

Genesee Valley District United Methodist Women Newsletter

From Your President

Once again, we come to this very special time of the year in which we celebrate and appreciate the birth of Jesus Christ. In this season, we do our best to reach out and be a blessing to our families, as well as others who mean a lot to us.

You are Christmas...*Every time you smile and help to make the world a brighter place*

You are Christmas...*Every time you laugh and let the sound join with all the happy music of the world.*

You are Christmas...*Every time you speak a word of faith to some fearful soul along an unpaved road.*

You are Christmas...*Every time you prayer a prayer for those who need your very special blessing.*

You are Christmas...*Every time your loving*

hand goes out of the way to give that extra special service.

Where has the year gone? Well, let's see, Communion Breakfast, Assembly, Spring Event and the Fall Annual Meeting (including your local UMW events).

Thank you to all of you who have hosted events this last year, to those who have attended our events, and have participated in your local unit programs and projects. You are part of one of the largest and most effective women's organizations in the world.

Alice Anderson, President
Alice_Anderson@rochester.rr.com



November 2014

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President, Alice Anderson
585-388-1706

Vice President, Gale Fisher Huber
585-247-3464

Secretary, Neva Benson
585-621-6787

Treasurer, Arlene Martin
585-247-1605

Spiritual Growth, Joyce Farrokh
585-865-5135

Membership, Nurture & Outreach,
Diane Maier
585-671-3354

Program Resources, Phyllis Miller
585-225-6873

Communications, Candy Metzger
585-227-3138

Church Women United,
Cheryl Hannis
585-398-7566

Chautauqua Rep, Marie Follett
585-589-4202

Vice President News

Our District Annual Meeting was held September 20th, 2014, at the United Methodist Church of Webster. An inspiring worship service was held, along with a business meeting. This was followed with election of 2015 officers installed by Helen Johnson, a Conference officer. You can find a list of the officers on our new Facebook page under Genesee Valley District UMW. The position of Social Action is still vacant. If you are a member committed to social jus-

tice issues, please prayerfully consider joining our Leadership Team to help us pursue the goals set forth in our "Purpose."

Carmen Vianese delivered an inspiring program entitled "Sisterhood of Grace – UMW, Inc." Her words educated and enlightened us as to the background of UMW and gave us many examples of the relevancy of UMW in the world today. Carmen's presence provided an energy which was motivating for all of us.

The Upper New York Annual Conference was held on October 3rd and 4th, 2014, at the Shenendahowa UMC in Clifton Park, NY. Molly Golando was the guest speaker on the topic of "Missionology."

Her talk is well covered on the new Conference website which you can access at UpperNYUMW. You will find her observations very interesting. The new officers are also listed on the website.

Gale Fischer Huber

DATE AND PROGRAM CHANGE: Our Spring Event – A Day Apart is undergoing some changes in 2015. Our District has been invited and your Leadership Team accepted to join with the Niagara Frontier District on Saturday, May 2, 2015, at the Oakfield United Methodist Church, between Buffalo and Rochester, approximately five miles north of the Thruway, for a program by Rev. Chris Wylie entitled "The Church and People With Disabilities." More details will follow in the February newsletter. Please mark the new date on your calendars.

Education & Interpretation

One Conference but 3 choices for Mission U in 2015.

The Spiritual Growth will be "Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life In God". The Geographic study will be "Latin America: People and Faith" and the Issue will be "The Church & People with Disabilities". For details as they emerge, please visit:

www.unymissionu.org

Please mark your calendars for this study – you will not be sorry you attended. You will just ask yourself – what took you sooo long to decide to participate in the opportunity for growth – spiritually, intellectually and socially.

The dates of Mission u are listed in our 2015 calendar information.

Alice Anderson, President



Are you working on becoming a Mission Today Unit?

From our Chautauqua Representative

The Chautauqua Homes Board is charged with attending to the physical needs and managing the operation of both the Fenten Deaconess Home, and the Methodist Missionary House. The Board had their last meeting of the season on August 26th.

Officers for 2015 were elected with Carol Forden as President. Rates for staying at the houses, and salaries for 2015 were set.

Host and Hostess Rev. Doug and Celia Thompson and long time cook, Barbara Crouse announced that 2015 would be their last year with the Missionary House. The Personnel Committee will be putting plans into place for advertising the positions.

Marie Follett
Chautauqua Homes Board Representative

"Host and Hostess and long-time cook are leaving..."

Program Resources

I am happy to announce that 7 churches have completed the GVD Reading Program. Each woman who completed the program received a Certificate of Recognition for reading books under 5 different categories.

These churches are: Aldersgate UMC, Avon UMC, Carlton UMC, Fairport UMC, Greece UMC, Penfield UMC and Webster UMC.

If you are interested in getting started in the program, you can go online under Methodist Reading Program or contact Phyllis Miller.

Phyllis Miller
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PURPOSE FOR UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

*United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose **purpose** is to know GOD and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.*

A Note from the Treasurer

It is important that I remind you that, according to UMW guidelines, each unit should empty their treasury at the end of each year. The Genesee Valley District Pledge To Missions for 2014 is \$30,000. As I write this, we are approximately \$8,000 short of fulfilling our pledge. If your unit has some undesignated funds remaining, please prayerfully consider contributing to any of the five mission areas. Please use a Remittance Form and send to me as soon as possible.

