

# THE Link



United Methodist Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

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; TO EXPAND CONCEPTS OF MISSION THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH.

VA CONFERENCE UMW NEWSLETTER *THE LINK*

November 2020

2020

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## PURPOSE

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.

## It Was the Worst of Times

- Death
- Anxiety
- Isolation
- Loneliness
- Health Issues
- Layoffs and closings
- Unable to visit family in nursing homes
- No hugs
- No travel
- Not being safe to fly to visit with family that are far away
- Organizers all had to drastically change plans that may have been in the making for years
- Missing my cruise to Alaska, this has been on my bucket list forever
- Having to wear masks
- Closing churches, some for good
- Having to learn new technology
- Children and grandchildren missing out on their education and socializing
- Waiting for food deliveries
- Where to find toilet paper
- Complexity of COVID 19 Pandemic - We are experiencing a health crisis that is extremely complex and becoming increasingly overwhelming with the staggering number of lives lost, politics and disunity, racial disparities, and detrimental impact on the present and future social, emotional and well-being of U.S. citizens.

## It Was the Best of Times

- Hitting Pause
- Communicating with family members more often and in a new way
- Reflecting on things we are grateful for
- Responding to the needs of others with masks, food drives, and community missions
- Learning new things
- Cleaning out our houses
- Becoming closer to neighbors — we know so much more about each other and we are there for each other
- Many trips to our lake house — one of my happy places
- Going for training before life shutdown
- Getting to use new technology
- No travel
- Being safe at home
- Doctor visits from home
- Church from home or drive up
- Having my daughter and her family (including 3 of our 6 grandkids) living nearby for the first time in her married life
- There were many milestone anniversaries in 2020: 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, 75 years since the forming of the United Nations, 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWII, 100 years since the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment passed, and many others locally and beyond.
- Heightened sensitivity and advocacy opportunities to issues surrounding social justice
- Positive Steps Toward Acknowledging Racism - People in the United Methodist Church, responding to the incidences of racial violence occurring this year, are now talking about race, entering into uncomfortable and challenging conversations about their perceptions of known or unknown racism.



**President**

Mary Jane Rawley

Hello Virginia Conference UMW,

Annual Meeting for the Conference UMW is over which means my time as your President is going to end very shortly. I have been reflecting the last few weeks which is probably normal for someone like me who has been in leadership for the length of time I have been. About twelve years ago, Nan Pointer, the Chair of the Committee on Nominations, sought me out during a break during the Virginia Conference UMW Spring Board Meeting in Harrisonburg at Otterbein UMC and asked me to be the Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Conference UMW. I was currently in my fourth year as Harrisonburg District UMW President. Nan told me later she never saw anyone’s eyes get so big at her question whether I would take the position. I said yes, I would do that and as they say the rest is history.

My journey on the Conference UMW has been one of the best experiences of my life. My sisters in UMW have journeyed with me through four years as Spiritual Growth Coordinator, four years as Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator, and four years as the Conference UMW President. Boy, have we had some fun along the way! Many trips to Leadership Training, many, many trips to Blackstone, and the Conference Center in Glen Allen, and van and plane trips to Assembly and SEJ meetings plus travels around the conference speaking at District Meetings and Days Apart. Travel to our events with a van full of props to do skits and worship centers. The list can go on and on. There were lots of late nights sharing with roommates and getting up early to get the day started. Many phone calls and emails over the years and as of late Zoom meetings - our new “norm”. The friendships made over the years are too numerous to count. I have served under some wonderful UMW Presidents – Carol Gaston, Betty Whitehurst, Libby Hinton, and Joyce Winston. I admire these ladies so much and now I will join this distinguished group of “Past Presidents” shortly. I am humbled as I hold them all in such high esteem.

I have also served with some dedicated women on the Executive Committee and I thank each of you for your love and support.

My journey has also included some sad times. My sisters in UMW have also journeyed with me through the times of sadness as I have lost a father, mother, step-

mother, father-in-law, sister, and brother-in-law in the last eight years. I have felt your prayers during the trials when I was seriously ill with sepsis a year and a half ago and my now one-year old twin grandsons had viral meningitis when they were a week old. You prayed us through these times, and I will be forever grateful.

My journey has included complete trust in our Lord, Jesus Christ. Life can be uncertain and fearful at times. We cannot see around the next bend, but our all-knowing, infinite God can. We can trust Him, not our own limited vision to direct our journey. I thank you all for allowing me to be part of your service to United Methodist Women. May our journey continue as we go forward in the years ahead.

