

April 2010



GOOD NEWS!

UMW Newsletter

Dear Nicolette,

In This Issue

Program - April 6th



Our Hearts and Hands grant recipients will be introduced, to us at this meeting, and each will have an opportunity to tell us about the work of their organizations.

The grant recipients are:

The Fair Haven Food Pantry - \$6,000

The House of Amos - \$6,000

The Mission of Yahweh - \$5,000

The Neuhaus Education Center - \$2,000

and

a contribution of \$1,000 has been made to the United Methodist Committee on Global Relief for the Sudan Undesignated Advance Special #3020980

Lunch will be served after the meeting. Our hostesses are the Edith Moore and Women of Spirit Circles.

Program - April 6th

Santa Maria Needs

Circle News 2010 - 2011

Food and Faith - Goal of Excellence Study

Cookbooks

President's Corner

Southwest District UMW Spring Celebration

Taste of Spring Branch

Holly Hall Spring Bazaar

Child Care

A Message from the Treasurer

Reading Program

Keep in Touch with Old Friends

Mission Stitches

April Circle Meetings

Dates to Remember

Santa Maria



Santa Maria is in need of some items for Mother's Day activities. They would like 130 small gift bags (with handles) appropriate for women. If you would like to donate some bags bring them to the April General Meeting as well as to your circle meetings. Hopefully we can collect the needed bags.

Other items they need are baby items:

Receiving Blankets

Baby Blankets

Clothing

Diapers

Burp Cloths

Baby bottles, etc.

I will take these items at any time. Thank you all so much for all you have done this year for Santa Maria Hostel.

--

Blessings

Becky Finch

Circle News 2010-2011



Would you be interested in joining a circle where each monthly meeting would be a hands on mission project? One month we could help at the House of Amos, one month join with the Common Thread Circle, one month help at Saint Maria and so on. If you would like to join other ladies interested in monthly mission work let Debbie Moore know at

MooreTexas@aol.com.

Food and Faith - Spiritual Growth Goal of Excellence Study



The Study will be on Tuesday, April 13th from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M., lunch included, in room D220.

This study is an invitation to explore our relationship with God through our relationship with the food that we eat . Author Wendy Whiteside writes: "Food is the basis of our physical lives, just as

our relationship with God is the basis our our spiritual life." This study calls us to eat-- spiritually and physically-- and to reflect on how food strengthens our physical lives.

The Goals of the study are to:

Reflect on our myriad experiences with food, especially in the context of our church life and faith journey.

Review Biblical scriptures which focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sharing food.

Renew our focus on the role of hospitality and sharing our food with each other in our faith walk.

Remind ourselves to be thankful for our food by talking about table graces or "saying the blessing".

Rivitalize our commitment to living healthy lives through what we eat and through our fellowship iwth one another

We hope everyone will come and enjoy our hospitality!

Cookbooks



Cookbooks will be available three times in the next couple of months wrapped for your spring time giving. Look for them 4/6 and 5/4 at the April and May General Meetings and also 4/13 at our Goal of Excellent Study entitled "Food and Faith". They will make wonderful gifts for bridal showers, weddings, graduations, Mother's Day and any other occasions for gift giving.

President's Corner



BRRRRR!!!! Can I possibly be starting three notes over the past three months in Houston, Texas with BRRRRRR!! It is April and the azaleas are barely peeking out. The pollen is here whether we are

ready or not, and I hope you are able to dodge all the side effects. April is a busy month for us in UMW, so lets spring into action. At our General Meeting we will have the opportunity to hear from the organizations that will receive grants from our Hearts and Hands fundraising efforts. All of our hard work will come to life, so you will not want to miss the presentations.

The second Tuesday of the month, April 13th, we have our Spiritual Growth Goal of Excellence Study entitled, Food and Faith. Trish Brice will be leading this interesting study that calls us to eat - spiritually and physically.

Our Hearts and Hands Chairman, Joan Garofalo, Peggy Stilwell Smith, and Nicolette Morrison, are well underway with the planning for the 2010 Holiday Market. It is October 25,26, and 27th.

The Nominating Committee has compiled an outstanding slate of officers for the 2010-11 year. They will be installed at the May 4th General Meeting.

There is lots of excitement in our UMW world. I think I feel it warming up!!

Take care and many blessings,
Debbie Moore
President

Southwest District UMW Spring Celebration



WHEN: Saturday, April 10, 2010
WHERE: First United Methodist Church
Sugar Land
431 Eldridge Rd.

8:30 - 9:30 Registration/Hospitality
9:30 - 10:30 Open/Welcome

10:30 - 11:30 Program "Passionate Worship: The Beginning of Service"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Andy Andrews

11:30 - 12:30 Lunch

12:30 - 1:30 Closing with Communion

LUNCH: Cost - \$7.00.

Please RSVP Cindy Scott (281-491-4887 281-491-4887 ; cindyfreedomx@yahoo.com) for reservations. She must have an accurate count so that everyone will have lunch.

There will be Door Prizes

Taste of Spring Branch



Did you know that Spring Branch boasts one of the most diverse selections of restaurants in the city? Now you can sample that delicious variety and support MAM at the same times. On **April 25 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm** please join us as we throw a spring festival to tempt the senses during our first ever **Taste of Spring Branch** events. Area restaurants will offer tasty treats along with beer and wine all under a big tent in front of the MAM building. Tickets are \$25 the day of the event, and \$20 in advance at the store or on the website at www.helpherehelpnow.org

Holly Hall Spring Bazaar

BACK BECAUSE YOU ASKED!
40-Years of Tradition



Holly Hall Spring Bazaar

Friday
April 16
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday
April 17
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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 Karen Ward. If you have questions or need to make a nursery request please contact Karen at 713-789-1886 713-789-1886 .

