

For

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The Detroit Conference News – Spring 2017

## PRESIDENT

### Racial Justice and the Detroit Conference United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women's Racial Justice Newsletter posted on 3/14/2016 titled "For Such Time As This", is always relevant because it does not put a past, current, or future date on it. So, we can look at any time and ask, is our fight for Racial Justice better today than yesterday, or is it different for today, or what about in the future? Do we believe and have proof that we live in a just and fair society and world? Do I personally have Racial Justice issues in my immediate area, city or town, perhaps a social group of which I need to be aware? The answer to these questions is "Yes". We all face Racial Justice issues of one kind or another. Therefore, we need to always be aware of any injustice of any kind. Remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's words, **"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere"**. And because of this, we as United Methodist Women (and many others) have a lot of work still ahead of us.

The United Methodist Women National Office has set four (4) social issue priorities for our focus during the current quadrennial (2017-2020), and they are:

- Massive incarceration of mostly poor people of color in the United States,
- The increase of wealth inequality,
- Maternal and child health outcomes
- Issues of environmental justice

In each of these areas, Racism is usually the outcome that affects groups of people. This type of Racism is more systemic in nature and could be intentional or unintentional. It is imbedded in the rules, procedures, laws, systems, and institutions, which allows power of the more dominate social group over other groups (i.e., low income or poor, people of color or other ethnic groups, people with mental disorders or disabilities, or other vulnerable people).

These various rules, laws, systems, etc.; may be a

"way of life" for many of us, therefore, making it difficult for us to recognize the "Racism".

So, understanding this, leads us to ask the questions, how are we educating ourselves to see Racism as it really is? Are we having conversations and programs that will help us become aware of our Racial Justice Charter? Are we working together, in our Social Action endeavors, to be a supportive community which allows us to speak up when we see any kind of injustice? Are we helping each other to work with our legislators to develop and implement laws and policies that protect

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everyone's rights? And, are we doing this on the Local, District and Conference levels of United Methodist Women? Whatever we are doing, we need to share the story!!!

The story might be as simple as having a conversation with a person of a different ethnic group which might help to understand their "way of life". It could be taking a Mission trip with your United Methodist Women group to: various museums, the United Methodist Community House in Grand Rapids, the United Methodist Children's Home in Redford, our Native American communities throughout the State, and other places that would teach us about the need for diversity and not separation.

We can also help others that are less fortunate than we are (i.e., the homeless), understand and keep writing to our State government people about the Flint Water Crisis (and other situations that are similar), attend various seminars like the Keep Making Peace Event in East Lansing (the 2017 focus was on Climate and Environmental Justice). Be a mentor to someone that might represent a culture of vulnerability. Invite people to talk to you about mass incarceration and the system that it represents. Also, invite someone to come and talk about our new immigration laws (i.e., The United Methodist Immigration Ministry or JFON).

Because we are United Methodist Women, we all have a story to share related to our work with Racial Justice. Remember we are the followers of Christ and the Wesleyan tradition. I am proud to be a United Methodist Woman!

**Marchelle "Micki" Phelps**

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## VICE PRESIDENT

Teach me, my God  
In all things, thee to see  
And what I do in anything  
To do it as for thee  
*George Herbert*

This is a great time to think about the "purpose" and what it means to all United Methodist Women. We must give our fullest and honest efforts to mission.

We have many exciting events coming up: Keep Making Peace, Detroit/West Michigan Annual Conference that will include a UMW lunch/tea, and Mission u.

We must all honor our goal to stay focused on mission, and to always be inclusive and kind to each other.

The 2017 Conference UMW Annual Meeting will be held at Brighton First UMC, on October 28, 2017, with Leadership Training on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

We have reserved a block of rooms at Courtyard in Brighton, with the code "UMW". You must reserve your own rooms.

The theme is "Harvest Your Spiritual Gifts"- Prayer". Remember if your unit or district has pictures or display items for the meeting, please let me know as soon as possible.