Much love to you all!  
Blessings,  
Mary Jane Rawley, President



One of my granddaughters who often has butterflies land on her.



**Vice-  
President**

Nancy Walsh



**Secretary**

Dottie Thompson

### Thank You

You are important. You make United Methodist Women successful. Your support makes our mission to women, children and youth possible. Your prayers sustain us. Your willingness to embrace new information, to learn, enriches us.

Serving as Vice President for your Virginia Conference United Methodist Women has been a gift. I am so grateful to serve you.

To the many of you who attended the Annual Meeting by Zoom, supporting with your attendance is most appreciated. It was exciting, warm and affirming. Having heard no negatives, the celebration of you was successful. Again, thank you.

\*\*\*

With upcoming holidays, you are wished happiness and merriment, and you are wished well – please be smart.

*Nancy D Walsh*



Greetings Sisters in Christ,

This is the Day that the Lord has made... Let us REJOICE and be glad in it!! I have so enjoyed the experience with VA Conference UMW and all the great things that are happening even in these trying times.

I will be completing the Annual Report and then turn over the Secretary position to Frances Ellis but I definitely will be staying involved in the awesome work of the United Methodist Women... helping women, youth, and children, whether it be local, district, or conference, staying involved in doing God's work in our lives.

Please be reminded to get all the updated district information to me as soon as possible for the Annual Report to be accurate and complete!

GOD Bless and HAPPY Thanksgiving!!

Dottie Thompson

Datgirl1019@gmail.com

### Giving Opportunities

#### World Thank Offering

Consider how our gratitude to God can knit us together in community to share grace in the world through our World Thank Offering. What are you grateful for?

#### Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday 2020 is Dec. 1. Remember United Methodist Women on Giving Tuesday and put faith, hope and love into action for women, children and youth.

Gratitude means “the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.”

“Thankfulness is the beginning of gratitude. Gratitude is the completion of thankfulness. Thankfulness may consist merely of words. Gratitude is shown in acts.”–

**Henri Fredric Amiel**



**Treasurer**

Linda Borrer

**SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS** to all the **SIXTEEN** Districts/units who reported their achievements for the reporting period of September 1, 2019 through August 31, 2020.

The amount for Candle Burning was \$29,018.85 allowing the candle to burn for 13 hours and 45 minutes for missions, which was lit by Nancy Walsh at our Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 24, 2020. This year there were 171 rainbow givers, 20 more than last year. Give yourselves praise for that. In case you were unable to join us by zoom for the Annual Meeting, below is a list of those Districts which were recognized at the meeting.

**Candle Burning**

3<sup>rd</sup> place – James River

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Alexandria

1<sup>st</sup> place – York River

**5 & 6 Star:**

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Harrisonburg & Staunton

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Farmville

1<sup>st</sup> place – Rappahannock River

**Rainbow Givers:**

3<sup>rd</sup> place – Rappahannock River & Staunton (16)

2<sup>nd</sup> place – Winchester & York River (19)

1<sup>st</sup> place – Roanoke (22)

The Conference approved \$500,000 as the pledge for Mission Giving in 2021. Even in these difficult times, this amount should be attainable.

Scholarships were awarded to the following recipients:

**Katherine Kyle Memorial Fund**

Mykela Scott - \$400 – tuition

Evelyn Penn - \$400 – tuition

Renyatta Banks - \$400 – tuition

**Carroll Palmer Estate Fund**

Wesley Community Service Center - \$1000

The Children’s Clothes Closet - \$1000

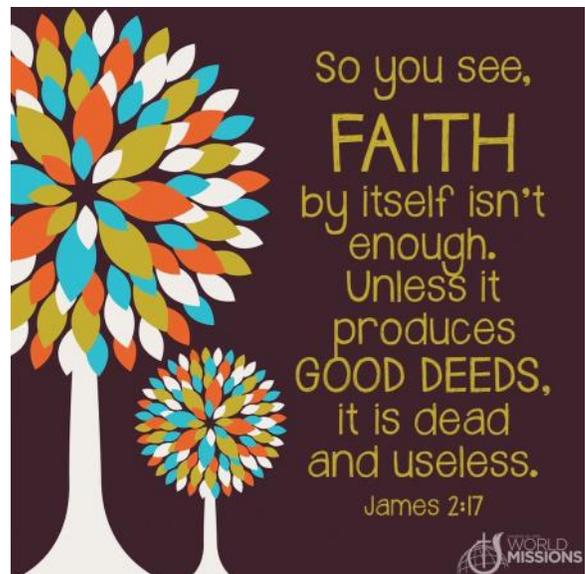
The Learning Garden Preschool and Daycare - \$5000