We will have a new Upper NY Conference UMW Treasurer starting in January. To help facilitate a smooth transition, please send all 2014 monies me **no**

later than December 1st, 2014. This will give both me and the current conference treasurer enough time to process everything before the close of books on December 31st. Please do **not** send any 2015 monies to me until after January 1, 2015.



There are five areas of mission giving and, if your unit gives to all five areas, the unit will receive a Five Star Award. Congratulation to the following

units who received the award for 2013: Aldersgate, Asbury, Canandaigua, Geneseo, Greece, and Stafford.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation! May God richly bless you during this wonderful season of Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Blessings to all,
Arlene Martin
arlene.martin@yahoo.com

690 Westside Dr.
Rochester, NY 14624

Church Women United

Church Women United Advent Celebration and Annual Meeting will be on Friday, December 5, 2014 from 9:15 AM - 1:30 PM. The meeting will take place at St. John's Meadows, 2nd Building, 1 Johnsarbor Drive West, 14620. The Rev. Anne Waasdorp will lead a Bible Study with the theme "Proper the Work of Our Hands". Beverages and desserts will be provided, please bring a brown bag lunch and your Bible.

In October Rev. Shirley Pudney-Ellers led us through a stimulating program of learning more about ourselves by interpreting how we personally ruminate. Rumination is defined as "to think deeply about something"; she explained how we worry this way. What did Jesus teach us about worrying? Verses in the Bible warn us that it can add more worry, as it certainly will not add anything positive to your life. Also, worry is a precursor to not taking care of yourself, so why do it? A meditation for giving Jesus all your troubles and worries:

*All to Jesus I surrender;
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him;
In His presence daily live.*

Please consider donating to the on-going Health Kit Program for the Mercy Outreach Center. We received a nice donation of kits from Deborah's Circle from Fairport UMW of Health Kits. The Pittsford Dental Excellence Center donated a large amount of toothpaste, thanks to Wini Adams (FUMW).

Health Kits: Shampoo, Toothpaste/ toothbrush, Razor/shaving cream(man), Deodorant, Bar soap, Washcloth, Small pack tissues, or Comb. - Put in 1 gallon plastic bag.

Cheryl Hannis
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*Renumerate ~
"to think deeply about
something"*



Ten Units Recognized for Mission Today Accomplishments

We awarded certificates to the following Genesee Valley District units for submitting Mission Today reports: Honorable Mention - Canandaigua UMW; Bronze - Brockport UMW, Geneseo UMW, and Stafford UMW; Silver - Webster UMW; Gold - Aldersgate UMW, Avon UMW, Greece UMW, Penfield UMW, and Perry UMW. Although the same number of units reported as had in 2013, please notice that we had more units achieving gold than ever before.

The question was asked whether or not to continue with the Mission Today program. Those who gave feedback were in favor of continuing, particularly in light of the units that showed increased involvement. Consequently, at its recent meeting the District UMW Leadership decided to go ahead.

As you are planning your programs for this year, be conscious of the Mission Today criteria (published in previous newsletters). Sometimes even minor adjustments in your programs can give you credit in an additional area; such as, remembering to say the purpose at your meetings, including a brief Response Magazine report, taking the time to write to our missionaries, or encouraging more of your members to attend District and Conference UMW events and Mission u. Let's see if we can't have even more of our units involved in the 2014-15 year!



DATES FOR 2015

Please mark your calendar so you don't miss out!

January 31 - 9:00 AM	District Executive Board at Greece UMC
March 28	Communion Breakfast
April 11 - 9:00 AM	District Executive Board at Fairport UMC
May 2	Spring Event with Niagara Frontier District at Oakfield, NY
June 22 - 3:00 PM	District Executive Board at Alice Anderson's home
July or August	District Executive Board meeting to be decided
July 17 - 19	Mission u at Cazenovia College
July 30 - August 1	Mission u at Asbury Camp & Retreat Center, Silver Lake
September 11 - 13	Mission u at Silver Bay Conference Center, Lake George
September 19 - 9:00 AM—Registration 9:30 AM Worship	Annual Meeting at Rush UMC
October 2 & 3	Conference UMW Annual Meeting
November 14 - 9:00 AM	District Executive Board at Aldersgate UMC

And in 2016

June 16-18, 2016	Northeast Jurisdictional UMW Quadrennial Meeting in Syracuse
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UMW Sunday, 2015

Suggested Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

United Methodist Women PURPOSE: The organized unit of the United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Litany - Canticle of Hope

We shall see a new heaven and earth, for the old will pass away.

We shall see a new Jerusalem, the holy city descending from heaven.

The city shall need no sun or moon, for God's glory will be its light,

For God's Lamb will be its lamp, and by its light the nations shall walk.

We shall hear a loud voice from the throne:

"Behold, God's dwelling is with mortals, indeed, God will dwell with them and they will be God's people.

God shall wipe away all our tears, and there shall be no more death.

Mourning, crying, and pain shall cease, for all former things will pass away.

We shall hear One speak from the throne:

"Behold, I make all things new, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end."

Hymn #383 "This is the Day of New Beginnings"

Children's Message

Special Music

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Mission Award

New Testament Readings: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

1 Corinthians 3: 8-9

Message: UMW: Purpose Driven Women

Offering

Offertory Hymn#114 "Many Gifts, One Spirit."

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Sending Forth

Hymn#364 "Because He Lives"

Benediction (**Unison**)

New every morning is Your love, great God of light.

All day long You work for good in the world.

Stir up in us desire to serve You,

to live peacefully with our neighbors,

to devote each day to Your Son,

for each day You make things new for us.

Through our Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.