45th Annual Celebration
September 14-16, 2018
Celebrating 149 Years in Mission
Western North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women
Lake Junaluska, NC
ARTICLE X: RULES OF ORDER

Section 1: Rules Of Order For Annual Celebration Of The Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women

A. General Information
1. Celebrations shall open and close at the times stipulated in the official program.
2. Members and guests shall wear nametags at all times to indicate delegate status.
3. During voting sessions (business sessions) delegates shall be seated within a designated voting bar.
4. Members and visitors not designated as delegates shall be seated elsewhere.

B. New Business
1. All new business that has not been considered by the Executive Committee of the Conference shall be presented in writing to the Secretary twenty-four (24) hours prior to being considered by the voting delegates.
2. Proposed Resolutions must be submitted in writing to the Conference President sixty (60) days prior to the beginning of the Conference Annual Celebration.

C. Motions
1. All motions except on matters of procedure shall be written and signed by the maker and furnished to the Chair before action is taken.
2. The Secretary, unless directed otherwise, shall not record motions ruled out of order, points of order on which no appeal is taken, or trivial matters of privilege.

D. Debate
1. In seeking recognition from the Chair, a member must stand to address the Chair and, upon being recognized, state his or her name before making comment or motion.
2. The maker of a motion in preference to any other delegate shall be entitled to the floor immediately after the motion is stated.
3. Debate shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes per topic.
4. No delegate shall speak to a motion a second time until all others have been given the opportunity to speak.
5. No delegate shall speak more than twice on the same question on the same day, nor more than two (2) minutes at one time without consent of the body.
6. General consent shall be required if additional time is to be given.

E. Voting Membership
The voting body of the Conference organization shall be composed of the following persons:
1. One representative of each local unit of fifty (50) members or less, with one additional representative for each additional fifty (50) members in the unit.
2. All District officers and chairpersons of District Committees.
3. Past Presidents of the former Western North Carolina Conference Woman’s and Women’s Societies of Christian Service, Past Presidents of the former North Carolina-Virginia Conference Women’s Society of Christian Service, former Secretaries of the Wesleyan Service Guild, and Conference Past Presidents of the United Methodist Women now living within the bounds of the Western North Carolina Conference (the Conference organization assumes no financial responsibility for this group).
4. District Presidents, as members of the Conference Executive Committee.
5. Conference officers and chairpersons of committees.
6. Any member of the United Methodist Women National Office or of the Jurisdiction organization residing within the bounds of the Conference.
7. The resident Bishop.
8. The President of the Jurisdiction Deaconess Association if residing within the bounds of the Conference.
9. All elected members-at-large.

F. Delegates For Quorum
A quorum shall be a simple majority of the delegates registered for the Celebration.

G. Parliamentary Authority
1. Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority.
2. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates is required to suspend or amend these rules.
45TH Annual Celebration
United Methodist Women
Western North Carolina Conference
September 14, 15, and 16, 2018
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

Julia Willis, President
Joanie Strohm, Vice President, Chair of Program Committee
Lorraine Burns, President
Hostess District—Appalachian

2018 Program Committee
Joanie Strohm, Julia Willis, Dianne Beam, Martha Efird, Linda Greer, Lynne Gilbert, Carolyn Payne, Renee Hayes,
Lorraine Burns, Nancy Reigel, Sibyl Long, Deborah Matthews, Elizabeth Lookabill

Visit our Conference Web Site, www.wnccumw.org
You can find lots of information at our conference web site. Conference event information, registration forms, Mission Today resources, the Conference Gram, and links to many resources available on the National Office web site are just a few of the things you can find there.

Join Our Conference Email List!
If you are interested in receiving email with Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women information, updates, the Conference Gram, go to the website and sign up. Also, find us at www.facebook.com/wnccumw, at www.twitter.com/wnccumw, and at www.youtube.com/user/wnccumw. Join now!

***Very Special Appreciation***
The Program Committee would like to thank the following:

- All the United Methodist Women who joined us at Lake Junaluska this weekend
- Lorraine Burns, Appalachian District President, and her ladies who served as Hostesses & Pages
- Members of the Conference Executive Committee and volunteers from the District Teams
- Our National Office for providing our speaker, Stell Wallace
- Ginger Haselden and Glenda Fuhrmann for sharing their musical talents
- Rev. Beth Crissman, Blue Ridge District Superintendent for Mission Message, Communion Celebrant
- Lynn Alexander, Carolyn Payne, Barbara Campbell and Berly J. Letzig for a Bold Saturday afternoon
- Those who enjoy singing and became our UMW Choir
- Volunteers who hosted our special guests for lunch
- All the ladies who performed in skits and led exercises
- Harrell Center Display providers
- Bishop Paul Leeland for Greetings Friday evening
- The Lake Junaluska Staff who have been so helpful in planning this event
- Tim Nelson of PIP in Asheboro for his help in the printing of this program book

If using cell phones or tablets for scripture reading or note taking, please make sure your device is silenced. Thanks!
FRIDAY EVENING-Harrell Auditorium
“BOLDLY greet the immigrant and refugee with love”

Gathering Music—6:45 P.M. Ginger Haselden and Glenda Fuhrmann
We Gather With Boldness—7:00 P.M.

