



KY East District Newsletter

September 2020

GREETINGS FROM YOUR KY EAST DISTRICT PRESIDENT

by Barbara Nicholls

Who among us would have ever thought this time last year about how different our lives would be in 2020, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic? Every area of our lives has been affected from how we live, work, shop, worship, travel, interact, plan, communicate...and the list goes on. It would be easy to fall into a state of despair, discouragement, and pessimism considering all that is happening in our world around us. However, our faith, hope, and trust in our Lord, Jesus Christ, will never permit that! I'm reminded of an old hymn that says, "We've come this far by faith—leaning on the Lord. Trusting in His holy word...He's never failed me yet! Oh, oh, oh...can't turn around! We've come this far by faith!" I want to encourage you to keep leaning on your faith day by day. Our Lord is with us always and will never leave us. Let us encourage one another with this assurance.

The KY East District UMW Mission Team has met twice in the past three weeks to make plans for moving forward during this COVID-19 pandemic. It is clear that we are not going to be able to conduct "business as usual" for quite some time. So, we have decided (along with the Conference UMW Mission Team) to have our Fall Celebration of Missions meeting via **ZOOM** technology on **Saturday, September 12, at 10:00 A.M. as originally scheduled.**

Some of you may have used **ZOOM** during this pandemic time for other meetings, but I suspect most of our members have not. I HAD NOT! However, it's really not that hard. My family (children, grandchildren, sisters, nieces, nephew) live in five different states—Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri, Georgia, and North Carolina. We have

begun meeting once a week via Zoom to have a "family chat." It has been wonderful! We can see and hear each other clearly. In fact, I have a new Great Nephew, born on January 20 in Atlanta, that I haven't been able to meet in person yet. However, via Zoom I have been able to meet him. Of course, I'm still hoping to "hold" him before too much longer.

If you have an iPhone or iPad, you will need to download the FREE ZOOM app. If you use ZOOM on a computer, you just go to the ZOOM website at zoom.us. For the Zoom meetings that I initiate (such as the **KY East District Celebration of Missions**), I will send you an "invitation" via e-mail which will tell you the day and time that the meeting will begin. All you have to do is "click" on the link that will be in the invitation and you are there. **For those of you who do not have a computer or internet access, you can also join in the Zoom meeting via telephone.** The invitation will give the phone number to call and the code number and password to enter. If you call in to the meeting by phone, you won't be able to "see" the other participants, but you will be able to hear everything going on. I have asked each local unit President to send me the email addresses and telephone numbers for each UMW member who would like to participate in our Celebration of Missions meeting on September 12. If your President has not yet contacted you to ask if you will participate, please contact her. I am hoping for great participation!

Granted, it's not as good as being there "in person," but it's a way to "get together" during this time when we are not able to "gather." In another article in this Newsletter, our Vice President, Shelia Harlan, explains about what will be included in our **ZOOM KY East District Celebrations of Missions**

meeting on September 12 at 10:00 A.M. You won't want to miss it!

Remember, "We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord." We can't turn around! We represent FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE IN ACTION! We are United Methodist Women!

**2020 FALL CELEBRATION OF MISSION
ZOOMS STRAIGHT TO YOU!**
by **Sheliah Harlan**
Vice President KY East District

While I love the "get together" fellowship of hugs, catching up, and personal contact, I must admit our President, Barbara Nicholls, has convinced me Zoom meetings are the next best thing. However intimidating the thoughts of this type of meeting might be, you will be surprised at just how easy it is – logistically and personally. No earlier than usual alarm to wake you up, no driving miles to places you may never have been, no extra expenses for gas or to a hosting unit, and you can wear those comfy pants you wear around the house – no one will know!

There are other ways to enjoy the Fall Celebration! Plan a socially distanced / masked, get-together in the comfort of your church or your home. You can hook a computer up to the TV and invite members (and potential members) to a front row seat! Trust me, there is something to be said about instantly finding yourself live with your UMW sisters. Your East Kentucky District Mission Team hopes you will embrace the Fall Celebration as an opportunity to learn from each other, to come together for a common purpose, to encourage and lift each other up, improve our internal communication, and use shared ideas to make a difference in our churches and our communities. We are called to be Servants and to use the talents we have been given. In the current environment, that may mean changing how we think, how we respond, and how we serve. We will serve better if we collaborate collectively, get everyone's ideas,

and pray faithfully for God's will, His guidance, and for each other.

