



Conference Gram

February 2020

Volume 69, Issue 1

Here's to the NEXT 150 years!



Western North Carolina Conference

20/20 Vision & Goals

**Turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of
women, children and youth around the world**

- **Raise awareness & build relationships with the United Methodist Women mission institutions in our conference:** *Bethlehem Center Charlotte, Bethlehem Center Winston-Salem, Brooks-Howell Home, Bennett College, Pfeiffer University*
- **Raise awareness and promote personal advocacy for our four United Methodist Women priority issues:** *Climate Justice, Maternal & Child Health, Criminalization of Communities of Color & Mass Incarceration, Economic Inequality*
- **Achieve our Conference Financial Goal:** Increase unit Pledge giving by at least \$5.00 per member
- **Make 2020 a strong beginning of the NEXT 150 Years of United Methodist Women in Mission!**

Sincerely,

Your WNCC UMW Team

Radical Welcome—Going Beyond the Symbol



“The symbol represents United Methodist Women’s commitment to work for racial justice. It symbolizes a world of racially and ethnically diverse peoples working together side by side to create a world in which every person has a voice, rights and opportunity for abundant life. Within the image are two hands joined together to work for justice for all God’s children.”

(www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/what-we-do/service-and-advocacy/mission-focus-issues/racial-justice-and-mass-incarceration/symbol)

Copies of the Charter for Racial Justice may be ordered online or by calling 800-305-9857.

Make racial justice more than a symbol. United Methodist Women has helpful resources online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/download-resources/racial-justice-tools-for-leaders.pdf.

An example of the resources available is the Radical Welcome planning tool, which challenges us to move beyond Inviting and Including:

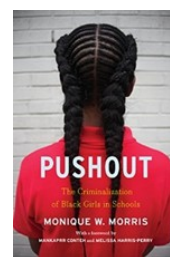
	Inviting	Inclusion	Radical Welcome
The Message	"Come, join our Community and share our cultural values and heritage."	"Help us to be diverse."	"Bring your culture, your voice, your whole self—we want to engage in truly mutual relationship."
The Result	Healthy numbers (perhaps with some members who claim marginal identity) but institution and its membership is overwhelmingly monocultural.	Revolving door, with people coming from margins only to stay on fringe or leave; institutional structure remains monocultural, with some pockets of difference.	Transformed and transforming community with open doors and open hearts; different groups share power and shape identity, mission, leadership, worship and ministries.

Recommended Reading: Awareness is the First Step

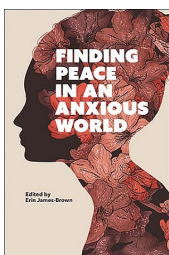


An interesting new book from this year’s Reading Program list is “[Tilly and the Crazy Eights](#)” by Monique Gray Smith. It tells about a road trip involving eight tribal elders and the exciting things they experience as each one chooses a place they’ve always wanted to visit.

Get a head start on Mission u by reading the social issue study book called “[Pushout](#)” by Monique W. Morris. It is a powerful exploration of the harsh and harmful experiences confronting black girls in schools. It explores the ways they are often stereotyped and misunderstood by their teachers and administrators, which can leave them excluded.



You can find the Reading Program list at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram.



Remember that you will obtain Reading Program books exclusively through third parties—libraries, local bookstores, and online. Think of this resource not as a catalog, as in past years, but as a guide. (One exception is “[Finding Peace in an Anxious World](#),” the spiritual growth study for Mission u, available at www.umwmissionresources.org/ or by calling 800-305-9857.)

Kathy Chadwell, Conference Secretary of Program Resources
k.sc2008@hotmail.com/336-475-1261



Bethlehem Center
OF CHARLOTTE

Getting to Know Your WNCC Mission Institutions: Bethlehem Center of Charlotte

From the Historian's Quill—

Founded by United Methodist Women in 1940, the Bethlehem Center of Charlotte (BCC) is a National Mission Institution operating in a covenant relationship with United Methodist Women. BCC started in Charlotte's Brooklyn Community (now called 1st Ward) to address the need for temporary housing and other services for women and children whose income was at or below the poverty level. In 1956 after Charlotte's Urban Renewal, BCC's headquarters were relocated and its services expanded to include a kindergarten, activities for older children and youth, and parenting classes.

