

TIMELY REFLECTIONS

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT

THE PURPOSE

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; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the United Methodist Church.

PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

Pondering 250 words that can have meaning for you, encourage and hopefully inspire you, I keep remembering my personal United Methodist Women's journey. In the mid-1980's, my children all in school, I started attending my local Unit meetings. A personal invitation introduced me to a Circle. A persistent invitation took me to CSOCM (Cooperative School of Christian Mission) in 1995 followed by an "invitation" to join the District team, then Conference, and opportunity upon opportunity that enriched my life, brought and deepened special relationships.

Mission u's, a UN Seminar, Assemblies, Jurisdiction events, Leadership Development, Spiritual Growth Retreats, mission trips and more, each mountaintop experiences with lasting memories.

Our 800,000-women-member strong organization has not been deterred from living its Purpose by even a pandemic! Spiritual Retreat, Reading Program, *response* Magazine Bible Studies and Faith Talks continue to enhance our knowing God. Fellowship even via Zoom enables us to keep connected, working and learning together. And we still participate in the global ministries of the church. We **are** creative, supportive women!

I invite you to extend an invitation to a friend-or two to join your Local Unit and begin her personal United Methodist Women journey, perhaps including Mission u this July! May you experience the blessings of Faith, Hope, and Love in Action through United Methodist Women as have I.

Be well,

Judy Dirks, Inland Missional District President

MAY 2021



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TREASURERS

To all the treasurers –

Second quarter monies are due June 15th.

Let all the United Methodist Women in your units know they can send you their pledges for the year, so they can be sent to me, the District Treasurer.

Keep checking on the covid restrictions to see if you can have a fundraiser to earn some money for mission giving.

I turned in \$6,600 for the first quarter which was down about \$4,000 from usual.

Charlene Mullis

Inland Missional District Treasurer.

See the articles about local unit meetings and mission giving from Covenant and Spokane Valley United Methodist Women on Page 5.

BOOK REVIEW

Gum Moon by Jeffrey L. Staley

Gum Moon is the Cantonese term for Gold Door or Golden Gate. This book tells the story of Mei Chun Lai who is sold in 1898 at the age of three by her family to a cruel brothel keeper. The brothel was known as the Merchant Association club. Chun was befriended by one of the prostitutes named.

Two years later during a plague quarantine Chun was rescued by a young Methodist woman who places her in a home for abused and trafficked girls in San Francisco. Chun's name is changed to Maude and she learns to live in a whole new world.

The home is destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire but Maude survives. Maude has a beautiful singing voice and along with seven other Chinese children embarks on a cross country tour to raise money to rebuild the home. Performing for President Theodore Roosevelt is the highlight of the journey.

When the matron of the home suffers a breakdown during the tour, thirteen-year-old Maude leads the band of children home. The novel is based on the authors' wife's grandmother. I found this book to be an engaging read and a page turner that was thoroughly enjoyable.

Sue McGovney
Program Resources

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

I want to thank the units that responded to the 2020 Census. We had ten units that finished the report.

How have each of you been surviving the pandemic? Have you used any special ideas to keep in touch with your members? I would like to highlight units that have had success in keeping in touch in this past year. If you would like to let me know about anything that you did in 2020, I will add your ideas to my article for the next newsletter.

Sue McGovney
Inland Missional District Membership Nurture and Outreach
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Timely Reflections is the newsletter of the
Missional District United Methodist Women

The newsletter will be sent electronically when possible or a printed copy at District expense to: The Inland Missional District Team, Officers of the Pacific Northwest Conference United Methodist Women, District Presidents and District Communication Coordinators of the Pacific Northwest Conference, elected officers of Local Units, Pastors of local churches in the Inland Missional District, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference office in Des Moines and the office of the Inland Missional District Superintendent.
If you wish to submit an article, receive a copy of this newsletter or wish to unsubscribe, contact the editor Sharon Stovall at timelyreflections@peoplepc.com.



PROGRAM RESOURCES

There is exciting news!
Several books have been added to the 2021-2022

reading catalog. This list can be found at unitedmethodistwomen.org/reading-program.

Among these books is Michelle Obama's Becoming and Chelsea Clinton's new children's book. Several of the books are novels and I did some checking and found them in the Spokane County library.

Faith Talks: can now be counted in the category of Spiritual Growth. You must participate or listen to two Faith Talks podcasts. If you listen to three it will be counted as a Bonus book in the Spiritual Growth category.

