

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 Celebrate United Methodist Women Accomplishments

Blue Ridge District Annual Celebration
On ZOOM

Saturday, August 14, 2021, 10am

Register at <https://wnccumw.org/>

IN JULY, go to Districts' drop-down menu and click on District Events 2021, **NOT Blue Ridge**



**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) 803-0363 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 mcpwphillips@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 aluvania@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) 7 Duncannon Street Weaverville, NC 28787 (828) 484-8763 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, ssjsmars@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.)

**Proposed Blue Ridge District United Methodist Women
2022 OFFICERS**

New officers, officers taking a different position, or officers taking a new two-year term in **Bold**)

<p>President: Gwen Harris (Windom) 215 Grand View Lane Burnsville, NC 28714 (828) 682-4589 gwenaharris68@gmail.com</p>	<p>Vice President: Lucy Earls (Oak Grove) 913 Race Path Church Rd. Ellenboro, NC 28040 (828) 453-8566 jlearls@att.net</p>	<p>Secretary: Glenda Fuhrmann (Central) P.O. Box 861 Swannanoa, NC 28778 (828) 337-2617 glendafuhrmann@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Treasurer: Linda Johns (Skyland) 22 North Oak Terrace Arden, NC 28704 H:(828) 684-9366 C: (828) 712-9266 ljturtle58@gmail.com</p>
<p>MC, Spiritual Growth: Jennie Greenway (Oak Grove) 164 Emma Drive Ellenboro, NC 28040 (828) 453-9637 or (828) 289-1642 jengreenway@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>MC, Education & Interpretation: Tracey Owens (Marion First) 249 Fleming Ave. Marion, NC 28752 (828) 246-6006 traceybhh@gmail.com</p>	<p>MC, Social Action: Leith Tate (Black Mountain) PO Box 208 Montreat, NC 28757 (828) 301-6028 tateleith@gmail.com</p>	<p>MC, Membership Nurture & Outreach: Thelma McGraw (Skyland) 90 White Pine Drive Fletcher, NC 28732 (828) 684-7106 vtmcgraw@broadriverrehab.com</p>
<p>Secretary of Program Resources: Jeannette Byrd (St. Paul's) 203 Aurora Dr. Asheville, NC 28805 (828) 230-5308 jbyrdasheville@aol.com</p>	<p>Communications Coordinator: Tammy Long (Moore's Grove) 240 Seasons Circle, Apt. 102 Fletcher, NC 28732 (828) 774-6010 lynntb79@gmail.com</p>	<p>Data Processing: Carol Bryson (Grace) 14 Buckner Road Leicester, NC 28748 (828) 776-0678 csbryson64@gmail.com</p>	<p>Parliamentarian: Betty J. Letzig (St. Paul's) 266 Merrimon Ave. Asheville, NC 28801 (828) 225-0414 MoHar1926@outlook.com</p>
<p>Historian: Barbara E. Campbell (St. Paul's) 266 Merrimon Ave. Asheville, NC 28801 (828) 225-0414 ernestm1138@outlook.com</p>			
Committee On Nominations			
<p>Jo Pyatt (East Marion) PO Box 1621 Marion, NC 28752 (828) 652-2530 pyattjo@gmail.com Class of 2022</p>	<p>Donna Anderson (Central) 7 Duncannon Street Weaverville, NC 28787 (828) 484-8763 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>Susan Snell (Central) 30 Sunflower Lane Fletcher, NC 28732 (828) 551-5475 ssnell123@bellsouth.net Class of 2023</p>
<p>Shelia Cuthbertson (Rutherfordton First) 177 Carolina Paradise Rutherfordton, NC 28139 (828) 289-1281 fredpie25@gmail.com Class of 2024</p>	<p>Denise Radford (Nebo) 30 West Glenview Street Marion, NC 28752 (828) 652-9214 marvinanddenise@hotmail.com Class of 2024</p>		
<p>Member at Large Dixie Liggett, (Skyland), 8 Springside Park, Asheville, NC 28803, (828) 684-1831, lliggett3@charter.net</p>			
<p>Western North Carolina Conference District Advisor for the Blue Ridge District</p>			
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United Methodist Women