Celebrating 80 Years of Community Engagement

2020 marks the 80th anniversary celebration for Bethlehem Center of Charlotte! A celebratory luncheon will be held March 19 at noon at the Charlotte Convention Center.

BCC has branched out from its original location to 13 locations across Mecklenburg County, serving over 800 children in a Head Start pre-school setting.

Out of School Time (OST) is another way that BCC serves the community. Four locations serve K-12th grades with a capacity of 105 participants.

Activities and services include tutoring, mentoring, character and life skills education, community service, fitness and nutrition education, 4-H Club, Book Club, arts and crafts, and field trips.

BCC also provides summer camp, both day camp and resident camp. Day Camp in 2019 included Spirit Week, Career Week, International Week, Water Week, Under the Big Top, and Creative Campers. Resident campers attended Asbury Hills and enjoyed canoeing, campfires, nature hikes, zip-lining, archery, and GaGa Ball (a dodgeball variation).



For more information: <http://bethlehemcenter.org/> or 704-375-1417

(Article by Betty Durham, WNCC UMW Historian, and Lynda Morris, Metro District President and BCC Board Member)

What's cooking at SEJ?



During the [Southeastern Jurisdiction meeting](#) in April, there may be SEJ cookbooks available on site for \$20. This is a [Legacy Fund](#) project that will feature numerous recipes from WNCC, as well as some WNCC United Methodist Women history. If you are not attending SEJ and want to purchase a recipe book, I can make your purchase, subject to availability. I can deliver to you at Spiritual Growth Retreat in June or make other arrangements.

Julia Willis, Conference President
336-685-4857/jawillis1@aol.com

Focusing on Our Future

As we focus on our plans for the coming year, I have encouraged each district to find one or more units willing to [plan a Welcoming Event](#) that might attract new or renewed interest in the mission work of United Methodist Women.



This link <https://youtu.be/-50ub55hqFs> (include the 'dot' inyoutu.be) will introduce the toolkit, available on the United Methodist Women's website. I am eager to assist any units and each district team interested in envisioning a bold event that could inspire others to join us in our important mission work on behalf of women, children, and youth here at home and around the world.

Blessings for such a time as this,

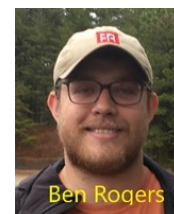
Renee Hayes, Conference Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach
renee.hayes1956@gmail.com/336-707-2980

Mission Memo

Thank you so much for your Hands-On gifts of \$54,464.00 through WNCC UMW Events in 2019! You gave even more through your gifts at District events; those gifts will be reported later. You are truly putting Faith, Hope, and Love into Action!



As you may know, Dwaine Morgan, Mission Response Center Manager for over 15 years, has now retired. The new Mission Response Center contacts are **Brian Mateer, Associate Director of Mission Engagement** (bmateer@wnccumc.org, 704-714-2340) and **Ben Rogers, Interim Disaster Response Coordinator** (cor@wnccumc.net, 910-366-7692).



Please contact them if you need to bring donations or if you want to schedule a day of work for your church or civic group. Brian will be working mainly with the [Project AGAPE](#) shipments and Ben will be responsible for [United Methodist Committee on Relief](#) supplies.

Our Hands-On gifts fulfill the part of our purpose that says: "and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church." We also must strive to learn about and support our Mission Giving through our gifts of Pledge to Mission, Gifts to Mission, Gifts in Memory, Special Mission Recognition, and World Thank Offering. We can use [response](#) magazine and our [Prayer Calendar](#) to learn about these missions. I challenge us all in 2020 to envision sacrifice and commit to sacrifice something and live more simply.

Let's Live Simply so that others can Simply Live!

LindaLu Greer, Conference Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation
jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net/704-585-6263

2020 Hands-On Mission Projects

Spiritual Growth Retreat: UMCOR Hygiene Kits

Mission u: UMCOR School Kits

www.umcmmission.org/umcor/serve/relief-supply-network

Annual Celebration: Project AGAPE Christmas boxes

www.wnccumc.org/project-agape



Mission Giving News:

2019 Year in Review, Looking Forward to 2020

Western NC United Methodist Women, in 2019 YOU made the following happen for Mission:

Total Giving through the 8 districts from local units <i>(\$21,366 less than 2018)</i>	\$740,351
Conference Love Offering	\$14,301
Walk for Mission	\$17,772*
Spiritual Growth Retreat Love Offering	\$5,069
Mission u Love Offering	\$2,177
Special Offerings from Conference Meetings	\$741*
Legislative Day Love Offering	\$490
Undesignated Mission Giving sent to UMW National Office <i>(\$12,750 less than 2018)</i>	\$577,481
Designated Giving to UMW National Office <i>(Includes Call to Prayer & Self Denial, general, national, international & UMCOR)</i>	\$58,941
Donations to other local projects	\$5,475
An asterisk (*) indicates those categories that increased over 2018.	