A special thanks to those District Treasurers who will be leaving us this year – Martha Lee of Alexandria and Karen Lee of Roanoke. Your job was not an easy one and it really is a full time position, but you persevered and came through like a true United Methodist Woman.

I wish each of you a Blessed and peaceful Thanksgiving and Christmas and hopefully a much better New Year. Finally, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about the work of the Conference and your work as District Treasurer. My phone is 540-664-5912 and email [linda.borrer1@gmail.com](mailto:linda.borrer1@gmail.com)

Faith. If it is alone and includes no action, then it is dead.” James 2:17

Blessings,  
Linda





## Nominations

Karen Bragg

### Committee on Nominations Report

Well, here it is the end of the 2020 UMW meetings and the beginning of 2021 to do's! We have existed through a rough time and are anxious to see a better upcoming year where we hopefully can meet in person, share our thoughts and accomplishments, give and get hugs, and just be UMW members. The Committee on Nominations feels that we have a wonderful Mission Team to bring a good 2021-22. Then what happens after that?? In asking folks to participate, I have found that some districts cannot fill their teams, so what happens when we are trying to recruit ladies from districts?

When my district President was looking for a new treasurer and asked the lady that I was sitting with at VA Annual Conference if she knew anyone who she could ask, the lady turned to point at me and said "sure, Karen can do the job". Soon after I received a form to confirm that I was willing to take the nomination. I felt very honored to be part of the District team. As the years went, I became district president, and now UMW Conference Nominations Chair. I have been fortunate to be part of full teams, no one needing to work several positions to keep everything running smoothly, so I AM UPSET THAT this is happening.

I would like to have your thoughts on what we can do to bring in new members. Should we survey churches to find the interest points that excite the younger members? Should we have rallies or song fests to get some interest? What work can be done on-line to bring in the ladies who find this social interaction the way of the future? We want the new teams to feel once again honored to be part of the UMW leadership.

If you haven't seen the listing of the Mission Team - I am very happy to present the 2021-2022 Virginia Conference United Methodist Women slate of officers. The CON - Committee on Nominations has worked very hard to bring a team that covers all of Virginia, both in districts and in diversity. The goal to include all districts is not complete, but we are much closer this year.

Karen Bragg, Chair  
Committee on Nominations  
[braggk17@gmail.com](mailto:braggk17@gmail.com)  
434-548-3574

### Officers for 2021-2022

President - Nancy Walsh  
Vice President - Melissa White  
Secretary - Frances Ellis  
Treasurer - Linda Borrer

#### Area Chairs:

Spiritual Growth - Mary Jeffries  
Social Action - Jeannette Yoh  
Membership Nurture & Outreach - Marlene Dakita  
Program Resources - Marilyn Blagg  
Communications - Sarah Park  
Nominations Committee Members:  
Debbie McDaniels, Julia Meade Gallier, Libby Keyser, Mary Jane Rawley

Brenda NeSmith, E&I, and Karen Bragg, CON were elected for 2020-21 in the previous year.





## Mission Education & Interpretation

Brenda NeSmith

*Hello Virginia Conference UMW Sisters, and Happy Thanksgiving!*

At our Annual Meeting, it was a privilege to have in attendance four Board of Global Ministries Missionaries with whom the Virginia Conference is in partnership: Emily Everett, Umba Kalangwa, Ngoy Kalangwa and Clara Biswas. I have invited them to communicate with us by way of this newsletter. A letter by Emily Everett is on this page, and on the following page, you will find a summary from the messages of the others. Please go to our website, <https://www.vaumw.com/conference/education-interpretation/> where you will find complete downloadable information that Umba and Ngoy Kalangwa and Clara Biswas sent to us. They have indicated that they can send you newsletters or visit your UMW by Zoom.