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
BLUE RIDGE DISTRICT

PROPOSED BUDGET 2022

PLEDGE TO MISSION \$ 82,100

ADMINISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (A & M D)

OFFICER EXPENSES:

Postage.....	\$ 700
Supplies	800
Telephone.....	0
Travel (mileage)	1800
Printing (letters, handouts, etc.).....	400
Total Officer Expenses	\$ <u>3700</u>

MEETING EXPENSES:

District Annual Meeting	\$ 500
District Spiritual Enrichment.....	400
District Officer Training	400
Other District Events	200
Total Meeting Expenses.....	\$ <u>1500</u>

OTHER EXPENSES:

Newsletter 1) Printing.....	\$2300
Newsletter 2) Postage	300
Resources and Literature	300
SMR, GTM, & GIM	250
Local Women Stipend (2).....	450
(3 first-timers to Spiritual Growth Retreat, Conference Mission u or Annual Celebration)	
Miscellaneous	300
Total Other Expenses	\$ <u>3900</u>

TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES – A & M D \$ 9100.00

DO NOT ADD OR CHANGE ANY CATEGORIES TO THE ABOVE LIST

2021 NURTURING PARTNERS (SHEPHERDESSES)

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) 684-7106	Skyland Windom
Tracey 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

Transition is the word for our time! Everywhere, we seem to be facing transition. Our country is trying to transition from a world dominated by COVID to one where the virus can be safely managed. The United Methodist Church faces transition at the 2022 General Conference that will impact every church-related organization. The government transitions so quickly from one program to the next that we can't keep up! Nature is even transitioning--from spring to summer.

United Methodist Women is transitioning, also. Right now, we're getting to know a new slate of officers. We'll miss Sharon Priddy and Clara Ester and the others, but we welcome those who are taking up the mantle of service.

'Ainise Isama'u is our new national president and the first Pacific Islander to serve in the position. Those registered for the Spiritual Growth Retreat had a chance to visit with her via Whova. She's also featured in the March/April issue of response and in at least two YouTube videos.

'Ainise refers to United Methodist Women as a worldwide movement. The word and idea of connection are important to her. She sees us as women connected to God; connected to one another; connected to women, children and youth around the world; connected to our past; and connected to our future.

On YouTube she becomes tearful as she recalls what we as a community have done to make mission possible. She says that our foremothers "prayed, studied, built institutions, lobbied legislators, marched, trained and sent women" to lay a foundation for mission and that now it's our turn to recognize and answer God's call for our day and time.

'Ainise would say we are "called to this moment" to dream bigger dreams! She says our foremothers dreamed big dreams and expected us to achieve them and now we must dream bigger dreams and lay the foundation for those who come after us to make our dreams a reality. She closes her YouTube presentation with these words: "If we dream it, they will achieve it. May it be so."

Should we as units and as the Blue Ridge District be dreaming bigger dreams? Are we too satisfied with the status quo? Are we afraid to dream bigger dreams because we don't want to fail? Are we just so tired of the struggle to maintain that we've lost the ability to dream?

'Ainise is an inspiring leader. May we be inspired followers!

Gwen Harris, Blue Ridge District, President

Vice President

I hope all of you are having a great beginning to your summer. Hopefully, our confinement of these past 15 months is slowly drawing to an end. I am ready for some United Methodist Women hugs! I hope you have been availing yourself of some of the opportunities to connect online with our district and conference events. A computer screen will never replace an in-person meeting, but it has been good to be able to stay somewhat connected through our Zoom meetings. We owe a big thanks to Lynne Gilbert, Conference Webmaster, for helping set up those meetings for us. Registration will soon be open on the conference website for our Blue Ridge District Annual Celebration, "Called to This Moment to Celebrate United Methodist Women Accomplishments," on Saturday, August 14, at 10:00. This is our business meeting where we celebrate our accomplishments from 2020. We will approve the budget for next year, honor retiring officers, and elect and install a new slate of officers. Our proposed budget, officer list, and copy of our annual report should be available by July 14 on the conference website, www.wncumw.org. I look forward to seeing you then.

Blessings to all.