A Message from the Treasurer



To all UMW members and Members at Large:
One last reminder from the treasurer! All pledges to be credited for the 2009-2010 year are due by the end of April. Circle treasurers should turn their packets with all circle financial records in to Melissa Evans after their April circle meeting.

Thanks for your help this year!

Reading Program



All of our 2010 selections are now on the shelves and ready for check-out.

Our last book, *Play With Me: Two Friends on a Spiritual Journey with Kids*, by Sally Mille, a freelance writer and conference speaker, and Cheri Mueller, a freelance writer, speaker, and teacher, is a story of their friendship and their unique, God-touched take on raising kids.

Cheri celebrates creativity and lives in the moment. Sally embraces family traditions and loves the seasons. Godparents to each others' children, these long-time friends have shared nursing nightmares, potty-training victories, and weekend adventures together.

Whether playing hopscotch or Hot Wheels, Cheri and Sally find joy in following the circuitous paths of wonder and wildness, silliness and surrender forged by their children. As they journey through life with kids, they've found that hanging out in the park, building snowmen, chewing on sweet green blades of grass-and even dealing with the doldrums of dirty diapers and double ear infections---can connect women to God and each other in deeply spiritual ways.

This book will inspire moms (or grandmoms) of any age to discover the Divine in the day-to-day. Through personal narrative, journal entries, poems, and recipes they share how a little imagination, a curious spirit, and the gift of simplicity can grow one's faith by leaps and bounds.

One of our more popular 2010 selections is *The Undertaker's Wife: Wisdom and Musings: Life in a Small Town Funeral Home*, by Celia M. Hastings. No one will forget the people who pass through the home of *The Undertaker's Wife*. With warmth and humor, this initially reluctant undertaker's wife chronicles her journey from farmer's daughter to obtaining an advanced theological degree and becoming an organist in the small-town home she shares with her husband.

These are just two of the selections available in our church library. Drop by our shelf in the MDUMC Library and see what else is available. It only takes four books to qualify for our first level of the program. Information brochures are available in our Reading Program notebook, also located in the Library. Join our program today.

For further information on our Reading Program, contact Helen Williams at hwilliams1117@gmail.com.

Keep in Touch with Old Friends



Some of our old friends have moved away. They are missing us, please take the time to drop them a line.

Venita Fons is in Calififornia now. Her address is:

Eskaton Valley Roseville,
1650 Eskaton Loop,
Roseville CA 95747

Elizabeth Lay: Oasis Hospice Care
11919 W. Airport #275
Stafford TX 77477

Debie Richardson: c/o David Richardson
8718 Andante Drive
Houston TX 77040

Mission Stitches



Mission Stitches would like to invite anyone interested in stitching to join their group on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in The Connection Center. All projects that are created are sold to raise money for missions.

April Circle Meetings



-

Betty Landrum Circle is meeting on Tuesday, April 20th, at 9:30am, at the home of Mary Ann Pete, 10019 Park Trail, 77024

Bible Circle will meet on Wednesday, April 14th, from 1:00-2:30pm in room D126. We will finish our study of "Becoming a Woman of Faith" with Carol Frazer leading us through Chapter 7.

Changing Lives will meet on Wednesday, April 21st, at 9am, at the home of Carol Meyer in Katy for a demo and brunch. Carol's new ministry is teaching "gyrotonics". If you would like to join us, contact Judy Arnold. We will be carpooling from the church at 8:30am.

GYROTONICS is an exercise program and integrative rehabilitation program that strengthens and stretches at the same time. It repairs connective tissue, reverses osteoporosis, arthritis, and symptoms of fibromyalgia. It also stimulates the nervous system. It is an amazing patented exercise program that benefits any age group, from youth to seniors and is used in many senior care centers across the country.

Common Thread Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday, April 20th, in room D220 at 9:30am. We will be meeting every third Tuesday all summer, so mark your calendars now and plan to join us in stuffing colorful heart shaped pillows for patients in Houston area hospitals.

Edith Moore Circle will meet at the church on Tuesday, April 20th, in Room D127 at 9:30am. Lynet Dunn will be presenting the program.

Mary Lee Marshall Circle Our **April 19th** meeting date and time will conflict with the Harry Rankin Faith and Fellowship series. MLM members will attend this program instead of having a regular circle meeting. Dr. John C. Holbert will talk from 7 to 8:30pm on "In Him All Things Hold Together: God's Creation in the New Testament ". Refreshments and registration are in Friendship court at 6:30pm.

Music Circle

will meet on Tuesday, April 20th, at 9:30am, in room D126. Carol Meyer will present a program on Liturgical Dancing.

Reading Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 20th, at the Connection Center. We gather at 9:30am to visit and have refreshments. The meeting is at 10:00am, a lively discussion on "PEOPLE OF THE BOOK" will be led by Georgiana Zustovich. Hostesses will be Becky Finch and the Jones duo.

Women of Spirit will attend the Goals of Excellence Study - Food and Faith, on April 13th, which coincides with their regular meeting time. This study starts at 9am in room D220.

Dates to Remember

- April 9 Church Women United, 9:30 am
at Bethany Christian Church,
3223 Westheimer Road, 77098
A Special Event Featuring Gregory J. Ruhe,
Puppet Pizzazz;
Donation \$15
Program begins at 10:30.
- April 10 SW District UMW - Spring Celebration
- April 13 Goals of Excellence Study - Spiritual Growth -
Food and Faith
9 AM in Room D220
- April 16 Holly Hall Spring Bazaar
- 17 9 AM - 4 PM
- April 25 Taste of Spring Branch at MAM - 4:00 - 6:00 PM
- April 27 Executive Board Meeting
- May 4 General Meeting:
Officer Installation,
Presentation of Special Mission Recognition Pins,
Lunch will be served.