Brenda NeSmith, Conference Coord. Education & Interpretation

Project  
Shade  
and Fresh  
Water

**MESSAGE FROM EMILY EVERETT, BRAZIL**

*The mission of the Shade and Fresh Water Project is to create a network of support and protection for vulnerable children and youth*

in Brazil. Today we represent over 50 projects working in Methodist churches all over the country. I have had the privilege of serving as a Global Missionary with the Shade and Fresh Water Project since the beginning of 2018, working to connect the story of what God is doing here in Brazil to our international churches and partners. One of the things we often say in our local projects is that we want to call to mind that which brings us hope, so I would like to share with you where I see hope in Shade and Fresh Water.

*Hope* in the lives of children being transformed and when a child experiences the love of God inside the project. *Hope* when children learn to use their voices, a future generation of leadership begins to form. *Hope* when our kids have opportunities to

learn things inside the project that I know they probably wouldn't have otherwise. My favorite day is Wednesday when we have music class. You can hear the kids walking to the project, practicing their recorders and filling the streets with music. *Hope* this year in our local projects responding to COVID. We haven't had in person activities since March, but all of our projects have continued to make sure that their kids are taken care of- delivering food and hygiene supplies, activities, and continuing to check in with them.

Ever since the Shade and Fresh Water Project began in 2000, the Virginia Annual Conference has continuously been one of our biggest supporting partners and words cannot express our gratitude at the ways in which your support allows us to work towards our mission. We pray that our partnership will continue for many years, and that God will bless us and keep us and fill us with hope for all that is yet to come.

Rev. [Emily Everett](#), Global Missionary, General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church  
Shade and Fresh Water, Brazil  
[emilyaeverett@gmail.com](mailto:emilyaeverett@gmail.com)  
[Facebook.com/dancingmissionary](https://www.facebook.com/dancingmissionary)

My Missionary Advance: <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-1783-everett-emily.aspx>

Shade and Fresh Water Advance: <https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-192-shade-and-fresh-water.aspx>

[www.shadeandfreshwater.com](http://www.shadeandfreshwater.com) (click on US flag on homepage for English translation of website)



**Mission Education  
& Interpretation**

Brenda NeSmith

***Messages from Missionaries - (Continued)***

***FROM MRS. NGOY KALANGWA - TANZANIA***  
Advance special number:15162 Z

**Ngoy serves as the Director of Susannah Wesley Education and Healthcare Center.**

Mission: to train and to help disadvantaged women and girls and to empower them to be self-sufficient. Activities include education and training, spiritual inspiration for the community and Medical care. The building of Susannah Wesley Polyclinic has been finished and will open soon. Medical equipment is needed.

***FROM REV. UMBA KALANGWA – TANZANIA***  
Advance special number:14211Z

**Umba serves in multiple roles as Director of Morogoro Pastors’ Training School; Manager of Wesley Pre and Primary school; District Superintendent of Kigoma District.**

Mission: to establish local churches and to develop local communities to train pastors; to support youth for their education. The following institutions are a part of this mission:  
Morogoro Pastors’ Training School - Advance special number: 3022261  
Wesley Preschool and Primary School - Advance Special Number: 3020704

***FROM CLARA BISWAS - CAMBODIA***



Clara Biswas  
Street Children Ministry  
Phnom Penh Cambodia  
Advance No #14921A

**Clara works with Street Children Ministries to reach out to the children affected by extreme poverty in Phnom Penh.**

- ◆ Education Program: English, art, sports, games, dance and music
- ◆ Nutrition Support: provides a well-balanced diet to children in orphanages and water filters in each community where they serve
- ◆ Sunday School Program: sharing the Gospel directly and indirectly by showing God’s love for all
- ◆ Health Support Program: providing food and medical care for 30 HIV AIDS and sick people
- ◆ Worship, Fellowship, Scholarship and Relief Program with Adults and Children

See Clara’s May-August Newsletter on our webpage, <https://www.vaumw.com/conference/education-interpretation/>



## Membership Nurture and Outreach

Marlene Dakita

### 2020 UNIT SURVEY (FORMERLY CENSUS)

I am sure everyone completed the 2020 U.S. Census. Now it is time to turn to the annual national UMW census. This year the national office is testing out a new name for the census: "Unit Survey."

Over the past 5 years, the form has become more of a questionnaire regarding the health and vitality of the unit instead of just reporting numbers. The national office is asking the unit presidents to self-select area(s) in which their members/units are thriving. This will help inform and influence the national office, as well as conference and district leadership, on strengths and areas for improvement.