I hope that many of you had the chance to use the Good Deeds for Lent calendar. It is truly rewarding and spiritual, as it calls for practicing random acts of faith, hope and love in action. Today's good deed says "be positive, think positive, and say positive words only".

WARM REGARDS

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## NEW COMMUNICATION CO-COORDINATOR

Hi, my name is Kathy Freeland. I am happy (I think) to be working with Brenda as the new communication coordinator. This will be the first newsletter I've had the pleasure to edit. Please let me know if you have information about activities you have, and send pictures!

**Kathy Freeland**

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## COMMUNICATION CO-COORDINATOR

It is very vital that we keep a line of communication open. Communication is three- sided. First there is the **speaking** side which must be clear. Second there is the **listening** side, which includes listening for understanding and clarification. An opinion of what you hear is just that "an opinion". The third part is **reading** for understanding. So, when we write, we must think of our audience. As the readers, we may make some assumptions about the intent of the writer. Thus, we must use our personal experiences in evaluating what we are reading and interpreting the author's intent.

Working with the newsletter has been interesting because it has caused some dialogue with the writers of the articles and those reading them. Sometimes it makes me go back and research what was written, and I am certain you have found some of those incidents also. When "Micki" mentioned the song "Ball of Confusion" in her article "S.P.I.L.L. My Cup of Confusion" (Fall 2016), I immediately went to YouTube to hear the song.

Detroit Conference United Methodist Women have several sources of communication. First is the newsletter, which is printed three times a year. Second is the website - [www.detroitconferenceumw.org](http://www.detroitconferenceumw.org) for additional information, and also to make contact with the officers as their phone numbers and e-mails are listed. Third are special e-mails or mailings that inform us of special events. Please keep an eye on our calendars and the dates to remember. Communication comes when you remind others of the events and the time schedule.

Keep the dialogue and sharing going throughout your district and local units so all are informed. My calendar helps me to stay organized but when friends like Micki Phelps or Alice Tucker call me and tell me it is time to register for some event, it keeps me in touch with them also. Many of our calendars are full already and sometimes we double book, or time passes by faster than we realize, so that personal reminder is great. Of course, Communication "blows up" your e-mail as a reminder also.

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## THE LEGACY FUND CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE

**2017 – We're half-way there! Where? To 2019, our 150th Birthday!!!**

On March 23, 1869, eight of our foremothers met at Boston's Tremont Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church to hear about and make a plan to reach out to their sisters in India, who were in need of health care and education. They decided to each set aside \$.02 a week to raise money to send a woman missionary to India to meet this need. They shared their vision with other women, and by November 1869 (less than a year) they had raised enough money to not only send a woman doctor (Clara Swain) to India, but also a teacher (Isabella Thoburn).

United Methodist Women today are no different than our foremothers cited above. We still hear about women, children & youth who are in need of health care and education, as well as employment skills and leadership development, and so we still raise money to empower women, children & youth to meet these needs.

Because United Methodist Women want to live and leave this vision into the future, we've developed a Legacy Fund to make it happen. Time-wise, we're halfway through this five year plan to raise an endowment to fund the administrative structure of our organization, so that by 2020, all pledge money from local units will go 100% to reach out to the needs of women, children, & youth. Administration costs will be funded by this Legacy fund.

We will meet this Legacy Fund goal if each unit gives \$150 per year and each woman gives \$20.00 per year – a local unit goal and a personal goal. Are you ready for the challenge? Are you up for the goal? Are you in this for the long-range vision of United Methodist Women, living into the future, as we have always done?



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## TREASURER

The year-end figures for 2016 were not available for the winter newsletter so I want to share the following : \$177,349.41 was sent to national towards our pledge of \$275,000. We also sent to National \$19,225.00 in Special Mission recognitions and \$18,775.17 in supplementary gifts. We can all be very proud of these totals when we consider our member totals continue to fall. We have lowered our pledge for 2017 to \$225,000.00 so we have high goals to reach once again. As we set our pledges midyear it is hard to anticipate what a year will bring but we do need to dream big and at the same time be realistic.