Movies: Watching these movies and documentaries will also count toward the Reading Program:

1. Just Mercy
2. The Hate you Give
3. Pushout

The Mission u study books count as Bonus Books. The next two years look to be exciting with many possibilities to read and watch movies.

Sue McGovney
Inland Missional District Program Resources
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SAVE THE DATE!

The **2021 Inland Missional District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting** is scheduled for **September 18, 2021 at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, Spokane Valley, WA.**

The theme for this year is Micah 6:8
"What does the Lord Require of You?"

Our Keynote speaker will be Lauren Schubring from the Faith Action Network. She will be giving us an overview of the FAN.org and what their mission is. Pastor Brenda Tudor will be installing officers this year. There will be training offered with details and registration information coming later. We continue to make plans and will send out more information as it is available.

So, save the date of September 18 to meet in person at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church. Hope to see you there.

Patsy Charlton, Vice President.

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208-263-8545

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Endowment Fund was created to support the purpose of the United Methodist Women of the Pacific Northwest Conference. Disbursements from the unrestricted earnings of 2020 total \$3,655.27. As per our Guidelines, 25% goes to UMW Mission Giving and 75% to support the purpose of the Endowment. The fund will be allotted as follows:

- 1) Pledge to Mission \$1,755.00
- 2) Assembly 2022 Attendees \$1,600.00
- 3) UMW Legacy Fund \$300.00

The Endowment Form for making donations to the Fund can be found on the Pacific Northwest Conference UMW website.

Members of the committee are President, Janet Crouse; Treasurer, Kendra Smith; District President, Marsha Aufenkamp; Social Media, Sara Culp; Past President and Chair, Suellen Crettol.

SEND US YOUR NOMINATIONS!

**THE UNITED
METHODIST
WOMEN PACIFIC
NORTHWEST
CONFERENCE
RACIAL JUSTICE
AWARD FOR 2021**



Each year the Pacific Northwest Conference United Methodist Women honors someone with a Racial Justice Award.

Who will you nominate from your Missional District? See our website for instructions.

THE DEADLINE IS JUNE 1, 2021



Mission U 2021

There's Far More Here
THAN MEETS THE EYE

MISSION U HAS GONE VIRTUAL. REGISTRATION IS FREE.
See next page.

Send your registration information to:
Susan Chamberlain, susanchamberlain@yahoo.com
5401 NE 121st Ave. #25, Vancouver WA 98682-6260
Send email; phone number; adult, youth or child;
Church; missional district; conference.
No charge for registration, but checks for Pledge to Mission may be sent, payable to Mission u.

So, we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without [God's] unfolding grace. [...] There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever. — 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, The Message

We have known and felt what it is like when “things are falling apart on us.” We have experienced a great unraveling that has shifted, quite literally, everything. Could there be, as 2 Corinthians put it, “far more here than meets the eye”?

Mission u, like many activities in our lives, has moved online. While virtual, we are still creating spaces for spiritual community, lifelong friendships, lessons that change us and our communities, and spiritual practices that arrive when we need them most. In a time when it looks like things are falling apart on us, God's grace is still unfolding and life is being made new.

Indeed: There's far more here than meets the eye.

WILL YOU JOIN US?

At our upcoming **Mission u**, we will examine anxiety, the culture of violence that impacts children in and out of schools, and how we as God's people can deepen our moral witness and respond faithfully.

Our 2021 Mission u in the Pacific Northwest Conference will offer the following studies Thursday through Saturday, **July 29-31**, online via Zoom:

Spirituality Study: [Finding Peace in an Anxious World](#), edited by Erin James-Brown —Taught by Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell

Issues Study: [Pushout: Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools](#) by Monique Morris —Taught by Donna Farrell, Nica Sy and Angela Reed

Youth Study: [Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence A Curriculum for Youth Leaders](#) by Jay Godfrey —Taught by Abby Niehaus

Children's Study: [Responding to Violence: A Curriculum for Children's Facilitators](#) by Sue Raymond —Taught by Rudilyn Rush

MISSION U 2021 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

THURSDAY JULY 29

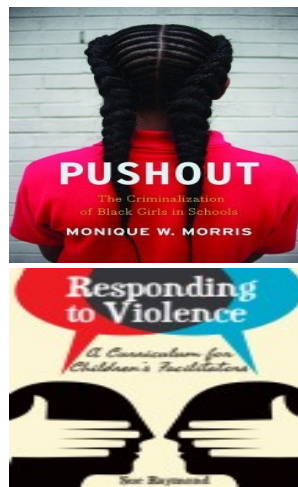
9:30 – 10:00 am	Welcome (Singing and Opening Worship)
10:00 – 11:00 am	Plenary (Announcements & Introductions)
11:00 – 12:00 am	Anxiety Study
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 – 1:15	Regathering
1:15 – 2:30 pm	Pushout Study