Call to Annual Celebration Julia Willis, President
Greetings from Lake Junaluska Rev. Mitzi Johnson, Director of Programming
Greetings from Host District President Lorraine Burns, Appalachian District President
Greetings from WNCC Bishop Bishop Paul L. Leeland
Announcements, Presentation of Guests & Joanie Strohm, Vice President
Program Participants

Litany ** Lorraine Burns, Appalachian President
Leader: God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace
All: to be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the
world.
Leader: Today is the day God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and
wholeness of all life, weeps at the plunder of earth’s goodness.
All: And so shall we.
Leader: Today is the day God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and
difference, favors justice for workers in the marketplace.
All: And so shall we.
Leader: Today is the day God cries with the masses of starving people, despises growing
disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace.
All: And so shall we.
Leader: Today is the day God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the
world’s warring madness.
All: And so shall we.
Leader: Today is the day God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates
where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.
All: And so shall we.

All: Today is the day God brings good news to the poor, proclaims release to the captives,
gives sight to the blind, and sets the oppressed free.
And so shall we.

** “A Companion Litany to Our Social Creed” From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church—2016
*Theme Song “The Summons”

Prayer Calendar/Evening Prayer

Scripture Micah: 6:8

Introduction of Speaker

Message

*Hymn “Blessed Assurance”

*Benediction

Postlude

* Please stand, in body or in spirit

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**SATURDAY MORNING-Harrell Auditorium**

“Speak BOLDLY against injustice”

Gathering Music—8:30 A.M. Ginger Haselden and Glenda Fuhrmann

We Gather with Thanksgiving—8:45 A.M.

*Hymn “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” TFWS #2051

Prayer Calendar/Opening Prayer Jennie Greenway, Blue Ridge, Oak Grove

VOTING DELEGATES SHOULD SIT IN SECTIONS 1 and 2

BUSINESS SESSION Julia Willis, President

Elizabeth Lookabill, Secretary

Jatana Royster, Parliamentarian

Chair Aerobics LaDonna Butts, Mission u Bus. Manager

Celebrating United Methodist Women Conference Officers

There will be a brief intermission

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Note: UMW Choir practice in Susan Todd Lounge immediately following benediction
SATURDAY MORNING - Harrell Auditorium

Convener: Linda Greer, Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator

Special Mission Recognition: Linda Greer

Special Guests: Active & Retired Mission Personnel, Church & Community Workers, Deaconesses, Home Missioners and Other Special Mission Guests

*Hymn: “God of Grace and God of Glory” by Lydia Munoz (used by permission)

Welcome of Guests: Linda Greer

Skit: We Learn from YAUMW, MAUMW and SAUMW Members

Legacy 150: Lynne Gilbert, Legacy Committee Chair

Pledge Service: “Called”

Love Offering: A Gift to Mission in Honor of Deaconesses and Home Missioners, Past, Present and Future

Nancy Reigel

Offertory Music: Glenda Fuhrmann

*Offertory Response: “Give Thanks” TFWS #2036

*Hymn: “Canticle of the Turning” Assembly Songbook

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-11 Lynn Alexander, North Piedmont President

Mission Address: The Power of Bold Humility

Rev. Beth Crissman, Blue Ridge District Superintendent

Recession of Guests: Instrumental Medley

Ginger Haselden, Glenda Fuhrmann

Remain seated to better view costumes as our guests depart

You are invited to join our mission guests for lunch in the dining room of The Terrace. As you go to lunch, please help our guests by allowing them and their hostesses to go to the front of the line. Seats have been reserved for them. Please make these very special people feel welcomed!

*Hymn: “Not Forgotten” CMG publishing license No. 625905

* Benediction: Tracey Owens, Deaconess

Postlude: Glenda Fuhrmann,

“Am I a Soldier of the Cross?”

* Please stand, in body or in spirit

NOTE: 1:00 – 1:45 P.M. UMW Choir Practice in Harrell Center Auditorium
SATURDAY AFTERNOON “BOLDNESS in ACTION”

Session 1: 2:00-4:00 P.M. Room 105 Harrell Center
Hands-on Projects—Facilitated by Lynn Alexander

Please join our afternoon workshop to learn about some hands on mission opportunities. We will see the new changes to the UMCOR kits. We will have examples of the kits and lists of the contents. We will also learn how to make PLARN (plastic yarn) out of plastic shopping bags. This PLARN is then crocheted into mats used by the homeless community as a barrier from the ground. Our third hands on project will be reusable feminine hygiene kits. These kits can be sent to girls and women around the world and could be the difference between girls being able to go to school or having to stay home monthly. Come and learn about these projects and take what you have learned back to your units!

Session 2: 2:00-3:30 P.M. Harrell Auditorium
School to Prison Pipeline—Facilitated by Carolyn Payne and Vickie Sigmon

We will explore the criminalization of communities of color with a focus on disrupting the school-to-prison pipeline—a process through which students are pushed out of schools into prisons. Vickie Sigmon is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church who is assigned to the Open Arms Community in Winston-Salem where she works with people affected by low academic achievement and racial/social class prejudice. She is uniquely equipped to address the “School to Prison Pipeline” problem.

