western North Carolina block. DO NOT contact the Hampton Inn & Suites. Reservations for these block rooms must be made by November 10, 2017, and must be accompanied by a deposit of $186.00 per room. The balance for remaining room charges will be due by February 15, 2018. Checks should be made payable to Treasurer, WNCC-UMW. Mail payments to Lynne Gilbert, PO Box 4523, Greensboro, NC 27404-4523.

Watch for Additional Information on our Conference Website
(Bus trip information and the reservation form are available on the website)
Web Address: www.wnccumw.org

Learn more about Assembly 2018 at:
www.umwassembly.org
Look there for:
Registration Information
Assembly Schedule
Worship & Experience Hall
Pre-conference Events
Promotional Resources to share with your local unit
YouTube Videos...And More!
Name (For Nametag): _________________________________________________  Home Phone #: _________________________

Please Print Clearly

Address: __________________________________________________________________________________________________

Street Address
City
State
Zip Code

Email Address: _________________________________________________________  Cell Phone #: __________________________

Emergency Contact: _____________________________________________________  Phone: _____________________________

Lodging for Wednesday Night, May 16th thru Sunday Night, May 20th. (Please check one, and fill in roommates as appropriate)

- [ ] Double Room  $ 799.00/person  Make $400 deposit check payable to: Treasurer, WNCC-UMW

- [ ] Triple Room  $ 659.00/person  Roommate(s): __________________________  Please send all roommate forms together.

- [ ] Quad Room  $ 589.00/person

- [ ] Single Room  $ 1,199.00/person

Mail this form and your deposit check to: Lynne Gilbert, PO Box 4523, Greensboro, NC 27404-4523

Complete and return this form no later than November 10, 2017.

---

**ASSEMBLY 2018: The Power of Bold**
May 16 - 21, 2018 - Columbus, Ohio

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
COLUMBUS...BOLD AND COURAGEOUS!

**BUS TRIP RESERVATION FORM**

Bus Departure Date:  Wednesday, May 16, 2018  
Bus Return Date:  Monday, May 21, 2018

**BUS TRIP ITINERARY: (Deluxe Chartered Bus Transportation by HOLIDAY TOURS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., May 16</td>
<td>Morning departures from pick-up points across the conference; Lunch on the road; Early evening arrival at the Hampton Inn &amp; Suites Downtown in Columbus, Ohio.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., May 17</td>
<td>On your own in Columbus. You might choose to pre-register &amp; participate in the Ubuntu Day of Service (See Assembly registration information). Check in at the Assembly Registration desks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., May 18</td>
<td>Opening Community Gathering is expected to be at 9:00am. Workshops and the Experience Hall will fill your day, with another Community Gathering at 7:00pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., May 20</td>
<td>Meeting ends around 12:00 Noon; Departure immediately following meeting conclusion; Lunch on the road; Dinner &amp; overnight in Charleston, West Virginia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., May 21</td>
<td>Return home to pick-up points across the Western NC Conference</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bus Package Prices**  
(Per Person)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room Type</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Double</td>
<td>$799.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triple</td>
<td>$659.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quad</td>
<td>$589.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>$1,199.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The bus trip package price DOES NOT include the Assembly Registration Fee. Register for the Assembly ONLINE at www.umwassembly.org. The Assembly 2018 registration fee is $295.00 per person if you register ONLINE on or before November 30, 2017. After that date, the registration fee goes up to $330.00. Register early to take advantage of the discount! If you need assistance with online registration, contact Lynne Gilbert or Sara Williams for assistance. Note: Two healthy lunches are included in the Assembly registration fee. Links to Assembly online registration & other information are available on our website at: www.wnccumw.org.

Complete and return the form below, along with a $400 deposit, by November 10, 2017. (A separate form and $400 deposit is required for each person making a reservation.) Payment of the balance will be due by February 15, 2018. There will be no refunds for cancellations after March 15, 2018.

---

**TOUR COORDINATORS:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions? Contact one of the tour coordinators.</th>
<th>Lynne Gilbert</th>
<th>(H) 336-207-3479;  (C) 336-207-3479</th>
<th><a href="mailto:lynnegilbert2@gmail.com">lynnegilbert2@gmail.com</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sara Williams</td>
<td>(H) 336-699-8079;  (C) 336-469-1344</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarawill@yadtel.net">sarawill@yadtel.net</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mission u
July 19-22, 2018

Pfeiffer University
48380 US HWY 52N
Misenheimer, NC 28109

Spiritual Growth Study:
Seeking Health and Wholeness

Social Issue Study:
What About Our Money? A Faith Response

Geographic Study:
Missionary Conferences of the UMC in the US

Youth Camp:
Is It Just Money? Our Dollars, God’s Economy

Registration opens
May 1, 2018.