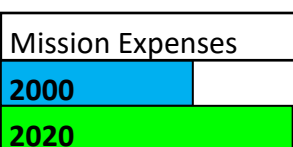
Think about these numbers and what they mean.

Added together...Giving through the 8 Districts, the Love Offerings, Undesignated Giving and Giving to Local projects...**In total, WNCC UMW members invested \$827,545 in missions beyond what they see locally.** That means Western NC UMW members are keeping that flame started 150 years ago alive and strong. Those eight women looked beyond themselves and their local environs and saw the greater needs in the world. We spent this past year celebrating that Legacy. You WNCC United Methodist Women LIVED that Legacy.

Now, looking at 2020 we have an opportunity to keep this tradition alive and robust.

Our 2020 Love offering is **"A Gift to Mission Honoring & Affirming Clergywomen: Past, Present and Future."** I look forward to sharing more about that with the brochure your District Treasurer's will be sending out in May.

Our 2020 Financial Goal is **"Increase Unit Pledge Giving by at least \$5.00 per member."** You may say "STOP!! You just wrote about how well we are doing, and now you want MORE??" The answer is "Yes". Why? Because, although our giving **IS** great, the needs and the costs of meeting those needs is growing every day.



What took \$36 to purchase in year 2000 now costs \$54.63. That means just meeting the same needs requires over 150% more than it did in 2000. The fact is, we **MUST** increase our giving if we are going to maintain the Missions that are so vital to women, children, and youth.

The first step is giving, the Goal is Mission, and it is Mission that matters.

Peace, Nancy Reigel, Conference Treasurer
nancy@reigelridge.com/828-268-0637

2020 WNCC UMW Officers	
President Julia Willis	336-685-4857 jawillis1@aol.com
Vice President Joanie Strohm	828-649-1156 ssjsmars@charter.net
Secretary Dianne Beam	704-274-9183 diannebeam@roadrunner.com
Treasurer Nancy Reigel	828-268-0637 nancy@reigelridge.com
MC—Educ. & Inter. Linda Greer	704-585-6263 jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net
MC—Memb. Nur. & Out. Renee Hayes	336-707-2980 renee.hayes1956@gmail.com
MC—Social Action Carolyn Payne	336-766-5568 carolynp8g@yahoo.com
MC—Spiritual Growth Darlene Gardner	336-766-1552 gardnerdarlenel@gmail.com
Comm. Coordinator Lisa Bacon	828-586-8399 lisabacon304@gmail.com
Sec. of Prog. Resources Kathy Chadwell	336-475-1261 k.sc2008@hotmail.com
Nominations (Chair) Sandy Letchworth	336-993-9505 / sletchworth@ usindustrialpiping.com
Mission u (Dean) Pat Moore	704-502-2383 phmoore71@gmail.com
Parliamentarian Jatana Royster	704-451-3816 jatanaroyster@gmail.com
Historian Betty Durham	336-542-8077 betty.durham50@yahoo.com
Scholarship (Chair) Cathy McCauley	704-965-6566 cathymc855@yahoo.com
Program Advisory Group Dixie Liggett	828-684-1831 liliggett3@charter.net
Webmaster/Legacy Liaison Lynne Gilbert	336-207-3479 lynnegilbert2@gmail.com

Legacy Fund Information:

- Visit our website at wnccumw.org/legacyfund/
- Visit the national office website at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/

Ways to Give:

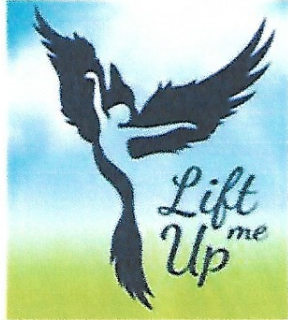
- Participate in our **Day of Giving**, on March 23, 2020!
- Make a Legacy Fund gift through your local unit United Methodist Women treasurer, directly to your district treasurer, or at district and conference events.
- Use our Western North Carolina Conference Legacy Commitment Form, available on our website at wnccumw.org/legacyfund/
- Online on the national office website at unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund/
- **By phone:** 800-278-7771 (8 am-6pm EST, M-F)
- **Text** Legacy150 to 41444
- **By check:** note "Legacy Fund" in memo and mail to: United Methodist Women, Treasurer's Office 15th Floor, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115
- **Other methods** include gifts of stock, life insurance, bequests, and other forms of planned giving. If you are interested in making a gift like this, contact the national office at 800-278-7771.



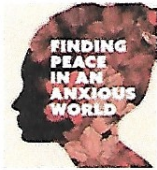
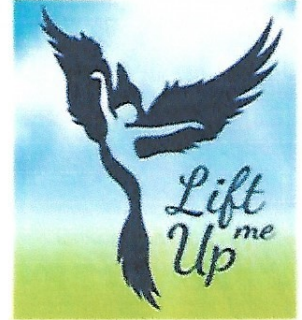
A Look Back at 150th Anniversary Celebrations, a Look Forward to the NEXT 150 Years!

Yadkin Valley District President Martha Isenberg shared some of the ways units in the YV District celebrated [“possibly the most famous rainy day since the flood”](#) : birthday parties, skits with period costumes (including one where each attendee donated \$18.69), spaghetti supper or other church-wide celebration, a Great Day of Service making blankets for sexually abused children and towels for nursing home residents. Don't save these ideas for another 150 years, however. Choose one or create your own great beginning to our NEXT 150 years.

Western North Carolina United Methodist Women 2020 Conference Events



Spiritual Growth Retreat
"You Lift Me Up"
June 12 - 14
Lake Junaluska

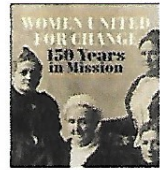


Finding Peace
in an
Anxious World

Mission u
July 23 - 26
Pfeiffer University



Pushout: The
Criminalization of
Black Girls in School



Women United for
Change: 150 Years
in Mission

Annual Celebration / September 11-13 / Lake Junaluska



Ubuntu Day of Service
"I am because you are"
Saturday, October 10
Across the Conference



wnccumw.org

facebook.com/wnccumw

**Western North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women**

Lisa Bacon
1028 Old Cullowhee Rd
Sylva, NC 28779-6539
lisabacon304@gmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



More God-Time awaits us, thanks to the extended schedule at our WNCC UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat **June 12-14, 2020**. Join us as we affirm **"You Lift Me Up"** with keynote speaker Lisa Beth White, pastor at Tabernacle UMC, Black Mountain.

Registration begins February 3.

Make hotel reservations early by calling the Lake Junaluska reservations department at 1-800-222-4930.

(Be sure to use Group Code 43975)

See you at the Lake!

Terrace Hotel Renovated Rooms (2 nights lodging, 5 meals) **Per Person** based on occupancy:
Single \$332.83 Double \$206.29 Triple \$178.91 Quad \$165.22

Lambuth Inn Renovated Rooms (2 nights lodging, 5 meals) **Per Person** based on occupancy:
Single \$310.63 Double \$195.19 Triple \$167.81 Quad \$154.12

Hillside Lodge/Junaluska Apartments/Non-renovated Lambuth Rooms

Per Person *Per Night* (no meals included but meals may be added):

Single \$99.90 Double \$45.95 Triple \$38.85 Quad \$33.30

For more information, visit www.wnccumw.org



JOIN US AT THE LAKE FOR THE
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE – UMW
2020 SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

YOU LIFT ME UP

Friday, June 12th – Sunday, June 14th

Go to www.wnccumw.org for complete retreat information

Opening Session 6:45 pm Friday – Closing by noon on Sunday
in Stuart Auditorium, Lake Junaluska Conference & Retreat Center

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd

LODGING & RETREAT REGISTRATION OPENS

Lodging Reservations for Lake Junaluska (details on reverse side)

On-line Retreat Reservation www.wnccumw.org

**EXTENDED RETREAT &
EXPANDED PROGRAMMING**

**more
God-Time**

2020 RETREAT LEADER

PASTOR LISA BETH WHITE
TABERNACLE UMC BLACK MOUNTAIN



On-line Registration \$25/person 2/3 through 6/6

On-Site registration \$35/person

Note: On-line Registration fees
are transferable, but non-refundable.