Session 3: 3:30-5:00 P.M. Harrell Auditorium
PLANNED GIVING/LEGACY FUND—Facilitated by Barbara E. Campbell and Betty J. Letzig

This workshop will help our members review their current estate planning status; consider options to enhance their charitable giving now and in the future; and highlight the 150th Anniversary Legacy Fund.

The PURPOSE of United Methodist Women

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.
SATURDAY EVENING-Harrell Auditorium
“Live simply yet BOLDLY”

Gathering Music—6:45 P.M. Ginger Haselden and Glenda Fuhrmann
A Time of Recognition & Honoring—7:00 P.M.
Evening Prayer Sandrea Williamson, Northern Piedmont
Announcements & Reports Conference Officers
Vice President
Social Action Honor Carolyn Payne, Social Action Coordinator
Dedication of the Annual Report Book Betty Durham, Historian
(see page 18 for nomination details)
Time of Appreciation-Honoring Outgoing Officers Julia Willis and Nancy Reigel
Installation of Officers Martha Phillips, Comm. on Nominations chair
Hymn “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” UMH #344
President’s Address Julia Willis
Coordinator Education and Interpretation
*Hymn “Fill My Cup, Lord” UMH #641 (three stanzas)
*Benediction Patricia Moore, Mission u Dean
Postlude Glenda Fuhrmann, “We Will Glorify the King
of Kings” by Twila Paris, arr. By Lloyd Larson

* Please stand, in body or in spirit

THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES…(Saturday Night Entertainment)
“boldly go where no one has gone”
Immediately following the Saturday Evening Session until 10:30 P.M.
Harrell Center Auditorium—Ground Level
The Lake Junaluska shuttle service will run until 11:00 P.M.
Gathering Music—8:45 A.M.  Ginger Haselden and Glenda Fuhrmann

We Gather to Praise and Glorify God—9:00 A.M.

Announcements  Joanie Strohm

*Call to Worship Litany  Jamie Smith, Yadkin Valley Treasurer

Response—All: Our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

Last Response—All: For all of these women, and all women everywhere, we give you thanks, O God. Amen.

*Hymn  “Here I Am, Lord”  UMH #593

Special Music  “If you are Happy/Amen”  UMW Choir  by Andre J. Thomas

Prayer Calendar/Opening Prayer  Martha Isenberg, Yadkin Valley President

Presentations  Julia Willis and Nancy Reigel

*Hymn  “I’ve Got Peace Like a River”  TFWS #2145

Memorial Service  Peace Like a River  Martha Efird, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Scripture  Joshua 1:9  Jamie Smith, Yadkin Valley Treasurer

Message  Stell Wallace

Holy Communion  Rev. Beth Crissman, Celebrant  Maureen Carr, Deaconess, Celebrant Assistant

Music Medley  Hannah Wingard, solo  UMW Choir, “Give Us Hope” by Jim Papoulis  Glenda Fuhrmann  “The Old Rugged Cross” by George Bennard  “And Can It Be” by Thomas Campbell

* Please stand, in body or in spirit
Dedication of Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory Cards & Prayer Requests

Linda Greer

All: Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for each lady who has given gifts to mission in honor of friends and family and for each one who has given gifts in memory of loved ones. We pray that the recipients of each card as well as the recipients of these gifts to mission and memory will feel the love that is sent with each gift. We dedicate these gifts to Your service to enrich the lives of women, youth and children both in our country and around Your world. Almighty Father, You know the prayers that are on our hearts and You have seen the written prayer requests. In humility, we pray for Your answers for these prayers and for peace, patience and understanding as we wait for Your answers and for Your will to be done on Your schedule, not ours. We ask for Your guidance as we walk humbly with You while we boldly profess our faith and boldly work to eradicate injustices that we see around us. We pray this prayer of dedication in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Hymn “The Summons” TFWS #2130

*Blessing & Sending Forth

Julia Willis

*Postlude

Glenda Fuhrmann, “How Majestic Is Your Name” by Michael Smith

* Please stand, in body or in spirit

Upcoming 2018 Events

Ubuntu Day of Service (Bethlehem Centers: Charlotte & Winston-Salem, Brooks-Howell Home, Bennett College, Pfeiffer University, Mission Resource Center)
October 20th, 2018, 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.
On-line registration through Sunday, October 1st at www.wnccumw.org (no fee)

Leadership Development Day (LDD) for District Officers
“Bold in Leadership”
First United Methodist Church, Morganton,
October 13th, 2018
Registration/Program Resources 8:00 A.M.
Training 9:00 A.M.-12 Noon

Many little people,
In many little places,
Taking many little steps,
Can CHANGE the face of the World!

* African Proverb*
Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action, page 21
PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Keynote Speaker: Stell Wallace

Pacific Northwest Conference, United Methodist Women Board of Directors, Chair of Finance Committee

My life’s journey has helped me prepare for this wonderful opportunity to serve United Methodist Women. Among the many roles are a 40 year career in education, legal guardian, Durable Power of Attorney, a graduate degree with a focus on at-risk youth and curriculum development, president of a women’s auxiliary for a local fire department, wife, mother, grandmother, and a lifelong learner.