An email on how to promote the Unit Survey went out on November 7 to District presidents (or president reps) and MNOs, who should start promoting the Unit Survey to all units in your districts. The Survey is on the United Methodist Women's website at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2020](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2020). Units are encouraged to submit their own survey online. Print the instructions from <https://www.vaumw.com/conference/membership/>, fill out the form by hand, and find someone locally to submit it online. District leaders or I can give you help, if needed. However, units should make every effort to do their own submission, if possible. The final deadline for submission is March 30, 2021. Please aim to get it in by the end of February to be on the interim report.

New: The Living Into Our Purpose (LIOP) reporting form has a new starred (required) Item 4h: Submit member statistics/census online... Units can record on the LIOP the number of new members, members lost, and number at the beginning and end of the calendar year. This will help in completing the Unit Survey each year.

Membership Nurture & Outreach  
Marlene Dakita, MNO  
[mdakita@comcast.net](mailto:mdakita@comcast.net) or 703-244-4524



## Program Resources

Jeanette Yoh

Greetings! First, I would like to say what a pleasure it has been working with everyone over the last four years. I have enjoyed the fellowship and prayers but mostly just getting to know each one of you. Marilyn Blagg will be taking on the job effective 1 January 2021.

We had a very unique Annual Conference - of course by zoom. What other way is there to do things this year? My hope is this time next year we will be meeting in person. Recognitions for the Reading Program are as follows: Danville was 1st with the largest increase in Books Read and Largest Increase in number of readers. Harrisonburg came in second with largest increase in number of books read and largest increase in number of readers. Third place for largest increase in books read went to Staunton District, and Richmond District took third place in largest increase in number of readers.

Now is the time to start reading (if you have not already started) for next year. The reading list that came out in August will be the same list used for next year except for some Mission Study books that may be added. The November/December 2020 *response* has all the 2020-2022 books listed with a description of each book starting on page 29. Enjoy!





## Social Action

Karen McElfish

My time serving as your Virginia Conference Social Action Coordinator is drawing to a close. I have been honored to serve. It has been a busy and exciting two-year term.

Each January we have had an enthusiastic turn out for United Methodist Day at General Assembly. With the support of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, we have had interesting sessions on the ins and outs of advocacy. Kim Bobo, VICPP's Executive Director, led us in Advocacy 101 for our event in 2018. In 2019 we had Carol Barton from the UMW National staff join us for the day and lead us in the Biblical Basis for Advocacy. And of course, we had appointments with our senators and delegates! This coming January, due to the need to remain virtual in the COVID pandemic, we will be joining with VICPP's Days for All People, which new this year will be a week-long event of speeches, workshops, appointments with our legislators and more. Stay tuned for upcoming information!

One of our priority issues has been economic justice, specifically advocating for Paid Sick Days. A focus group during our UMW Annual Meeting 2019 addressed Advocacy for Paid Sick Days. We have met with our legislators to encourage passage of bills to provide for Paid Sick Days. We have written letters and articles. Some of us made short videos about why we support Paid Sick Days. I had the opportunity to testify virtually to the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee. We became a member of the Virginians for Paid Sick Days Coalition and will continue to work for passage in the upcoming General Assembly 2021.

One of the UMW National Social Action priorities is Climate Justice, with the specific campaign of "Just Energy for All". During my tenure, I established the Virginia UMW Climate Network, which provides regular information and calls to action for the network members. If you would like to become a member of the network, please let me

know at [vaumwsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:vaumwsecretary@gmail.com). I also serve on the United Methodist Climate Justice Coordinating team, which organized the recent Climate Justice Summit "Local Solutions to Global Crises", held virtually October 16-17. The team meets regularly to promote ways the various groups within the United Methodist Church can work together on Climate Justice.

Working jointly with Karen Booker and Melissa White, I organized our Racial Justice webinar series this summer, a four-part series with discussions on the book "So You Want to Talk About Race" by Ijeoma Oluo. These sessions were well attended. It is with great sorrow that we lost Karen right after the last evening. In her honor and memory, Melissa and I organized a follow up webinar, featuring Emily Jones, Executive for Racial Justice for UMW National staff, and members of the Jurisdictional Racial Justice Charter Advisory team, focusing on the UMW campaign to End the School-to-Prison Pipeline.

