



Blue Ridge District Newsletter 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.

Called to This Moment to Study

Blue Ridge & Smoky Mountain Districts UMW

2021 Mission Study

By Zoom Meeting

“Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission”

By Ellen Blue--Led by Barbara Campbell

Saturdays, March 6 & 13, 2021, 9:30am – 12:00 noon each day



Register on the WNCC UMW Website
You only have to register once for both days.

**BLUE RIDGE DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2021 OFFICERS**

<p><u>President:</u> Gwen Harris (Windom) 215 Grand View Lane Burnsville, NC 28714 (828) 682-4589 gwenaharris68@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Vice President:</u> Lucy Earls (Oak Grove) 913 Race Path Church Rd. Ellenboro, NC 28040 (828) 453-8566 jlearls@att.net</p>	<p><u>Secretary:</u> Jo Pyatt (East Marion) PO Box 1621 Marion, NC 28752 (828) 652-2530 pyattjo@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Treasurer:</u> Linda Johns (Skyland) 22 North Oak Terrace Arden, NC 28704 H:(828) 684-9366 C: (828) 712-9266 lljturtle58@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>Spiritual Growth, MC:</u> Jennie Greenway (Oak Grove) 164 Emma Drive, Ellenboro, NC 28040 (828) 453-9637 or (828) 289-1642 jengreenway@bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>MC, Education & Interpretation</u> Tracey Owens (Marion First) 249 Fleming Ave. Marion, NC 28752 (828) 246-6006 traceybhh@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Social Action MC.</u> Kathy Kennedy (Grace) PO Box 2556 Leicester, NC 28748 H: (828) 683-4678 C: (828) 231-3229 kenkat12003@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Membership Nurture & Outreach:</u> Martha Phillips (Concord) PO Box 49 Linville Falls, NC 28647 (828) 467-3167 mcwphillips@gmail.com</p>
<p><u>Secretary of Program Resources:</u> Jeannette Byrd (St. Paul's) 203 Aurora Dr. Asheville, NC 28805 (828) 230-5308 jbyrdasheville@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Communications Coordinator:</u> Tammy Long (Moore's Grove) 240 Seasons Circle Apt. 102 Fletcher, NC 28732 (828) 774-6010 lynntb79@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Data Processing:</u> Carol Bryson (Grace) 14 Buckner Road Leicester, NC 28748 (828) 776-0678 csbryson64@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Parliamentarian:</u> Betty J. Letzig (St. Paul's) 266 Merrimon Ave. Asheville, NC 28801 (828) 225-0414 MoHar1926@outlook.com</p>
<p><u>Historian:</u> Barbara E. Campbell (St. Paul's) 266 Merrimon Ave. Asheville, NC 28801 (828) 225-0414 charlie585@msn.com</p>			

Committee of Nominations

<p>Chairperson: Thelma McGraw (Skyland UMC) 90 White Pine Drive Fletcher, NC 28732 (828) 684-7106 vtmcgraw@broadriverrehab.com Class of 2022</p>	<p>Vennie Abrams (Tryon Comm. Interdenominational Church) 630 Blackwood Road Columbus, NC 28722 (828) 863-4274 aluvenia@yahoo.com Class of 2021</p>	<p>Bess Redmond (Biltmore UMC) 19 Wright's Cove Trail Fairview, NC 28730 (828) 231-7625 missbess@charter.net Class of 2021</p>	<p>Donna Anderson (Central UMC) Weaverville, NC 28787 danderson45@charter.net Class of 2022</p>
<p>Dorothy Johnson (Addie's Chapel) 63 Tomahawk Trail Marion, NC 28752 (828) 738-8148 (828) 460-3778 dot.johnson47@gmail.com Class of 2023</p>	<p>Leith Tate (Black Mtn. UMC) PO Box 208, Montreat, NC 28757 (828) 669-5564 tateleith@gmail.com Class of 2023</p>		

Member at Large

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

Western North Carolina Conference District Advisor for the Blue Ridge District

Joanie Strohm, (Weaverville), 111 Collins Road, Marshall, NC 28753, (828) 649-1156, ssjismars@charter.net

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

2021 NURTURING PARTNERS (SHEPHERDESSES)

Your Nurturing Partner is a personalized connection between your district leaders and your unit. Please call your Nurturing Partner during the year if you have any questions or needs. She will be notifying you to remind you about special events throughout the year. Your Nurturing Partner would like to come visit your unit and would appreciate an invitation any time. Our goal is to visit every unit throughout the district during the year.

