



Mission Tapestry

Arlington District United Methodist Women

Vol. XLII, No. III

July 2021

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.

The Mission Tapestry is a publication of the Arlington District United Methodist Women. Its goal is to keep units at the local/congregation level informed about opportunities for living out our PURPOSE. It is published quarterly—January, April, July, and October.

Articles for publication are welcome and should be directed to ArlingtonDistrictUMW@gmail.com by the 1st of the publication month.

Check out our website at www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org

District President's Message

I am writing this just a few days after the first day of summer, so we know hot temperatures are on the way. Life seems to be getting back to normal. It is so nice to be worshiping in person again. What a blessing!

The Bi-District event went very well, with about 40 attending. I thought that was a good number considering the Conference UMW was having a program about Wesley Community Service Center at the same time. Both events were recorded and are on the Conference UMW website for you to use as a possible program.

A reminder that August 31 is the deadline for sending in the Living into Our Purpose forms. This year please send them to me by e-mail or snail mail. If you need the form, go to VAUMW, click on Conference, scroll down and click on Education and Interpretation. The form is there in Word or as a PDF.

As usual Reading Program information is to go to Phyllis Kirkman, with the same deadline as above.

This is also the time when we report the names of those women who have died over the past year. If you have a membership person

for your unit, they can send the list to me: otherwise, unit presidents please send it to me. Same deadline as above.

As you know, we have a new District Treasurer, Debbie Fairweather, so please be sure that anyone who wants to be a Rainbow Giver has given their form to your unit treasurer before August 31. Rainbow Givers are recognized at our District Annual Meeting and at the Conference UMW Annual Meeting. Candle Burning money and information is also due by August 31, 2021.

Our District Annual Meeting, September 25, 2021, and the Conference UMW Annual Meeting, October 23, 2021, will be via Zoom. Watch for emails with more information and zoom links.

I hope you all have a blessed summer and remember that as United Methodist Women we put Faith, Hope and Love into action every day.

Doris Douglass, President
Arlington District UMW

Vice President

Beth Meserve

The Arlington District United Methodist Women held their Vespers service on May 29, 2021 at 7pm. It was a time of reflection and prayer for those involved.

The theme was Living Water, as described by Jesus himself in John 4:10. Here Jesus is speaking to the Samaritan woman at the well. *Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked Him and He would have given you living water."*

All too often our days are filled taking care of others; our family, our friends, our neighbors, our church. We try to do 5 things when we only have time to do 2 things. We are so focused on helping, working, completing tasks, that we forget that we need time for ourselves.

In addition, we do not always use our resources in the same way each day. Somedays we may need more water to stay hydrated, more food to feel full, or more sun to be happy. Our bodies and minds have a pretty good way of letting us know when we are running low on these things, if we listen.

But there are other things we can easily run out of – patience, love, mercy. Often we are a cranky, miserable mess before we even realize we have run bone dry. At these times, we need to partake of the endless supply of Living Water that Jesus provides.

When we seek the Lord, especially by opening and reading His Word, He provides us with living water. Jesus Himself offered it to the woman at the well, and she did not understand at first. We may **smile at her confusion, but we've all had times when we found ourselves far from the Lord and needed to return to the water of life.** Thankfully, the Lord welcomes us back again and again.

Are you in need of extra Living Water today? Take stock of where you are, and don't forget that you need to keep yourself supplied with Living Water in order to help others.

Lord, thank You for providing living water. May we drink deeply from it and know Your great love for us!

God Bless You,
Beth Meserve
Arlington District UMW Vice President
507 N. Brighton Ct.
Sterling, VA 20164
beth.meserve@gmail.com
703-404-0542



Secretary

Janet Keener



Dear UMW Sisters in Christ,

Faith • Hope • Love in Action

What a time of *JOY* we have now! Many of our United Methodist Church congregations are having or planning to hold in-house services soon! Meanwhile,, online ZOOM worship services afford us *JOY* as well -- albeit differently.

