



Spiritual Growth Retreat

United Methodist Women
Western North Carolina Conference
June 15-16, 2012
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

Memorial Chapel is open during the retreat for a time of prayer and meditation. Open your mind and heart to the renewing Spirit of God's hope. You may place your prayer request in the basket and take a request to give the gift of prayer to another.

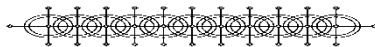
Registration is in Harrell Center Auditorium from 2:00-5:00 PM on Friday and before each session in Stuart Auditorium lobby. All are urged to register even if you are not staying on the Lake property.

Program Resources is beside Registration downstairs in Harrell Center Auditorium. Reading Program books, study books, leadership helps and Gift to Mission cards are there for purchase as well as free items. It will be open 2:00-5:00 PM on Friday and 8:00-8:30 AM and after the last session until 1:00 PM on Saturday. Stop by and check out the resources.

Meal Schedule at the Terrace and Lambuth Hotels:*

Dinner: 5:00-6:30 PM Breakfast: 7:00-8:30 AM Lunch: 12:00-1:30 PM

*Please allow those with ribbons on their nametags to break line if needed. They have duties for the retreat. Thank you.



An Offering for Mission Giving will be taken during the Second Session. Checks should be made payable to WNCC UMW.



Dates to Remember in 2012:

School of Christian Mission at Pfeiffer University, July 26-29

Conference Annual Meeting at Lake Junaluska, September 7-9

Training for District Officers at First UMC, Mocksville, October 13



*We have this hope,
a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul.
Hebrews 6:19*

Hope is the Thing with Feathers
by Emily Dickinson

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul;
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops, at all.



2012 Spiritual Growth Committee

Sandy Hieronymus - Chairperson, Ann Aldridge, Mildred Carter, Betty Durham, Emily Johnson, Tonya Lanier, Janice Lentz, Martha Phillips, Virginia Robinson, Sherry Sink, and Jane Smith

Thank you for turning off your cell phone during all sessions

Walk with Hope - Session One - June 15

Gathering Praise - 6:45 PM

Susan Lisle, Jane and James Smith

Welcome

Mildred Carter
Conference President

Greetings from Lake Junaluska

Dr. Jack Ewing
Executive Director, Lake Junaluska Conference and Retreat Center

Announcements and Introductions

Sandy Hieronymus
Conference Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

*Call to Worship from Psalm 126

Karen Wilkerson
Dean, School of Christian Mission

Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Hope in the Lord!

Come, let us worship!

Prayer Calendar and Opening Prayer

Carol Bryson
Asheville District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

*Hymn: *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

Page 328
The United Methodist Hymnal

Scripture: Psalm 42:1-5 (NRSV)

Margaret Hardy
Greensboro District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

Message: *The WORK of hope - without the words!*

Rev. Karen Kurtz

*Theme Song: *My Hope Is Built*

Page 368
The United Methodist Hymnal

*Benediction

Davi Trotti
Albemarle District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

+++++

The Junaluska Singers in Concert

Walk with Hope - Session Two - June 16

Gathering Praise - 8:45 AM Susan Lisle, Jane and James Smith

Announcements Sandy Hieronymus

*Call to Worship from Psalm 62 Linda Baity
North Wilkesboro District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

Be still and know.

For God alone, we are still; we wait in silence.

Be still and know.

**For God alone, we wait in silence,
eager to hear what God might say.**

Be still and know.

For God alone is our rock and our salvation.

We trust in God alone, and pour out our hearts before him.

Come let us worship!

Prayer Calendar and Opening Prayer Martha Efrid
Charlotte District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

*Hymn: *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus* Page 349
The United Methodist Hymnal

Love Offering and Prayer Julia Willis
Conference Treasurer

*Offering Response: *Give Thanks* Page 2036
The Faith We Sing

Scripture: Genesis 16 (NIV) Ruth Hoyle
Lexington District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

Message: *The LANGUAGE of hope - in spite of words!* Rev. Karen Kurtz

*Hymn: *Hymn of Promise* Page 707
The United Methodist Hymnal

*Benediction Vickie Morrison
Winston-Salem District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

Walk with Hope - Session Three - June 16

Gathering Praise - 10:15 AM

Susan Lisle, Jane and James Smith

Announcements

Sandy Hieronymus

*Call to Worship from Psalm 133

Tonya Lanier
Conference Vice President

Oh! how good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity!

We come together, Lord.

We come as people who are rich and poor, young and old.

We come together, Lord.

We come as people looking to you for hope.

We come together, Lord.

We come as people who are united by your great love for us.

We lay aside our differences before a merciful God.

We come together in unity, Lord.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

(adapted from The Africana Worship Book, 2006)

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Shelia Barrell

Salisbury District Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator

Leader: Let us pray and confess our sins before God.

All: Eternal God, you call us to the hard work of justice, and we look for an easier task. You expect us to persist and we want to give up. You call for courage and we worry about criticism. You ask us to protect the most vulnerable, and we mostly look out for ourselves and our "own." Forgive us we pray. Instill in us determination, persistence, courage, selflessness and hope, that our lives may be a more true reflection of the one we claim to follow and in whose name we pray, your own beloved child Jesus.