PLEASE ASK YOUR NURTURING PARTNER TO COME VISIT YOUR UNIT.

Nurturing Partner	Church	Nurturing Partner	Church
Carol Bryson (828) 776-0678	Avery's Creek Emma Reeves Chapel	Jeanette Byrd (828) 230-5308	Montmorenci St. Paul Trinity- Asheville
Vennie Abrams (828) 863-4274	Caroleen Spindale	Barbara E. Campbell (828) 225-0414	Abernethy Biltmore Asbury Memorial
Lucy Earls (828) 453-8566 (828) 223-1325	First Forest City Providence Saluda	Gwen Harris (828) 682-4589	Bald Creek Higgins Memorial Mars Hill Weaverville
Dorothy Johnson (828) 738-8148	Clinchfield Ebenezer Marion First	Kathy Kennedy (828) 231-3229 (828) 683-4678	Grace Oakley Salem
Betty J. Letzig (828) 225-0414	Balfour Fletcher Mills River	Thelma McGraw (828) 684- 7P106	Skyland Windom
Tracy Owens (828) 246-6006	Black Mountain Snow Hill (Morganton)	Martha Phillips (828) 765-7009	Concord Spruce Pine East Marion Addie's Chapel
Joanie Strohm (828) 649-1156	Alexander Clark's Hope Wells Spring Piney Mountain	Donna Anderson (828) 484-8763	Central
Jennie Greenway (828) 453-9637	Edneyville Hendersonville First Moore's Grove	Jo Pyatt (828) 652-2530	First Rutherfordton Gilkey Kistler's Chapel Nebo Oak Grove Pleasant Grove Pleasant Hill-Marion
Bess Redmond (828) 231-7625	Bethel Groce Sardis		

A Message from Your President

Every new year excites me! I have a graveyard full of resolutions that died before the end of January, but I always expect that the upcoming year will be better. And so it is with 2021.

Before we put 2020 behind us, I want to tell you how proud I am that Blue Ridge District UMW met the unbelievable challenges of 2020 head-on! When we had to cancel a couple of early events because of COVID, we discovered ZOOM and had virtual editions of Annual Celebration and Leadership Development Day. I'm proud because we got creative about meeting. When we couldn't meet in our churches, many of us met by ZOOM or conference call or in the great outdoors. I'm proud that even though many units did not meet after February, we almost met our pledge (Linda Johns' article). We did not allow COVID to shut us down. UMW work went on.

I could keep bragging, but I want to share some information about 2021.

- Our theme for 2021 is "Called to This Moment." The phrase comes from Captain Sully who was forced to land a crippled plane on the Hudson River, saving all the passengers on board. He said that he was "called to that moment" in time and that his whole life had prepared him for it. We are "called to this moment" to serve God. Following are individual event themes:
 1. Mission Study-Called to This Moment to Study
 2. Prayer Breakfast-Called to This Moment to Pray
 3. Annual Celebration-Called to This Moment to Celebrate United Methodist
 4. Women Accomplishments
 5. Leadership Development Day-Called to This Moment to Lead

Everything seems harder because of COVID, but this is our moment to shine. Let's do it!

- Our District goals are as follows:
 1. Each unit will make at least one Gift in Mission of at least \$5.00, using any cards they have, in honor of one person in mission listed in the Prayer Calendar or a **response** magazine article.
 2. Each unit will increase its pledge by \$5.00 per person in 2021.
 3. The District will start a ZOOM book club, using books from the UMW Reading Program lists.
- All Conference and District events for 2021 will be virtual events. Please encourage your members to attend them. They're really good, and you can attend them without even leaving your home.
- I cannot give you a calendar for the District events. Since all the Districts are using the Conference ZOOM account, the Conference will have to set the Calendar to avoid conflicts. I'll pass it along as soon as it's finalized.
- Finally, each president needs to go online and fill out the Census/Survey for her unit. Find it at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

I'm looking forward to working with you and your units.

Gwen Harris, Blue Ridge District, President

Vice President

Welcome to 2021. We will all agree that 2020 has been a difficult year for most of us and we are looking forward to a brighter 2021. Members of United Methodist Women are praying people. Please remember to pray for all our difficult situations – sickness, death, fear, loneliness, disillusionment, hatred, and our nation.