Our news is so full of unrest, crime, and so much negativity that I now search for what I call “feel good news”. These stories aren’t seen often but please watch for them as I believe we all need to be reminded of the good in our world. The evening national news includes a “feel good story” often at the end which leaves me in a positive and hopeful mindset.

I discovered ‘Sunday Morning’ with Jane Pauley and now record it as it is during church but has some great stories to watch especially when I need a pick me up. Recently there was a segment on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The story had United Nations stats on successes recorded on world poverty and steps made through immunizations, bed nets, and much else.

We are all so proud of our United Methodist Women and what we do alongside of many other great organizations to make this a better world. The February lesson in our Program Book tells how over 6000 United Methodist Women and their guests participated in the 2016 Super Bowl campaign with their umbrellas as they circled the stadium. They opened their umbrellas to form a “virtual line of defense” symbolizing protection for victims of human trafficking. I encourage you to read “The White Umbrella” on trafficking included in our Reading Program or one of the other good books.

I encourage you to read, learn, give, and be proud to be a United Methodist Woman and the difference we have and can make in our world for women, youth, and children. Most of all love one another and show that love to all you meet.

**John 13:34 & 35** “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” NIV

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## SECRETARY

Spring is here and summer will follow soon.

Hope is a gift from God. It is a state of mind in which we remember that our needs are always met and miracles are before us every day. Hope is a gift that we give to others as we encourage their dreams and comfort their sorrow. (Author unknown)

We encourage our districts and local units to keep on track, by keeping accurate records and making sure all important dates are remembered in a timely matter.

If you are a new secretary to your district(even an old one), I want to see you in October for the conference celebration and training.

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## MISSION COORDINATOR FOR SOCIAL ACTION

### Don't Be Silent

Don't be Silent and Invisible. The time is here. Be part of the change. Be part of the solution. We must speak out about all the injustices in the world. We must be a part of the solution to climate change. These are the things we must do. My responsibility as the Social Action Coordinator is to keep you informed.

Since returning from LDD in Charlotte, North Carolina, I have attended several Social Action events given by the units. The LDD session in Charlotte had lots of information on human trafficking and racial justice. Those who traffic victims may be pimps or women. It all comes down to money. When victims are rescued there are very few places for them to go. There are only about four hundred houses for victims nationwide.

On April 1, 2017, "Keep Making Peace" was held at the Wesley United Methodist Church. The subject was "Confronting Michigan's Climate Change". Dr. David Bard, our Bishop opened the session. He holds a long and deep commitment to Social Justice and Peace including issues of Climate Change.

Dr. Sharlissa Moore spoke of recent research in the Lansing area about barriers and opportunities in transitioning to low-carbon electricity. David Karowe spoke of ecological consequences of elevated levels of carbon dioxide on plants and insects. Rev Paul Perez urged us all to understand environmental racism and to advocate for remedies to protect all citizens and the environment.

Pat Grauer of the Shalom Center for Justice and Peace discussed best practices for citizen advocacy. One of the things she discussed was our need to contact those who represent us. E-mail is the best way of communication because letters are screened and may take longer. Be concise and state your issues. I close this article reminding all that April is "Sexual Assault Awareness Month".

**"Serve one another with whatever gift each of you have received" 1 Peter 4:10**

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## MISSION COORDINATOR FOR MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

Now that membership counting has concluded, it is time to emphasize the other two areas of responsibility: **nurture and outreach**. Many units and the Districts are having Spring Gatherings which are inviting to new members. Since our weather this year has been erratic, it is great to see the passing of another winter and birds returning. Spring flowers are blooming and summer flowers are coming forth. Some units have grown greatly as new and exciting programs are introduced.