For the Celebration, there will be the usual business to address and since we cannot display recognitions, we will announce those and send them to Unit Presidents for church presentations. We will also have a short memorial to honor the sisters we have lost this year. Units who wish to share ways they have responded to Maternal and Child Health/Issues are invited to share their accomplishments and the challenges faced over the past year. Expect a surprise speaker who can touch your heart, inspire you, and demonstrate the power of God to change lives.

My plan is to have a program booklet emailed to all the Unit Presidents to distribute to participants. Please notify your President if you wish to join in. If you have questions, please contact me at Sheliah2@outlook.com. Since we are zooming in to reach you, we are counting on a record attendance!

CLIMATE JUSTICE
By **Kay Smith**
Social Action Coordinator

Social action is a part of the UMW ministry that crosses many paths and touches many lives with our advocacy in social areas. We continue the great tradition begun over 150 years ago to take positions on social justice issues. As United Methodist Women of the 21st Century we are called to work to help build a better world.

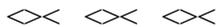
For the next two years, we will be addressing the priority area of Climate Justice. This is a broad area. You may want to begin your research, collect articles and info and consider which area of climate justice you want to focus your learning. You will be hearing more on this topic throughout the future months.

THE LORD IS MY PACESETTER

by Sue Brunk
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

“I rise before the dawning of the morning, and cry for help; I hope in Your word.” Psalm 119:147

I found this devotional in one of my old journals and it spoke to me and convicted me again in this crazy time in which we live. I thought I would share it with you.



Not one of us automatically has time to pray. We have to make time for prayer, carving a time out of our day and setting it aside as a sacred appointment that cannot be changed and must not be delayed. As you set aside your prayer time for today, consider this Japanese version of the twenty-third Psalm:

*The Lord is my pacesetter...I shall not rush.
He makes me stop for quiet intervals.
He provides me with images of stillness that
restore my serenity.*

*He leads me in the way of efficiency through
calmness of mind, and His guidance is peace.*

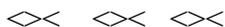
*Even though I have a great many things to
accomplish each day, I will not fret, for His presence
is here.*

*His timelessness, His all importance will keep
me in a balance.*

*He prepares refreshment and renewal in the
midst of my activity by anointing my mind with the
oils of tranquility.*

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

*Truly harmony and effectiveness shall be the
fruits of my hours for I shall walk in the pace of my
Lord and dwell in His house forever.*



Thought for the Day: I have so much to do today that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer.

THE READING PROGRAM

by Erin Rice
Program Resources Coordinator

The Reading Program in United Methodist Women is extremely important. As United Methodist Women, we support so many things through our local, state, and national units. When we read the books on our Reading Program list, we can educate ourselves on the different things that we stand for as United Methodist Women. These books help us gain knowledge on where our donation money is spent. They also help us get different perspectives that we otherwise, may not have known about or understood. The reading program list can be found at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/2021readingprogramtitles.pdf>.

If you are interested in getting free eBooks, the Warren County Library is also offering library cards to anyone in the state. You do not have to be from Warren County. After getting your library card, you can borrow eBooks from the library. To do this, go to <https://warrenpl.org/> and select the “using the library” tab. Then select “digital library card signup.” Once you complete the form, you will be able to use the library card to borrow books from the library digitally.

Another important thing to note is the district will be putting up a Facebook page. We would like to try to do some book reviews through the Facebook page. This will be where anyone who is interested can share information about the books they are reading. You can get ahold of me using my email (ErinRice15@gmail.com) or my phone (606-922-5879) if you are interested in helping with book reviews or have any questions about the reading program.