I am honored to begin serving as your Vice President. I want to be of support and assistance to our President Gwen Harris and all of you. Please feel free to contact me if I can do anything for any of your units.

I realize that many units are not physically meeting yet. I hope you are finding ways to reach out to others by phone, email, or Zoom meetings. If you do not know how to set up Zoom meetings, I'm sure someone in your church could help you. Continue to use resources to get inspiration for programming. Our 2020-2021 Program Book, ***Knitted Together for God's Good Work***, is an excellent resource, as is the ***Prayer Calendar, response*** magazine, and many of the resources listed on both the Conference and National websites.

I began this article seemingly with "gloom and doom," but there is so much good news. Individuals and units are still meeting their pledge to missions and the work of our United Methodist Women continues as it has for 151 years. We continue to prepare kits for UMCOR. Units are still involved with many wonderful local projects. Most importantly, we know that God is good. No matter what life may throw at us, God is with us and never changes. Blessings to all of you in this new year.

Lucy Earls, Vice President, Blue Ridge District

District Secretary

Newsletter articles are usually easy to compose. Mostly, we can pull information regarding our office from the responsibilities as laid down in the Officers Handbook; however, that has gone by the wayside this year with the takeover of Covid 19. We have had cancellation after cancellation and worries about our mission money; we have been separated from dear friends in their time of illness and death; we have become familiar with terms like Zoom and Webinar, though most are still not comfortable with this virtual world. We miss those times less than six feet apart and the hugs United Methodist Women are famous for. So where do we go from here? The responsibilities of whatever office you might hold continue on as before, but how you carry out those responsibilities will require some creative thinking and the ability to change your perception of what is going on about us and how it will affect you. My advice to the secretaries? Continue to keep good records and be available to the rest of your officers for whatever support they might need during this unusual time, and as far as each of you is concerned, don't be afraid to ask for help yourself! I discovered these words of Cher: "If you really want something, you can figure out how to make it happen!" We as United Methodist Women need to take these words to heart, for in the last 150 years haven't we more or less changed the course of history for women, youth, and children around the world? And now that we find ourselves facing a pandemic like nothing ever seen before, can we do any less at "a time such as this?"

My prayers are with each of you, my sisters.

Jo Pyatt, Blue Ridge District Secretary

Treasurer

Welcome to 2021. Let us look forward to a new and hopefully less stressful year. But before we leave 2020, let's celebrate our successes.

The Blue Ridge District was not able to meet the pledge of \$82,100 this year, but we only missed it by 5%. This is less than \$5000. That is amazing!!

In the Western North Carolina Conference, the Blue Ridge District came in 2nd in Total Giving, Total Undesignated Mission Giving and Special Mission Recognition. We came in 1st in Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, World Thank Offering, Walk for Mission, Call to Prayer and Self Denial, Assembly Offering, Scarritt-Bennett and National Missions.

These accomplishments are an outstanding reason to enjoy, celebrate and just absorb what our District managed to do even in a year of tumult. Ladies, you are awesome!

2021 means we have entered a new year as of December 1, 2020. We are a month into our new pledge year. We have survived many challenges including our altered way of living, and we know it will take time before things can get back to normal. I encourage you to find an alternate way of communicating with each other, whether it is by using the postal system, telephones, e-mails, conference calls, or Zoom calls. Staying in touch is a great way to feel connected with United Methodist Women.

We continue to have work to do. We have people depending on us to continue our support of missions. Rising to the challenge is one thing you all do so well. Let's get our sleeves rolled up and dig in.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or need anything I can provide.

Linda Johns, Blue Ridge District, Treasurer

2021 Financial Goal for the Western NC Conference of the United Methodist Women. Each unit will make at least one Gift in Mission of at least \$5.00, using any cards they have, in honor of one person in mission listed in the UMW Prayer Calendar or a *response* magazine article.

Spiritual Growth

Greetings and Happy 2021 to each of you! I am both excited and honored to be serving as the Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Blue Ridge District. Our country and world faced a tremendous amount of uncertainty and unrest in 2020 and that is continuing into the new year. Isn't it awesome to know that God never leaves us and is with us in both good times and bad.