My earliest memories included our family advocating for my disabled brother. Over 60 years later, I’m still his advocate. This love led me to my career in which I taught at all levels with a focus on special needs students, and assumed additional roles as department chair and dean of children.

Youth are our future as seen in my career choice and this organization. I have held several positions at my conference level as well as dean of Mission at the regional and conference levels. Last quadrennium, I was chair of nominations for the Western Jurisdiction.

We are 150 years strong and I want to keep it that way. Good communication is a key element as well as strategic planning. I am honored to hold this position and will continue to focus on my fiduciary responsibilities for United Methodist Women.

Organist/Pianist: Glenda Fuhrmann

It seems like I’ve always been a church musician. When I was a child, I accompanied my grandad on the upright piano when he sang from his old gospel songbooks. I started playing the piano for evening church services when I was 11 years old. When my family moved to a larger church, which had an organ, I begged to begin organ lessons. In high school, I became the church organist of my home church, (where I also became a junior member of the Women’s Society of Christian Service). I attended the University of Texas, obtaining a Bachelor of Music degree, majoring in music education with organ as my principal instrument.

My career has been as an elementary school music teacher, children’s theatre programming director, and arts administrator. While keeping my day jobs, I’ve had many positions as a part-time organist, or organist/music director, in churches of various denominations in New York, Texas, and North Carolina. I am retired from my careers, but still...I am working part time as an organist. I am presently the organist at First United Methodist Church in Rutherfordton. My calling to serve Christ through music continues to lead me.
Music Director: Ginger Haselden

Ginger Haselden, music director, has been singing and directing church music most of her life. She is a member of Central United Methodist Church, in Asheville, NC, sings in the Chancel Choir, and directs the Cherub Choir. Ginger is also a voice teacher and a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She is the founding artistic director since 2007 of Celebration Singers of Asheville (children’s chorus).

Ginger served as Assistant Treasurer for the Women’s Division, United Methodist Women, in the 1980’s and as such, participated in many worship settings as soloist and music director. While staffing the Retiree Benefits Committee, she traveled to Brooks-Howell Home many times each year and finally made Asheville home.

Ginger has performed in many opera choruses with Asheville Lyric Opera, in New Jersey, and in New York City. Currently, Ginger performs as a soloist and chorus member with Asheville Choral Society, the Asheville Symphony Chorus, and the Asheville Symphony Chamber Chorus, and she presents recitals and solos for special services.

Mission Address and Communion Celebrant: Rev. Beth Crissman

Rev. Beth M. Crissman is the District Superintendent and Chief Missional Strategist in the Blue Ridge District in the Western North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church. Additionally, Beth and her husband, Rev. Kelly Crissman, are the founders of Plowpoint, a non-profit organization which has trained teams of clergy and laity throughout The United Methodist Church for the transformation of leaders, churches, and communities.

Beth is the author of four books; Longing to Belong, How We Lead, Stepping in the Stream, and Choosing the Faithful Path, and multiple other curricula to strengthen the local church. Beth, a native of Graham, North Carolina, is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (BS Nursing), University of California-Los Angeles (MNursing-Family Nurse Practitioner), and Emory University (MDiv). She and Kelly have two grown children: James, a graduate of Emory University who is living and working in Atlanta, and Maddie, a graduate of American University and research assistant living in Washington, D.C.
Report of the Treasurer

Western North Carolina United Methodist Women continued our tradition of **Making Mission Happen** with TOTAL Mission Giving of $837,735 during 2017. This includes all love offerings and giving through the eight districts. Giving that turns faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

The 2017 giving report from the National Office indicates that Western North Carolina United Methodist Women led the nation in:
- Special Mission Recognition
- Gift to Mission
- World Thank Offering

Our 2017 Total Giving of $698,897.02 was sent to United Methodist Women National Office. Even though we did not meet our Pledge and led the nation in fewer categories, this is still cause to celebrate because we are making mission possible!

**The members of the WNCC UMW made the following happen for Mission in 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Giving</th>
<th>$813,180</th>
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<tr>
<td>through the 8 districts from local units</td>
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**Conference Love Offering**
- “In Celebration and Gratitude for our Mission Giving Leadership **$16,048.26**
- Walk for Mission **$13,718**
- Spiritual Growth Retreat Love Offering **$5,407**
- Mission u Love Offering **$2,136***
- Special Offerings from Conference Committee Meetings **$109**
- Legislative Day Love Offering **$545**
- Undesignated Mission Giving sent to UMW National Office **$622,361**
  - ($77,639 short of our 2017 Pledge of $700,000)
- Designated Giving to UMW National Office **$76,521***
  - (includes Call to Prayer & Self Denial, general, national, international & UMCOR)
- Donations to other local projects **$9,249***
  - * Indicates increase over previous year

Although these results are stated in terms of dollars, what they really represent is Mission...Mission YOU made happen and Mission in action around the world because of YOU.