Check for updates at
www.wnccumw.org
THE LEGACY FUND
Celebrate United Methodist Women! 150 Years and Counting...

United Methodist Women has a rich legacy as a mission movement since 1869, and we are building for the next 150 years of service in God’s mission on behalf of women, children and youth in communities down the street and around the world.

Make your Legacy Fund gift today!

Please retain for your records
Western North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women
My Legacy Fund gift:

Every member is encouraged to make a gift to The Legacy Fund of at least $18.69 per year, over and above her Pledge to Mission, for five years (2015-2019).

☐ $1,869 ☐ $500 ☐ $300 ☐ $200 ☐ $50 ☐ $18.69 ☐ Other__________
☐ monthly ☐ annually ☐ beginning ________20____ (month/year)

Turning Faith, Hope and Love into Action since 1869.
All donations tax-deductible. Give your Legacy Fund commitment form and your gift to your local United Methodist Women treasurer.

Yes! I want to celebrate United Methodist Women’s 150th anniversary and help ensure we continue to put faith, hope and love into action for another 150 years.

Western North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women
My Legacy Fund gift:

☐ $1,869 ☐ $500 ☐ $300 ☐ $200 ☐ $50 ☐ $18.69 ☐ Other__________
☐ enclosed ☐ monthly ☐ annually ☐ beginning ________20____

☐ In honor / memory of _________________________________.
☐ Please contact me about including United Methodist Women in my estate planning.
☐ Please contact me about the major gift program.

Name: _______________________________ Phone: _______________________________
E-mail: _______________________________
Address: _____________________________________________________________
City, State, ZIP: _______________________________
Conference: Western North Carolina Conference District: _______________________

Give your Legacy Fund commitment form and your gift to your local United Methodist Women treasurer.
Frequently Asked Questions about The Legacy Fund / 150th Anniversary Celebration:

What is The Legacy Fund?
- A key element of the 150th Anniversary celebration in 2019.
- A designated fund (endowment) of the national office of United Methodist Women. (Only interest can be expended.)

What is the purpose of The Legacy Fund?
- To assure the continuation of ministries with women, children and youth, worldwide, into the next 150 years.
- To enable United Methodist Women to respond more adequately to new and emerging needs.
- To minimize the risk of severe budget fluctuation in years of recession, regional financial crisis, or change in giving by the membership.

How will the funds be used?
- The total program of United Methodist Women is mission. Interest from The Legacy Fund will be added to Mission Giving funds to formulate the national budget of United Methodist Women. (Mission Giving is the largest source of that budget which includes grants to National Mission Institutions such as the Bethlehem Centers in Charlotte and Winston-Salem, international programs and projects, program resource production, training, and more.)

Why should I give to The Legacy Fund?
- The Legacy Fund is OUR special anniversary gift to future United Methodist Women members and ministries.

- To “pass on” the legacy we have inherited. “To stake out our legacy for future generations.” (January 2015 response, page 3). Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, India, is an outgrowth of the work of the first missionary of our organization. The College motto is: “We Receive to Give.”
- Because we believe in the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women and want our daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends to share our sense of meaningful “sisterhood.”
- To be part of the joyous celebration in 2019 culminating 150 years of ministry.

How does the money get to the National Office?
- Gifts are given to the local treasurer who sends the Legacy Fund money and commitment cards to the District treasurer following regular procedures. There is a line on the local treasurer Remittance form for The Legacy Fund.

Does a Legacy Fund gift count for the individual or Unit Pledge to Mission Giving?
- No. This is a special additional gift to celebrate the 150th anniversary. In fact, it is critical that we sustain and even increase our Pledge to Mission Giving during this five year campaign; the needs have never been greater.

How do we give? Annually? All at once? What about non-cash gifts?
- Each person can determine her schedule of giving; any schedule is appropriate.
- Non-cash gifts of stock, property, life insurance, etc., can be given through the United Methodist Women National Office. Contact the Treasurer’s office at 212-870-3740.

How do I get a Legacy 150 pin?
- When you turn in a Commitment Card, you will receive a pin at your district annual meeting.