Yet, throughout the pandemic, we have shared the *JOY* of Giving to others. The Virginia Conference provided the plan for *Cans for "Kits" for Conference* UMCOR project to be the Annual Conference Service Day on June 26th. What a *JOY* to see our congregation members drop off their donations on two consecutive Sundays. Our United Methodist Women organized and delivered the donations to the District collection point.

For my family -- possibly yours, too -- June and July we have *JOY* celebrating several birthdays! I like to call it "*Birthday Season!*" The Lord gave us the *JOY* of life!

I look forward to *JOYfully* seeing you at upcoming District and Conference events!

God is good -- All the time!
All the time -- God is good!

Joyfully yours,
Janet
janet_keener@cox.net

BUT LET ALL THOSE THAT
PUT THEIR *trust* IN THEE REJOICE:
LET THEM EVER SHOUT FOR JOY,
because thou defendest them:
LET THEM ALSO THAT LOVE THY NAME
be joyful in thee.
PSALM 5:11

Treasurer

Debby Fairweather

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UMW RAINBOW WOMANYes, **YOU** can become a **RAINBOW WOMAN!**

Have you thought about you personally giving to all five channels of giving?

A **Rainbow Women** gives to all five channels of giving:

\$40 to give someone special a Special Mission Recognition Pin

\$ 5 Pledge to Mission

\$ 5 Gift to Mission

\$ 5 Special Recognition in Memory

\$ 5 World Thank Offering

\$60 Total



Your \$60 **RAINBOW WOMAN** offering must specify that you are giving to the above five channels and designate who you want your pin to go to, who your Gift in Memory is for and that you are giving that \$60 for a Rainbow Woman. If you simply give \$60 to your unit treasurer, you will not be a Rainbow Woman. You must designate that it is for Rainbow Woman giving.

1. Special Mission Recognition Pin in ___ Honor or ___ Memory of:

(Please check appropriate box) (Name of person being honored or memorialized)

Send pin to: (Name)

(Address) _____

2. Pledge to Mission

3. Gift to Mission Card – Which card to send?

(Thank You, Baby, Birthday, In the Service of Christ, etc.)

Send card to: (Name)

(Address) _____

4. Gift in Memory: In Memory of:

(Name of person in whose memory the gift is made)

Send card to: (Name)

(Address) _____

5. World Thank Offering

Given by (Rainbow Woman's Name)

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

District _____

All components must be submitted to your Unit Treasurer at one time. We suggest that this Rainbow Woman gift be given in addition to your regular pledge to mission.

If you have any questions about becoming a Rainbow Woman, please contact:

District Treasurer: Debby Fairweather, 4931 North 29th Street, Arlington, VA 22207

Email: RDFairweather@verizon.net Phone: 703-237-9324

Social Action

Cheryl Moore

Back to normal?

As I write this article on a hot summer day, I am thinking about how different my life is from one year ago. I am fully vaccinated against Covid-19, so I feel comfortable getting together with friends, **going to the grocery store, checking books out of the library...the list goes on and on. My church is starting in-person worship in the sanctuary (with limited capacity) again next Sunday. Things feel pretty normal.**

But, while “normal” for me is quite enjoyable, the “normal” some of my brothers and sisters face is not so easy. One of the things the pandemic made very clear is that there are big differences between those of us who have healthcare, broadband internet, and jobs that are flexible enough to allow work from home. While I won’t speak for anyone else, I appreciate that I have choices.

As a United Methodist Woman, one of our responsibilities is to support our brothers and sisters who may not have the same choices we do. As we get back to normal activities, hopefully including regular UMW meetings, I encourage you to revisit the social action priorities that have been established for the 2021-2024 quadrennium: climate justice and criminalization of communities of color. Go to <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/action>, where you will find a wealth of resources and materials.

Again, this year, the Virginia Conference of UMW will work with the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP) to support legislation in the areas of economic/worker justice, criminal justice reform, racial equity, and health equity. You can find more details about specific priorities at <https://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/> and sign up for informative email updates.

On the ballot for the November 2, 2021, General Election will be candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, the House of Delegates, and some local offices. The next few months offer a great opportunity to learn about state and local candidates and find out their positions on the issues that are important to United Methodist Women and other people of faith.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me at cherylwaitmoore@gmail.com if I can support you and your unit in any way. I look forward to seeing you (on Zoom) at our District Annual Meeting on September 25.