Now is the time to schedule spring teas, UMW book reporting and exchange, nature walks, wildflower excursions, learning and sharing information, and getting ready for Annual Conference are a few ideas and suggestions to keep the momentum growing. Educational exchanges such as reading a Mission study and talking about what you have learned is important. It helps us get prepared for summer learning adventures. Keep up the enthusiasm and spread the word.

As you are starting new programs or exploring new ideas, remember nurturing is part of the Coordinator's responsibility. Do something special for your members to show how much you appreciate their participation. Do not forget to welcome back the "Snow Birds" and find out if they might have new program ideas gleaned from other parts of the country. Keep up the enthusiasm and spread the word!

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## MISSION COORDINATOR FOR EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Mission is **presence, relationship, witness and sharing.**

Mission is **refusing to turn away**

**when the tears of God are being shed**

over the violence and injustice and suffering of God's wayward creation

*United Methodist Women-supported mission intern David Hosey*

There are so many things we as United Methodist Women could be doing. Each day we see someone we could help! As United Methodist Women, that is our Mission! Today as I picked up the prayer calendar I was drawn to (page 37) a picture of a bird, I think a dove and the letters PAZ. I looked down to read that Kauanne, age 13, was the artist and it represents the Shade and Freshwater Afterschool Ministry in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. After further investigation via the internet I discovered that this project is helping at-risk children and teens develop character through a national after-school network. When the project began in 2000, there were many street children and teenagers prone to get involved in drugs, crime, and prostitution. In many cities, vigilante groups that sought to clean up the street murdered street children. At the same time, the Brazilian Methodist church had a number of local projects that worked with at risk children and teenagers, but these efforts were diverse and uncoordinated. Many other churches were concerned about the children's situation, but didn't know how to make positive changes. A national network of after-school programs was created in 2000. Its first goal was to unify the church's efforts, and secondly to strengthen each local church program by providing common materials and regular training. This network has been very effective. Over the last 10 years, the number of projects has more than doubled, and thousands of children and teenagers are being reached. All the projects have a common vision and framework. Regular training has greatly increased the quality of each local project. Probably the most significant change has been a much clearer focus on the building of character and values of the more than 3,000 children and teenagers involved in this network. Reports are constantly telling us of children and teenagers who were once involved in drugs and drug trafficking that have left this activity, and many of the current educators were once part of the program. Many local churches have involved these community children in the worship activities of the church and many are now Methodist. This is a project that is supported by United Methodist Women from all over the world through our pledges, mission giving, etc.

We as United Methodist Women not only support Women, Children and Youth in Brazil, Africa and other countries but also here in the United States with projects such as the "Out in Faith Bakken Oil Rush Ministry" in Williston, North Dakota run by Kathleen Peterson (page 21 of the prayer calendar) who was the home missionary in Michigan's God's Country Cooperative Parish before she moved to North Dakota. Some of you may remember her. There are so many projects that touch my heart that I can't share them all but wanted to say another important part of what we do as UMW units is to support our local mission projects. We are helping those in need in our own communities, churches and homes.

So my point with this article is to encourage each of you to get a UMW prayer calendar so you can learn and pray for all of these worthy projects. The Response Magazine is also full of great stories to help us understand where the money goes when we give to United Methodist Women.

Out of the Purpose are four mission foci that relate to the mission initiatives and priorities of United Methodist Women.

- To be a community of women
- To know God
- To develop a creative and supportive fellowship
- To expand concepts of mission

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Mission u as we join together to learn more about Missions.

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## SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES

### “Walk with Me”

Take a walk with me as I serve as your Secretary of Program Resources. The one thing I do know is that if you are not an avid reader, you will become one because everything is interesting. I have loved reading ever since I was very young. My mother was always reading. My dad had to have his newspaper every morning. We had bibles, books, magazines, encyclopedias, newspapers and anything we could read in our household. One of my brothers was always challenging us to read the dictionary, encyclopedias and the bible from front to back. We tried but never met the challenge.

