The themes of Advent are hope, peace, joy and love. Of all the themes, it seems that peace is the most difficult to grasp. In today’s world, peace seems to be an elusive thing. We watch the world around us and see conflict in every facet of life from family outward. The prophets painted a verbal picture of peaceful perfection that would someday arrive. The birth of Jesus brought this peace into the world and Jesus continued that gift through a promise: Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. (John 14:27.) A beautiful song suggests that peace on earth begins with me. Indeed, the only way to share peace is to live peace. We are to nurture peace within our hearts and live out that peace toward others. As we move into 2019, let the peace we hope for the world begin with each one of us in our thoughts and our actions.

Esther Circle works on the Tapestry of Blessing banner.

A Note from Julia Goodell:
Remember that our UMW spiritual formation opportunity last year was to pray a blessing of hospitality for others during Sunday worship. Prayer is a mystery and, and it is potentially a powerful experience. Each time we pray for someone in the congregation, we add a tiny stitch to the tapestry. As we add these stitches the tapestry becomes richer and stronger. By God’s grace the MUMC tapestry is already a thing of beauty. However, it is still a bit fragmented with some folks not fully woven into the tapestry. That’s where we come in, gently intertwining our lives with others and with God through prayer. Now thanks to the skillful and artistic hands of Esther Circle we have a banner celebrating our Tapestry of Blessings. THANK YOU, Esther Circle. Please continue to pray during worship especially for those we don’t know to welcome them and God into MUMC’s fellowship.

Searcy Feely
Betty Dillard
Thanks to everyone for your support of the pecan sales this year. Our new format seems to have been well received. Our net balance for the sale was $1,526.86 which was $103.00 more than last year even though our cost was $25.00 more than last year. Thank you all!
Sophia Circle  
Kathy Lawson

Two large missional projects that were completed this year were collections for The Festival of Sharing and Warm Up Columbia. Following are the results of the collections for these projects.

**Festival of Sharing:**

- Paper Products: 30 Kits
- Personal Hygiene: 30 Kits
- Prison Pack: $1000 for 100 Kits
- Reading & Writing: 30 Kits
- Student Dental Pack: 102 Packs
- Donations Applied Where needed most: $4000

**Warm of Columbia:**

- 30 pair of socks
- 36 hats
- 45 pair of gloves
- 41 scarves
- 13 blankets
- 37 coats, jackets and heavy sweaters
- 16 children coats
- 3 pair winter snow pants

**UMW Book Club**

UMW Book Club will meet on Wednesday January 9 at 10:00 at Lenoir Community Center in the Fireside Room. We will be discussing the book, *Limestone Wall* by Marlene Lee. We are privileged to have the author join us for the discussion.

**UNIT NEWS**

**December Unit Meeting**

The December unit meeting and Christmas luncheon were held on Wednesday, December 5. Over 60 people attended and shared in the luncheon. The unit is attempting to become a Green Unit which encourages the use of reusable or recyclable items at each meeting. Special thanks go to Dave Babel and Doug Henderson who helped set up and clean up including running the dish washer which enabled us to use china, glasses, and silverware.

During the business meeting, officers for 2019 were installed by current President, Georgia Nolph.

Left to Right: Carole Babel, Treasurer; Rene’ Rau, UMW Reading Program Coordinator and CWU Representative; Diana Mooney, E&I and Program Resources; Joan Turner, Secretary; Melissa Clarke, Social Action; Georgia Nolph, Retiring President; June DeWeese, President; Carol Evans, Vice President; Gina Sandwith, Spiritual Growth; Kathy Lawson, MN&O; Marsha Sergent, Bulletin Board; Diana Revelle, Communications; Evette Nissen, Wardrobe Coordinator; Suzanne McDavid, Chair of Nominations

Julia Goodell and Marsha Sergent led the members in a beautiful memorial service honoring the members who had passed away since our last gathering. Those remembered were Merna Hoft, Betty Overall, Helen St. John, Shirley Stewart, Patsy Watts, and Otto Steinhaus.

