



THE JOYFUL MESSENGER

Publication of Lynchburg District United Methodist Women

May 2008

Ladies, spring is here and I hope you all are enjoying this nice weather with everything coming to life after being dormant all winter. This is my favorite time of year when everything brings forth life. We have had a very good first few months. I was glad to see all of you at Day Apart. I hope all of you enjoyed the program. I think Wes Astin did an excellent job with his presentation on Israel/Palestine. I would like to thank all of you that participated by bringing things for the Timothy Project and the offering that was taken up for Red Bird Mission. Check out Karen's article in this newsletter for the total amount collected.

This newsletter has a lot of information in it that you will need. Please put the following upcoming events on your calendar. Spiritual Life Retreat will be May 16-18 and the School of Christian Mission will be July 25 – 27 for the weekend session and July 28 – 31 for the weekday session. Both events are at VUMAC and you will find registration forms in this newsletter. There are scholarships available for these events. The scholarships are for first-time attendees only, so if you would like to go and have not attended before, please contact me. You may call me at home 540-297-7622 or my cell is 434-610-9301. UMW Day at Ferrum College is June 7th and there will be a bus available on a first come – first serve basis. More information is also in the newsletter. Also in this newsletter, you will find a registration form for Day of Discovery, which is a project that we help the District with. This year we are having a Christian comedian and I hope you will all take the time to come and enjoy a morning of laughter and music. A circle from Timberlake will provide us with an excellent lunch and a continental breakfast.

On April 4th – 6th, several of your District Officers attended the Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in Hampton. The theme of the program was "Called by Name". There were 1,209 in attendance at this meeting from all over the Southeastern Jurisdiction. We had a wonderful time and met many of our counterparts from some of the other conferences. I wish more of you could have attended since this was the last Southeastern Jurisdictional Quadrennial Meeting that will be held. Carol Gaston was reelected to the Women's Division Board, and Maxine Mallory was elected as chair of the Core Planning Group Committee on Nominations for the Women's Division.

The following is a thank you note that we received from Bonnie Benedict the Executive Director for Churches for Urban Ministry.

Dear Friends,

All of us, including Marshmallow Delight, were thrilled with the items for Camp Timothy! Spray fabric paint, pony beads, colored tissue paper, construction paper and poster board our most needed materials. The checks that were included are much appreciated. We will have 100 children in Camp Timothy. It costs Churches for Urban Ministry approximately \$510 per child. Each Camp Timothy family who can, contributes \$85 for the entire six week program. CUM must raise the additional funds. It is always such a pleasure to work with United Methodist Women! You take on a project and carry it out with enthusiasm! You always make us smile.

Sincerely,

Bonnie D. Benedict, Executive Director

Blessings,
Jan Klahn, District President
540-297-7622
fklahn@worldnet.att.net

From the Area Coordinator

The Nominating Committee needs your help! We are looking for United Methodist Women willing to serve on the District level. If you know of someone - or if you are interested, please call or email with your suggestions. Thanks.

Glynis Hopkins, Area Coordinator
540-586-9655
ghopkins13@msn.com

SOCIAL ACTION ACTION ALERT for 2008

For over 135 years, as part of their mission call, United Methodist Women have been advocates for children, youth, and families, as well as advocates for racial justice, public policy, and global policy. Our advocacy helps improve and empower the lives of women, children, and youth, nationally and internationally.

The year 2008 is an election year and gives us all a special opportunity to support and vote for candidates that openly support this advocacy. To help us learn about our candidates, I've enclosed a copy of **ACTION ALERT – 2008 Candidate Checklist, A Questionnaire for Candidates Seeking Election.** Take the time to fill one out on candidates that you are considering - from local representatives to the President. At the bottom of the form you will note references to the current Book of Resolution. These references outline the position of the UMC. A copy of The Book of Resolution is in your church office.

Our world is full of social injustice! Let's be informed voters, our vote will truly make a difference!