First, I wanted to make each of you aware that the 2021 Prayer Breakfast will be a virtual event this year. We will gather on Zoom together for a time of fellowship, remembrance and worship. We are currently working on securing a date and time and will share more information as it becomes available.

The new year gives us a chance to renew our relationship with God. A recent Upper Room devotional encouraged us to spend time daily reading the Bible, in prayer and in service to others in order to grow and have a more intimate relationship with God. I encourage the same. Take time daily to read your Bible and other inspirational readings and books such as the Upper Room or UMW Reading Program. Take time every day as often as you can to talk to God. Find new ways of serving your community. Send cards of encouragement to

healthcare workers, teachers and those who live in nursing homes. Call members of your congregation just to say hello and check on their well-being. Smile at the cashiers in the grocery line and tell them you are praying for them. Small actions can make a big difference, not only in the lives of others but in your life as well. Blessings and peace to all of you. “For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.” Colossians 1: 9 - 10 NIV

Jennie Greenway, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Blue Ridge District UMW

Social Justice

Hi, everyone. I hope your new year is off to a good start! Even though current events can be discouraging, let's view the New Year as an opportunity to work toward the health and wholeness of God's creation. This quadrennium, UMW is focusing on climate justice and the criminalization of communities of color and mass incarceration, specifically Just Energy 4 All and Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline.

The goal of the Interrupt the School to Prison Pipeline campaign is to move local authorities to reduce racial disparities in school discipline. Children and youth of color do not misbehave more frequently than their peers; however, they are treated more harshly for similar or lesser offenses. Suspensions and expulsions are just one factor that push students toward the criminal justice system. Join the campaign at unitedmethodistwomen.org/racialjustice.

Just Energy for All is about ensuring the energy we use every day is not harmful to our neighbors and our planet. Low-income communities and communities of color bear a disproportionate burden of the negative impacts of climate change. 80% of people being displaced by climate change are women. Join United Methodist Women's Just Energy for All 101 3-part webinar series on February 22, March 8 and March 22, 2021 at 3:00 pm. Learn more about the why and what of this campaign:

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/just-energy-for-all>.

Grace & Peace.

Kathy Kennedy, Blue Ridge District Social Justice Coordinator

Mission Education & Interpretation

Because of the COVID pandemic, the Blue Ridge District UMW was not able to have a Mission Study in 2020. We will have a study this year, but using a different format than in the past. First of all, we are joining the UMW from the Smoky Mountain District. Secondly, we will be using Zoom to have our study. It was decided that it would be easier to have the event in 2 days, since the Mission Study must last 4 hours. Therefore, the study will take place on two Saturdays, March 6 & March 13, from 9:30am – 12:00 noon each day. Barbara Campbell will be leading the study on “*Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission.*” You will need to register for this event through the Conference UMW website. If you have trouble registering, please notify me at traceybhh@gmail.com.

Grab a cup of coffee and join us on these Saturdays in March – you can even wear your pajamas!!

One of the goals for the Blue Ridge District UMW is for each unit to send Gift to Mission cards in honor of someone in the Prayer Calendar or **response** magazine. Any card can be used (not just Mission cards). Just send \$5.00 to our District Treasurer for each card. Because you're not using a regular Mission card, put a note inside the card saying you're making a contribution to UMW in the person's honor.

When your unit is sending money for shipping of Hygiene (\$2) or School (\$1) kits, send a check made out to WNCU UMW and mail to Conference Treasurer Nancy Reigel, 375 Troy Norris Road, Boone, NC 28607.

Happy and Hopeful New Year!

Tracey Owens, Blue Ridge District Coordinator for Mission Education & Interpretation

Membership Nurture and Outreach

Greetings Ladies,

I am Martha Phillips and I look forward to serving as your Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach this year. Our need for social distancing continues, but this does not have to keep us totally isolated from each other.

There are a number of ways we can stay connected with each other, our District, our Conference, and our National Organization. Here are some ideas to help you:

1. Stay in touch with our Conference website and signup online for the newsletters Lynne Gilbert sends out. These emails are full of information. www.wncumw.org
2. Consider asking a tech-savvy person to help ladies in your unit get set up to receive the conference emails. They may also be able to help you set up for Zoom meetings for your unit. There are easy-to-follow instructions at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org.
3. Look on the national website for **response** podcasts (about 40 choices) and the Faith Talks which will keep you informed on issues of importance to United Methodist Women.
4. Check out the videos on our UMW YouTube channel.
5. If you do not have internet access, then get a subscription to **response** magazine. It is a wonderful source about the work of UMW around the world for women, children, and youth.