*Nancy F. Reigel, Conference Treasurer*

**Report of Scholarship Committee**

We have eight students in all five of our colleges this year. YEA!!!! We have dispersed a total of $25,158.00. Scholarships ranged from $2,000.00—$4,500.00

Bennett College—Cathy Morrison
Greensboro College—Jonathan King (Senior)
Pfeiffer University—April Martin, Mackenzie Gary, Kylie Spencer (Senior)
High Point University—Hannah Dunlap
Brevard College—Yajaira Chavez and Leslee Taylor

God is using the talents and education of these young adults to change the world in which we live and they are impacting many different areas of our communities even while students.

*Sherry Sink, Scholarship Chair*
Report of Communications

The Conference Gram, our Conference newsletter, is published four times a year to highlight Conference events and officer reports.

In 2017, a total of 12,770 Conference Grams were printed and 12,220 were mailed for a total cost of $10,413.98 which includes printing, mailing/postage. This represents an increase of $2,046.15 over last year’s costs. The average cost/newsletter was $0.65. This year, the average cost/newsletter was $0.82.

Mailed issues are available for Conference officers, District officers, and Local Unit presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers, and Circle Chairs. An email version is sent to over 5,000 members on the email list, and is posted on the Conference website www.wnccumw.org in order to be accessible to everyone. Electronic communications are also shared via Facebook (over 1,400 members) and Twitter (1,500 members), thanks to our webmaster/guru, Lynne Gilbert!

On Leader Development Day, this past October, we had two of the District Communication officers in our training. One brought her computer. We had a wonderful exchange of ideas and sharing and came up with some great things to do in the future. Most of all, we benefited just from talking and sharing thoughts and ideas. Ginger Hightower asked what other districts are paying versus what the Conference pays. An ad-hoc committee met to discuss newsletter costs.

This year we changed the due dates and it worked well. I especially appreciate Tonya Lanier and Lynne Gilbert for being my proofreaders. They are AWESOME!!!

Dianne Beam, Conference Communications Coordinator

Report of Membership Nurture & Outreach

Conference membership as of December 31,2017 was 20,784 in 661 units. We added 705 members and lost 1,349 members during 2017. District and conference officers visited a total of 291 units in 2017. For the last several years our number of LUV visits has declined. We would love to visit many more units in 2018. Please invite a conference or district officer to your local unit this year.

Congratulations on raising $13,717.53 for our 2017 Walk for Mission! 85 people spent the day serving, learning and fellowshipping at our 5th Ubuntu Day of Service. We also registered for myUMW at local units, district and conference events. If you haven’t registered yet, please go to www.unitedmethodistwomen.org and click the box that says myUMW and print your membership card.

Jatana Royster, Mission Coordinator Membership Nurture and Outreach
Report of Social Action

Social Action events filled our conference calendar in 2017, beginning with the National Office’s Leadership Development Days held in Charlotte and featuring a public protest against HB2 (known as the Bathroom Bill). Since that time, subsequent LDD’s and this year’s Mission u trainings have been held in states other than NC.

Our partnership with WNCC United Methodist Men focused on the fight against Domestic Violence with a conference-wide training as well as workshops in several districts. A letter was drafted and sent to Bishop Leeland, requesting that domestic violence training become part of clergy ordination requirements and continuing education for current pastors.

The highlight of 2017’s social action efforts for the conference was the Legislative Day held on April 1 at First UMC, Mocksville. Our scripture focus for the day was 1 Corinthians 1:25a and 27a, “For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom...God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise.”

Partnering with the NC Council of Churches enabled speakers from major advocacy agencies across the state to share their expertise with the nearly 100 UMW members in attendance. Rev. Jennifer Copeland, director of NC Council of Churches, led our opening worship, challenging us to follow Christ’s example to see the world upside down as he sought to upend the powers-that-be of his day. Representatives from the Southern Coalition for Social Justice, the NC Justice Center, a nurse practitioner from NC Council of Churches, and the director of Interfaith Power and Light spoke about each of the social justice priorities for the current quadrennium:

- Mass Incarceration/Criminalization of Communities of Color
- Economic Inequality
- Maternal and Child Health
- Climate Justice

Rev. Copeland led a session on advocacy tips as well as our closing worship and communion.

Each of these agencies is eager to be in partnership with local units, districts, and our conference as we share a passion for the same justice issues. Solidarity with those who are marginalized in our society has never been more important. May WNCC UMW continue to be outspoken advocates in mission with those whose voices and lives are often oppressed. May we BOLDLY seek out opportunities to speak truth to power.

Renee Hayes, Mission Coordinator for Social Action

Report of Program Resources

The United Methodist Women’s Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work. One hundred ninety-one (191) local units reported participation in the UMW Reading Program (30%). A total of eight hundred sixty-eight (868) readers were reading in Plans 1-4. There were one hundred thirty-five (135) children readers. That is an increase of sixty-six (66) readers over 2016. Total number of readers increased by forty-nine (49) readers over 2016.

