



KY East District Newsletter

March 2022

IT'S TIME FOR A RE-START

Barb Nicholls
KY East District UMW President

Enough already! We are entering our **THIRD** year of this pandemic, and everyone is suffering from COVID fatigue. We are tired of not being able to do all the things we did before—like meet in person with our UMW sisters, have fellowship gatherings, enjoy potluck dinners, eat in restaurants, share and execute fundraising ideas...and the list goes on. But then—consider **Psalm 50:15**: *“Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you and you will honor me.”*

OK. It's time for a new beginning. Although the pandemic is not over (and may never be...), we are doing all we can do to stay safe and ensure that our neighbors stay safe too. We have been vaccinated and boosted, we wear masks at indoor gatherings, we observe social distancing as best we can, and we wash our hands more than ever before. I know some UMW units have been meeting face-to-face for a while and others have not yet felt safe to do that. That time will come... In the meantime, let's start planning for those more “normal” times ahead. We have called upon the Lord in these days of trouble, and we are now ready to be delivered so we can honor Him.

Let me ask you to consider some “**re**” words:

- **Refocus** – Let's think beyond today. How do we want “tomorrow” to look as we prepare to **restart**?
- **Redefine** the purpose of our UMW ministry.

- **Review** our UMW Purpose statement. What do we want to accomplish? How do we do this? Keep it simple...
- **Recruit** new UMW members. Where can we find them? How can we entice all the ladies of our congregations to join in? How can we formalize a “welcome” for those who have not participated previously?
- **Redistribute responsibility**. We don't have to do everything by ourselves.
- **Reconnect** with our congregation. How can we make the congregation feel connected to our UMW units?
- **Remember** God's promises. The Lord is still in our midst.

Lord, we **REJOICE** as we prepare to **resume** our ministry of being your hands and feet as we serve the Women, Children, and Youth in our local areas and around the world. **Remind** us that You have already equipped us to serve, and we will strive to bring honor to You. May it be so!

GOD'S EVER PRESENCE

Joy Stanley

KY East UMW Standing Rules

As I write this article, we are having another beautiful snowy day that God has given us to enjoy. He has taken His paint brush dipped in white along with some sparkles that shine in the sun. The snow comes and eventually melts and disappears, but isn't it comforting to know that unlike the snow that fades away, God's presence is always with us and never leaves us.

In response to Barb asking us to consider "re" words, at our last Morehead UMW Circle of Faith meeting, Morehead UMW, we discussed "Recruit", and here is

what we are planning to do. We are going to invite all the women in the church to a luncheon after the Sunday service on March 27. Several of us will give a short explanation about UMW. For example, someone will read and talk about Our Purpose. I will have a copy of response magazine to show and talk a little about its contents. We hope that by informing our guests they will want to come to a meeting to learn more.

**KY EAST DISTRICT UMW SPIRITUAL
GROWTH MEETING**
Barb Nicholls
KY East District UMW President

The Spring Spiritual Growth Meeting is in the planning stage for our KY East District UMW. At the present time, COVID is running rampant in our area, so we are once again planning a virtual meeting via ZOOM. The date/time is set for **Saturday, April 30, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. until noon.** If I have your email address and you have been receiving messages from me, you will automatically receive the ZOOM invitation a few days before the event. If I do not have your email address, please send it to me at bnicholls0001@gmail.com and I will add you to our ZOOM list. For now, block that day/time on your calendar and plan to meet with your “UMW sisters” in the KY East District.

Our guest speaker will be Kivvi Figgs, former Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator. She is from the Bluegrass District and is the Juvenile Treatment Court Liaison for Fayette County Public Schools in collaboration with Fayette County District. The Social Action Principle that we are to focus on in 2022-2024 is *Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration*. I just completed the Mission u Study (four Saturdays in January) that Kivvi led on this topic. She brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion to this subject, and I am looking forward to “sharing her” with you. We will be having some worship time and some interaction via “small groups” during the session.

There will also be another guest, Maddy Wilburn, whom you met at the Fall 2020 District meeting. I know you will be interested in hearing how she is doing 18 months later...

You will be blessed by attending, and I hope to “see” you there!

JESUS BLANKET MINISTRY
Celia Fish, President
Pikeville UMW

"In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." James 2:17 (NIV)

The Prayer Team of our church started the Jesus Blanket Ministry many years ago. They applied iron on decals of the name of Jesus and comforting scriptures to sheets, pillowcases and handkerchiefs. These were given to people in need medically or spiritually, and were prayed over by the Prayer Team before they were distributed.