Mission Recognition pins were presented to Dave Babel, Julia Goodell, and Jo Lee.
Entertainment for the meeting was provided by the children from Discovery Days who presented a wonderful telling of the Christmas Story in both recitation and song.

How We Serve

Diana Revelle

Candle Burning

The total donated in recognition of candle burning this year by our unit was $2,015.52 which translated to 82 minutes of mission support. Districts present their giving totals at the Missouri Conference UMW Annual Meeting each year. In 2017, a total of $238,396.78 of mission dollars was sent from Missouri Conference UMW to UMW National Office providing 163 hours of mission work around the world.

Support for Local Mission

Thanks to the generosity of the MUMC unit, in addition to completing our pledge to mission, we were able to give a year-end gift of $500.00 to each of the following charities: Central Pantry; Faith in Service to Humanity; Love Inc.; The Wardrobe.

An Historic Year

The year 2019 is a year of historic recognition for MUMC UMW, for the work of Methodist Women around the globe, and for the mission work of the Methodist Church at large. The organization of the work of the women in Missouri United Methodist Church beginning with its foundational church, Broadway Methodist Church is 110 years old this year. The work of Methodist Women around the globe is 150 years old this year. 2019 is also the 200th anniversary of the mission work of the Church at large. The development of the work of the women of the church called Methodist, stemmed from these mission beginnings. A history of these paths is in process and will be available shortly after the first of the year.

LOCAL NEWS

Church Women United

The Leaders Council and state Assembly of Church Women United will be held April 28-April 30, 2019. The themes for 2019 are as follows:

- Overall Theme: The Time is Now
- World Day of Prayer: March 2, 2019: Come for Everthing is Ready
- May Friendship Day: May 4, 2019: Agree to Differ
- World Community Day: November 2, 1019: Resolve to Love
- Human Rights Day: Date is at the discretion of the units: Unite to Serve

You can contact Rene’ Rau for more information regarding membership in CWU. To receive the CWU newsletter, complete the form below.

CONFERENCE NEWS

The Conference UMW has scheduled a Spiritual Growth Retreat with the theme Make a Moment to Meditate, presented by Brenda Smith-Keene, Spiritual Growth Coordinator. The scriptural foundation for the retreat is Mark 4:18–19. Details are as follows:

Save the Date — Conference Spiritual Growth Retreat

Friday, April 5, 2019 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 pm
Saturday, April 6, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Community United Methodist Church
3301 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203

UMW ACROSS THE NATION and AROUND THE GLOBE

Where the Money Goes

We often wonder what good our meager offerings do in a world with such need. Our pledge to mission which is sent to the district is combined with pledges from the other units in the district and sent to the conference UMW. From the Conference, pledges are sent to the Jurisdiction then on to the National Office growing all along the way. The quarterly newsletters in 2019 will highlight the missions and agencies in MO which benefit from these collected monies as well as giving a glimpse into some of the world-wide support that is given.

150 years

March 23, 2019 marks 150 years of Methodist Women putting faith, hope and love in action! You can find information and program materials on the UMW website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150
Commemorative Pendant

The UMW national office is selling a limited-edition pendant which displays United Methodist Women’s 150 years of service: 1869-2019. The pendant is in soft enamel with a 20 inch chain and can be ordered from product page of the UMW national website:

STAYING CONNECTED

Subscriptions

District UMW Newsletter:
Shirley Link: dslink@ktis.net; 573-295-4640

Mission Voice - MO Conference UMW Newsletter
To read past copies or subscribe individually on within a group: http://www.moumethodist.org/missionvoice

National UMW e-News and Newsletter:
https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/
• Click on the website link or copy and paste it into your search engine search line
• Click on “News” on the top bar of the home page
• Choose “UMW Newsletter” or “Subscribe to e-news” or subscribe to both of them

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