



Metro Media

*The voice for the United Methodist Women of the Metro District,
Western North Carolina Conference.*

Happy New Year - Welcome to 2021

Greetings from the Metro District United Methodist Women Board

WNCC United Methodist Women and the Metro District have a calendar-full of virtual events planned in 2021 and you are encouraged to attend as many as possible. Reference the Events Calendar in this newsletter as you plan local unit activities to coordinate with the district and conference events. In addition to the scheduled events, the Metro District UMW team looks forward to “seeing” you, whether virtually or in person during local unit visits, whether by phone, virtually or hopefully in-person.

This issue of the Metro Media also contains the Metro District 2021 Goals and Vision, registration information for our district mission study and officer contact information. Take time to study the Goals and Vision and consider crafting one for your unit.

Thank you for your mission work in 2020! Despite the pandemic, year-end reports evidence strong mission giving. Let’s continue to spend time together in mission in 2021- with women, children and youth – locally, national and globally.

2020 was a difficult year for us all. My prayers are that life in 2021 will continue to improve and that all of you will remain safe and healthy

Lynda Morris – Metro District President

lfmorrisap@aol.com

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- Message from Dixie Liggett
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Census
2020

If you have not already done so, please visit www.unitedmethodistwomen.org and click on the Census 2020 box to fill out a short survey about your unit. The deadline is March 30, 2021.

Metro District Mission Study

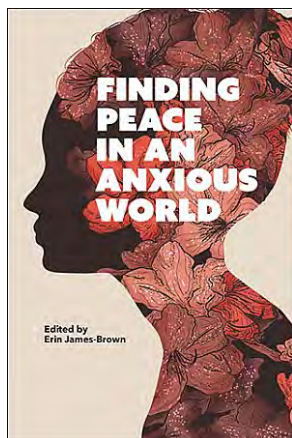
Registration: <http://tiny.cc/metroumwmissionstudy>

‘Finding Peace in an Anxious World’

Virtual Study

Saturday, February 13 & 20, 2021

9:00 am – 11:30 am each Saturday morning



Your Metro UMW sisters are pleased to offer a virtual presentation of “Finding Peace in an Anxious World”, guided by Sandra Williams. This two-session study will explore sources of anxiety and provide spiritual practices such as Breath Prayer and Labyrinth Meditation as tools in finding peace. The study includes music by Catherine Ritch, reflections from our Prayer Calendar, a love offering and hands-on mission options.

Please join us each Saturday morning, 9:00-11:30 a.m. for this [FREE Virtual Mission Study](#). Registration is available **now** to ALL church members, neighbors, friends, and family – please join us and bring a friend!

Mission Study Hands on Mission Project: Local food pantry needs in your local community.

Love Offering: Mission Giving to support mission institutions in our conference. You will have an opportunity to give online or mail your check to Kim Shafer at PO Box 480638, Charlotte, NC 28269.

* Using “The Serenity Prayer” as a scaffold, ***Finding Peace in an Anxious World**** explores ways to discover peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ. The study (developed by the Urban Village Church and edited by Erin James-Brown), uses the book of Proverbs and “The Serenity Prayer” as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God’s peace that surpasses all understanding. The four chapters, each written by a different Urban Village Church leader, focus on different aspects of the prayer—serenity, acceptance, courage, and wisdom—and each concludes with a spiritual practice to help further develop the featured characteristic in your life.

The study book is available on-line from [UMW Mission Resource](#) for \$10.00.

One of the Blessings of My Life for which I am Most Thankful... United Methodist Women



As I write this, it is actually Thanksgiving Day, and one of the blessings of my life for which I am most thankful is United Methodist Women and my part in it. I have just read and reread [Nancy Reigel's wonderful letter](#) in which she stressed that we are each “doing something” “to bring healing and hope” to the world through our giving to the World Thank Offering. I would like to add by our giving to the [Legacy Fund as Legacy Builders](#).