United Methodist Women are instrumental in so many ways, in leading the church on social justice issues. We are strong and brave, we use our voices to speak up for justice, and advocate! I am excited to continue this work as a member of the national Program Advisory Group and thrilled that one of my roles on the PAG will be to serve as a liaison to the Conference Social Action Coordinators!

Thank you all for the many opportunities to serve you!

Karen





## Spiritual Growth

Melissa White

What a privilege it has been for me to serve as your Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the past two years! I look forward to continuing to serve as a part of our Conference Mission Team as your Vice-President beginning in January, 2021! I also look forward to the time we can safely gather in person again; I am at the same time grateful for the restrictions for gathering that have nudged...no, shoved...us to become more proficient with the technology that enables us to connect in meaningful ways!

**This leads me to let you all know that our 2021 Spiritual Growth Retreat will be virtual and will be presented on May 15, 2021 via Zoom!** (Save the date...but if you are unable to attend LIVE, we will record it and make it available for later viewing...a bonus of our virtual new normal!) I have contacted the Rev. Ileana Rosario who was scheduled to be our speaker at our 2020 retreat, and she will be our featured speaker for our upcoming retreat! I've asked her to use the theme we were already planning as it is so very relevant for the times we are living in – *“Peace Be With You: Peace I leave with you; My Peace I give you. John 14:27”*.

I have spent time in recent months trying to research and learn more about how to plan a meaningful retreat in a virtual world! Right now, I'm asking for your suggestions and nuggets of experience that will help your incoming and outgoing Spiritual Growth Coordinators (Mary Jeffries and me!) and your Mission Team plan a creative, safe and restful space to carry on our beloved time apart for spiritual connection and rejuvenation! Let us hear your suggestions! Email or call me at [mel49white@yahoo.com](mailto:mel49white@yahoo.com) or 757-898-1861.

Finally, if you didn't Zoom In for the latest Faith Talk hosted by Jennifer Farmer entitled “Maintaining Faith in Uncertain Times”, let me recommend that you find it as a podcast when it soon becomes available (see <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/umwfaithtalks> ).

Four inspirational and very wise women, Rev. Leah Daughtry, and from our national organization: Harriet Jane Olsen, Elizabeth Lee, Executive for Economic and Environmental Justice and Climate Justice Lead, as well as Emily Jones, Executive for Racial Justice, talked with Jennifer about how they maintain their faith in uncertain times and left us with much to contemplate. I am a collector of quotes that inspire me and give me peace or guide me as a Christian so I'll close with a few from this nurturing conversation:

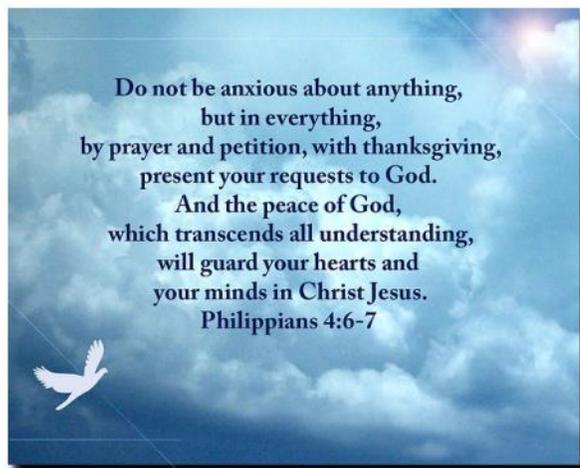
“Our faith should be a Living, Active Embodiment of the Gospel.” And “Our obligation is to LOVE and TRY!” (Daughtry)

“Justice has a claim on us.” “Bring Kingdom Values to the World!” “Carry the concept ‘EXPRESS THE LOVE’ with you always.” (Olsen)

“Our job as Christians is not to WIN, but to ADVOCATE as God calls us to.” (Lee)

“God is in the business of racial justice! Step it up if we want to be on Jesus’ team!” (Jones)

Remember always:



*Blessings to you all,  
Melissa*



# TOY DRIVE

## FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The holiday season is officially upon us, which means the next couple of months will be filled with joy, laughter, and hopefully time with friends and family! To support those families who have had a harder time this year, we are hosting a toy drive to ensure all the children served through the WCSC have something to unwrap this year.