Cheryl Moore, Social Action
cherylwaitmoore@gmail.com
703-981-9879



Education & Interpretation

TRAINING FOR TRANSFORMATION

Women Support Women and Health in the Democratic Republic of Congo

by Grace Musuka and Rev. Makonga Kyakutala Odette



Kyungu Ndala Patience, DRC, makes and sells soap. "If you prepare well, you will succeed," she says.

COVID-19 has changed lives and thinking about health in the Democratic Republic of Congo. According to recent figures, the country has witnessed over 12,500 cases and approximately 330 deaths due to COVID-19. Adhering to measures advised by the WHO (World Health Organization) as well as by local health authorities, people are taught to wash hands regularly with soap and water, which is not always an easy task in a region where clean water is scarce.

Folks are learning to regularly clean surfaces with disinfectant, cover one's face and implement social distancing. Women who are teaching and learning about COVID-19 are making sure that the information comes from reliable sources, such as local or national public health agencies, the WHO website and local health professionals. Therefore, in addition to making soap and sewing facial coverings, **United Methodist Women's partners are coordinating in the North Katanga area to spread accurate information about the pandemic.**

Women Share Solutions

As is usually the case, it is a community's women who are most impacted by the virus and quickest to share accurate information and pragmatic solutions. The women on the frontlines in the Democratic Republic of Congo are an ecumenical group: Roman Catholic as well as United Methodist and other denominations and faiths.

Through the giving of United Methodist Women, the women in North Katanga have been hard at work. While soap and face masks are not only effective as income-generating activities, they are also an integral piece in the fight against the spread of the virus. During this pandemic, the partnerships among women locally and globally are God-given in that the women train other women and show their support for widows, orphans, children, elderly women and others.

United Methodist Women's [international](#) partners are adapting to meet the increasing needs caused by the worldwide pandemic. [Join United Methodist Women to put your faith, hope and love in action with a gift today.](#)

Grace Musuka is a United Methodist Women's Regional Missionary serving the work and leadership of United Methodist Women organizations in Central Africa. Rev. Makonga Kyakutala Odette is chaplain and communicator for the United Methodist Women Country Team for the Democratic Republic of Congo, translating stories from Swahili into English.

Spiritual Growth

Dana Connor

Spiritual Growth Coming Out of a Pandemic

Let us take a moment to breathe. Breathe in deeply, happy that you may not have to wear a mask all the time or can now hug your friends and family. You may still be anxious but, it is during this time that we can turn to our resources for spiritual growth to help us nurture our faith and provide us the calm we so desperately need.

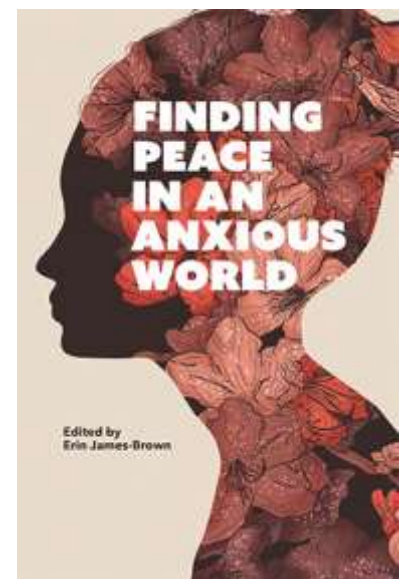
One Spiritual Growth Mission Study is Finding Peace in an Anxious World. This 2021 Spiritual Growth Study by staff of the Urban Village Church, uses the book of Proverbs and “The Serenity Prayer” as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God’s peace that surpasses all understanding. Using “The Serenity Prayer” as a scaffold, Finding Peace in an Anxious World explores ways to discover peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ. Learn more at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/finding-peace-in-an-anxious-world> and use the resources to help individuals and small groups to remotely engage in Mission Encounter.