Did you read [Christi Campos' article about Legacy Builders on page 16 of the November/December response](#)? If you haven't read it, please do. I wonder if your first reaction to the article was the same as mine, that Christi was too enthusiastic in her praise of my recruiting new Legacy Builders. That's what I thought until my Program Advisory Group roommate from South Dakota called to congratulate me. We talked for a few minutes about our families and things, and then I asked, “How many Builders have you recruited?” There was silence. Then she said “Myself”. I said, “You mean you are the only one?” She said “Yes. I guess I'd better get busy. Maybe I'll start by sending a letter to our conference officers.”

I suggested she make it personal, as I did. I told her I had sent a personal e-mail to persons in my circle, district, and conference that I hoped to recruit, women with whom I already had a relationship. I suggested she could also make it a contest, telling people to read the response article and “not to let my WNC roommate and her conference beat us.”

I do not know what she will do. I DO know what I will do: **I will continue to ask individuals to become Legacy Builders. It IS personal.** I think of Jesus as he walked by the Sea of Galilee and called Simon (Peter), Andrew, James, and John. He called them by name, not by extending a blanket invitation. As I continue to ask women I know to join me in Legacy Builders, I encourage each of you to talk about Legacy Builders with women with whom you have a relationship. **Giving to United Methodist Women IS personal.**

Dixie Liggett

*Program Advisory Group Member (2016-2020)
Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women*



Metro District 2021 Vision & Goals

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

- **Raise awareness and build relationships with the United Methodist Women mission institutions**
 - Promote Alliance Center for Education-Charlotte at each district event
 - Participate in Ubuntu 2021, supporting Alliance Center for Education-Charlotte
 - Send birthday cards to residents at Brooks-Howell
- **Raise awareness of our two United Methodist Women service and advocacy priority issues: Just Energy for All: Climate Justice; Interrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration**
 - Feature at least one of the issues in each district newsletter
 - Share issues at each LUV visit
 - Have a social action project at each district event related to one of the issues
- **Work to support the Conference Financial Goal: Each unit will make at least one Gift to Mission of at least \$5.00, using any cards they have, in honor of one person in Mission listed in either the *Prayer Calendar* or a *response* magazine article.**
 - Promote the financial goal in the district newsletter and at each LUV visit
 - Encourage members to contribute \$1 for each of the "First Five" blessings they have experienced through belonging to UMW.
- **Build relationships with local units**
 - Visit at least 80% of the local units through LUV visits by Nurturing Partners
- **Continue to make 2021 a strong beginning of the NEXT 150 years of United Methodist Women in Mission**
 - Challenge members to give monthly to the Legacy Fund in 2021
 - Become Legacy Builders
 - Keep celebrating!

Treasurer

Thank you for ALL your 2020 support and for your continued prayers and financial support in 2021. Metro District giving was down approximately 19% in 2020. Even in a pandemic, we can learn and adjust to achieve pre-pandemic contributions by adapting new approaches. Try some of the proven virtual fundraisers listed below:

- Zoom trivia night (Use Google for free questions)
- Drive-up bake sale, soup sale, etc. Take advance orders using tools such as signugenius.com for preorders and planning, then set a date and location for the drive-up pick-ups. You may also consider prepayments through PayPal or Zelle.
- Sponsor a 'no soup' lunch – Make soup or a meal at home, which you eat at home, then donate the cost of the ingredients
- Sell virtual cookbooks

Quarterly Remittances Due Dates

Thursday, February 25

Wednesday, May 26

Thursday, August 26

Thursday, November 25

We are a creative group, share your unit activities that have worked with your unit with me. First quarter remittances are due right around the corner. See the box for the 2021 mail-by dates. Always feel free to contact me with your questions and suggestions.

Together in Missions,
Kim Shafer - Metro District Treasurer
kimshafermetroumw@outlook.com

Program Resources

As the Secretary of Program Resources, I'm here to help you find interesting books reflecting love of neighbor and are concerned for own their stress, inaction, isolation, depression, or disappointment. United Methodist Women members have always taken pleasure and interest in continuing to learn about the lives of other people both in our own backyards and in the larger diverse world of human experience.

