



First United Methodist Church UMW Newsletter

January 2012

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Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In His grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your Gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other. Never be lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically.

*Romans 12: 4-11
New Living Translation Bible*

When asked to serve as UMW President, I was hesitant to say yes, given that I have only been a member of St. Charles First since March 2010. However with the persuasive voices of Norma Stahlhuth and Betty Knapp, I

was assured that being relatively new would not be a detriment and that the membership would support me and the board. I took their words with value, but my observation of the membership was the catalyst to say

yes. The women of UMW are truly enthusiastic and energetic participants who say "yes" when asked to help. Not only do they uphold the

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Special Mission Recognition Tributes

At the Christmas Luncheon on December 15, several individuals were recognized for the ways in which they support the purpose of UMW. Rev. Debby Bartley and Linda Cooper were presented with Special Mission Recognition pins. Martha Caldwell also received the award. She was unable to be present for the Christmas

Luncheon and will receive her pin at an upcoming unit meeting.

In addition, Ray Deweese was honored with a gift to mission card and ribbon with gratitude for his service within our church.

The following tributes were taken from nomination submissions and read as each individual was recognized.

Rev. Debby Bartley

Debby supports all UMW functions and missions. She is a leader on fire for mission work to be done in our community and around the world. She has a passion for bettering the future of children and lifting them out of poverty. She is an excellent role model for us.

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Gifts of God

**“The women of
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(Continued from page 1)

UMW Purpose, they embrace the passage written above. Faithfulness, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving and leading: all qualities and talents brought to fulfill the missions of United Methodist Women.

Fellowship is a most important factor within each circle; for circle members truly do love and support each other. Study and learning occur at circle meetings and each quarterly unit meeting. Personal spiritual growth occurs through the UMW Reading Program and periodicals such as Response Magazine and New World Outlook. The unit pledges to give to the District \$4000.00, which the membership generously meets every year.

Although United Method-

ist Women do not need accolades for their accomplishments, it is right to note how their hard work has been utilized. Fundraising efforts have resulted in generous giving in 2011 to the following: Shalom House, FISH, Sewing Club for Missions, Youth Missions, Bread for the World, Kairos, the Heifer Project, Inclement Weather Fund, Engineering Ministries International, Mother’s Day Out Scholarship, Lindenwood University Ministries, Kingdom House, Epworth Children and Family Services and Volunteers in Medicine. This year brought a special need for the children of St. Charles and UMW didn’t hesitate to step up. The donation of coats, shoes, socks and underwear to the students at Blackhurst

School was greatly appreciated. Another way UMW serves children is here in our own church during Vacation Bible School week. The joy on the children’s faces as they pick up their snack sack each day is priceless.

We are just beginning our new year and there is always room for new members and new ideas, so if you are a newcomer or a long time member of St. Charles First United Methodist Church please consider joining in this fun and fellowship. I promise you won’t be sorry.

Submitted by Diana Rogers

Special Mission Recognition

(Continued from page 1)

Martha Caldwell

The time has long passed for Martha to receive special recognition for the hard consistent work she does for the less fortunate of our community. Our sisters and brothers look to her, know they can depend on her for their needs that might not get addressed otherwise. She is faithful as the Lord’s angel every Wednesday at Showers of Blessing and in the Soup Kitchen. She reaches out from the church to show love and care to the downtrodden following the Lord’s instructions and showing his love to his precious children. She makes sure Showers of Blessing runs smoothly, making our guests

feel comfortable, wanted, and welcome; a powerful message and example of our Lord’s love through her.

Linda Cooper

Linda Cooper is a tireless UMW member. In her 7 years as a member of FUMC, she has given herself to many different groups: UMW President for 2 years, AAUW Dinner, Cookie Walk, 2010 UMW Tea, Mary McCleod Bethune Circle, bus driver, Legislative Event in Jefferson City, Lenten Lunches, 2010 VBS Snack Sacks Coordinator, liturgist and usher on Sunday mornings, food contributor to Showers of Blessing, washing/ironing white table cloths, and in her spare time she is a lawyer.

Ray Deweese

This gentleman is always there when there is a need and always ready to help in most everything. He is a leader in keeping the church grounds clean and landscaped. He is a behind the scenes contributor in many areas. He has been a Sunday School teacher, leader for Bible studies, has gone on several mission trips, including one to India. He has been a kitchen volunteer (dishwasher) for UMW when asked and never says no.