Sibyl Long, Secretary of Program Resources
Report of Mission u

The Western North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Women held Mission u 2017 at Pfeiffer University July 13-16. The total number of participants registered was 221, including 114 full-time students, 95 one-day overview students, and 12 youth campers. There were twenty first-timers. Five participants received CEU credit, and 23 participants received Advanced Lay Servant credit.

The geographic study was Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States, the spiritual growth study was Living as a Covenant Community, and the repeat social issue study was Climate Justice: A Call to Hope and Action. The youth and children’s studies featured the Missionary Conferences Study.

Youth campers participated in disaster relief efforts in Lumberton and volunteered in a thrift store, among other activities. Adult participants had three workshop opportunities on Friday and Saturday afternoons: Chair Aerobics, Our Legacy Future and Workshop for Leaders of Children’s Studies. An addition, all of the Missionary Conferences participants had a combined session Saturday afternoon for a presentation by Rev. Mike Feely of Henderson Settlement. A Saturday evening plenary on racial justice and the Missionary Conferences was well-received. The Charter for Racial Justice committee presented a skit called, “I Am a Woman”, followed by three storytellers representing the three Missionary Conferences.

There were many compliments on the evaluation forms about how well Mission u had gone, and this was due in no small part to the Mission u Committee and others who stepped in and stepped up to assist behind the scenes. I would like to especially thank Patricia Moore, Sandy Letchworth, and LaDonna Butts for their unflagging work and support.

Lisa Bacon, Dean, Mission u

Report of Mission Education and Interpretation

Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women mission activities in 2017 included Mission Giving in all 5 channels of undesignated giving, attendance at Conference and District Mission Studies, meeting Mission Today criteria and participating in hands-on mission activities in our communities, our districts, our conference, our nation and around the world.

We worked and brought needed supplies on UBUNTU Day of Service at various mission sites located in our conference. We have participated in mission activities that have enhanced our lives as well as the lives of our neighbors.

The collective response from conference and district events hands-on projects for 2017 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UMCOR Kits from Conference Events:</th>
<th>Spiritual Growth Retreat</th>
<th>$33,351.45</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mission u</td>
<td>$7,229.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual Celebration</td>
<td>$20,531.50</td>
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<td>UMCOR Kits from District Events</td>
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<td>$23,617.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ubuntu Day (items for Bethlehem Centers, Bennett College)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,270.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooks-Howell Home, Pfeiffer University)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Leadership Development Day (items for Bethlehem Centers)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$86,118.95</strong></td>
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</table>
Report of Spiritual Growth Retreat

United Methodist Women from across the conference gathered at beautiful Lake Junaluska on June 16-17, 2017, for the annual Spiritual Growth Retreat. Reverend Ashley Pickerel Thomas, senior pastor at Stokesdale United Methodist Church, delivered the messages during the three retreat sessions. Our 2017 retreat theme was S.M.I.L.E.—Seeing Miracles in Life Everyday. Rev. Thomas developed the theme with her three sessions: Do Justice, Love Mercy, and Walk Humbly. The retreat included communion with Rev. Thomas acting as the communion celebrant assisted by the late Deaconess, Linda Young.

Stuart Auditorium was filled with music by singers and musicians Gary Chapin, and Joyce Brooks from the Selywn UMC f/k/a Mouzon UMC in the Metro District. The music was an effective blend of hymns, gospel and contemporary pieces.

Many of the 684 ladies in attendance contributed to the hands-on project by bringing UMCOR Layette Kits. The Mission Response Center truck was full of various kits valued at $33,351.45 which was a slight increase over 2016 value. These kits go to support the work of UMCOR.

The retreat Love Offering totaled $5,405.73, slightly below the 2016 giving of $5,928.85. The funds were directed to undesignated Mission Giving to celebrate our WNCC leadership in mission giving over the last 15 years.

Ladies left the retreat with a strong desire to take risks and to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly. At the conclusion of the retreat, the 2018 retreat date of June 15-16 and the retreat theme Glory Gifts were announced.

The 2017 Spiritual Growth Committee consisted of Martha Efird (chairperson), Renee Hayes, Tonya Lanier, Sibyl Long, Deborah Ray, Nancy Reigel, Jatana Royster, Julia Willis, and Linda Greer. The Spiritual Growth Coordinators from the eight districts contributed significantly to the success of the retreat as well as Mission u and Annual Celebration.

The Spiritual Growth Committee and the District Spiritual Growth Coordinators “Team” participated in Mission u by providing morning praise, the altar scape and communion. During Annual Celebration the Team coordinated communion and was responsible for the memorial service to remember our Western North Carolina United Methodist Women members who joined the Lord in 2016.

Martha Efird, Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth
Annual Report Dedication

Each year an Annual Report Book is created highlighting the activities of the conference and districts, officers, financial reports, etc. This book is dedicated to honor a United Methodist Women member from our conference.

The honored recipient is presented a diamond-studded Special Mission Recognition Pin and a $1,000 donation is given in her honor to undesignated Mission Giving through the National Office by the conference. Often her family is invited to share in the presentation celebration. Upon completion of the Annual Report Book with her photo & dedication, she is given copies to share with friends and family.