The Reading Program is extensive and covers subjects in each of our collective mission areas. It is easier than ever to meet the Reading Program requirements as unread books from the 2017 through 2021-2022 are eligible. Let's make an effort to complete our choice of reading program within the given time frame.

John Wesley said "It cannot be that the people should grow in grace unless they give themselves to reading. A reading people will be a knowing people."

Periodically I will send you information by e-mail about each program. Remember that we are now responsible for buying our own books from bookstores, or Amazon. Our public libraries also carry some of them. Please email me if you need help or book suggestions

Sheila Barrell - Program Resources
jsbarrell3@gmail.com
704-788-4130 Please leave a message and I will return your call

Membership, Nurture, Outreach

“I miss my UMW friends?” “I wish we could get together.” “What happens to my circle if we can’t meet in person?”

Have you had these questions lately? It has been almost a year since United Methodist Women have been able to connect in person, and it doesn’t look promising for in-person meetings in spring 2021.

We do not have to give up. There are several software tools you can use for online meetings:

- Zoom allows anyone with an Internet connected phone, computer or tablet to join a videoconference. A free version is available at [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us)
- Google Meet is also a free tool. All participants need a gmail.com account to use

Identify a member willing to initiate meetings. That person will send meeting information via email to each member that including how to connect to the meeting. At the appointed time the leader will open the meeting and the participants will launch the video conferencing software a to join. Your group will then see and talk with each other via your computer, phone or tablet.

Another way to be with your UMW friends is to join the Metro District’s online meetings. See information on “Finding Peace in An Anxious World” on page 2 and the 2021 calendar of events on page 8 of the newsletter.

Martha Hyler - Membership, Nurture and Outreach
mkhyler@gmail.com

Social Action

As your Social Action officer, I am pleased to announce we have two Social Action Campaigns for 2021 – 2024

- Just Energy for All: Climate Justice
- Interrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration

I encourage you to promote these campaigns through your meetings and reading program books.

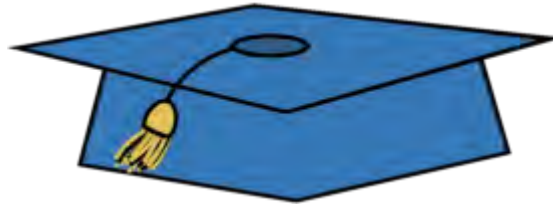
Below is the link to educate us on **Why United Methodist Women Engage in Social Action:**
www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/social-action-member-resources

- [**Why United Methodist Women Engage in Social Action: Member Resources**](#)

Need help with a program, or assistance with your Social Action Plans? Please contact me.

Sylvia Sekle-Dueh – Social Action
dueh1409@gmail.com,
704-606-5557

**Application Deadline,
March 1, 2021**



Support the WNCCUMW Scholarship Program

Do you know a student that is a member of one of the WNCC United Methodist Churches?

Will they attend one of our conference institutions (Bennett College, Brevard College, Greensboro College, High Point University, Pfeiffer University) for the fall semester 2021?

Then they are eligible to apply for a WNCCUMW scholarship!

Applications should be requested by contacting the scholarship committee chairperson:

Cathy McCauley
6835-A Farmingdale Drive
Charlotte NC 28212
Phone: 704-965-6566
Email: cathymc855@yahoo.com

Applications are due to the committee by March 1, 2021. Interviews will be conducted on Sunday March 21, 2021.

YOU can support our scholarship program by:

Referring students.

Praying for our students and conference institutions.

Contributing to the general scholarship fund as districts, units, circles or individuals.

Please contact me if you need additional information.