The District Nurturing Partner Listing is included in this newsletter. Reach out to your nurturing partner for any assistance you may need in implementing these suggestions or for other questions you may have.

We are committed to assisting and supporting each other during these challenging times. Grace and Peace.

Martha Phillips, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

Program Resources

It is great to be able to return as your District Secretary of Program Resources. I look forward to continuing to help each of your units be informed of UMW resources to help us all fulfill our Purpose.

I hope someone in each of your units has access to the internet. Abundant information can be found on the UMW website. Explore the site. You can pick up many programming ideas. There is a tutorial on how to use Zoom. Search for United Methodist Women videos. Sign up for the UMW e-newsletter. Using the program book (which includes ideas for virtual meetings), prayer calendar, and *Response* magazine, will all assist you in programming. If you haven't done so, order the 2021 Annual Sampler from Mission Resources.

If unit members do not have access to the internet, the most important thing is to stay in contact, through telephone, mail, etc. Encourage members to read *response* and participate in the reading program. If one member has internet, keep others informed about national, conference, and district news.

This year there are two changes to the Reading Program. First, the Program will span two years instead of one. Participation will be recognized at the end of 2022. For complete information check the website or go to pages 28-33 in the 2020 November/December issue of *response* magazine. You may include books from Reading Lists going back to 2017. Be sure to check on books that are bonus and count as two. (That will include a Mission study book from the 2021 Sampler, "Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom"). A copy of the Reading Report may be downloaded from the website.

Secondly, look for "Faith Matters" podcasts on the web site. Participating in or listening to these podcasts later will each count as two Spiritual Growth books. Just include the listened-to sessions on your reading report. If you have questions, my e-mail address & phone number are listed on the included resource page.

NEW DISTRICT BOOK CLUB

Starting soon, the Blue Ridge District will host a "book club" on zoom. Our tentative starting date is March 27. Since March is Women's History Month, the book, *Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography*, has been chosen as our first selection. It can be found on the 2019 book list. I have read the book and it is excellent. Since so much has been written about Eleanor Roosevelt, we will not only discuss the book, but will enjoy just talking about this great woman. We ask that those interested read the book ahead of time. As soon as plans are complete, you will be alerted by email, and will be asked to register for the event. (Remember that you can also join zoom by telephone).

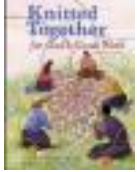
I look forward to seeing many of you as we try this new adventure.

Jeanette Byrd, Blue Ridge District Program Resources

BLUE RIDGE DISTRICT PROGRAM RESOURCES



WEBSITE: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org



Order 2021 Sampler MAILING ADDRESS:

UMW Mission Resources
PO Box 742349 • Atlanta, GA 30374-2349
RESOURCE CENTER PHONE: 800-305-9857

FIND READING PROGRAM ON UMW WEBPAGE OR PAGES 28-33 IN
NOV/DEC 2020



response
the magazine of women's ministry

LISTENING TO "FAITH TALKS" COUNT FOR 2
SPIRITUAL GROWTH READING PROGRAM BOOKS



SEARCH UMW WEBSITE FOR WEBINARS OR GOOD PROGRAMMING VIDEOS

**IF QUESTIONS CONTACT ME:
JEANNETTE BYRD**

**BLUE RIDGE DISTRICT SECRETARY, PROGRAM RESOURCES
E-MAIL: jbyrdasheville@aol.com PHONE: (828) 230-5308**

Communications Coordinator

Well it's a brand new year!

I can't believe that it's been a full year already of me holding the position of your Communication Coordinator for our Blue Ridge District. Last year was a "weird" year with this COVID 19, but I feel that our UMW group used the correct protocol in keeping each other safe, and we should keep in prayer for this year's events and make them better than ever.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Community Outreach Project section in our newsletter. If you would like to take part in it, please send me a couple of pictures and a little info about what the project is. I hope you all enjoy the newsletters and have a wonderful rest of the year.

GOD bless each of you.

Tammy Long, Blue Ridge District, Communications Coordinator

Nomination Committee

I'm excited as chairperson of the committee on nominations to be part of a committee that strives to reflect the diversity of women of different ages and various backgrounds from different churches to serve on the district team. It is a pleasure to work with mission-minded women on behalf of women, youth and children around the world.