Lucy Earls, Blue Ridge District, Vice President

Treasurer

As the summer is upon us with all the usual activities, we give thanks for the opportunity to return to usual activities abruptly halted last year. As we pause to reflect, I want to thank each one of you for your dedication to missions. We did not make our pledge last year, but we came remarkably close. You are utterly amazing.

We have had a change in our Special Mission Recognition pins. Your unit will continue to send in money and the required forms. I will order the pin, but we no longer have a source that completes the certificates. Guess who gets to do those certificates? Yes, I will be doing the certificates, so I will need to know if a certificate is wanted and any specifics that should be on the certificate. If no certificate is desired, just let me know. If a pin is ordered for future use, remember, I can do a certificate when a person is chosen to receive the pin.

As we go about beginning to meet in person, circle members can go back to giving in person, but online giving will continue to be an option. Any online giving will be reported back to me so your unit will have it reflected on the unit's record for the year. We had so many people try online giving and that giving option played a part in making it more convenient to give money to missions. Blue Ridge ladies have shown their ability and flexibility in taking on the computer to continue to participate. Great job, ladies.

Just a little reminder, if you are going to send in a check directly to me for whatever reason, please make it out to "Blue Ridge District Treasurer" and not to me by my name.

We, the District Executive Team, have completed and approved a budget for next year. Our pledge is \$82,100. Our pledge has stayed the same for next year as it is for this year. We are nearing 50% on our pledge contributions for this year. Please pray about giving and if you feel so led, know that every contribution helps.

I hope to see many of you attending the Spiritual Growth Retreat, which is virtual. The conference is using some software that can do many things and is fun to use. Also, registration is open for Mission u. These activities provide an opportunity to give a love offering which benefits missions. If you do not attend, you can still give a love offering online. Thanks so much for your gracious Mission Giving so our work can continue. Missions are how we help women, youth, and children to thrive with faith.

Linda Johns, Blue Ridge District, Treasurer

District Secretary

How to Write About United Methodist Women United Methodist Women Editing Guidelines:

1. United Methodist Women is treated as a singular noun. Women who are part of United Methodist Women are "members of United Methodist Women," "a member of United Methodist Women," "United Methodist Women member," or "United Methodist Women members." INCORRECT: United Methodist Woman
2. Do not use UMW in publications unless it is part of a website address.
3. As of January 2013 United Methodist Women is no longer called "Women's Division." Please use "United Methodist Women" in all instances (unless speaking of the past).
4. Mission Giving is United Methodist Women's primary source of fundraising and is always capitalized.
5. Use "mission" in all references to United Methodist Women's mission work. (Some refer to this work as "missions," but this represents a dated approach to work in communities that doesn't reflect our current focus on solidarity.)
6. Do not use the phrase "mission to," but rather "mission with" when referring to United Methodist Women's work with women, children, youth, and other marginalized communities.
7. Always use the word "children" and not "kids."
8. "United Methodist Women's Social Network" is the correct reference for our social network. Use the full name on first reference and "social network" on other references.
9. Use "United Methodist Women's Reading Program" on the first reference to the Reading Program or related books and "Reading Program" on other references.
10. Do not use the word "on" with dates. CORRECT: "United Methodist Women's Assembly will take place April 30-May2." INCORRECT: "Opening worship for Assembly on April 30 will include a variety of worship styles."

This information was shared with me by Dianne Beam, Conference Secretary

Jo Pyatt, Blue Ridge District Secretary

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Greetings to all of you! Hopefully you all are enjoying the start of summer. First, I would like to thank each of you that attended our Virtual Prayer Breakfast at the beginning of May. Even though we did not gather in our traditional way, I felt the spirit of the Lord present in our worship and fellowship. Leah Wandera's message to us inspired me to be more purposeful in my daily prayer life. As we move into this summer, there is hope all around us. For many, summer is a season filled with vacations and outdoor activities. It's a time to slow down and relax and take a break from our normal routine. Life is slowly returning to normal after a year of isolation due to COVID - 19. This summer may be your first opportunity to spend face-to-face time with family and friends that you haven't seen in a while; maybe you've been busy and are looking forward to a time of rest. Or maybe you're just looking forward to the bright, beautiful sunshine that we see more of in the summer. As you look at that sunshine, remember these words from Matthew 5:16 (NIV). "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven."