If your Unit would like assistance in planning or presenting Social Action issues, I would be happy to assist you in anyway possible. Please call or email

Deb Broadwater
Social Action Coordinator
540-721-3370
deb.broadwater@gmail.com

Lynchburg District
UMW/UMM
Summer PICNIC

Sunday, August 10, 2008

6:00 p.m. - Potluck Picnic
(Drinks and paper supplies furnished)

7:00 p.m. - Program

“Riddle on the Harp”

This trio of women will present a diverse repertoire which will include selections from traditional tunes and jigs, rural folk songs, waltzes, ballads and hymns, polkas, classical music, international tunes, original compositions, as well as children's lullabies. You will hear unusual instrumental arrangements, as well as vocal harmonies which might make you laugh, cry, clap, dance or even relax and nod off! Their instruments include harp, guitar, bowed psaltery, flute, recorder, banjo, fife, bodhran hammered dulcimer and mandolin. We have tried to get this group for our entertainment for several years. This is the year and you will not want to miss this event!

Peakland United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall/Sanctuary
4434 Boonsboro Road, Lynchburg

***All are welcome and encouraged to attend.
This will be a fun and entertaining evening for the entire Lynchburg District.***

MISSION PROJECT

Attendees of the 2008 ***Spiritual Life Retreat*** are being asked to bring item donations for Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church (Alexandria District). They are in need of food, both for their food pantry, which serves 600 people per week, and for their Children's Ministry:

- Cereal (large boxes of cold or hot cereal)
- Canned fruit and/or fruit juices
- Individual juices (“Capri Sun”, juice boxes, etc.)
- Yogurt or other non-refrigerated snacks
- (Please no cookies, sweets or chips)
- Peanut Butter
- Pudding cups
- Granola Bars
- Fruit cups
- Breakfast Bars

TREASURER'S REPORT

Our Unit Treasurers made a great effort in getting the quarterly information and checks in to me by deadline. I, in turn, was able to send my totals to the Conference Treasurer within her deadline.

Thank you for being so prompt. We sent \$10,335.30 in *Pledge to Mission* and \$4,981.27 in other areas of giving, so we are off to a good start. It would be wonderful to surpass our goals for this year. By the way, our goal for Mission giving is \$44,000 in 2008.

I am asking that all remaining dues and a count of your unit's membership be sent in the next quarterly remittance, due June 10th. A few units may have misunderstood and did not send any money this past quarter, we need to hear from you during the next remittance period. Rule of thumb is to send these monies quarterly so you won't be burdened trying to get it all in at the end of the year.

We had a good attendance for our District Mini Mission, "Day Apart". We received supplies for the Timothy project and our offering for the Red Bird Mission amounted to \$456.25. Thanks to all who participated.

Events are coming up at Blackstone and I would encourage you to consider attending the UMW Spiritual Life Retreat in May or the School of Christian Mission in July. First time attendees may be eligible for conference help as we have 4 scholarships to be distributed. Application requests should be sent to our President, Jan Klahn, if you would like to be considered. You will find information in this newsletter and in the Outlook. There are also some first time attendee District Scholarships that you could discuss with Jan.

I have received email contact information from some treasurers and would appreciate any other available treasurer emails as a means of getting information to you quickly. Thank you for all the support you have given to me in this learning period of my term, I feel very fortunate working with such a dedicated group of ladies. Any treasurer can contact me with questions or meeting visit requests at 434/369-4666 or vette92lt1@aol.com.

Karen Bragg
District Treasurer
434-369-4666
vette92lt1@aol.com

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Ladies, can you believe we only have five (5) months left before we have to turn in our Mission Today forms. I do hope all the units are working hard on them. It would be great to have all our units at least qualify as a Mission Today Unit. Remember to start counting after you have checked the first block on the form, which is "make and meet your pledge". If any of you have questions about the form or any other questions, please give me a call at 434-525-4275 and I will be glad to help in anyway that I can.

If any of the ladies in your unit attended Day Apart/Mini Mission Study on Israel/Palestine held at Fort Hill on March 27th, you will be able to check off #6 on the Mission Today form. For you ladies that we unable to attend Day Apart, you really missed a great program. Wes gave a wonderful and interesting presentation on Israel/Palestine. We are very fortunate to live in America and should never forget that.