A written nomination form is required along with reasons for the recommendation. See your district president or district and conference newsletters for an application form. A conference committee of five persons appointed by the president receives these written nominations by June 1st or other specified date.

Criteria for the nomination per Standing Rules Article V, Section 8, E (1)-(5):
(a) Nominee shall have served on local, district & conference levels of UMW
(b) Nominee must demonstrate leadership ability and work well with peers
(c) Committee members may be considered
(d) A person may receive this honor only once

Partial List of former recipients:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Martha Phillips</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Kris Peurifoy</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Bishop Charlene Kammerer</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Dot Alvord</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Polly Pearson</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Mildred Gibson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Julia Willis</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Elizabeth Holbrooks</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Vada Beck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Tonya Lanier</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Dixie Liggett</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Faye Cox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Patricia Wiseman</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Sara Williams</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Mary Kizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Sherry Sink</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Beth Griffin</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Linda Reep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Sandy Hieronymus</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Dori Thurman</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Sandra Galyean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Sharon Smith</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to this year's recipient. ___________________________
THE LEGACY FUND

Celebrate United Methodist Women! 150 Years and Counting...

Our Western North Carolina Every Member Legacy Fund Goal:
That every member of United Methodist Women make a gift to The Legacy Fund of at least $18.69 per year, over and above her Pledge to Mission, for five years.

March 23, 1869 ~ March 23, 2019
150 Years in service of God’s mission on behalf of women, children, and youth!

Happy 150th Anniversary! Let’s Celebrate!

We are fast approaching our anniversary year of 2019...and our 150th Anniversary on Saturday, March 23, 2019. How will you celebrate? With whom will you share the story of United Methodist Women in these upcoming months? Will you...

♦ Participate in the Day of Giving on our anniversary?
♦ Challenge your members to “stretch” during 2019 and make a gift to The Legacy Fund every month of 2019? Could you suggest $18.69 per month, or $208?
♦ Honor persons by presenting them with the special 150th Mission Recognition pin, or the 150th necklace?

Where can I get more information about The Legacy Fund?
Visit our website at: wncumw.org/legacyfund/
You can also contact any of our Legacy Campaign / 150th Anniversary Team members, your District President, or your District Treasurer.

Information available on the website includes:
♦ Legacy/150 Campaign Commitment Form & FAQ
♦ How you can make your gift(s) to The Legacy Fund
♦ A Let’s Celebrate idea sheet for planning 2019 celebrations
♦ Variety of Legacy videos & resources to use in your local unit
♦ Links to more information on the United Methodist Women National Office website at: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/

Our Conference Legacy Campaign / 150th Anniversary Team:

Contact us!
We are happy to answer your questions, and to come visit and share information with your local unit!

Lynne Gilbert, Chairperson
lynnegilbert2@gmail.com
336-207-3479

Barbara Campbell - charlie585@msn.com
Mildred Carter - mildredcarter@earthlink.net
Tonya Lanier - sonshiners@lexcominc.net
Betty Letzig - letzig@msn.com
Dixie Liggett - lliggett3@charter.net
Martha Phillips - mcwphillips@gmail.com
Nancy Reigel - nancy@reigleridge.com
Kim Shafer - kinsmetroumw@att.net
Julia Willis - jawillis1@aol.com

District “Energizers”
Appalachian - Beverlee Scott
Blue Ridge - Dixie Liggett
Metro - Kris Peurifoy
Northern Piedmont - Betty Durham
Smoky Mountain - Julie Leatherwood
Uwharrie - Lissell Currie
Yadkin Valley - Rhita Newcomb
2018 Conference Officers

President: Julia Willis
Vice President: Joanie Strohm
Secretary: Elizabeth Lookabill
Treasurer: Nancy Reigel
Secretary of Program Resources: Sibyl Long
Communications Coordinator: Dianne Beam

Mission Coordinators:
- Social Action: Carolyn Payne
- Spiritual Growth: Martha Efird
- Education & Interpretation: Linda Greer
- Membership Nurture & Outreach: Renee Hayes
- Chair, Committee on Nominations: Martha Phillips (20)
- Members, Committee on Nominations: Brenda Alston (18), Doris Vincent (18), Peggy Wilkerson (18), Elizabeth Lookabill (19), Maureen Carr (19), Kathy Chadwell (19)

Historian: Betty Durham
Parliamentarian: Jatana Royster
Chair, Scholarship Committee: Cathy McCauley
Webmaster: Lynne Gilbert
Dean, Mission u: Lisa Bacon
Resident Bishop: Bishop Paul L. Leeland

2018 Mission u Officers

Dean: Lisa Bacon
Assistant Dean: Patricia Moore
Housing Manager: Sandy Letchworth
Business Manager: LaDonna Butts

2018 District Presidents

Appalachian: Lorraine Burns
Blue Ridge: Fran Jordan
Catawba Valley: Belinda Worsham
Metro: Lynda Morris
Northern Piedmont: Lynn Alexander
Smoky Mountain: Deborah Ray
Uwharrie: Deborah Matthews
Yadkin Valley: Martha Isenberg
Nominees for Conference Offices