FRIDAY JULY 30

9:30 – 10:00 am	Opening
10:00 – 11:30 am	Anxiety Study
11:30 am -1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm	Gather
1:15 – 2:30 pm	Pushout Study
	Youth and Children's Study
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Healing Service

SATURDAY JULY 31

9:30 – 10:00 am	Opening
10:00 – 11:00 am	Pushout Study
	Youth and Children's Study
11:00 – 11:15 am	Break
11:15 – 12:15 pm	Anxiety Study
12:15 – 1:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 2:00 pm	Pushout Study
	Youth and Children's Study
2:00 – 2:30 pm	Anxiety Study
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Closing Service



LOCAL UNIT NEWS

Spokane Valley United Methodist Women began 2020 with 61 members. We lost 3 through death in 2020 and 3 have removed their name. We have gained no new members, so we have a membership of 55 beginning 2021. What have we done then to nurture and reach out to those members?

1. We receive 3 copies of Response Magazine every two months and I also receive my personal copy. We decided that since we have 4 circles, we would give each circle a copy of response to share with their circle. Each circle then has been passing around Response Magazine and by doing this keeping also in touch with each other. It has worked very well, and we now also have more members reading the magazine.
2. Following our Exec meetings, the chairs of each circle send out either by email, mail or phone call what was decided - what we have planned - what is happening in UMW.
3. We decided at our December meeting to send out Love Ribbons to those members that needed a special touch in these tough times. We are sending out 29 cards. I put in a general message (During this pandemic we want you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. As a community of women who fellowship together, we know that God gives us the strength to see us through this tough time and we will be together again. Jesus is with us! See you soon. Shalom, Spokane Valley United Methodist Women Executive Board) and then each member of the Board signed with their own special message. We plan on having this signing complete by the middle of the week and sent out.
4. We are promoting the Conference Spiritual Retreat both to our members and all women of the church.

Blessings to all of you. 2020 has been a difficult year but also a year of surprises from an awesome God who has no limits on what he can do. It has strengthened my faith.

Madelyn Bafus, President
Spokane Valley United Methodist Women

Covenant United Methodist Women are meeting by Zoom. Our first Zoom meeting was this January. Our group normally meets once a month on the 2nd Monday of the month; with no meetings in June or July. Zoom has been a blessing as we are able to “see” members and chat as a group before our business needs attention. Not all our members are participating in Zoom but many are. All Zoom meetings have minutes taken and those minutes are passed by email to the entire group for information or action items. We are very blessed to have one of our members set up the meeting and send out the links. I, and the rest of the group, are very thankful for her efforts and time.

Our last in person meeting was held March 2020. We were fortunate to have Christ’s Kitchen attend and give a presentation on their outreach program. They also brought several of their delicious packaged recipes for our ladies to purchase.

Our group has stayed active with mission between March 2020 and now. Most of our communication has been by email. All but one of our members are active email users, and the one that is not, we make sure she is aware of business/mission opportunities through the church office.

During this long period of “doing things differently due to Covid restrictions”, our group has been able to help:

- Family Promise (they wanted Welcome Home Kits for their clients and we were able to make several)
- Honor our graduating high school seniors with a gift
- Seven Channels of Giving to UMW
- Monetary donation to Covenant’s Sister Church in El Salvador to help with flood relief
- Monetary donation to provide for 2 school scholarships for 2 students from our Sister Church in El Salvador
- Donation of new socks (434 pairs) to Cup of Cool Water (local Spokane mission for homeless youth)
- Monetary donation to New Hope Resource Center for Easter baskets for families
- Donation to support 2 women at the annual Volunteers of America **I Remember Mama** Luncheon
- Donation to a Kiva fund to help fund loans for women

I hope this helps you and the other UMW groups on what is possible in this time of our church life

Peggy VanDeLeest, President
Covenant United Methodist Women

SOCIAL ACTION

How is your spiritual health? A recent article by Becky Warren, president of the Oregon-Idaho Conference UMW discussed that being advocates for social justice and against oppression are essential for our spiritual health. Scripture, Wesleyan tradition and church experience call us to be advocates for justice. In this world of today we are faced with many instances of social injustice.