The Five Categories of the Reading Program are: **Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth.**

Travel with Faith Fowler “*We Come This Far by Faith*” through **Nurturing for Community. Social Action** empowers us with information about Human Trafficking, Climate Justice, “America and its Guns” (new 2017 book selection), and Racism. **Leadership Development** directs us to Trailblazers and Visionaries and children who changed the world in the children’s books. By the way, children and youth books are counted in the Reading Program for everyone. **Spiritual Growth** shows us God’s Amazing Love; how to bring peace, joy and energy into our life; or discover why life is worth living and how to live in hope daily. **Education for Mission** is a learning experience as we learn the voice of the Native American, or lose our fear of the Muslim, Romani people, Laos culture, embrace the forgotten people or the underground girls.

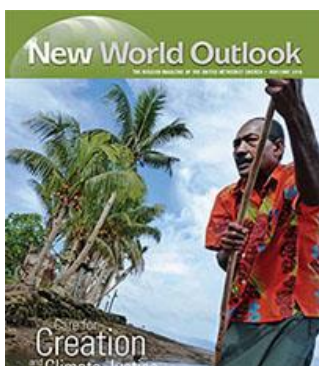
Now that I have whetted your appetite for Reading there are several ways to get engaged in the Reading Program. You can visit [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram) and get more information and the list of suggested reading books. Once you see the books in each category then you can go to your public library and check out the book; second, you can go to [www.umwmissionresource.org](http://www.umwmissionresource.org) or call (800) 305-9857 to order the books; third visit the books e-store to download books or audio books. The Reading Program includes books in the 2012 – 2017 list.

Your assignment is to find additional information on [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org) website and get excited about Reading. Participate in one of the Plans this year. Don’t forget to include Response Magazine and New World Outlook Magazine. “Building Peace Between Japan and Korea” in the March 2017 issue of Response is a great guideline for World Peace. We must understand the past so we can work for a better and different future for everyone.

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## **CHAIRPERSON OF NOMINATIONS**

We are now starting in earnest to begin the nominations process to prepare for 2018. If you are currently on the Committee, you will soon be receiving a contact to see how this year is going and what you are thinking for 2018. As most of you know, there are time limits for each position, so we try to match the gifts, the skills, and the energy with the needs at the time.

If anyone is interested in joining or rejoining the Committee, or just wanting to volunteer to help in a certain way, I would love to have that conversation. I do know that we need a representative on the nominations committee from the Crossroads District. That is an empty spot now, so please consider.

This is an especially interesting time as we come together with the West Michigan Conference for 2019. Our UMWs will meld together also. Please pray and be happy for this transition time. God is with us!

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## **DISTRICT PRESIDENTS**

### **ANN ARBOR DISTRICT PRESIDENT**

I am really hoping that the snow that I am looking at will be the last snow we see this season! My husband and I just returned from a month in Florida so this recent snow was not wanted or expected. I guess we can't always get what we want - God has a plan for us and he always supplies what we need, not necessarily what we want.

The Ann Arbor District Mission Team met on March 9 at the London United Methodist Church. We finalized all the details for our upcoming Spiritual Growth Retreat that will be at Judson Collins Campground on April 28-29. We are so looking forward to being "Refreshed and Renewed" as well as the fellowship with our sisters in Christ. For those of you wishing to attend, please get your registration forms in as soon as possible. We promise you will be so glad you made the decision to come. We also decided on a theme for our District Annual Celebration, our ingathering project and our Social Action goals for this year. Environmental Justice, Global Justice and Immigration Justice will be our main areas of focus. The Keep Making Peace Day on April 1 should bring a lot of information that we can use to accomplish these goals.

UMW units around the District have been very active: the Ypsilanti First UMC unit will be visiting the Grand Rapids Community House; the Ida UMC unit will be participating in "Soles for Hope", collecting and sending shoes to children in Uganda; Monroe St. Paul UMC unit is hosting a meeting with a speaker from Paula's House (an organization helping women and children); Sewing diapers for Haiti is a project that the Milford UMC unit is working on. These are just a few activities going on - let's all continue to serve God in the mission work He calls us to do.