IT TAKES ALL THE PARTS TO WORK

By Judy Elam
Chair, Committee on Nominations

Do you recall when you were younger and learning how to make things work, like a bicycle? First it took a while to learn to balance, so if you were lucky, you had training wheels to help get you started. If not, it perhaps took you a bit longer to learn to balance to stay upright & move. After you learned to move, then you had to learn to stop...sometimes quickly! If you didn't stop soon enough, you probably got a couple of scraped knees and scratched elbows from running into walls or trees or the ground in order to stop yourself. Probably the next thing that you had to learn was how to tell if your chain was working properly, either by listening to the sound it would make when you pushed on the pedals or the fact that it would not push at all if the chain came loose from the sprocket. Your feet would simply turn faster & faster but you got nowhere, did you? You had to learn to get off, fix the chain back in place, then head for home & hope it didn't come off again before you got it tightened up. As you became better at riding, you learned more & more techniques to use to make your ride smoother, safer, less hard on your legs & able to ride for longer periods of time. All because things worked together the way they were meant to!

Did you know that the KY East UMW District is very much like that bicycle? It takes ALL the many parts to work together smoothly in order to go the distance & reach the goals for our communities that God has in mind for His people. If a part is missing, the rest of the 'machine' has to either replace it or make up for its loss in some way. Our UMW groups across the District set a variety of goals to help a wide list of needs seen in our communities. These range from simple acts of kindness like calling shut-ins particularly during these trying COVID times to let our elderly or infirm know we are there for them if needed, & offering up assistance from a prayer to dropping off needed medication or paying bills so that they can continue

to shelter safely in their homes. Some areas need outreach to children through VBS. Some have experienced a flood or fire that affected several families. Some battle the trials of addiction, domestic violence, or chronic unemployment. Each community faces such issues over the years. But one person alone cannot address or fix all these problems...it takes all of us working together! We each have unique abilities that will fit the situation we find ourselves facing. To improve, each of us has to find the spot where our abilities best fit the need. To do this, we have to step out in faith, knowing that God equips the called...He does not simply call the equipped!

Where are the missing parts in your local UMW group? And what ability do you have that would help meet that need? Show up for your local unit meetings, & ask what is needed most. You will be greatly surprised to learn how God can use you in any situation, if you are willing to step up & step out in faith. Not only will you be a blessing to others, you will be blessed yourself by serving as the hands & feet of Jesus as you help to meet the needs of His people.

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE

by Lisa Mantz
Education and Interpretation Coordinator

In recent months it has become apparent that we need each other now more than ever as we are "a creative, supportive fellowship". Your Mission Team met last week and we were discussing ways of keeping in contact with each other better. One idea that was mentioned was a Facebook page. In addition to our newsletters, emails and phone calls we are going to have a Facebook Group page. It will be Kentucky East District of United Methodist Women. I will be sending each of you a personal invitation but if you would like to join the group, click on the page and ask to join. It will be a place where we can share ideas, information, photos, encouraging words and generally keep up with each other. Please feel free to share what your Unit is

doing and how you are keeping in touch with members. How can you help make this the best that it can be? Send me your photos of activities, members or anything else that would be of interest to our group. I look forward to hearing from you soon!



MAKING MASKS AT CENTENARY
By Krista Mosser
President – Centenary UMW

COVID-19 has certainly changed the year for our UMW unit, as I'm sure it has for many others. We had not met since March, and while the need for mission work was great, trying to figure out how to accomplish actually doing something was, shall we say, challenging.

In July, we had decided we were going to begin meeting again in August, since it was likely that we would not exceed the current 10-person limit for face-to-face meetings. Also in July, Centenary UMC decided to go ahead with our annual back to school celebration with a school supply give-away, even though we knew school was going to be very different this year.

While the church as a whole was figuring out what school supplies the kids would actually need, I was on a Zoom meeting where our district vice-president, Shelia Harlan, demonstrated how to quickly make masks out of socks. An "A-ha!" moment was had, and it was decided that the

UMW's contribution to the school supplies kit would be masks for each child.

At our August meeting, we spent about an hour making 80 sock masks for the elementary school age children. Since our sock masks turned out too small for the middle and high school students, member Lynn Miller, who is a sewing marvel and has a huge heart for missions, also made sewn masks for the older children.