Please share your ideas and prayerful support for the ongoing nominating work of the district UMW. I can be reached at vtmcgraw@broadriverrehab.com. I look forward to hearing from you and meeting with you in the future.

Thelma McGraw, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations

Historian Welcoming the Stranger

Immigration has become a moral and political issue in recent months. Neither the issue nor the controversy is new to United Methodist Women (and predecessors) who have offered hospitality and direct services to newcomers for over 125 years!

- In 1886 Elizabeth Mathews and her sister-in-law, Alma, were sent to New York City's Castle Garden by the Woman's Home Missionary Society to meet arriving ships. Women and young girls who were stranded were taken to the Immigrant Girls Home. When Alma Mathews retired 40 years later, a new ministry was named in her honor.
- In the late 1890's a large influx of Cubans came to work in cigar factories near Tampa. Wolff School opened soon after with over 100 pupils. Today Cornerstone Family Ministries works in that area.
- In 1912 Deaconess Katherine Maurer was the "port worker" at Angel Island "meeting the stranger and giving a hand with a Christ-like Spirit". Her statue in downtown San Francisco honors the "Angel of Angel Island."
- In 1919 Tacoma Community House, a successor to the Italian Industrial Mission, opened in Washington. During the Korean Conflict staff worked with Korean War brides stranded at the near-by military base. In 2019 the House served persons from 20 countries.

Welcoming the immigrant is an act of mission enacted by members of United Methodist Women individually, and through our National Mission Institutions.

Barbara E. Campbell, Blue Ridge Historian

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*

Community Outreach Unit Projects



In 2011, soon after the Imagine No Malaria Campaign of the United Methodist Church began, Bald Creek UMW decided to hold a ladies' tea party as their contributing fundraiser. Friends, family and community members of all ages were invited and the first "No Malaria Tea Party", as it would become known, was held. The tea party was a huge success. So much so, that it has become an annual event. Those attending are asked to wear a hat, and unbeknownst to the organizers of that first tea party, this has become a highlight of the event as the hats continue over the years to be more fun and creative. Educational materials and pamphlets about malaria are always made available, along with educational games and door prizes. The money raised through donations is sent to the Imagine No Malaria Campaign. This year's tea was cancelled due to Covid-19, but once the pandemic is over, the yearly tea party at Bald Creek will begin again with the continued hope of ridding the world of malaria.

Bald Creek UMW Burnsville NC

This section is for any upcoming projects from our local units that they would like to share with the UMW community.



Legacy Fund Information:

- Visit our website- www.wnccumw.org/legacyfund/
 - Visit the national office website- www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/
- ### **Ways to Give**
- Make a Legacy Fund gift through your local unit UMW treasurer, directly to your district treasurer, or at district or conference events.
 - By phone- 1-800-278-7771

- Text- Legacy150 to 41444
- By Check-note "Legacy Fund" in memo and mail to :UMW treasurer's office 15th floor, 475 Riverside Drive, NY, NY, 10115
- Other methods includes gifts in stocks, life insurance, bequests, and other forms of giving, contact the national office at the website or phone number above.

Working Women Working Together



Women who Change the World





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: cathymc8S5@yahoo.com

Applications are due to the committee by March 1, 2021. Interviews will be conducted on Saturday March 20, 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 and individuals.

Please contact me if you need additional information.

Blessings,
Cathy McCauley
Scholarship Committee Chairperson

Blue Ridge District United Methodist Women
Central United Methodist Church
27 Church Street
Asheville, NC 28801-1218

Mark Your Calendars for 2021

Conference Events 2021

June 18-19 – Spiritual Growth Retreat – Lake Junaluska

July 15-18 – Mission u – Zoom

September 10-12 – Annual Celebration – Zoom

October 2 & 9 – Unbuntu Days of Service – Various Locations

October 23 – Leadership Development Day

District Events - 2021

March 6 and 13 – District Mission Study with Smoky Mountain – 9:30 AM - Noon

March 27 (tentative) – District Book Club – Zoom – 10:00 AM

May 1 – Prayer Breakfast – Zoom – 10:00 A.M.

August 14 – District Annual Celebration – Zoom – 10:00 AM

November 20 – District Leadership Development Day – 10:00 AM