Recipients would write notes to the Prayer Team about how meaningful these gifts were to them. They covered themselves with the sheet when they were patients in the hospital. If they were having surgery, they tucked the handkerchief into their socks so they would have the name of Jesus with them. Those with a tumor or stroke laid their heads on the name of Jesus. It was a very meaningful and important ministry of our church.

Then the world stopped when COVID arrived. There were no more hospital visitations, no individual person to person contact. Several individuals who ironed the transfers to the cloths were no longer able to participate. The church eventually ran out of cloths to share.

But the story has a happy ending. The UMW decided to adopt this project. COVID restrictions were lifted. Our group has gotten together and since

September has made 60 prayer cloths and 20 pillowcases with the name of Jesus to be distributed to anyone who needs them. Individuals may contact the church office and they can obtain one for themselves or others.

The time spent together creating these has certainly been a time of fellowship and blessing for our group. God has allowed the UMW to demonstrate our faith in a way that blesses others.

MEET YOUR NEW TREASURER

Lisa Mantz
Treasurer, KY East UMW

Hello!! I would like to introduce myself by saying that I am your new District Treasurer. I look forward to working with each of you and I am excited for the opportunity to serve in a new manner. I am the former Education and Interpretation Coordinator for the District.

A little bit about me: I attend Greenup First United Methodist Church and am active as the Administrative Council Chair, a member of the vocal and the hand bell choirs. I am also an active member of UMW. I have been married for 36 years (to the same person lol) and have two adult daughters and one precious grandson.

Some information to share as the Treasurer: any giving that you are providing should be noted and sent to me on either a Remittance Form or a Combined Attachments Form. Any form needed can be accessed through our United Methodist Women Handbook or from the website unitedmethodistwomen.org/give/forms. If you would prefer, I can always mail or email any forms needed. I want to make this process as easy as possible for everyone. When you send me a check, I then submit the amount to our Kentucky Conference Treasurer. As Treasurer, my job will be to keep track of all giving and make sure we are staying within our budget. Sometimes the process

can be a bit confusing. If you have any questions please give me a call.

Lisa Mantz
 1215 Main Street
 Greenup, KY 41144
 (606) 923-4009
 manli001@yahoo.com

CHANGE Peggy Rice Conference Education & Interpretation Coordinator

Change...to make different, alter or modify. This past year has brought us change! We have had to adapt our meetings, our missions, and our giving during the pandemic; but we have not let it stop us. In 2021, we altered our way of offering mission studies by going virtual. We have changed our reading program. We have modified our Kentucky Youth Advocacy outreach. And going forward we can expect more change; but change doesn't have to be a bad thing. Isaiah 40 tells us that *"those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint."* Use this season of change to alter your thinking; to modify or transform your heart; to renew your strength and spirit. As your new Conference Coordinator of Education and Interpretation I will try to help you through some of these changes.

In the upcoming months, I will be sharing with you changes that are going on at the National and Conference levels. We will cover topics from structure changes to where our money goes. I will share information as it becomes available. My responsibility is to help you to understand what happens to your gifts and what ministries are made possible through your giving. I will be promoting the need for Mission Giving to ministries with women, children and youth for leadership development, spiritual growth, service and advocacy. I will help you understand the five channels of Mission Giving and Mission Today.

In closing, I want to remind you it is not how much you give but the spirit in which you give. Remember the widow who gave two mites. Jesus said she “*has put more into the treasury than all the others.*” You can contact me at any time with questions; if I do not know the answer, I will find someone who does. beancounter1089@yahoo.com

IN TIMES OF NEED-TURN TO GOD

Denise Blevins
Wheelwright UMC, Unit President

Many people are struggling in this world we now live in. Every day we hear about death and sickness. This can sometimes seem unbearable. We need to learn to rely more on God to seek peace of mind. There are many scriptures in the Bible that reassures us God is there. Psalms 34:17- “*The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.*” The Bible tells us God is listening. We need to put our faith and trust in him. Proverbs 3:5-6- “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths.*” If we fully trust in him, we can find some peace in a world that doesn’t have much calmness.

We need to pray constantly. Psalms 27:1 “*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*” We all face heartache and trouble, but we need to remember that we have a strong force to turn to. God offers us strength and assurance to those who love him. We need to learn to trust Him and give all our problems to Him, so we can rest and strengthen our faith. Matthew 11:28 “*Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*” God expects us to rely on Him. I know from personal experience that carrying all your burdens can weigh you down. I’m learning to give those burdens to God, so I don’t get so overwhelmed. In times of need who do you turn to?