Peg Hicks and Charlene Harshbarger work on masks

Centenary has given away 35 backpacks of school supplies so far, and with those supplies each elementary child got two masks and each middle and high schooler got one. And the ladies of Centenary UMW were blessed.

ANNUAL MISSION CELEBRATION
By Peggy Rice
Kentucky Conference Vice President

It is that time of year again. As summer winds down, we begin thinking about fall and all it brings with it..... the kids going back to school..... Labor Day cookouts.....and Halloween costumes. This year everything is different.....virtual learning.... social distancing.....and our Fall Celebration. We will be meeting virtually for our Kentucky Conference Annual Mission Celebration. It will be held October 24th via Zoom @ 10 AM EST. The Conference Planning Committee has been "meeting" for several weeks researching our options and plotting the course.

When you "register" with your unit President, for the Kentucky East District Celebration in September, your contact information will be shared

with the Conference to ensure you receive your “invitation” to the October meeting. This meeting is our business meeting for the year. We need to you attend if at all possible. You will receive an email with login information. You can login from any computer, iPad, or smart phone. If you do not feel comfortable you can call in and participate that way. Your District Team will share information on how to do this.

During our Fall Meeting we always highlight a mission from the hosting District. This year we were supposed to be in the Northern Kentucky District at Immanuel United Methodist Church. Even though we are not meeting in person we are still recognizing the District’s mission. Northern Kentucky chose the Ida Spence United Methodist Mission in the City Heights area of Covington. Reverend Gina Cornelius is the Mission Director. It has been in operation since 1957. They serve a 366-unit low income housing project. We will be helping support their new laundry ministry. We will be collecting Walmart or Kroger gift cards to be used for purchasing cleaning supplies and laundry detergent. Or if you prefer you can donate to the mission by sending a check made payable to NKY District UMW with Ida Spence in the memo line. This allows us to get a total of all donations. All checks and gift cards are to be mailed to Debbie Funk, NKY District UMW Treasurer at 6211 Woodcrest Drive, Burlington, KY 41005. Debbie will write one check for all the cash donations and deliver it along with the gift cards. If you would like more information on the Mission visit their website at www.idaspence.org.

SAVE THE DATE! OCTOBER 24, 2020 @ 10 AM EST. Watch for your invitation!

I leave you with Hebrews 10:24-25
And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

KY East District UMW dates to remember:

- District Celebration of Missions - September 12, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. - ZOOM

KY Conference UMW dates to remember:

- 24th Annual Fall Mission Celebration – October 24, 2020 – ZOOM

ITEMS TO BE VOTED ON AT THE DISTRICT CELEBRATION OF MISSIONS

PROPOSED BUDGET 2021 KENTUCKY EAST DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

Anticipated Expenses

SPRING SPIRITUAL GROWTH			
Speakers	\$	300	
Travel	\$	100	
Misc Expenses	\$	150	
SUBTOTAL			\$ 550
ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE			
Speakers	\$	300	
Travel	\$	100	
SMRS-Outgoing Officers	\$	300	
Misc Expenses	\$	150	
SUBTOTAL			\$ 850
DISTRICT TEAM			
Postage	\$	200	
Travel	\$	750	
Audit	\$	300	
Officer's Training	\$	300	
Spiritual Growth Scholarship	\$	200	
Mission u Scholarship	\$	300	
Conference Annual Meeting	\$	250	
Assembly Reserve	\$	300	
SEJ Meeting Reserve	\$	600	
Subscription Resource Mailing	\$	50	
Emerging Opportunities	\$	250	
Supplies	\$	100	
SUBTOTAL			\$ 3600
TOTAL			\$ 5000

SLATE OF OFFICERS for 2-year terms beginning in January 2021 presented by Committee on Nominations

President Barbara Nicholls
 Vice President OPEN [to fill 1 year of expiring term for Sheliah Harlan]
 Secretary Barbara Greer
 Communication Coordinator Krista Mosser
 Social Action Coordinator Kay Smith
 Membership, Nurture, Outreach Cindy Hall
 Chair, Committee on Nominations Celia Fish