Nominees for a two-year term 2019-2020

Secretary
Dianne Beam (ME)

Mission Coordinator of Education and Interpretation
Linda Greer * (AP)

Communications Coordinator
Lisa Bacon (SM)

*Indicates a second Two Year Term

Nominees for a four-year term 2019-2022

Member, Committee on Nominations
Sherrie Miller (CV)

Member, Committee on Nominations
Sandy Letchworth (YV)

Member, Committee on Nominations
Deborah Matthews (UW)

Justice Today Committee (2019-2021)
Sandrea Williamson

2019–2020 District Presidents
Northern Piedmont, Sandrea Williamson
Uwharrie, Cathy Ward

2019 Calendar of UMW Events

Jan 12 Presidents/Treasurers Workday (Monticello UMC, Statesville)...snow date Jan 26
Feb 9 Fin/SG/LDD/CON/Program Committees, Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville
Feb 10 Executive Committee, Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville
Feb 23-26 UMC General Conference, Called Meeting, St. Louis, MO

March 23 150th Anniversary Celebration! / Day of Giving
Mar 30 Scholarship Committee Meeting, Pfeiffer University, Misenheimer

April 27 Legislative Day
May 4 Mission u & Program Committee Meetings, First UMC Taylorsville

Jun 14-15 Spiritual Growth—Lake Junaluska (pending confirmation) —All UMW Members
Jun 19-23 Annual Conference—Lake Junaluska

Jul 18-21 Mission u, Pfeiffer University—All UMW Members
Aug 3 Finance/SG/LDD/Program Committees—Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville
Aug 4 Executive Committee—Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville

Sep 13-15 Annual Celebration—Lake Junaluska (pending confirmation)—All UMW Members

Oct. 12 Ubuntu Day of Service—Various locations—All UMW Members
Oct. 19 Leadership Development Day (LDD)—All District Officers, Granite Falls UMC
Nov. 8 Orientation Session for New Conference Officers, Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville
Nov. 9-10 Executive Committee Meeting, Brooks-Howell Home, Asheville
2017 District Recognition

Gift to Mission cards are presented to Districts for the following categories. Please make note of the recipients as the awards are presented during the Saturday morning session.

Largest % of increase in undesignated Mission Giving

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest per capita in undesignated Mission Giving

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest % of Justice Today Units

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest % of Units participating in the Reading Program

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest # of readers participating in the Reading Program

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest # of participants completing Plan 4

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest # of participants in the Children’s Reading Program

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Mission Today Units

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Five Channels of Mission Giving

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Mission Studies

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Highest % of Local Units Visited (LUV)

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Largest amount of Walk for Mission Funds

____________________, ____________________, ____________________

Most new members added

____________________, ____________________, ____________________
How BOLD are YOU?
CELEBRATION REGISTRATION:
Friday: 2:00-7:00 PM  Susan Todd Lounge in Harrell Center (street level)
Saturday: 7:45-8:45 AM  Susan Todd Lounge in Harrell Center

PRAYER ROOM: Memorial Chapel
(Open 8AM-6:00PM Friday and 8:00AM-10:00PM Saturday)

PROGRAM RESOURCES: Harrell Center HC 202 (street level)
Friday: 2:00-6:30 PM
Saturday: 7:30-8:30 AM, 12:45-1:45 PM

SATURDAY AFTERNOON: BOLDNESS WITH ACTION
2:00-4:00 PM  Hands on Projects  Room 105, Harrell Center
2:00-3:30 PM  “School to Prison Pipeline”  Harrell Center Auditorium
3:30-5:00 PM  Planned Giving/Legacy Fund  Harrell Center Auditorium

MISSION RESPONSE CENTER TRUCK: Beside Memorial Chapel
Friday 2:00-6:30 PM; Saturday 7:30-8:30 AM, 1:15-1:45 PM
(manned times may vary as intake will not be attended during meetings; leave kits on table under the tent; don’t forget to bring your shipping money when truck is manned or give to Linda Greer. Make checks payable to “WNCC UMW”)

MEAL SCHEDULE at The Terrace & Lambuth Inn: Please allow Program Participants, Pages & Program Committee members to break line since they have responsibilities that limit their time. They can be identified by the green ribbons underneath their name tags.

BREAKFAST 7:00-8:30 A.M.  LUNCH 11:45 A.M.-1:30 P.M.  DINNER 5:30-7:00 P.M.

THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES.........
Immediately following the Saturday evening session...until 10:30 P.M.
Harrell Center Auditorium (lower/ground level)

NAMETAG NOTATIONS: The colored strip on the bottom of your nametag indicates your district. Look for YOUR district members!

Appalachian...Red   Blue Ridge...Blue   Catawba Valley...Orange
Metro...Golden Yellow   Northern Piedmont...Green   Smoky Mountain...Hot Pink
Uwharrie...Purple   Yadkin Valley...Aqua   Guest/Others...Black

Members of units meeting the MISSION TODAY criteria in 2017 have smiley faces on their name tags. Congratulations!

Persons attending Annual Celebration for the first time have STARS on their name tags. We are glad that you are here!

Voting Delegates have HEARTS on their name tags.