EXPANDED RETREAT PROGRAMMING

Friday Dinner: Buffet dinner at Terrace and Lambuth for lodging guests

Friday Evening: Opening Plenary – Speaker Rev. Lisa Beth White

Saturday Morning: BREAK-OUT SESSIONS may include

- Book study & Bible study
- Meditation and prayer settings
- Boat ride (weather permitting), Trolley tour, World Methodist Museum tour
- Singing round the Lake, WNCC UMW Choir & MORE

Saturday Afternoon & Evening: Speaker Rev. Lisa Beth White

Sunday Morning: Closing Session with Rev. Lisa Beth White

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE
DETAILS ON WEBSITE

QUESTIONS

Retreat Information

Darlene Gardner

Mission Coordinator-

Spiritual Growth

Darlene Gardner

gardnerdarlenel@gmail.com

Phone: 336-766-1552

Online Registration

Lynne Gilbert

Webmaster

Lgilbert.umw@gmail.com

336-207-3479

Online Payments

Nancy Reigel

Conference Treasurer

828-268-0637

Lodging Reservations

Lake Junaluska

Reservations Center

1-800-222-4930



MUSIC LEADERS

Rev. MARK L. BARDEN

CATHERINE RITCH

HANDS-ON MISSION PROJECT HYGIENE KITS

See updated kit contents
umcor.org/UMCOR/relief-supplies



LAKE JUNALUSKA ACCOMODATIONS & RATES

Lake Junaluska Conference & Retreat Center, P.O. Box 67 Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

Housing Reservations
OPEN FEBRUARY 3rd

TO RESERVE
YOUR ROOM

CALL

Lake Junaluska
1-800-222-4930

Select 1 for reservations
and the next available
agent will assist you.

The reservations team is
on duty from 8:00 am until
5:00 pm Monday-Friday

Group Code: 43975

No reservations for the
WNCC UMW Spiritual
Growth Retreat Lodging
Package Rates may be
made on-line

The Terrace / Lambuth Inn (renovated rooms)

TWO-NIGHT LODGING PACKAGE -Minimum 2-night stay

Rooms include: private bath, free WiFi, cable TV, air conditioning, mini-fridge

Packages below include 2 night lodging, 5 meals*, all taxes & gratuity

***5 Meals:** Friday Dinner; Saturday Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner; Sunday Breakfast

TERRACE / per person	
Single	\$332.83
Double	\$206.29
Triple	\$178.91
Quad	\$165.22

LAMBUTH / per person	
Single	\$310.63
Double	\$195.19
Triple	\$167.81
Quad	\$154.12

Hillside Lodge & Junaluska Apartments & Lambuth (non-renovated rooms)

PER NIGHT/PER PERSON LODGING W/O MEAL PLAN

Rates include 11% room tax and meals may be added

Single	\$ 99.90
Double	\$ 49.95
Triple	\$ 38.85
Quad	\$ 33.30

Junaluska Apartments provide a great setting for young families to share our retreat experience in a cozy relaxed setting. Most apartments have a small kitchen w/mini-fridge, countertop burner, microwave, limited dishes and cookware

Rooms include private bath, air conditioning, TV & coffee maker no elevator

APPLICABLE TO ALL ABOVE LODGING:

No additional room charge for children age 11 and younger staying with parent or guardian

HOUSING GRATUITY AT GUEST DISCRETION

Rates for all facilities exclude incidentals and/or room damage

Important Lodging Information:

- Telephone Reservations: \$100.00 credit card or debit deposit due at time of reservation. Exception: Payment of deposit by check – Lake Junaluska must receive check within 10 days of reservation or room will be released.
- Check-in: 4:00 p.m. on June 12 and Check-out: BEFORE 11:00 a.m. on June 14
- Cancellations made by May 28th will receive a refund of their deposit LESS \$15 /person fee.
- No refund for cancellations on or after May 29th.
- Photo-ID and Credit Card required of each guest at check-in.



Visit our website: www.wnccumw.org • Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/wnccumw