Cathy McCauley
Scholarship Committee Chairperson

**Metro UMW & WNCC UMW
Dates to Remember 2021
Please save these dates!**



**Subject to change to Zoom meeting dependent on COVID Virus Status*

- Feb 13 & 20** **Metro District Mission Study-Virtual Meeting**
9:00-11:30 a.m. Must attend both dates for credit
“Finding Peace in an Anxious World”
- April 24** **Metro District Prayer Breakfast ***
Guest speaker: Rev. Jan Brittain
Williamson’s Chapel, 575 Brawley School Rd, Mooresville, NC
- May 15** **Regional Walk for Mission**
Aldersgate Retirement Center
3800 Shamrock Drive, Charlotte, NC
Forest Hill UMC
265 Union St. N, Concord, NC
- June 18-19** **WNCC UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat—Virtual Meeting**
- July 15-18** **WNCC UMW Mission u—Virtual Meeting**
- August 28** **Metro District Annual Celebration***
Guest speaker: Rev. Holly Cobb McKim
St. Stephen UMC, 6800 Sardis Rd, Charlotte, NC
- September 10-12** **WNCC UMW Annual Celebration—Virtual Meeting**
- October 2** **UBUNTU**
- November 20** **Metro District Local Officers—Virtual Meeting**
Leadership Development Day sponsored by WNCC UMW
10:00 a.m.

2021 Metro District UMW Officers

President (2020-2021)

Lynda Morris (St Stephen)
2539 Winterbrooke Dr
Matthews, NC 28105
704-847-2521/704-619-2013
lfmorrisap@aol.com

Vice President (2021-2022)

Nancy Ward (Matthews)
4003 Colton Ridge Dr.
Indian Trail, NC 28079
704-681-4779
Nward001@carolina.rr.com

Secretary (2021-2022)

Debbie Eudy (Memorial-Charlotte)
806 Eaglewood Ave
Charlotte, NC 28212
704-563-7195/704-759-4477
Snakcak3655@yahoo.com

Treasurer (2021-2022)

Kim Shafer (Hickory Grove)
PO Box 480638
Charlotte, NC 28269-5305
704-599-9206
kimshafermetroumw@outlook.com

ME&I (2021-2022) (Interim)

Nancy Litton (Trinity-Kannapolis)
152 Tammy Court
Kannapolis, NC 28083
704-938-5803/704-794-7930
nailskate@gmail.com

Spiritual Growth (2020-2021)

Kay Jones (Cold Springs)
3011 Fairmead Dr
Concord, NC 28025
704-720-0864/704-467-7597
k328jonez@gmail.com

Social Action (2020-2021)

Sylvia Sekle-Dueh (Hickory Grove)
212 Hunslet Circle
Charlotte, NC 28206
704-606-5557
dueh1409@gmail.com

MN&O (2021-2022)

Martha Hyler (Harrisburg)
910 Lamar Rd
Concord, NC 28025
704-781-5505
mkhyler@gmail.com

Program Resources (2021-2022) (Interim)

Sheila Barrell (Westford)
PO Box 877
Concord, NC 28026
704-305-4490/704-788-4130
Jsbarrell3@gmail.com

Communications (2021-2022)

Delta Sonderman (Providence)
4308 Emory Ln
Charlotte, NC 28211
704-302-3600
deltasson@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Donna Varner (St Stephen)
4105-B Bannockburn Pl
Charlotte, NC 28211
704-779-9798
Donnak1130@yahoo.com

Historian

Sylvia Casey (Simpson-Gillespie)
7009 Summer Pl
Charlotte, NC 28213
704-596-3578
scasey@carolina.rr.com

Conference Advisor

Jatana Royster (Hickory Grove)
8227 Laurel Oak Ct
Harrisburg, NC 28075
704-454-5333
Jatanaroyster@gmail.com

Nominations

Linda Davidson (2022)
6201 Spring Garden Ln
Charlotte, NC 28213
(Simpson-Gillespie)
704-281-9565
Linda.davidson@duke-energy.com

Debbie Williams (2022)
2321 Brenly Ct
Charlotte, NC 28269
(South Tryon)
704-712-9062
Debwms126@gmail.com

Kelly McKinnon (2023)
5729 Brookfield Pointe Dr.
Charlotte, NC 28216
(South Tryon)
336-209-2038
vkelly.mckinnon@gmail.com

Judy Cline (2024)
5215 Club View Dr.
Concord, NC 28025
(Royal Oaks)
704-785-8027
jblacline@gmail.com

[Jamie Stirewalt \(2024\)](#)
2676 Woodcrest Dr SW
Concord, NC 28027
(Roberta)
980-521-7985
ejstirewalt@gmail.com

[1/20/2021](#)

The Metro District Team is seeking new members. Two positions are open now Program Resources and ME&I and several position terms are ending in 2021. Contact Linda Davidson or any Nominations team member with your questions or recommendations.

