

March 2009



GOOD NEWS!

MDUMW Newsletter

Dear Nicolette,

Remember, our cookbooks "A Continual Feast" always make good gift ideas. Whether the recipient is a young bride or college student with no experience, or someone who has been in the kitchen for years, there are recipes for everyone along the culinary path.



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Today's Meeting



... is hosted by the Mary Lee Marshall and Reading Circles.

Cynthia Harvey, Director of the Center for Missional Excellence, Texas Conference will be speaking about Missions of the UnitedMethodistChurch

Quick Links

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Child Care



CHILDCARE POLICY

This is just a reminder that there will be nursery care provided for the General Meetings, but all other UMW activities require advanced reservations through Debbie Moore at 713-827-0220. If you have questions or need to make a nursery request please contact Debbie.

President's Corner



I love pansies. I may even be a little sentimental about them. My mother planted them, my grandmother painted them and I am always on the lookout for them in spring gardens. They are cheerful and I think they have the ultimate "happy face". They also remind me of all your "happy faces", our UMW members, who are so willing to offer their time volunteering. You are all such cheerful givers of your time and talent.

Looking forward, we have many activities this spring. Right after our special UMW Sunday, we will move into the church wide OGDOS program. There are opportunities for everyone, and I hope you find your place. In March and April decisions will be made about our grants to be awarded at the May General Meeting. We have your recommendations, and are also deciding who will receive our Special Mission Recognition awards at the May meeting.

Our program at the April General Meeting will be presented by Suzanne Berman, Field coordinator for CARE. This promises to be a very interesting program.

"CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty. We place special focus on working alongside poor women because, equipped with the proper resources, women have the power to help whole families and entire communities escape poverty. Women are at the heart of CARE's community-based efforts to improve basic education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources. CARE also delivers emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, and helps people rebuild their lives."

Our Goal of Excellence study on Sunday, April 26th, will also be very interesting. Dr. Robert Pierce will be presenting the study on "Giving our Hearts Away, Native American Survival." He is a dynamic educator.

There is a lot ahead as we move to the end of our UMW year. I look forward to seeing each of you and hope it is often.

Linda

March Circle Meetings



Betty Landrum Circle is meeting on Tuesday, March 17th, at 9:30am, in the sanctuary. Keith Ross will be presenting the program giving some music basics, and an introduction to the church organ and how it works.

Bible Circle will meet on Wednesday, March 11th, from 1:00-2:30pm in room D126. The book we are studying is "Lost Women of the Bible" and we have copies for purchase for \$10.00 each. If you are interested in joining or visiting this circle, call Jane Erskine at 281-556-8122 or Joan Garofalo at 281-531-6594.

Changing Lives will have their meeting one week early, on **Tuesday, March 10th**, due to spring break. We meet at **The House of Amos**, 8030 Boone Road (between Bellaire and Beechnut), to help unload the Food Bank truck at 10 AM. For anyone who would like to carpool, we will meet in the east parking lot at MDUMC at 9:30 AM.

Common Thread Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday, March 17th, in room D220 at 9:30am. Work will continue on handmade items for the area hospitals. This month our count is 3154 items donated by the circle to seven hospitals. If anyone is interested in volunteer work and would like to work with our circle on projects their help will be greatly appreciated. We have machine sewing, hand sewing, knitting, crocheting, and stuffing pillows, everyone is welcome.

Edith Moore Circle will meet Tuesday, March 17th, at 9:30am at the home of Doris Underwood, 13823 Swiss Hill (Briarhills), Phone No. 281-496-0234. Our program will be "Egypt's Many Mansions", presented by Maggie Parker.

Lucy Collins Circle will meet Tuesday, March 17th, at 9:30am in the home of Kathryn Cox, 14711 Barryknoll, #39, (London Townhomes), Phone No. 281-497-1749. Trish Brice will be presenting a program on her trip to Israel in Feb. 2008 with Chuck.

Mary Lee Marshall Circle will meet on Monday, March 16th, at MDUMC, at 6:30pm in room D220. Judy McFarland will present an overview of the UMW Reading Program and review one of the books: Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson

Music Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 17th, at 9:30am, at the home of Jane Fieldcamp, 419 W. Gaywood. Come and get to know our Director of Children's Music Ministry. Faith Hebard also teaches elementary school in Spring Branch, and is the Director of the Spring Branch Boys' Choir. She will tell us some personal stories of her life as a music educator.

Reading Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 17th, at the Connection Center. We gather at 9:30AM to visit and have refreshments with the meeting at 10:00 AM. Shirley Felcman will review the book "The True Story of Hansel and Gretel" by Louise Murphy, a story of Germany and WWII. For further information call Phyllis Buchanan (281)497-4336.

Circle Changes for next year.



This is the time for you to decide which circle you would like to be in next year. We need to receive all the requests by March, so that we can get the circles organized for their first meeting in May.

We have the Rotating Circles and the Permanent Circles. I need each one of you to contact your Circle Leader and let them know which type of circle you are interested in.

Also, would you prefer only to meet at the church for your meetings? Do you need to be with another member for car pooling purposes? The more information I have, the better the results will be.

If you have any questions please contact Debbie Moore at 713-827-0220 or MooreTexas@aol.com.

Help Give a Grant



UMW members are invited to a meeting of the Finance Committee on Monday, March 9 at 7:00 PM at the church, in room D217. At this meeting the initial grant nominees will be identified. Bring your ideas and/or help the committee begin the selection process of our grant recipients.

These grants are focused on meeting needs and programs for women and children. The grants will be given out at the May 5th General Meeting.

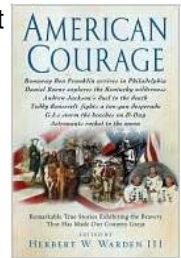
For more information, call Susan Dunten 281-497-9150.

Holly Hall Book Review

The last book review for this year will be on March 25th at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, at 10:30 AM. The cost is \$10.00 at the door.

Colleen Boudreaux will review "American Courage: Remarkable True Stories Exhibiting the Bravery That Has Made Our Country Great" by Herbert Warden III.

Contact Joan Garofolo if you are interested at: jegarofalo@sbcglobal.net



Dates to Remember

March 1 - UMW Communion Sunday - UMW Members Serving and Greeting.

March 2 - UM Missionary @ St. Peter's UMC, Katy. at 7:00 PM

March 6 - World Day of Prayer, Church Women United

March 6 - 8 - Texas Conference Spring Celebration, Lakeview.

April 7 - General Meeting

April 26 - Goal of Excellence Study - Social Action - Dr. Robert Pierce, "Giving our Hearts Away, Native American Survival."

May 5 - General Meeting, Installation of Officers



Mission Stitches



If you need a quick gift - why not stop by The Connection Center. Mission Stitches has a cabinet full of perfect gifts. Barbara Leflar will be glad to help you purchase one.

Anyone interested in sewing of any kind is invited to join this happy bunch of stitchers every Thursday in The Connection Center. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. Come and learn how to make scrubbies!

Donations of fabric and sewing notions are accepted at The Connection Center. A tax donation form will be sent to you with a thank you note.

Goal of Excellence Study



Giving Our Hearts Away, Native American Survival - This fascinating study, led by Bob Pierce is presented from the Native American point of view, to help understand and appreciate the culture. Sponsored by UMW, this event will be held on Sunday, April 26, from 2-5 p.m. in the ConnectionCenter. Reservations are appreciated by calling Jane Erskine at 281-556-8122, or Lynet Dunn.