The words of Paul: "But my life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus - the work of telling others the Good News about God's wonderful kindness and love." Acts 20:24

**Vicky Engelbert**

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## BLUE WATER DISTRICT PRESIDENT

**“Lovely flowers are smiles of God’s goodness”.**

Samuel Wilberforce

As we have just celebrated Easter with all the beautiful lilies in the sanctuary and the decorations we have for Easter breakfast after Sunrise Service, I was finally able to find some time to work outside in my own garden. After doing a lot of outside work last year in our backyard and doubling the size of my flower garden, it was time to witness the fruit of all my labors with glorious daffodils in bloom and the promise of other plants coming up through the ground! God’s goodness shines through all of our labors, no matter how small! He knows our hearts are in the right place as we care for the “least of these” with food baskets, visits to shut ins, listening to those around us who just need a listening ear, and all the other still, small ways we reach out to others.

I like to view each of us as the flowers that are smiles of God’s goodness, as quoted in the phrase above. Even if it’s difficult, it’s worth the effort!

I hope that all in the Blue Water District will consider attending Mission u this summer as a chance to increase your knowledge of the mission work of United Methodist Women. It’s a great opportunity to see the work we do, and how we can help others through those small efforts that we perform, while at the same time meeting new people and having fellowship with ladies that have a mind for mission!

**Kathy Freeland**

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## CROSSROADS DISTRICT PRESIDENT

The Crossroads District United Methodist Women celebrated our Annual Prayer Breakfast on March 11, 2017 at Millington UMC. The breakfast was very well attended. We were blessed with the attendance of our D. S. Rev Hice, special music by Halsey / Lincoln Park Gospel Choir and by our Conference President Micki Phelps. Micki was our guest speaker and spoke on the power of prayer. It was a very blessed event and a wonderful way to welcome in Spring.

We look forward to the next big event in the Crossroads District which is something in which every man, woman and child can take part. It is called “Taking it to the Streets”. This is an event sponsored by the district, taking the love of God beyond the walls of the Church to the people of the area. Its purpose is to show all the Love of God that he has shown us, so that they too may see and know that love. Join us in Prayer if you cannot join in the fun on **May 20, 2017**. You can find out more about this at “Taking it to the Streets UMC/rethinkchurch”.

**Susie Hagenstein**

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## DETROIT RENAISSANCE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

I was so happy to be able to be a part of the Mission Workshop for Detroit Renaissance District in March! The program was very good today. It was all on Refugee Resettlement. We heard from a Lutheran pastor who works with an organization which takes care of accepting and finding housing and sponsors for refugees. There was lots of information including the three to five years of vetting. Then we heard from two members of First UMC of Birmingham which has sponsored two Syrian families. I encourage you all to be in mission for women, children and youth!

**Kay Korns**

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## SAGINAW BAY DISTRICT PRESIDENT

### “Don’t Let Me Be Gray!”

“Don’t let me be gray!” is the title of a devotion I remember reading once. Well, I’m pretty much gray now, but only on the outside, I hope! I don’t want to be gray on the inside. I want to always have a sense of passion for what I’m doing. Though it’s tempting to give in or give up, to stay busy or look engaged with the *memory and pretense* of living, we all know that it is not the same. I don’t want to pretend! I don’t want to be gray! Not ever!

A highlight of February was the SBD Spiritual Enrichment Brunch. Our topic was ‘The Bridges Out of Poverty’ and Mary Gladstone-Highland was our guest. Mary is a Church & Community Worker at Clarkston UMC in Clarkston, MI. Our attendance was great, our music wonderful & uplifting, & Mary led us to think together about the environment of poverty. A day of fellowship & learning for all of us! Good luncheon, too! Thank you, Good Shepherd of the North UMC, Martha Clapp & the rest of the team!