In these and many other ways, Ray Deweese has helped forward the purpose of UMW in regard to serving women, children, and youth.

response magazine

For Unto Us a Child is Born

The December issue of *response* has the theme "For Unto Us a Child is Born". When you read through the issue you'll find informative accounts about 21st century experiences of flight from lands of oppression and dangers. You'll learn about extended journeys made with only what you can carry on your person (children and possessions) to seek asylum as immigrants and refugees. Along with these reports paralleling the Holy Family's 1st century experiences, there is a photo essay allowing us to see the faces of women and children living out these situations today.

Whether for your own reading or to share within your circle, I recommend you find a copy of the issue and learn more about the ways United Methodist Women are following the models of our foremothers. We continue to find creative and supportive ways to help women, children and youth face the realities of life as they find it and to become empowered to overcome what holds them back.

All editions of *response* are carefully and thoughtfully prepared. It is well worth our time to read them and be blessed.

Submitted by
Connie Deweese

A Christmas Prayer

All Powerful,
Way Maker,
Kindest friend,
Living God,
we praise you!

We don't have enough words or
names to capture
your awesome essence
or our gratitude
for your steadfast love and tender mercies.

You Are
love!

You Are
with us!

Emmanuel!

O God, grant us faith to bring you joy
by likewise loving and standing
with one another.

In the name of our Savior, Jesus the Christ
Amen.

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Gateway Regional District Meeting

The Gateway Regional District Meeting will be held at St. Charles First on February 18th with a snow date of February 25th. There will be a Candle Burning Program and certificates will be awarded for 5* Units and for participants of the reading program. The program is entitled "Walk With Wholeness," Program Book '101'. The following circles are asked to serve as hostesses: Fanny Crosby, Isabella Thoburn, Lucy Webb Hayes, Serendipity, Susanna Wesley, and Wesleyan. The District contact person for this event is Betty Knapp.

Unit Meeting Minutes ~ December 15

President Jill Nachtrab welcomed everyone to the UMW Annual Christmas Luncheon. Pastor Robin led the group in prayer. The meal was served by a hostess at each table. Approximately 100 women were in attendance.

The Special Mission Recognition Pins were awarded as follows:

- Jill read the nomination and awarded the pin to Pastor Debby Bartley.
- June Hopkins read the nomination and awarded the pin to Linda Cooper.
- Diana Rogers read the nomination for Martha Caldwell, and due to her absence, the

pin will be awarded at a later date.

- Norma Stahlhuth thanked Ray Deweese for his service to UMW and presented him with a Gift to Mission card and ribbon.

Trudy McCormick gave a year end financial report of the UMW treasury. The total giving for the year came to \$11,508.65. The District Pledge was \$4000.00 with the actual giving of \$4,879. She also noted the various missions and agencies that were recipients of the funds. A special comment was made concerning the donation of \$922.50 worth of coats, shoes, socks, and underwear to Blackhurst School. Jill thanked the committee and

crew that prepared and hosted the luncheon. She also announced that scholarships were available for attendance to the Legislative Event in Jefferson City this March.

District Shepherdess Patsey Skelton performed the Installation of the 2012 Officers. Diana Rogers presented the Past Presidents pin to Jill Nachtrab.

The musical program was directed by Donna Kinslow consisting of Christmas music performed by a ladies ensemble, solo artists and a piano duet. The event concluded with the singing of well-known Christmas carols.

Submitted by Diana Rogers
Secretary

Circle News

Lydia

Lydia Circle held their Christmas Gathering at the home of Betty Hedges with 6 members and 1 guest attending. Betty's beautifully decorated home made all of us feel very "Christmasy" even though we can't imagine just where the month of December has gone.

Edith Vanderbeek presented humorous and thoughtful devotions for the meeting. After a brief business meeting to discuss our next venture in the United Methodist Women's group, we exchanged our Secret Pals gifts and drew names for the upcoming year and passed out the names of our college students so cards can be sent to them before they arrive home for the holidays. Betty served a delicious brunch of hot chicken casserole, fresh fruit, Christmas breads, and hot cider punch. It was all enjoyed by the

circle. We are all looking forward to a busy holiday season and will be ready for the New Year which will arrive before we know it.