For more information visit:
Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women - www.wnccumw.org/legacyfund
United Methodist Women National Office - www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/give
Health Kit

Health kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Health kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes. **Health Kit Value:** $12 per kit

### Assembly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 hand towel</strong></td>
<td>- 15&quot; x 25&quot; to 17&quot;x 27&quot;; Kitchen, cleaning, and microfiber towels not acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 washcloth</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 comb</strong></td>
<td>- Comb needs to be sturdy and at least 8&quot; long; No pocket combs or picks please; Rattail combs and combs without handles are acceptable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 metal nail file or nail clippers</strong></td>
<td>- No emery boards, please</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 bath-size soap</strong></td>
<td>- 3 oz. and larger sizes only; No Ivory or Jergens soap due to moisture content; Do not remove from original packaging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 toothbrush</strong></td>
<td>- Adult size only; Do not remove from original packaging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6 adhesive bandages</strong></td>
<td>- ¾&quot; to 1&quot;-size; Common household Band-Aids.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 plastic bag</strong></td>
<td>- One-gallon size sealable bag only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

### Assembly Directions

Set the $1.00 for toothpaste aside to be included in a separate envelope. Lay out the hand towel flat on a table. Lay the washcloth flat in the center of the hand towel. Place all remaining items on top of the washcloth. Fold over the sides of the hand towel to cover all of the items. Fold over one end of the hand towel so that it covers all of the items. Grasp the bundle of items tightly and roll over the remainder of the hand towel tightly. Place the tightly rolled bundle in the plastic bag. Remove as much air as possible and seal the bag.

### Important Notes

- All items must be new.
- Do not wash any of the items as they will be considered used.
- Please remove all packaging, unless otherwise specified.
- All emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations. Due to the fact that strict rules often govern product entry into international countries, it is important that kits contain only the requested items, nothing more.
- Do not include any personal notes, money, or additional material in the kits. These things must be painstakingly removed and will delay the shipment.
- **UMCOR is now purchasing toothpaste in bulk to be added to health kits before shipping to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent. Do not put single dollar bills in each kit. Collect all money for toothpaste and shipping, then place it in a separate envelope and send along with the kit donations.**
- UMCOR does not require that the source of manufacturing be removed from kit contents. If an item in a kit has stamp that says, "Made in USA" or "Made in China," that stamp does not need to be removed.
**response: the magazine of women in mission!**

**response**, an award-winning publication, is the official magazine of United Methodist Women and is published by the national office. Each issue will touch your heart, stir your soul, and challenge your mind. Topics and issues cover spiritual growth, mission outreach and reports on our local, national and international work.

**response** features include:

- Bible studies
- opportunities for spiritual growth and development
- program suggestions
- articles on where the Pledge to Mission money goes
- regular features such as "Bright Lights" and "Responsively Yours"

**response** helps United Methodist Women reach out to:

- New and potential members of United Methodist Women
- Every woman in your church who shares our commitment to mission and welfare of women, youth, and children
- High school and college students, especially the young women in your congregation
- Sunday school teachers who can share **response** mission stories with all ages
- Leaders in your congregation, including your pastor, who will appreciate knowing more about the women's role in your church's mission outreach
- Your friends and neighbors in other faith communities who share our passion for children and youth and for social justice

Subscribe online at [https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response) or

**Subscribe by Mail:**
**response**: Magazines with a Mission  
PO Box 395  
Congers, NY 10920-0395

**Subscribe by Phone:**  
1-877-881-2385 (toll-free)

(taken from [https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response))
Mark Your Calendar for 2017:

**Blue Ridge District UMW Events for 2017:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>Ubuntu Day of Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>Blue Ridge District Leadership Training, Central United Methodist Church</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Blue Ridge District UMW Events for 2018:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 19-22</td>
<td>Mission U, Pfeiffer University, Misenheimer, NC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Western North Carolina Conference UMW Events for 2017:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>Leadership Development Day for District Officers, First UMC, Taylorsville</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mark Your Calendar for 2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 18-20</td>
<td>United Methodist Women Assembly, Columbus, Ohio</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For More Information:
- Visit our Web Site: [www.wnccumw.org](http://www.wnccumw.org)
- Join our Conference UMW Email List
- Read the Conference Gram and your District Newsletter
- Visit us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wnccumw](http://www.facebook.com/wnccumw)
- Visit us on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/wnccumw](http://www.youtube.com/user/wnccumw)