And after Mary’s thought provoking presentation, the next Reading Program book I read was Class Lives – Stories From Across Our Economic Divide ed. by Chuck Collins & others. (Social Action-2017) I can’t tell you how many times I have read a Reading Program book & then read another quote by the author, seen an article in the newspaper or online, or seen something on TV about the topic. Mary’s presentation & what I read in Class Lives just clicked. I think what I’ll remember the longest is that no matter what ‘class’ one is in, each has strengths as well as weaknesses. I think this means we shouldn’t ‘look down’ on others, but appreciate them! And economic justice gets wedged in there, too. The various authors also related ways class is intertwined with race/ethnicity/gender/ & education in addition to the obvious income & where one lives. A good read – I recommend it!

So if you see me around, you WILL notice my gray hair, but hopefully with a positive attitude & a sense of passion. I don’t want to be among ‘The Walking Dead!’ Remember, your attitude is catching! It can be a POSITIVE one like ‘Let’s git ‘er done!’ or a NEGATIVE one like the forever gloomy Eeyore from Winnie the Pooh. (Personally I still like good old Eeyore, but if I was part of the story, I’d have to try to cheer him up some.)

I’m looking forward to our Retreat, ‘God Changes Everything’ led by Kelly Hull at The Springs in Gladwin. A time apart with other Christian women is a time to renew my faith & share time with those I cherish.

This summer will find me either outside or in my enclosed porch (depending on the mosquitoes & blackflies!) with my nose stuck in another Reading Program book! And probably sprouting a few more gray hairs! The good book part I hope for you, too, just not the gray hairs!

Joy, Julia

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**ASSEMBLY 2018**  
**Columbus, Ohio May 18-20, 2018**  
Celebrating 150 years of United Methodist Women

**\$295 EARLY REGISTRATION STARTS SEPTEMBER 1, 2017  
AND \$330 AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE (NOVEMBER 30, 2017)**

The early registration fee for the 2018 Assembly is \$295. Early registration begins September 1, 2017 and the deadline is November 30, 2017. After that date, regular registration fee is \$330. This fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees.

Hotels cost will range from \$139 - \$159 per night for up to 4 people – Double/Double.

More information to come related to travel arrangements.

Please reference the website for more information at:  
<https://umwassembly.org/>



# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN DETROIT CONFERENCE 2017 TEAM

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## **United Methodist Women Detroit Conference 2017 Dates to Remember**

### **June 1 - 4 (Thursday - Sunday)**

Detroit Annual Conference,  
Grand Traverse Resort, Traverse City

### **July 1 (Saturday)**

The Detroit Conference News deadline

### **July 13 - 15 (Thursday – Saturday)**

West Michigan Mission u at Albion College

### **August 16 (Wednesday)**

Lake Huron Retreat Center  
Racial Justice Committee 10 - 11:45 am  
Lunch at Noon  
Committee on Finance Meeting - 1 - 3 pm

### **August 17 (Thursday)**

8:30 am, Hands on Mission Experience  
Port Huron Area  
8:45 am - 3 pm, One Day Sampler Mission u  
Lake Huron Retreat Center

### **August 18 - 19 (Friday - Saturday)**

9 am Fri - 4:30 pm Sat, Two Day Mission u  
Lake Huron Retreat Center

### **Oct 1 - 14 - DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS**

### **October 16 -17 (Monday and Tuesday)**

Mission u of the North, Gaylord UMC

### **October 20 (Friday) /October 21 (Saturday)**

West MI Conference Office Training & Annual  
Meeting, Mt. Pleasant, MI

### **October 27 (Friday)**

Conference Officer Training & Leadership  
Development  
Detroit Conference News Meeting, 5 pm

### **October 28 (Saturday)**

Conference Annual Meeting, 9 am  
registration, 9 am to 3 pm

### **December 1 (Friday)**

The Detroit Conference News deadline