



Conference Gram

February 2022

Volume 71, Issue 1



Western North Carolina Conference

2022 Vision & Goals

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

- **Raise awareness about United Methodist Women New Wineskins**
- **Raise awareness and promote personal advocacy for our two United Methodist Women priority issues:** *Climate Justice and Criminalization of Communities of Color & Mass Incarceration*
- **Support, encourage, and build relationships with our local units and members, in living out the Purpose throughout the pandemic and beyond.**
- **Encourage local units to build relationships and support the United Methodist Women mission institutions in our conference:** *Alliance Center for Education Charlotte, Bethlehem Center Winston-Salem, Brooks-Howell Home, Bennett College, and Pfeiffer University*
- **Achieve our 2022 Conference Financial Goal:** Each unit will meet or exceed its pre-pandemic Mission Giving.
- **Continue to put faith, hope, and love into action as we live out our Purpose as United Methodist Women in Mission!**

Sincerely,

Your WNCC UMW Team

2022 WNCC UMW Officers	
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"You Philippians indeed know that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone." (Phil. 4:15, NRSV)

Paul commended the Philippians for reviving their concern for him...Paul also acknowledged to the Philippians he knew they not only always cared for him, but that they gave when no one else gave.

Is that not the truest description of United Methodist Women that can be given?

In times of plenty and in times of need, United Methodist Women continues to care and to give. Did United Methodist Women foremothers take a break during the Great Depression? No! Women took the opportunity to educate everyone in the church—especially youth and children—on human need and responding in mission through Jesus Christ. Did the United Methodist Women take a hiatus during the great wars of the twentieth century when coupons were needed just to obtain food and fuel? No! Did United Methodist Women take a break when tensions were high in the church over issues that threatened to break us apart? No! United Methodist Women continues to care and to give in times of plenty and in times of need. This is our legacy...Let us continue to care and to give so that this legacy of mission goes on and on for women today and women tomorrow.

(Excerpted from "[A Legacy of Giving: A Bible Reflection](#)" by Carol Van Gorp, part of the [Legacy Fund Toolkit](#).)



WNCC United Methodist Women 2021 Giving News

While you might expect a treasurer's report to give just the numbers, that is not the case with UMW giving...it tells far more than that. Behind the numbers lie **the resolve, the commitment, the resourcefulness, and the passion for Mission** you United Methodist Women members lived out in 2021. Numbers alone tell of the continued monetary investments in Mission Giving dollars you continued to make throughout the year. But numbers alone do not speak of your **energy, perseverance, and willingness** to go above and beyond to create the opportunities that allowed these investments to be made. Learning new ways to communicate and developing other online skills (often requiring you to move out of your personal comfort zones) were not easy...but **you did it...and it mattered!**

During 2021 you made the following happen:

Total Giving through the 8 Districts from Local Units

\$554,280

Giving that happened despite few (and for many – no) in-person gatherings. You gave by mail, online, or other ways to forward your funds to your District Treasurers.
You were **RESOURCEFUL** in your passion for Mission.

Love Offerings

(Spiritual Growth Retreat, Mission u, Annual Celebration Love Offerings)

\$14,339

All from virtual gatherings!
Once again, using many ways of forwarding your support for Mission

Because of YOUR Commitment and Passion
WNCC United Methodist Women was able to send

\$504,943

in Undesignated Mission Giving to the UMW National Office in 2021



Yes, we met our Pledge of \$500,000!



In addition, we sent:

Designated Giving to UMW National Office and GBGM/UMCOR

(includes Call to Prayer & Self Denial, General, National, International & UMCOR)

\$39,401

Donations to other local projects

\$6,400

Western NC Conference United Methodist Women members, despite the obstacles, YOU made this happen in 2021. Celebrate!

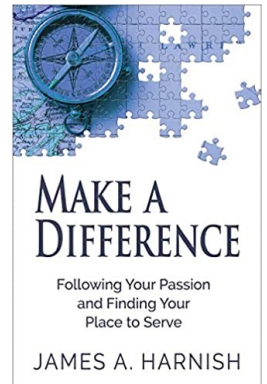
Peace,
Nancy Reigel, WNCC UMW Treasurer
nancy@reigelridge.com / 828-268-0637



On Kathy's Reading List...

Blessings to all. I hope you all are healthy and had a blessed holiday season. I was sure blessed. I am now looking forward to starting a new year and reading some more books as part of the [United Methodist Women Reading Program](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram). For 2022, you may read books from the 2015 through 2022 reading lists (available at unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram).

I am reading "[Make A Difference—Following Your Passion and Finding Your Place to Serve](#)" by James A Harnish, an Education for Mission selection from the [2019 reading list](#). According to the Reading Program description, Harnish "helps you answer the questions 'How can I contribute to God's healing work in this world?'; and 'How can I find my place to serve and make a difference?' Drawing upon biblical wisdom and real stories of real people who have found their place to serve, he provides practical guidance to help every disciple make a difference as a participant in God's transformation of the world."



I hope and pray that we will be able to be together in person for our Conference and District events. Keep praying and believing for this.

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

WNCC UMW Scholarship Program



Know of a student attending or planning to attend one of the five United Methodist-supported colleges or universities in our conference? Check out the link below for more information about scholarships available from our Conference United Methodist Women. The deadline to submit applications is **March 1**. Interviews will be conducted on Saturday, March 26.

YOU can support our scholarship program by:

- Referring students.
- Praying for our students and conference institutions.
- Contributing to the general scholarship fund as an individual, circle, unit, or district.

Jatana Royster, WNCC UMW Scholarship Chairperson
jatanaroyster@gmail.com / 704-451-3816

wnccumw.org/scholarship-program/



Greetings from our new President

I am a Midwesterner, born and raised in Nebraska. My mother was a lifelong member of United Methodist Women serving in various offices in her local unit and as District Treasurer. She encouraged me to be a member, but it wasn't the right time. My husband was a civil engineer, we were raising four sons, and I was a teacher. His career meant frequent moves, and in total we have lived in 16 different states.

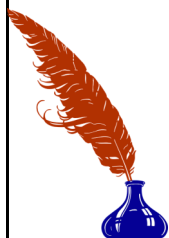


When I did become a member of United Methodist Women, I began to learn about mission work and the importance of supporting women, children and youth. I urged my unit not to use mission money for a new refrigerator for the church, but that suggestion was strongly resisted! Later we moved to North Carolina, and a wonderful mentor encouraged me to take a leadership role. She suggested to the District Nominating Committee that I could be a potential member of their committee. That was the beginning of an incredible journey in this unique organization with over 800,000 members all over the world. My experience tells me that reaching out to the local unit is one of the most important elements of our transforming organization. Being a Nurturing Partner is not only helpful to the unit we nurture but helps us carry on relationships that last a lifetime.

As your President I will listen to your concerns, your plans, your joys; and promote the wonderful heart of this unique organization called United Methodist Women. I believe that working together, supporting and encouraging one another, and seeing one another as Sisters in Christ is powerful!

Joanie Strohm, WNCC UMW President
ssjsmars@charter.net / 828-649-1156

From the Historian's Quill



From beginning to end life is a journey. Along the way we are blessed with people who guide us in our mission. As United Methodist Women, we are doubly blessed to have outstanding women from our past as well as the present who offer guideposts assisting in our mission to offer Faith, Hope and Love in Action. Mary Scranton certainly didn't think of herself as a trailblazer, but her vision and dedication for Korean women empowered women to live with dignity, a legacy that is evident in the leadership of Korean women worldwide. (You will learn more about Mary Scranton's legacy on page 6.)

We cannot all leave a legacy such as Mary Scranton's, but we can all at least hold the hand of a woman, child, or youth and pray their journey becomes an Amazing Adventure!

Journey on, Sisters.

LaDonna Butts, WNCC UMW Historian
ladonna.butts@windstream.net / 336-542-8077

Is 2022 your year to go digital? Benefits of receiving the Conference Gram by e-mail include:


- Fast delivery.
- Full color edition with hyperlinks to more information.
- More mission money for love in action—no postage required for digital copies.
- "Green" option—no trees used for digital copies.



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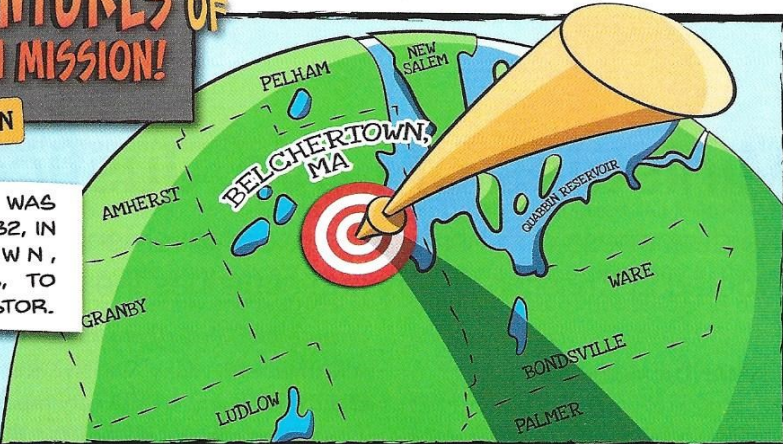
Illustrated by Chavah (HA-VA) Billin

THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF METHODIST WOMEN IN MISSION!




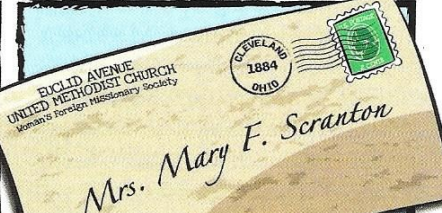
MARY SCRANTON

MARY SCRANTON WAS BORN DEC. 9, 1832, IN BELCHERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS, TO A METHODIST PASTOR.




AFTER HER HUSBAND DIED, SHE MOVED TO OHIO WHERE HER SON LIVED AND BECAME ACTIVE IN THE EUCLID AVENUE METHODIST CHURCH'S WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.



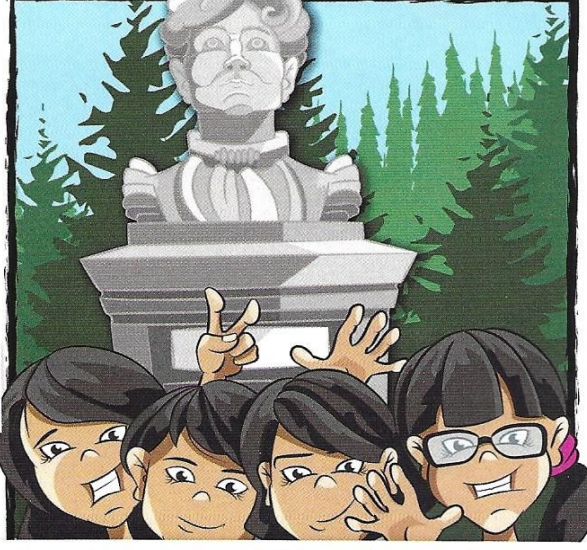


WHEN HER SON WAS APPOINTED TO A METHODIST MEDICAL MISSION IN KOREA IN 1884, THE WOMAN'S SOCIETY ASKED HER TO BECOME ITS FIRST FEMALE MISSIONARY IN KOREA.



THERE SHE ESTABLISHED KOREA'S FIRST SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, EWHA SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.



TODAY, EWHA UNIVERSITY, THE WORLD'S LARGEST WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, AND EWHA HIGH SCHOOL IN SOUTH KOREA ARE BOTH LEGACIES OF MARY'S WORK.



THE FRUIT OF HER MISSION SUPPORTS WOMEN ACROSS ASIA THROUGH THE WORK OF THE SCRANTON WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CENTER, A UNITED METHODIST WOMEN PARTNER IN SEOUL.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN CONTINUES THE LEGACY OF OUR FOREMOTHERS BY PUTTING FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE INTO ACTION FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN AND YOUTH AROUND THE WORLD. CELEBRATE OUR 150TH ANNIVERSARY AT ASSEMBLY 2018, UMWASSEMBLY.ORG, AND SUPPORT MISSION FOR ANOTHER 150 YEARS AND BEYOND WITH THE LEGACY FUND: WWW.UNITEDMETHODISTWOMEN.ORG/LEGACY.

(From the March 2018 issue of **response** magazine. Comic illustrated by Chavah Billin.)

Check out more comics at unitedmethodistwomen.org/responsecomic.

Western North Carolina United Methodist Women 2022 Conference Events

Spiritual Growth Retreat “Come to the Water”

June 9-11
Lake Junaluska



Mission u

“Who Can We Be Together?”

July 14-17
Pfeiffer University



Annual Celebration

“Turn It Up!”

September 9-11
Lake Junaluska



Ubuntu Days of Service

“I am because you are.”

October 1, 8, & 15
Across the Conference



**Western North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women**

Lisa Bacon
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



“Come to the Water”

WNCC UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat

June 9-11, 2022

Register online beginning in February.

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

(Be sure you ask for the UMW group rate.)

See you at the Lake!

Terrace Hotel (2 nights lodging, 5 meals, taxes included) **Per Person:**

Single \$369.00 Double \$229.00 Triple \$197.00 Quad \$166.00

Lambuth Inn Renovated (2 nights lodging, 5 meals, taxes included) **Per Person:**

Single \$346.00 Double \$217.00 Triple \$186.00 Quad \$170.00

Lambuth Inn Economy/Junaluska Apartments **Per Person Per Night**, taxes extra:

(No meals included but meals may be added):

Single \$90.00 Double \$45.00 Triple \$35.00 Quad \$30.00

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