2021 Metro District UMW Nurturing Partners

Church	Partner	Church	Partner
Aldersgate	Debbie Eudy	Mill Grove (Indian Trail)	Nancy Ward
Assurance	Kim Shafer	Morrows Chapel	Judy Cline
Bethpage	Judy Cline	Mount Mitchell	Nancy Litton
Broad Street	Lynda Morris	Mount Olivet	Martha Hyler
Calvary	Kelly McKinnon	Mount Pleasant	Lynda Morris
Centenary	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh	Myers Park	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh
Center	Kay Jones	North Davidson	Linda Davidson
Central (Charlotte)	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh	North Kannapolis	Judy Cline
Central (Concord)	Jatana Royster	Oak Grove (Char)	Donna Varner
Central (Mooresville)	Kim Shafer	Oak Grove (CG)	Kim Shafer
Christ	Kim Shafer	Pineville	Nancy Ward
Cokesbury	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh	Pleasant Grove	Donna Varner
Cold Springs	Martha Hyler	Providence	Lynda Morris
Commonwealth	Debbie Eudy	Roberta	Jatana Royster
Covenant	Donna Varner	Rock Grove	Jamie Stirewalt
Davidson	Lynda Morris	Rocky Mount	Kim Shafer
Dilworth	Delta Sonderman	Rocky Ridge	Kay Jones
Epworth	Nancy Litton	Royal Oaks	Martha Hyler
Fair View	Lynda Morris	Simpson-Gillespie	Kelly McKinnon
Faith (Mooresville)	Jamie Stirewalt	South Tryon	Sylvia Casey
First (China Grove)	Jamie Stirewalt	SouthPark	Donna Varner
First Hmong	Kim Shafer	St Andrews	Debbie Eudy
Forest Hill	Kay Jones	St Francis	Delta Sonderman
Friendship	Martha Hyler	St Marks	Sylvia Casey
Harrisburg	Nancy Ward	St Paul (Mooresville)	Lynda Morris
Hickory Grove	Linda Davidson	St Stephen	Debbie Eudy
Hunters Chapel	Linda Davidson	Thrift	Debbie Eudy
Huntersville	Linda Davidson	Trinity (Charlotte)	Donna Varner
Indian Trail	Nancy Ward	Trinity (Kannapolis)	Jamie Stirewalt
Jackson Park	Judy Cline	Vanderburg	Lynda Morris
Matthews	Delta Sonderman	Westford	Kay Jones
Memorial (Charlotte)	Delta Sonderman	Williamsons Chapel	Kim Shafer
Memorial (Kannapolis)	Jamie Stirewalt	Woodlawn Community	Delta Sonderman
Midway	Nancy Litton	Zion	Nancy Ward

Your Metro Nurturing Partners are here to help. Please welcome them when they call or visit, and feel free to contact your Partner, or any of the Metro Officers with your questions, ideas or concerns.

**Western North Carolina United Methodist Women
2021 Conference Events**

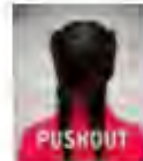


**Spiritual Growth Retreat
"You Lift Me Up"**
June 18 - 19
Virtual Event



**Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom:
Living into the Church's Moral Witness
through Radical Discipleship**

Mission u
July 15 - 18
Virtual Event



**Pushout:
The Criminalization of
Black Girls in School**

Annual Celebration / September 11 - 12 / Virtual Event



Ubuntu Days of Service
"I am because you are"
Saturday, October 2 and 9
Across the Conference



United Methodist Women
Metro District of the UMC
(WNCC)
2539 Winterbrooke Dr.
Matthews, NC 28105



**WORDS OF WISDOM: Know God! Develop relationships! Expand your vision!
United Methodist Women make it our PURPOSE!**