So, what can we do about any of these problems? United Methodist women has many resources and suggestions for action. The web site has resources for spiritual growth, social action and education opportunities. Mission u is an excellent source as the topics deal with justice issues. The book titled: "Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools" by Monique W. Morris tells of inhumane treatment in

our schools. Faith Talks are a monthly podcast from United Methodist Women which cover a variety of topics including social justice issues. Most sessions last approximately one hour and are recorded so if you miss one you can view it from the web site. A bonus is that three sessions can be counted for the reading program.

Linda Hansen, Social Action Coordinator
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ASSEMBLY 2022

MAY 20 – 22, 2022
ORLANDO CONVENTION CENTER

WWW.ASSEMBLY2022.ORG

TURN IT UP! for spiritual healing and renewal
TURN IT UP! for rebirth in a new time
TURN IT UP! for women leaders
TURN IT UP! for justice for women, children and youth

Assembly is a great value at the **early registration fee of \$330.**
WAYS TO SAVE:

Start now! Calculate the costs as broken out below for your location, then divide by 12 for a monthly savings amount. Now it doesn't seem so daunting. The unforgettable experience of Assembly will make it worth every dollar.

- ☐ **Early Registration fee:** \$330 (available September 1–November 30, 2021, which includes lunch on Friday and Saturday)
- ☐ **Hotel expenses** : \$158–\$203 per night for up to four people (double/double room)
- ☐ **Travel expenses:**
- ☐ **Meal expenses:**
Friday and Saturday — breakfast and dinner
Sunday — breakfast

All Things Bright and Beautiful

October 15-16, 2021 ANNUAL MEETING AT BOTHELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We are still praying that our annual meeting will be held in person with the Bothell United Methodist Church as our host.

Registration and book browsing will start the event on Friday at 2:00 pm. Following at 3:30 will be leadership development for district officers with an alternative class for those attending but not an officer with Jan Catrell, the Secretary of Program Resources. She will talk about "How to get the most out of the Reading Program." Dinner is at 5:45pm then we will gather with singing and entertainment.

Saturday's program will start at 8:30am. There are five workshops scheduled, providing information about *Earth Keepers* by Elizabeth Williams; *Columbia River Tribal Fisheries Association* by Elaine Harvey; *Tacoma Community House* by Lorna Walker; *Interfaith Power and Light* by Jessica Zimmerle; and *Child Care Aware Opportunity Council* by Michelle Nelson.

Our keynote speaker will be Elizabeth Chun Hye Lee, Executive for Economic and Environmental Justice, United Methodist Women. Liz leads the Just Energy 4All campaign. You should take away a lot of information and actions to take to help bring about Climate Justice.

One way to get other women interested in United Methodist Women is to bring them to the Annual Meeting so they can see how the organization is changing the lives of women, children, and youth and how they can become a part of an organization that is a community of women, rooted in our Christian faith, who turn faith hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

In peace and love,

Linda Key, Pacific Northwest Conference Vice President



Inland Missional District
United Methodist Women
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Spokane WA 99205

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT UMW 2021 CALENDAR

June 10-13, 2021 UMC Annual Conference -- TBD
July 28-29, 2021 PNWC UMW Exec Meeting-Selah UMC
July 29-August 1, 2021 Mission u—Wesley UMC, Yakima
August 7, 2021 Inland Exec Mtg—SVUMC 9am-2:30 pm
August 15, 2021 Inland District Newsletter
September 18, 2021 Inland District Annual
Meeting—SVUMC 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
October 14-15, 2021 PNWC UMW Exec meeting-Bothell
October 15-16, 2021 PNWC UMW Annual Meeting-
Bothell
November 6, 2021 Inland District Exec Meeting---Zoom
November 15, 2021 Inland District Newsletter
May 20-22, 2022 Assembly—Orlando, FL
2024 WJ Quad Meeting



OUR FACEBOOK PAGE helps us promote upcoming District, Conference, Western Jurisdiction and National Events. It is also a great place to share and learn about Social Issues and Action Alerts. Help

us utilize this tool in our mission work by sharing local events or social issues that you are aware of.

Find this information and more at our website:

<http://pnwumc.org/umw>

Other UMW websites include:

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

facebook.com/UMWomen

facebook.com/pnwumw

Instagram.com/UMWomen

www.wjumw.com

Pinterest.com/UMWomen

Twitter.com/UMWomen

Youtube.com/user/UmWomen

Flickr.com/photos/UMWomen