Jennie Greenway, Blue Ridge District, Spiritual Growth Coordinator



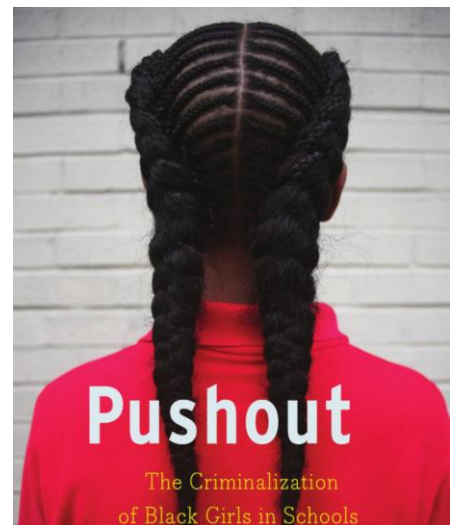
Social Justice Coordinator

Happy Summer, Everyone! I'm so excited that restrictions are relaxing and we can be out and about again. I had lunch at Lakeside Bistro at Lake Junaluska yesterday. It was so beautiful and made me yearn for United Methodist Women to meet there again soon.

I received an email from Yvette Moore, Director of Communications and Marketing for United Methodist Women, with an invitation to register for the Faith Talks June 17 @2 pm. Jennifer Farmer is hosting the podcast with the Reverend Vanessa M. Williams. They will be discussing Pushout. Reverend Williams is the author of the leader's guide for the study at Mission u this year.

Yvette's email reiterated that despite increased attention to the mass incarceration of Black men, "the plight of criminalized Black women and girls' remains overlooked, underreported and under analyzed. Reversing this troubling trend is the goal of this year's adult Mission Study, Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools."

If you miss the podcast you can go back and listen to previous ones. So be sure to tune in.



Kathy Kennedy, Blue Ridge District, Social Justice Coordinator

Mission Education & Interpretation

The WNCC UMW 2021 Hands-On Mission Collections pages are included in this newsletter. This year the Mission Response Center is requesting items for Project AGAPE since they have enough UMCOR relief kits. Specific instructions for what is needed, as well as how to pack the items, is included. Our district UMW is also supporting the Alliance Center for Education and Brooks-Howell Home.

Here is condensed information concerning the Mission Collections.

1. For the Virtual Spiritual Growth Event, the Blue Ridge District UMW is asked to provide items for the Alliance Center for Education in Charlotte (formerly the Bethlehem Center). Also, gift cards or checks to Brooks-Howell are requested. Look at the Mission Collections pages for details.
2. For the Virtual Mission u, school supplies for Project AGAPE students are needed. Once again, see the Mission Collections pages for details.
3. For the Virtual Annual Celebration, new blankets, new children's winter clothes, and new children's shoes for Project AGAPE are requested. See the Mission Collections pages for details.

Days, times, and places for collections in our district have been coordinated. You can drop off any of the above items at Groce United Methodist Church, 954 Tunnel Road in Asheville on Monday – Thursday, September 13 – 16, 2021, from 9am – 5pm. Please call the church office at (828) 298-7647 before you arrive.

If you live in the eastern part of the district (McDowell or Rutherford Counties), you can contact me at (828) 246-6006 and drop the items off at my house (249 Fleming Avenue in Marion). Thanks to Martha Phillips for volunteering to take the packages to the Mission Response Center.

Please make sure to let me know the estimated value (rounded to the nearest dollar) of the items sent. This is the only way the Conference UMW knows how much has been given to these projects. My email is traceybhh@gmail.com and my cell # is (828) 246-6006.

If you are sending a check to the Alliance Center, Brooks-Howell, or Project Agape, please make the check to UMW, put the name of the project on the memo line and mail it to Linda Johns, our District Treasurer. Please do not put any money or checks in the packages.

If you have any questions concerning this, do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email.
Blessings,

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

Nomination Committee

The Committee on Nominations is pleased to present a full slate of officers for election at Annual Celebration. We gratefully thank current officers who are rotating off and those who are serving in new positions. Newly elected members are welcomed and we look forward to you being part of this mission-minded team. We anticipate interesting and rewarding times as we strive to serve women, youth and children.

Committee on Nominations Members are as follows: Vennie Abrams, Bess Redmond, Donna Anderson, Dorothy Johnson, Leith Tate and Thelma McGraw. We gratefully acknowledge help from several other persons who were not on the committee.

Thelma McGraw, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations

Membership Nurture and Outreach

Greetings, Ladies,

Many of your units may be meeting in person by now. Isn't it nice to be together again!? Please consider inviting your Nurturing Partner for a visit. In-person visits are now possible. She can present a specific program or just bring information about UMW to your unit. If you are meeting by Zoom, invite her to join you.

I hope you planned to enjoy all the programs prepared for you at Spiritual Growth Retreat. Our next Blue Ridge District gathering event is Book Club, which will meet by Zoom on June 26 from 10a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We will be discussing the book Gum Moon from the Reading Program list.

You may want to gather together for this event. If your church has internet capability, your unit could join the Book Club from there. My unit did this for the Prayer Breakfast and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Remember your Nurturing Partner is here to provide you with assistance, support, and encouragement during these continuing trying times as we put Faith, Hope, and Love into Action.

Martha Phillips, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

Program Resources

Join us for the Blue Ridge District Book Club
(June 26, 2021 – 10 am to 11:30 am)

A Novel of San Francisco Chinatown Based upon events in the life of the author's wife's grandmother, Gum Moon is the remarkable coming of age story of a Chinese-American girl, Mei Chun Lai, who is sold in 1898 at the age of three to a cruel brothel keeper. During a plague quarantine, Chun is thrust into a bewildering new world when she is rescued and placed in a home for abused and trafficked girls. (Gum Moon – a UMW national mission institution). The home is destroyed in the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire, but Chun (aka "Maud") survives. Trying to raise funds to rebuild the home, Maud and a group of seven other Chinese children embark on a cross-country singing tour. But when the matron of the home suffers a breakdown, 13 year-old Maud must find within herself the strength and resolve to lead the band of children home.



*Meet our leader for the book study
Glenda Hill*

A new resident at Brooks-Howell and to our district, Glenda comes to us with a lifelong history as a member of United Methodist Women. Following college graduation, she served two years in Chile as a missionary. While there, she met her husband Gene. They lived in Western PA where Gene taught at Westminster College. She raised 2 children and did much volunteering, including UMW work.

Following Gene's retirement, the couple moved to Iowa where she served 8 years as a district officer. In 2009 they moved to Arizona, where she served 10 years as a conference officer. Having attended Schools of Mission in 4 different conferences, she has also taught in Mission U as well as served as Mission U assistant dean and dean.

In addition to their two children, Glenda and Gene have four grandchildren living in New Hampshire and Boston.

We welcome Glenda to the Blue Ridge District and as our leader for the study.

If you haven't done so yet, I invite you to read the book, register on the conference website, and join us on June 26.



Jeanette Byrd, Blue Ridge District Program Resources

WNCC UMW 2021 Hands-On Mission Collections

Brian Mateer and Ben Rogers at the Mission Response Center indicated that they have a good supply of all UMCOR Relief Kits at this time and that the greater need is for Project AGAPE. Armenians served by Project AGAPE have been involved in war with Azerbaijan who is trying to take the land and has forced the relocation of the Project AGAPE offices and warehouse while forcing Armenians from their homes. The North Carolina Conference and the Western North Carolina Conference are the only conferences that partner with Project AGAPE. Donations are requested as follows: **Virtual Spiritual Growth Event**

We are asking members to collect specific items needed by the Bethlehem Community Center in Winston Salem, 336-722-2264, and the Alliance Center for Education in Charlotte (formerly, Bethlehem Center) 704-375-1417. Also, Brooks-Howell (828-253-6712) can use donations of checks and gift cards. **Gift cards can be delivered or mailed to Brooks-Howell: Deaconess Tracey Owens, Activities Director, 266 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville, N C, 28801.** It is important to report to your District Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator (ME&I) the value of the Gift Cards. All checks for Brooks-Howell should be made to UMW with "Brooks-Howell" on the memo line and sent to your District Treasurer. A few years ago, it was suggested that 4 Districts give items to the center in Winston and 4 give to the center in Charlotte as follows:

Bethlehem Community Center in Winston Salem - Appalachian, Northern Piedmont, Uwharrie, Yadkin Valley

Needs: #2 Pencils, Colored Pencils, Washable Markers, Jumbo Pencils, Jumbo Crayons, Construction Paper, Washable Paints, Glue Sticks, Craft Sticks, Gift Cards, Checks.

Alliance Center for Education in Charlotte (formerly, Bethlehem Center) - Blue Ridge, Catawba Valley, Metro, Smoky Mountain

Needs: Puzzles (25-100 pieces), Glitter Pens, Glitter Glue, Sidewalk Chalk, Painting Kits, Small Unfinished Wooden Jewelry Boxes & Frames (\$1 at Dollar Tree), Board Games (for ages 6 - 18), First Aid Kits, Disinfectant Wipes, Gift Cards, Checks. Donors should pack items in boxes and label contents on the outside of the box.

Units are to report to your District Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator (ME&I) the estimated value (rounded to nearest dollar) of items sent to the center. All checks for either center should be made to UMW with the name of the center on the memo line and sent to your District Treasurer.

Collection of Items: To minimize interruptions at the centers, districts are asked to designate drop-off sites throughout the district, possibly by county or by missional networks. The collections for each district should come to one or two designated people who will deliver them to the center.

Virtual Mission u - We are asking for school supplies for the students served by Project AGAPE. Supplies needed are #2 Pencils, Colored Pencils, Hand-held Pencil Sharpeners, Erasers, School Scissors. Remove packaging from all items. Donors are asked to pack school supplies in plastic shoeboxes and place the shoeboxes into larger corrugated boxes.

Units are to report to your District Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator (ME&I) the estimated value (rounded to nearest dollar) of items sent. All checks for Project AGAPE should be made to UMW with "Project AGAPE" on the memo line and sent to your District Treasurer. Collection of Items: Districts may designate drop-off sites throughout the district, possibly by county or by missional networks. The collections for each district should come to one or two designated people who will deliver them to the Mission Response Center by appointment (704- 714-2340) or units may take the items to the nearest fall drop-off location for the Mission Truck for pick up. The sites and pick-up dates will be listed on the wnccumc.org website. Items may be brought to the MRC on UBUNTU Day, October 9.

Virtual Annual Celebration – We are asking for 3 items for Project AGAPE

1. New blankets – any size
2. New children's winter clothing - sizes 2-14, especially boys' clothing
3. New children's shoes – all sizes: Toddler 3-10; Little Kids 10.5-13.5 & 1-3; Big Kids 3.5-7

Donors are asked to pack blankets and clothing in separate corrugated boxes and label the boxes on the outside. Shoes can be left in their original box if available; if not, pack new shoes in corrugated boxes. If you have several shoe boxes, put them together in a large corrugated box.

Units are to report to your District Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator (ME&I) the estimated value (rounded to nearest dollar) of items sent. All checks for Project AGAPE should be made to UMW with "Project AGAPE" on the memo line and sent to your District Treasurer.

Collection of Items: Districts may designate drop-off sites throughout the district, possibly by county or by missional networks. The collections for each district should come to one or two designated people who will deliver them to the Mission Response Center by appointment or units may take the items to the nearest fall drop-off location for the Mission Truck for pick up. The sites and pick-up dates will be listed on the wnccumc.org website. Items may be brought to the MRC on UBUNTU Day, October 9.

Please contact Linda Greer if you have questions. jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net Call or text 828-244-2251

Historian

This year marks the 70th anniversary of "The Charter," a basic resource for United Methodist Women and the church. First adopted in 1952, it was followed by updated Charters in 1962, 1978, and 2016. Each built upon experiences, learnings and changing circumstances.

1952: The Charter of Racial Policies was an internal analysis of all policies and procedures within the Woman's Division (national office) and all Woman's Societies/Guilds. (Now United Methodist Women.) Each was to consider this question: Which of our activities are based on law and which on custom?

1962: The Charter of Racial Policies expanded concerns and recommendations. It was adopted for the church by the 1964 General Conference.

1978: The Charter of Racial JUSTICE Polices challenged members to move beyond the personal/organizational to see systems of injustice. It was adopted by the 1980 General Conference.

1980-2016: Each General Conference approved appropriate updates and the new title: "The Charter for Racial Justice in an Interdependent Global Community."

Each Charter has two sections with parallel statements: "Because we believe" and "We will." It is a call to action. Mission Criteria #6 states: "Each Unit will implement the Charter in at least two ways." (Suggestions are included.)

The 2016 Charter concludes: "We will use all measures to align our vision for racial justice with actions that accelerate racial justice. This is our historic challenge."

Barbara E. Campbell, Historian

Community Outreach Unit Projects

Artist Series



Fletcher United Methodist Church PRESENTS:

2021 Season Artist Series

Kruger Brothers
August 21st 7:30 pm
Tickets: \$30

"The music they make is a tribute to the very idea that indeed America is a melting pot and the sounds that were birthed from the heartland find a universal resonance."

David Wilcox
September 11th 7:30 pm
Tickets: \$25

"Fueled by brilliantly articulate guitar, an fiercely pretty baritone, and deft lyrics, he combines the best of both pop and modern folk aesthetics."

Carrie Newcomer
and pianist **Gary Walters**
October 10th 4:00 pm
Tickets: \$25

"Carrie Newcomer combines a rich voice with equally rich lyrics to weave a tapestry of life and hope"

Fletcher United Methodist Church
50 Library Rd. Fletcher, NC 28732 (828)684-7155
For more event info & ticket sales visit www.fletcherumc.org

Shows are for all ages and are general admission. Note that tickets are available for each event for wheelchair accessible and companion seats. Please choose this option at checkout. If you have any questions, please call the office at (828) 684-7155.

Mission u 2021



There's Far More Here
THAN MEETS THE EYE

VIRTUAL Mission u 2021 Two Mission Studies, Various Dates / Times

*Passionate about mission? Love to learn?
Want to engage with others who are?
Then Mission u is right for you!*
**Check out all of the possibilities,
and join us!**

2021 Schedule & Registration

Registration is free, and registration links will be activated soon!

July 15-18, 2021	<p>Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom (Full Time Class) Study Leader: Rev. Amy Coles, Assistant to the Bishop Class Sessions: Thursday, 6 pm – 8 pm; Friday, 6 pm – 8 pm; Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm; Sunday, 3 pm – 5 pm Class size: Unlimited! Invite your friends!</p>
July 19-22, 2021	<p>Pushout (Full Time Class) Study Leaders: Carolyn Payne & Rev. Leon Morrow Class Sessions: Monday thru Thursday, 6pm – 8pm each evening Class size: Limited to 35 persons</p>
July 23-25, 2021	<p>Pushout (Full Time Class) Study Leaders: Renee Hayes & The Honorable Denise S. Hartsfield Class Sessions: Friday 6 pm-8 pm, Saturday 10 am-2 pm, Sunday 3 pm-5 pm Class size: Limited to 35 persons</p>
July 31, 2021	<p>Pushout (Overview Class) Study Leaders: Joyce Irby & Kathy FitzJefferies Class Session: Saturday: 10 am – 2:30 pm Class size: Limited to 35 persons</p>
August 1, 2021	<p>Pushout (Overview Class) Study Leaders: Laquetta Barbee & Renee Hayes Class Session: Sunday: 3 pm – 7:30 pm Class size: Limited to 35 persons</p>



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



2021 Conference Love Offering
A Gift to Undesignated Mission Giving...

A Gift to Mission in honor of our members' Faithful Commitment to Mission Giving, through good times and pandemic times