### TOY DRIVE DETAILS

#### WHEN

November 16 - December 21, 2020

#### WHAT

New, unwrapped toys. Please see a list of desired items at

<https://tinyurl.com/wcsctoydrive>

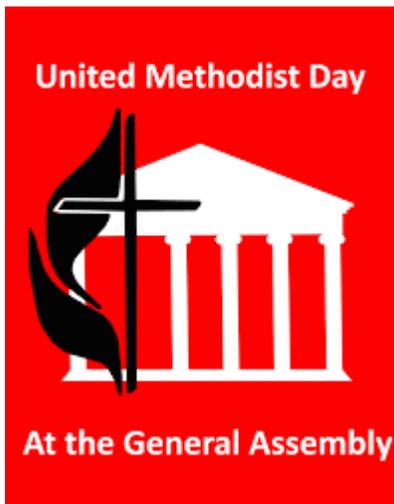
#### HOW

Please deliver toys by December 21 to our offices at

1701 Elm Ave, Portsmouth, VA 23704



## Save the Date



### United Methodist Day at the General Assembly

will be virtual this year.

We will partner with Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy for the 2021 Days for All People, to be held the week of **January 18-22**.

Monday, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, will be a day of service, with multiple opportunities.

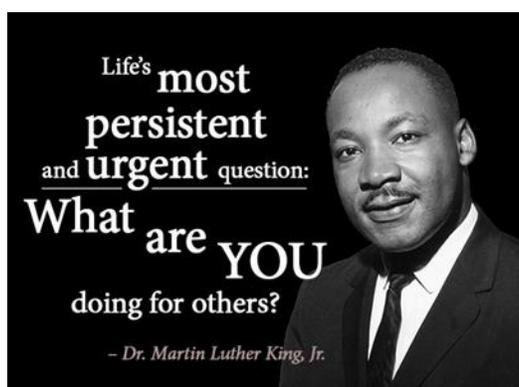
Tuesday through Thursday we will have scheduled appointments with our legislators.

Each day we will also have keynote speakers at noon, and workshops in the afternoon.

Friday will be set aside for our **United Methodist Day**, with speakers and workshops specific to our concerns.

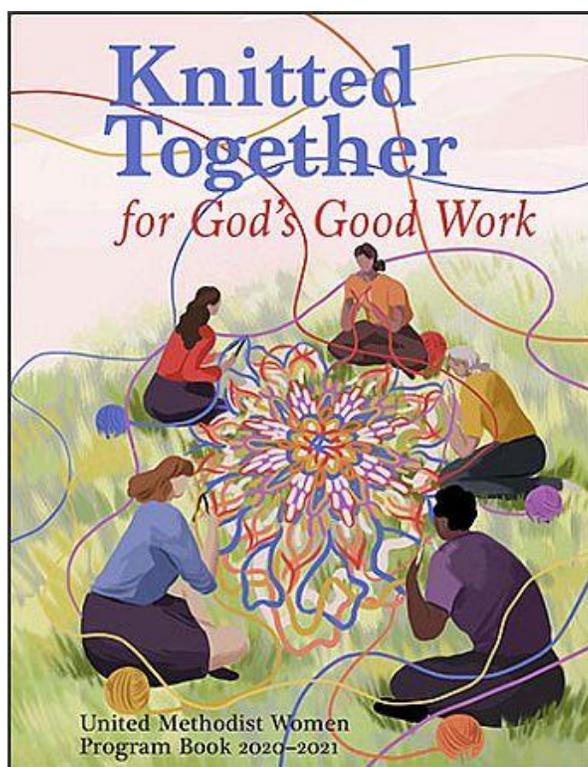
Plan to join us for some or all the events!

Watch for more information forthcoming from the Conference Legislative Network Team and VICPP.



## Virginia Conference United Methodist Women 2021 Calendar

January 9, 2021	UMW Mission Team Meeting via Zoom
January 22	UM Day at the General Assembly via Zoom
March 27	UMW Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom
May 15	UMW Spiritual Life Retreat via Zoom
June 5	UMW Day at Ferrum College
June 18	UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference, Hampton
July 23-25	Mission Encounter, Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center
September 10-11	UMW Young Women's Retreat, Camp Overlook, Keezletown
October 2	UMW Budget Meeting via Zoom
October 22	UMW Executive Committee Meeting, Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center
October 23	UMW 49th Annual Meeting, Smith Mountain Lake 4H Center



**CONTACT INFORMATION**



**VIRGINIA CONFERENCE MISSION TEAM 2021**

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