In addition, you can join Faith Talks, as host Jennifer Farmer interviews some of the writers and planners of the 2021 Spiritual Growth Studies being offered at Mission Encounter events this year. You can listen to pre-recorded podcasts here at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks>

I wish you a summer free from anxiety in the knowledge that the Lord our God and Jesus, our Savior, are with you and will never let you endure more than you can handle. You are strong. You have gotten through the worst of this pandemic so far. Keep your faith and share your spirituality with others.

Your Arlington District Spiritual Growth Coordinator,

Dana Connor



Program Resources

Phyllis Kirkman

Arlington District UMW
READING PROGRAM REPORT 2021
(Sept 2020 through Aug 2021)

Unit name: _____

Name of person completing form: _____

Telephone and email: _____

Total number of books read _____ (with or without completion of a plan)

Number completing Plan I * _____

Number completing Plan II * _____

Number completing Plan III* _____

Number completing Plan IV * _____

TOTAL number completing a plan _____

TOTAL number of adult & youth readers _____ (count even those who have read only one book)

TOTAL number of children readers _____

TOTAL number of children receiving certificates * _____

TOTAL number of children's books read _____

TOTAL number of Subscriptions to response _____ (count total number of individual and UMW unit subscriptions)

*List names of those who completed plan on the next page

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO ME NO LATER THAN Sept 1, 2021.

Phyllis Kirkman
8234 Winder Street
Vienna, VA 22180
Email: umwspirit@gmail.com

Program Resources

Phyllis Kirkman

Unit Name: _____	Total number of readers: _____
Total number of Books read (Adults): _____	Total Number of Books read by children: _____
List names of Children Reading 5 books:	
List Names completing plan I:	List Names completing plan II:
List Names completing plan III:	List names completing plan IV:
Person in your Unit who has read the most books: _____	Number of books read: _____

Please complete form and send by Sept. 1, 2021 to:
Phyllis Kirkman, Secretary of Program Resources, 8234 Winder St., Vienna, VA 22180.

Please note: If I do not receive a form from a Unit, that unit will be counted as “not participating in the reading program”

Books that qualify for the Reading Program Report are taken from the Years 2015-2021. Only books read from September 2020 through report date (September 1, 2021) can count on this report. (Any books read after this date can be counted toward next year).

YOUNG WOMEN'S EVENT

Sponsored by

Virginia Conference United Methodist Women

For young women ages 18 to 40
(No UMW or church affiliation required)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

"Faith with Intention"

Your retreat leader, Pastor Ashley Isernhagen, will use John 15 to help you develop and grow in your discipleship with intentional practices, such as developing a faith timeline, spiritual exercises for discernment, meditation and discipleship mantras.

Please register by Sept. 8 by clicking on this link:

[Young Women's Event Registration](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Information: Marlene Dakita, Va. Conf. UMW Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator (MNO), at mdakita@comcast.net / 703-244-4524 (cell)

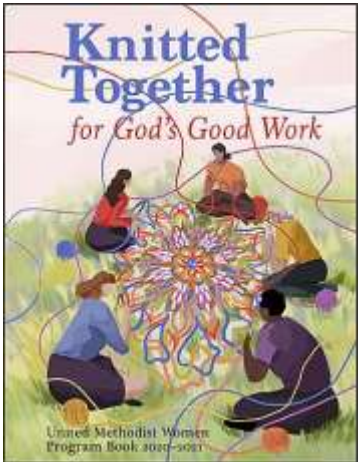


Arlington District United Methodist Women 2021 Calendar

PURPOSE
of the United
Methodist Women

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.

Event	Date
Virginia Conference Young Women's Event —via zoom	Sept. 11
Arlington District Annual Meeting—via zoom	Sept. 25
Virginia Conference 49th Annual Meeting—via zoom	Oct. 23
Arlington District Mini-Mission Encounter	Nov. 13



Arlington District United Methodist Women Officers for 2021

ELECTED OFFICERS

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Secretary for Program Resources

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NOMINATIONS

Vacant

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MISSION COORDINATORS

Education and Interpretation

Vacant

Membership Nurture and Outreach

Vacant



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arlingtondistrictumw@gmail.com