Leader: Beloved, we are God's children now. Hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

(from National Observance of Children's Sabbaths, 2011)

*Hymn: *Take, O Take Me As I Am (sing twice)*

Page 3119
Worship & Sing

Scripture: John 1:1-14 (NRSV)

Virginia Robinson
Conference Mission Education & Interpretation Mission Coordinator

Message: *The PROMISE of hope - through the Word!* Rev. Karen Kurtz

Special Music: *You'll Never Walk Alone* Jane Smith

Service of Holy Communion Rev. Paul Christy
Rev. Karen Kurtz

*Theme Song: *My Hope is Built* Page 368
The United Methodist Hymnal

*Sending Forth Mildred Carter

**Please stand as you are able.*



- Special Thanks -

The Spiritual Growth Committee would like to thank the following individuals and groups for sharing their talents and gifts for this meeting:

- Reverend J. Paul Christy, Highlands UMC, Waynesville District, for being our celebrant for communion
- All of the program participants
- All of the District Mission Teams for your help and support
- Members of the Conference Executive Committee
- The Lake Junaluska Assembly staff
- YOU for your dedication to United Methodist Women

Thank you for sharing in this Spiritual Growth Retreat.



Program Participants



Reverend Karen Christy Kurtz - *Retreat Leader* -

Karen was born into a parsonage family of the Western North Carolina Conference. Her parents, John and Joan Christy, served the conference for 50 years, and her brothers Mark, Paul, and David are also ministers in the conference. Karen is married to a United Methodist pastor, Rev. Dr. Michael Kurtz. They serve together at Oak Ridge United Methodist Church in Oak Ridge, NC. They have a son and daughter. Josh is a student pastor at Edgerton Memorial United Methodist Church in Selma, NC, and student at Duke Divinity School. Anna is a student at Guilford Technical Community College with a major in Early Childhood Education. Karen graduated from Brevard College in 1977 and from Emory and Henry College in 1979 with an interdisciplinary degree in Religion, Sociology, and Psychology. She served as a US-2 missionary in Omaha, Nebraska, from 1979-1981 through the General Board of Global Ministries. After finishing Duke Divinity School Course of Study and the Advanced Course of Study, she was commissioned as a provisional member in the elder track in the Western North Carolina Conference in June of 2011. She has served Mt. Carmel UMC, Concord; Forest Hill UMC, Concord, as an assistant pastor; and, is now serving as Associate Pastor of Congregational Care at Oak Ridge UMC.



Susan Nussbaum Lisle - *Pianist* -

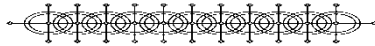
Susan is currently the Music Associate at First United Methodist Church in Gastonia, North Carolina. She leads the older-elementary choir, accompanies the chancel choir, contemporary and youth choirs, and rings in the chancel handbell choir. Susan has a Bachelor of Music degree from Wittenberg University and is originally from Dayton, Ohio. She is currently the president and music director at the local community theater in Gastonia where she resides with husband Ted. Their daughter, Meredith, is a Masters candidate at Towson University in Baltimore, Maryland.



Jane and James Smith - Musicians -

Jane and James have been making music together for 45 years since they first met in choir at First United Methodist Church, Gastonia, North Carolina. Jane was a teenager making eyes at James across the church's chancel area. She convinced him it would be a good thing to date. The rest

is a love story filled with over 40 years of marriage, two married sons, two exceptional daughters-in-law and three marvelous grandchildren. Jane currently serves as President of the Gastonia District United Methodist Women. James is a retired Executive Financial Officer. Jane has served in numerous roles in church leadership, including several mission trips to Africa and the Middle East. She is an accomplished alto in choral and solo work. Jane's hobbies include bowling, reading, and Bible study. James has served in a number of church leadership positions as well. He is the Assistant Organist at First United Methodist Church in Gastonia. He is a CPA and is active on the Board of Trustees for Gaston College and a member of the Rotary Club of Gastonia. James sings bass and also plays in a swing band in Gastonia.



Our Theme Song

My Hope Is Built was written by Edward Mote (1797-1874) while he was working as a cabinetmaker. His parents kept a pub in London, and Mote says, "My Sundays were spent in the streets; so ignorant was I that I did not know that there was a God." He was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker who took him to church where he heard the gospel message. The chorus came to mind as he was walking to work and the stanzas came later. Two years later, he published it in a collection of his own hymns and titled it "The Immutable Basis of a Sinner's Hope." It is a hymn that combines deep biblical theology with sincere personal experience.

Notes for Session One
The WORK of hope - without the words!

Notes for Session Two
The LANGUAGE of hope - in spite of the words!

Notes for Session Three
The PROMISE of hope - through the Word!

While at Lake Junaluska

- Visit Memorial Chapel for prayer and meditation.
- Browse through the materials available in the Program Resources area and purchase books and supplies for yourself and your unit.
- Enjoy the peace and beauty of the Susanna Wesley Garden.
- Sit at the foot of the Junaluska Cross or Amphitheater to rest, meditate and worship, and thank God for His creation.
- Stroll around the lake on the walking trail.
- Enjoy the fragrance and beauty of the roses.
- Fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Make new friends while cherishing your old friends.



The PURPOSE of 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.



Visit our Conference UMW Website:

www.wnccumw.org



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION