



NEWSLETTE

A Newsletter of the ROANOKE DISTRICT
United Methodist Women—August 2021

A message from District UMW Vice President, Carolyn Barnes

On Sunday August 22 at 3:00 PM there will be an Open Executive Board meeting. All UMW unit leaders are invited. Come be a part of this time of planning and sharing. We were hoping this could be an in-person event, but the Board felt it should remain a zoom meeting. We thank the New Castle unit for agreeing to have us and hope all will be go for next year. Email RoanokeUMW@gmail.com for the zoom link and agenda.

Preparations for our UMW Day are going forward. We are planning for an in-person gathering on **Saturday October 9 at 8:30 AM**. It will be held at Northview UMC in Roanoke. Their wonderful United Methodist Men will be fixing their delicious breakfast for us. Rev. Marilyn Heckstall from St. Paul's UMC, Roanoke will be our speaker. We hope you all make an extra effort to be there to celebrate our first in-person get together in almost 2 years. Watch for registration information soon.

Keep safe: get your shots and mask-up! Blessings to all.



Send your UMW Unit Reports by September 10

READING PROGRAM FORMS TO :

Ramona Tolley
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Roanoke, VA 24019

monamax@aol.com

LIVING INTO OUR PURPOSE FORMS TO:

Karen Dinkins
2997 Winterberry Drive
Roanoke VA 24018

kdinkins0805@gmail.com

LIST OF DECEASED UMW MEMBERS FROM SEPTEMBER 2020 -AUGUST 2021 TO:

Phyllis Geoghegan
220 Slate Creek Drive
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Phyllisg9@verizon.net

Membership, Nurture and Outreach, Phyllis Geoghegan

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

Right now, therefore, every time we get the chance, let us work for the benefit of all, starting with the people closest to us in the community of faith. Galatians 6:10 (The Message)

Reported in our 2020 UMW Survey/Census our Roanoke District United Methodist Women now has 424 members. That's all that was reported. Some units chose not to respond. Our district membership seems to be declining and that's discouraging to many. Our conference membership seems to be declining and this is also discouraging.

Please refer to your May/June response magazine, page 5, for some uplifting, encouraging words for us from Harriett Jane Olson, our General Secretary of UMW, National level. "United Methodist Women, remember the power of the creative, supportive fellowship that characterizes our structure. It is strong, Believe it! Remember the power of the Gospel, the fact of God's love for you, for me, for every person we encounter and for the world. Believe it! Remember the call of God to do justice and love mercy, to care for the sick, the prisoner, the oppressed: and to stand for justice. Believe it! Remember the history of faith and action in which we stand—our foremothers crossed boundaries, innovated, raised funds, started over, started over again and persisted in spreading God's love—and so can we. Believe it!" Thanks be to God for Harriett's fearlessness and boldness!!

The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan, one of the books on our Reading Program for 2021-22, is about an African American man who never gave up on helping people and creating inventions to improve the lives of others. His motto was, "If a man puts something to block your way, the first time you go around it, the second time you go over it, and the third time you go through it." It is time we work through it together! No one is alone! We are in mission together!! God has called and we have answered! Praise God.

Mission Encounter Dean 2022, Phyllis Geoghegan

Thank you to those of you who attended Mission Encounter 2021. About 180 people across the conference were involved, many who would not been a participant had it been in person because of cost and travel. We had the largest Korean class we have ever had. We are very grateful to all our facilitators and ME Committee.

We hope next year more of our district UMW members and clergy, as well as more youth and children leaders can attend. Our study for 2022 is Luke 13--Transformative Biblical Curriculum for Adults, Youth and /Children. We hope to have an in person event or both in person and virtual. VA Conference UMW and VA Conference Missional Ministries/Serving work together to provide studies, worship and a community environment for our entire conference. Please be in prayer for our 2022 event and plan to attend. Blessings to all.



VAUMC UMW & SERVING MINISTRIES PRESENT

Mission Encounter

VIRTUAL GATHERING

STARTING JULY 1, 2021

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WWW.VAUMC.ORG/ME

The graphic features a globe in the background, a teal diagonal banner on the right, and the Virginia Conference UMW logo at the bottom left.

Social Action, Suzanne Bell

You may be aware of UMW's monthly Just Energy for All Strategy and Capacity Building sessions. These monthly meetings take place on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 3 pm Eastern Time. If you have not already registered for these sessions and are interested, please register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZYtcutpzljGtIsZee-DLtfPHwBwD1do0S5>. The next meeting is on August 18, at 3 pm.

In case you missed THE LINK, Conference newsletter, Jeanette Yob, Conference Social Action, wants us to become familiar with: Be Just. Be Green: 13 steps to Sustainability Tools. Explanation and list are under the Climate Justice tab of United Methodist Women.org. She, also, mentioned Plastic Free July, which can become every month of the year. We need to be aware that we can use paper cups and plates, reusable grocery bags, reusable water bottles, wooden clothespins (if you still use clothespins), glass bottles for juice and milk, and other items that may involve plastics. For more information on Zero Waste go to umcreationjustice.org.

A celebration for Social Action was the signing of the Sick Days Bill in June. This is a step toward all Virginians having the ability to have Paid Sick Days. This bill will help 30,000, home health care workers receive paid sick days. The fight continues to include other workers who at this time do not have this benefit.

Climate Justice is one of the UMW Priorities. Subscribe to Virginia Interfaith Power and Light, vaip.org to get the latest information. Remember our other Priority is Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline Campaign.

From Conference Spiritual Life Retreat: Peace I leave you. My Peace I give you. John 14:27



Be Just, Be Green

The Sunday Evening Fellowship UMW unit at Raleigh Court UMC invites all Roanoke District UMW to take a pledge with us to stop using plastic shopping bags and other single-use plastic items. [Through Just Energy For All](#), a UMW initiative, we understand that the burning of fossil fuels is a primary contributor to climate change. As conscientious stewards of God's creation, UMW members are probably already using reusable bags. However when we intentionally pledge to do so, then our efforts usually become more consistent.

We also encourage our congregations, friends, and family to take up this challenge. For more information about the pledge email Luci Wright from Raleigh Court UMC at lubruwright@gmail.com. For more about UMW Climate Justice contact Suzanne Bell, Roanoke District UMW Social Action Coordinator.



Education and Interpretation, Karen Dinkins

LIVING INTO OUR PURPOSE FORMS

This form is a tool to keep UMW units focused on the mission of UMW. The core of UMW is the calling of mission, and each step should lead us down this path. Seize this opportunity to make a difference in lives both near and far; in a clothes closet or backpack program, supporting a missionary, or wherever you are called. Updated Living Into Our Purpose forms can be found at: <https://www.vaumw.com/conference/education-interpretation> and are attached. Contact me if you have any questions. The deadline to submit these to me is **September 10**. Thank you.

Annual Conference 2021 Community Cans and Kits Collection Wrap-up



We celebrate the final tally of Annual Conference Community Kits and Cans Campaign in the Roanoke District and thank everyone you gave generously to it. 384 Hygiene Kits; 297 School Kits; \$224; and almost 4,000 pounds of food and paper products!

Donations of kits, food, and supplies were distributed to Kids Soar, the Rescue Mission of Roanoke, Giles County 512 Food Pantry, and First Pembroke UMC Back to School Ministry. Some churches chose to collect within their communities and we celebrate those as well. Let us continue to be in ministry with those organizations in our community that address food insecurity and the needs of children and youth.

Treasurer, Helen Watson

As I write this the New Year (2022) giving for five and six star units, Rainbow Giver etc. starts Sept. 1, 2021 and runs thru Aug. 31 2022. As units start meeting again hopefully as we get back to some kind of normal. I hope that each of you will make an effort to send in your contributions for the mission giving etc. To be a Six Star Unit you must give to Pledge to Missions, Special Mission Recognition. Gift to Missions, Gift in Memory, World Thank and Candle Burning. Thanks to the units who have accomplished this for Sept.1 2020 to Aug. 31 2021. It has been a difficult year and I know that many of your units have not been meeting. We do have 5 five star units and 2 six star units. We also have 5 Rainbow Givers. Rainbow Givers are individuals who wish to honor someone by giving Special Mission Recognition to someone who you think deserves to be recognized. As you do this it gives your unit credit for the five mission giving categories. Candle Burning is not included in this gift. These units will be recognized at the Annual Meeting of the VAUMW in October as well as our Annual Meeting and Prayer Breakfast in October. Please note that Special Mission Recognition is \$40 and must be that amount to get credit for the category. Some units have been sending in lesser amounts and designating it to be SMR. Sorry it must be \$40. We will be voting on the new budget for 2022 at the Annual Meeting in October and a copy of it is attached to this newsletter. The Executive Committee has made every effort to make this budget one that is attainable for the year 2022. Please remember that you need to send in your A&MD (Administration, Membership and Development) each year to fund the Budget for the District to operate on.

Thanks for all your efforts in these trying times.

Roanoke District United Methodist Women Proposed 2022 Budget

Conference and National Programs	2022
Conference Annual Meeting	\$175.00
Conference Spiritual Life Retreat	150.00
Mission Encounter	50.00
Conference Training for District Officers	-0-
Conference Prayer Breakfast	50.00
Scholarships for Conference Events	150.00
*National Assembly Meeting 2022, 2026, etc	100.00
*Southeastern Jurisdictional Meeting 2024, etc.	100.00
Total Conference & National Programs & Events	775.00
District Programs and Events	
Childcare for District Programs	50.00
District Spiritual Life Retreat	100.00
District Annual Meeting	75.00
District Prayer Breakfast	50.00
District Training for Local Officers	50.00
Church Women United	5.00
Total District Programs and Events	330.00
District Officers Expense	
Mileage	100.00
Postage	100.00
Printing	50.00
Bank Service Charges	25.00
Supplies	50.00
Miscellaneous	50.00
Total District Officers Expense	375.00
Administration	
District Directory (Printing)	150.00
Gifts to Mission (Cards and Postage)	50.00
Special Mission Recognition (Retiring Officers)	150.00
Newsette (Printing and Postage)	200.00
Gift in Memory	50.00
Reading Program (Promotion and Recognition)	75.00
Total Administration	675.00
Total Administration and Member Budget	2,155.00
Pledge to Mission Goal for 2022 \$30,000	

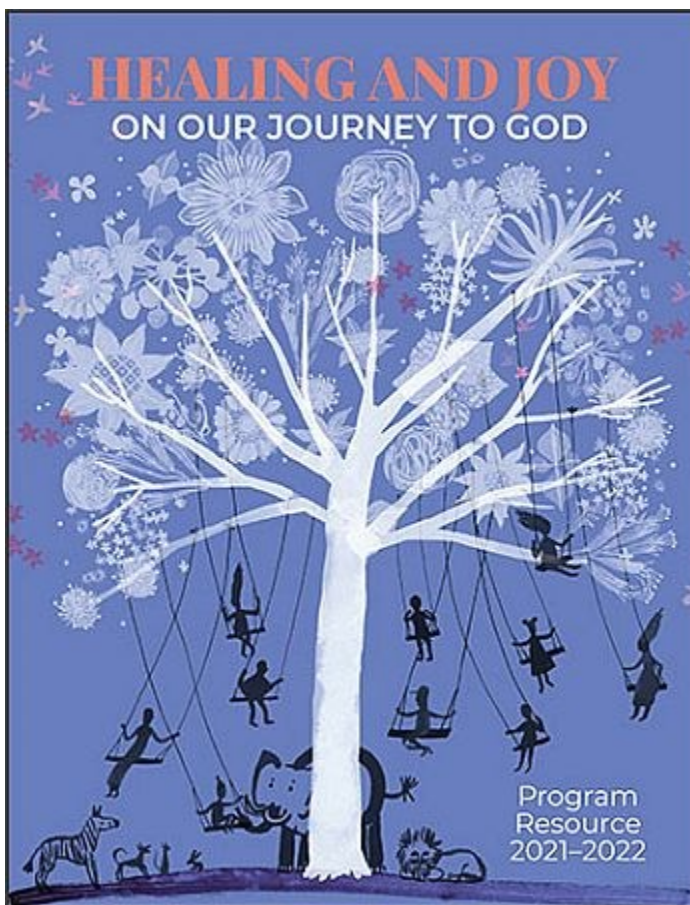
*Scholarships are available upon request for Conference and National Events from reserve account.

Reading Program, Ramona Tolley

Hello, Readers ! With a busy summer and hot weather slipping away, I hope you have enjoyed some of the books in our Reading Program. Fall is coming sooner than we might want, so now is the time to “finish up” our 2020-2021 Reading Program. The year ran from September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021. Please submit the books you have read to your unit’s Program Resource person who will in turn submit her Summary Report to me by September 10. The report form is available on our UMW website or I can mail you a form.

But wait, don’t stop reading ! As more new and interesting books are added to the Reading Program (many were added recently), make a note that on September 1, you will re-start your 2021-2022 reading ! You can find book titles and other information within the Reading Program section of: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram

The Reading Program is undergoing some changes at the National level and they have not yet decided when the 2015 books will be removed from the list (although earlier they were to drop off on December 31, 2020) so they still count. The 2021-2022 books will be on list until 2028.



The new Program Book for 2021-2022, “*Healing and Joy on Our Journey to God*” is available (but currently on backorder). The 2021-2022 Prayer Calendars are not yet available.

I also have FREE copies of our 2019-2020 program book, “*Let Your Light Shine – Ignited for Justice*”. Although they are older program books, they are still full of really good programs that can be used at any time. If you would like a copy, let me know – the copies are FREE -- and I will get it to you !

Questions – please feel free to e-mail or call me. I look forward to receiving your unit’s reports.

Be faithful, courageous and strong as we start our Fall of 2021 ! Happy Reading !

Some important UMW dates for 2021

Roanoke District

August 22: District Open Executive Team Meeting - 3:00 PM by Zoom

September 1: Deadline for Unit Treasurer to send report/funds to District Treasurer

September 10: Deadline for reporting to **Reading Program, Living Into Our Purpose** and **Deceased Members** to District team **(new deadline from VAUMW)**

October 9: District UMW Day– 8:30 AM at Northview UMC

November 15: Deadline to submit articles for quarterly District *Newsette*

December 5: Deadline for Unit Treasurer to send report/funds to District Treasurer

Virginia Conference

September 10-11: Conference UMW Young Women's Retreat via Zoom

October 23: Conference UMW Annual Meeting via Zoom

Questions regarding the calendar can be directed to: Carolyn Barnes, Roanoke District UMW, VP

Communications, Cindy Martin

An abundance of information is available :

National UMW news:

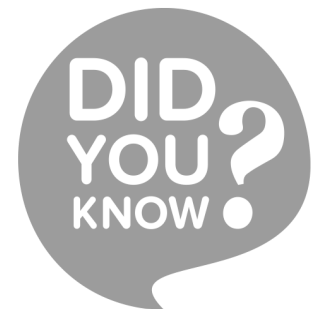
<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>

Virginia UMW news:

<https://www.vaumw.com/>

District UMW news:

<http://roanokeumc.org/page.php?pg=missions>



Your Roanoke District UMW Team 2021

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OPEN

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Nominations Committee

Sylvia Bishop (Asbury)
Louise Miller (Raleigh Court)
Connie Young (Cave Spring)



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.