Changes to the Reading Program 2022

Erin Rice
Conference Secretary of Program Resources

As United Methodist Women look to expand their reach in 2022, a few changes to the Reading Program have been made. A notable difference is to the Program Resource book for 2021-2022. UMW now offers a digital version of this book—do not worry, the physical copy is still available—that gives you access to an online community of UMW members from all over the world. This book version is available through the Mighty Network platform for \$10 (subscribe here: http://umw.convio.net/site/R?i=KEBLxAtzit6h5sL-XLrnFL9evMyKPVSlbGjh-8NSArBXpxmxa_svEQ). This subscription will allow you to access PDFs for each monthly Program Resource. There are also videos that will lead you to have a deeper spiritual connection. Another opportunity this subscription gives is monthly conversations with the author and conversations with fellow UMW members.

For reference, an email was sent out to all Secretaries of Program Resources stating, “Information on how to join the Community Gatherings is also available on the Mighty Network platform. If you haven’t done so, [explore our digital 2021-2022 Program Resource: Healing and Joy on Our Journey to God](#) on Mighty Networks here and click “Access.” If you are [already logged on to Mighty Networks](#), click on the “Resources” tab in the Menu to join the Program Resource. September through December are already available to all for free and ready to experience.” This platform can be accessed using the hyperlinks within this article and on iOS and Android phones by downloading the Mighty Networks app.

Additionally, UMW members can now access the Daily Prayer Guide online for free through a Facebook page. You can find this page at <https://www.facebook.com/dailyprayerguide>. The page will post daily updates regarding the prayer

requests listed within the Daily Prayer Guide. As UMW continues to develop in this digital age, if anyone needs help navigating these changes, don't hesitate to get in touch with me at ErinRice15@GMail.com.

received donations of over \$1,000. We encouraged people to give what they thought it would cost to buy a baked item. Of course, many gave more.

MOREHEAD UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Joyce Saxon
President, Morehead UMW

The Morehead UMW are remaining active and meeting using CDC Guidelines.

Our "goal for the year" is to encourage more women to get involved with United Methodist Women. Our church's Administrative Assistant has made an email list of all the women in the church. We plan on emailing all of them to remind them of our meetings, and then one Sunday each quarter to have a "lite luncheon" right after church for all women.

We want to help the younger women start a new circle that meets at a time that is more convenient for them. At present our Faith Circle meets at 9:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of each month, and that is not convenient for working women.

Also, I have been asked to share some of the activities and projects that our unit does each year. (Some of these have changed to adapt to the COVID environment.)

- We are continuing to make blankets for children who come to DOVES, (home for victims of domestic violence).
- We are planning on making our Mother's Day cards. This is a project where individuals donate \$5 to have a card sent to someone with a Bible verse and special message and noted that a gift has been given to UMW in honor of that person, not necessarily a mother.
- Later in the fall we are planning our "No Bake, Bake Sale." Women advertise by standing in the Gathering Area of the Church with mixing bowls, cake mixes, mixers, spoons, etc. We make a sign about UMW with an added list of locally supported mission projects. Last year we

2022 DATES TO REMEMBER



KY EAST DISTRICT UMW DATES:

April 30 at 10:00 a.m.– District Spring Spiritual Growth Meeting by Zoom

September (Date/Place to be Determined)---Fall Mission Celebration

KY CONFERENCE UMW DATES:

April 23 – Conference Spiritual Growth Meeting (Registration form on next page)

July 13-17 – Mission u (Details to follow.)

October 22 - Conference Annual Mission Celebration (Pennyrile District will host)

INTENTIONAL
BLANK PAGE

INTENTIONAL
BLANK PAGE

Spiritual Growth Retreat for the Kentucky Conference of UMW

Saturday, April 23, 2022

Memorial UMC, 631 N Miles St, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Elizabethtown is in the Eastern Time Zone!!!

Speaker: Lisa Schmitt-Evans, Chaplin at the University of Louisville Hospital

Cost: \$30.00 (includes morning nibbles, lunch and drinks)

Registration: Due by April 9, 2022.

Late registration accepted for a \$5.00 additional fee from April 9-23, 2022

Check in from 9:30am-10am (eastern)

Retreat begins at 10am (eastern)

Lunch is provided and the Retreat will conclude at 4pm(eastern)

Mail attached form and check payable to KY Conference UMW, to Roseanna Borst, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, 12940 Pavilion Ct, Union, KY 41091, Email roseannaborst@gmail.com, Cell phone 859-628-6135

*****cut and mail*****

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

LOCAL UNIT _____

DISTRICT _____

Emergency contact/phone _____

Special needs? Physical? Dietary?