We also saw an interesting video on Red Bird Missions and our offering that day went to Red Bird. I am proud to say we collected over \$425.00. I am sure it will be put to good use. Thanks for being so generous.

Also thank you very much for the supplies you brought to Day Apart for Camp Timothy. I took the supplies down to them on Tuesday and they were very appreciative of the supplies and money we had given. A gift of \$10.00 will allow an inner city kid to attend Camp Timothy and I took checks, amounting to \$180.00, plus lots of supplies. You all make me proud.

I went this past weekend with Jan Klahn and Karen Bragg to the SEJUMW Conference in Hampton, Virginia, April 4-6,2008. This was my first experience to a UMW conference of that magnitude and I had a wonderful time, in spite of the rain, and heard lots of interesting and inspirational speakers. Met lots of nice women from all across the Southeast. Our own Nancy VanZant helped supply the music and played the handbells. She was a big hit as always.

Hope to see you all at the Spiritual Life Retreat at Blackstone in May.

Linda Muldrow
Education and Interpretation Coordinator
434-525-4275
copelandsims@aol.com

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Our consignment order book Display had lots of visitors at our District Day Apart / Mini Mission Day on March 29th. We sold fourteen books that were available that day and took an order for one more copy of one of the books. That is most encouraging! Keep reading and learning! If you check out the Online Catalog at www.missionsresources.org, you will find that the Prayer Calendars for 2008 are now available. You will also find that there are still Reading Program books available for 2007 and 2006.

Please note that there is a limited list for the 2006 books, but they are at a discounted price. Two of the books, *End of the Spear* and *The Kite Runner* have been made into movies. Why not see the movie(s) as a unit/circle program and then meet afterwards at your usual meeting place for refreshments and a discussion session??

Please continue to encourage your units to read from the list of Reading Program books (including the years 2004 to 2008). When it comes time to send in your reports, remember to report the number of all the readers and all the books, whether or not any one person met the requirements for one of the reading programs.

Patty Kane
Secretary of Program Resources
434-525-2297
ekane24551@aol.com

Lynchburg District UMW Annual Meeting

2:30 p.m. Registration, 3:00 p.m. Meeting
Sunday, September 28, 2008

Marsh Memorial United Methodist Church
Speaker: Deb Broadwater,
Lynchburg District
Social Action Coordinator

VIRGINIA UNITED METHODIST ASSEMBLY CENTER (VUMAC)

To: Friends of VUMAC

I know many of you are interested in knowing what is happening at VUMAC. Thank you for your interest and your continued participation with **DIMES & DOLLARS**. Please be generous with this opportunity to be a vital part in our Assembly Center located in Blackstone, VA.

Some projects completed in 2007 include: Air Conditioner replaced in the Virginia Room, two fire doors replaced, seats in amphitheater replaced, repair work to heat and air the Gables, flooring in the registration room and in bedrooms replaced, and two new refrigerators. There are many other ongoing maintenance and operating needs which we can have a part, as we continue our support.

The need for the expanded facility was made evident that by the fact while serving 19,515 people in 2007, and additional 3,495 had to be turned away because of lack of space.

So please **Spread the Word** about this unique facility and services we already have. I will continue to inform you of the progress made, and I appreciate and say **Thanks** again for all you do for this cause.

Evelyn Condrey
District VUMAC Representative

* * *

To: United Methodist Women

The Virginia United Methodist Assembly Center is in receipt of your first quarters check for 2008. Please know that we are very grateful for the funds donated to the Dimes and Dollars, to the bedroom renovations and to the Capital Campaign Fund. As Blackstone moves ahead in its quest to be the star of the Virginia Annual Conference, we know that the United Methodist Women are our strong supporters. We just could not go ahead with our campaign without the support and love of the UMW. These are exciting times for Blackstone and we know we have your prayers and support as demonstrated by this first quarter gift of \$10,472.27. Look forward to seeing you in May.