Submitted by Karen Capps

Susanna Wesley

Susanna Wesley Circle met December 13th at the home of Shirley Russell with 8 members present. Shirley gave the devotion. Secretary's report was accepted as read. Treasurer Anita Hockett reported a balance of \$61 and that our Thank Offering was \$58. Wanda Saip read names from the prayer calendar and devotions from Kings 2 and Acts. Place acknowledged for this day was Hiroshima Japan University. Norma Stahlhuth, Chairperson, went over important dates and activities from the newsletter.

Our next meeting will be in the Catherine Collier Room on Janu-

ary 10th instead of a home since snow may be a problem in January.

We were all given a mission ribbon by Norma as a thanks for all our efforts this past year. Meeting closed.

Program was our traditional reading by each member with some very inspirational articles concerning this blessed season. We had our gift exchange which is always fun. Then a delicious cake and goodies were served by the hostess.

Submitted by Shirley Russell

Wesleyan

The Wesleyan Circle met on Tuesday December 13th in the Cypress Lounge of the Embassy Suites Hotel. Thirteen members enjoyed a Dutch treat lunch, a Christmas game, and Christmas cards and presents. President

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Circle News (cont.)

(Continued from page 4)

Laura Bergmann handed out the December newsletter and announced that she and Kathleen Harover would be hostesses and

present the program for the next meeting on January 10th in the church parlor. Trudy McCormick presented a UMW Bible to Laura for Christmas and in recognition

of the many years of service she has given to the Wesleyan Circle and to the UMW.

Submitted by Kathleen Harover

2011 UMW Report of Giving

Undesignated Mission Giving through Gateway Regional UMW

1. Pledge to Mission	\$4,879.00
2. Gift to Mission	10.00
3. Mission Ribbons	97.00
4. Candle Burning	823.31
5. Gift in Memory	85.00
6. Mission Walk	20.00
7. World Thank Offering	626.76
8. Special Mission Recognition	160.00
TOTAL	\$6,701.07

Designated Mission Giving

1. Shalom House	\$834.00
2. PATCH of Chillicothe	50.00
3. MO Impact	40.00
4. Engineering Ministries International	100.00
5. Bread for the World	443.22
6. Epworth	267.00
7. FISH (Isabella Thoburn Circle)	113.50
8. Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	416.05
9. Kingdom House	100.00
10. Kingdom House Camp Program	50.00
11. Kairos of Missouri	75.00
12. Volunteers in Medicine (Fanny Crosby)	61.25
13. Volunteers in Medicine (Unit Donation)	200.00
TOTAL	\$2,550.02

Local Giving Through FUMC

1. Lindenwood College Ministry (Wesleyan Circle)	\$50.00
2. FUMC Youth Mission Trip	183.00
3. MDO Scholarship	230.00
4. VBS Snack Lunch Mission	499.91
5. Sewing Club	250.00
6. FUMC Community Care Fund (Mary M. Bethune Circle)	122.15
7. Blackhurst School Clothing Donation	922.50
TOTAL	\$2,257.56

TOTAL MISSION GIVING IN 2011 ~ \$11,508.65

UMW OFFICERS

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Maxine Pyles

Social Action

Mary Lou Wiss

Education/ Interpretation

June Hopkins

Membership Nurture/ Outreach

Myra Bickel

Program Resources

Dawn Proffitt

Nominations Committee

Alice Kniker (2012)
Shirley Russell (2013)
Linda Cooper (2014)
Jill Nachtrab (2015)

UMW Purpose

The organized unit of 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.
- To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Upcoming Events

January 3

Executive Board Meeting

9:30 am ~ Catherine Collier Room

February 16

Unit Meeting: Mini Mission Study

9:30 am-2:00 pm ~ Asbury Hall

Hostesses:

- * Executive Board ~ Breakfast Rolls/Coffee
- * Mary McLeod Bethune & Lydia ~ Lunch
- * Members-at Large ~ Dessert

February 18

Gateway Regional District Meeting

First United Methodist Church ~ St. Charles

Hostesses:

Fanny Crosby, Isabella Thoburn, Lucy Webb Hayes, Serendipity, Susanna Wesley, Wesleyan

March 6

Executive Board Meeting

9:30 am ~ Catherine Collier Room

March 6-7

Legislative Event

Jefferson City, MO

* Room reservations must be made by 1/31/12

****June 13-16**

UMW VIM/Della Lamb Mission Trip (KC, MO)

(Save the date! More details to come!)

Childcare is available for all UMW functions held at First UMC. For reservations, please contact Childcare Coordinator Winona Noble a week prior to the event at (636) 441-0611.



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