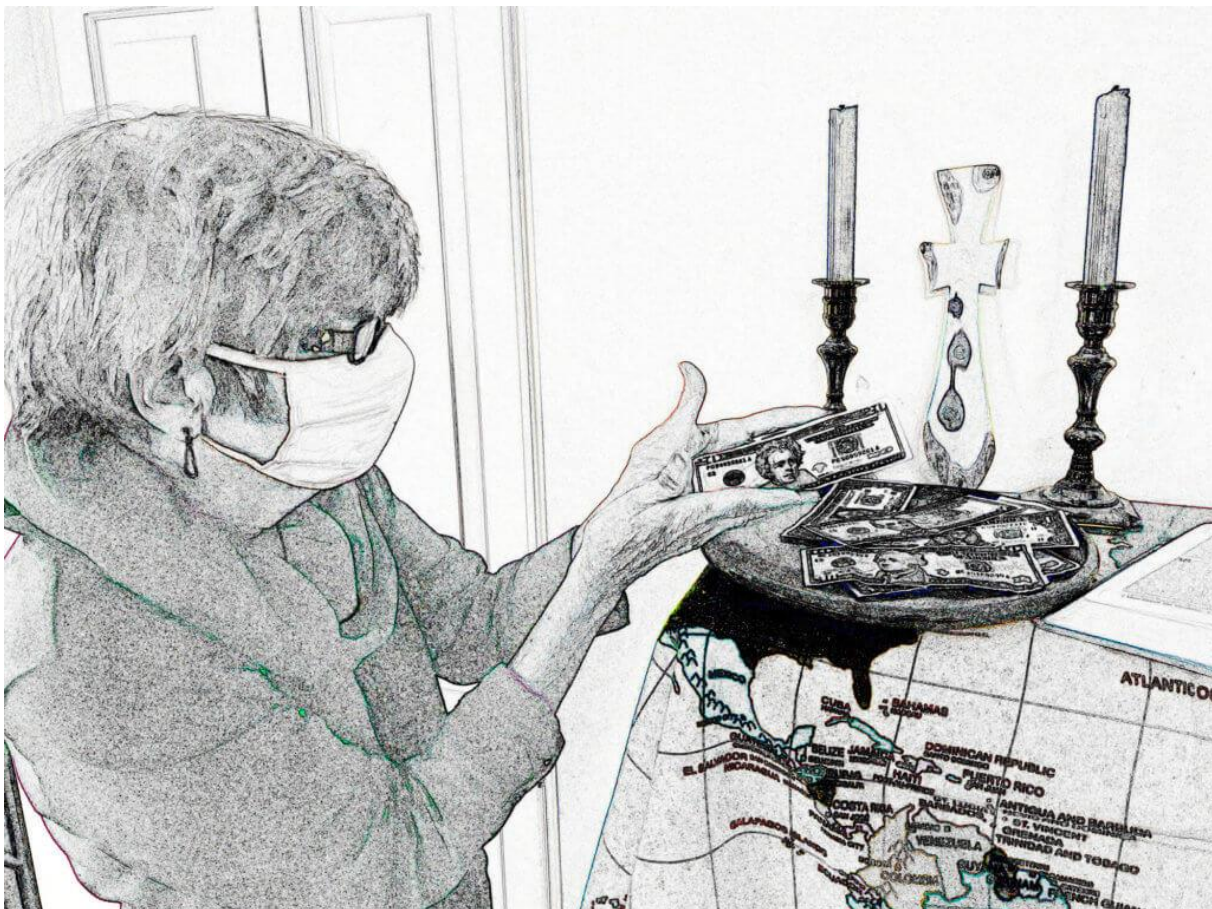
You may make your Love Offering gift or your Local Unit's gift in two ways this year:

Mail it directly to:

Nancy Reigel, Conference Treasurer
375 Troy Norris Road
Boone, NC 28607
Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, WNCC UMW

Or, make your gift today using the online Donate link:

- [DONATE to the 2021 Conference Love Offering](#) under "Mission Giving" tab.
- We use Stripe as our secure online payment processor.
- You may use any of several credit/debit cards to make your gift.
- You will receive an email receipt confirming your gift to the Conference Love Offering.
*Giving is a way for United Methodist Women to give expression to their faith.
Giving is a privilege – a gift of God's grace. ...from United Methodist Women in Mission*



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 – ZOOM

July 15-18 – Mission u – ZOOM

September 11-12 – Annual Celebration – ZOOM

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

October 23 – Leadership Development Day

District Events - 2021

June 26 – District Book Club – ZOOM – 9:30 A.M.

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

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