Cammie Armstrong
VUMAC Executive Director

U.M.W. DAY FERRUM COLLEGE

Saturday, June 7, 2008

Cost \$10.00

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. Registration (on the Chapel Patio)

Opening Praise & Worship Service

Lunch

Play: Nunsense II, The Second Coming

(If you think last year's performance was funny, you'll be rolling in the aisles this year!)

Dismiss about 3:00 p.m.

Registration should be sent to:
Office of the Dean of the Chapel
Ferrum College, P.O. Box 2390, Ferrum, VA 24088
(Checks should be made payable to Ferrum College)

Registration needs to be received, at Ferrum, by May 23rd

* * *

The Fort Hill UMC Bus will be providing transportation, \$5.00 per person, to Ferrum College on June 7th for anyone interested. The bus will be leaving Fort Hill UMC parking lot at 7:00 a.m. and then the Walmart parking lot in Bedford (near Wendy's) at 7:45 a.m. and return around 5:00 p.m. The spaces will be filled on a First Come – First Serve basis. For reservations, please send \$5.00 for gas with check made payable to Fort Hill UMC.

Please mail to: Becky Spangler, 1453 Heathwood Drive, Goode, VA 24556
Questions: (540) 586-6009

..... CUT AND MAIL

Transportation to Ferrum College UMW Day – June 7, 2008

Name _____

Church _____

Phone _____

Departing Location (please check one):

Fort Hill UMC (7:00 a.m.) _____

Bedford – Wal-Mart Parking Lot (7:45 a.m.) _____
(near Wendy's)

\$5.00 Enclosed _____

DAY OF DISCOVERY 2008

Tuesday, May 13, 2008
9:30 am

Timberlake United Methodist Church

Clean Comedy with Myrtle

Come spend a morning of clean comedy with "Myrtle" (comedian Kristi Vann) and her guitar/piano playing cohort, Stephanie Rhodes. Come and enjoy a morning with friends in fellowship, laughter and music.

Kristi started doing stand up comedy in 2003. Her alter ego is a 70 year old, named Myrtle, who has the looks of Mama from the TV show "Mama's Family" and the energy of a 20 year old.

The music that Myrtle shakes it to comes from Stephanie Rhodes. Stephanie plays a variety of instruments during the show and has become an integral part of the act.

Kristi Van is the mother of 2 girls and is an active member of the Goode Rescue Squad.

Continental Breakfast, Lunch: \$10.00

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED **DEADLINE: FRIDAY MAY 7**

Checks payable to: **Lynchburg District United Methodist Church**

Mail registration Form below to: **Pat Wariner**

455 Toll Gate Road, Concord, Va. 24538

434-993-2591

-----CUT AND MAIL -----

Day of Discovery 2008 Registration

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

CHURCH _____ Check enclosed \$ _____

2008
Dates To Remember

May 13th, 9:30 a.m. Day of Discovery at Timberlake United Methodist Church
May 16 – 18th Virginia Conference Spiritual Life Retreat at VUMAC, Blackstone, VA
June 7th, 9:00 a.m. UMW Day at Ferrum College
June 15 – 18th Virginia Annual Conference, Roanoke, VA
June 17th Breakfast at Annual Conference
July 12th, 9:00 a.m. District Mission Team Meeting at Fort Hill UMC
July 25 – 27th (weekend session) School of Christian Mission at VUMAC, Blackstone, VA
July 28 – 31st (week session) School of Christian Mission at VUMAC, Blackstone, VA
August 10th, 6:00 p.m. UMW / UMM Summer Picnic at Peakland UMC
September 28th, 2:30 p.m. Lynchburg District UMW Annual Meeting
..... at Marsh Memorial UMC
..... Speaker: Deb Broadwater, Social Action Coordinator
..... “Charter for Racial Justice”
October 11th, 9:00 a.m. District Mission Team Meeting at Fort Hill UMC
October 25 – 26th Virginia Conference UMW Annual Meeting at VUMAC, Blackstone, VA
..... Keynote Speaker: Bishop Charlene Kammerer
December 6th District Advent Brunch and Worship at Heritage UMC

The Spiritual Life Retreat registration form and the Virginia Conference School of Christian Mission registration form can be found on the Conference Web Site at www.vaumc.org