



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Trinity Women

THE POWER OF WHY: PERSISTENT WOMEN MOVING FORWARD

Presenting: Stacy Campbell, UMW President



Tuesday, September 11
10:15 am

Trinity Hall

Installation of 2018-2019 Officers

There will be a **luncheon** to follow -
please bring a dish to share.



Circle 1

Over the summer Circle 1, led by Ann Via, joined with Circles 7 and 9 in planning and hosting the Coffee Hour and Bake Sale for the Hermitage residents on August 14. We also gathered in July for lunch and again in August for our annual Potluck Social. Our kick-off meeting will be on Tuesday, September 18 at 9:30 am in the Mastin Room.

Circle 4

Our first meeting will be in Room 323 on Thursday, September 6 at 7 pm.

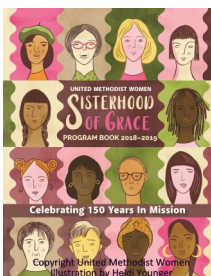
Circle 5

We will meet on Tuesday, September 18 at 7 pm in the Mastin Room for a program on *Henrico's Christmas Mother: The Story*.

Circle 6

We will meet on Tuesday, September 4 at 10:30 am in the Mastin Room. Bring a salad to share for our kick-off luncheon. There will be a short pledge service/business meeting as we plan for the coming year.

Trinity United Methodist Women



For more information about the UMW, contact UMW President Stacy Campbell at 762-8922 or stacybcampbell@gmail.com.

You can also visit:
www.trinityumc.net/umw

President's Letter

September is one of my favorite months. Refreshed from summer's relaxed schedule and vacation memories, September brings new beginnings and activities with friends. On Tuesday, September 11, we begin our new UMW year. We will install the new officers and begin our exciting 2018-2019 program, Sisterhood of Grace. The UMW will celebrate its 150th birthday in 2019, therefore, each month we will reflect on our history by remembering those who came before us. Then we will look to the future, our future, as women working together in a ministry that spans the globe powered by over 800,000 members. Invite a friend and come let's get started!

Stacy Campbell

UMCOR Kits

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) and the important work they do in responding to people in crisis. As you plan for kits in the coming year it is important to know that UMCOR has made a number of changes to their distribution practices and, most importantly, to the contents of the individual kits. Before you purchase your supplies be sure you have a copy of the May 2018 revised supply list. You can get this updated list by contacting Debbie Schmitt, UMCOR Kits Coordinator, or directly from the UMCOR website at www.umcor.org/UMCOR/Relief-Supplies. Let us to continue to partner with UMCOR as they continue their work to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing when disaster strikes.



Gifts in Memory

A gift to the UMW National Mission Institutions was given in memory of Phoebe Mackey, Dan Yanchisin (husband of Bonnie Yanchisin), Al Pierce (son of Rhunell Pierce), Ed Clements (husband of Dee Clements), and John Voorhis (father of Amy Lenow).

Their families received a card notifying them of this donation in their loved one's memory.

Thank You

Dear Friends of the UMW,

Thank you for the memorial gift celebrating Dan's life. It is wonderful to be part of the UMW.

Sincerely,
Bonnie Yanchisin

Hidden Treasures

Looking for a bargain or anxious to rid yourself of unused items? Hidden Treasures will be open as usual on the fourth Friday of the month, September 28. Be sure to clean out your closets to donate any clothing, toys, and housewares for the sale. The Fall Bazaar will be on October 26-27, when we will also be selling holiday decorations and baked items. These items can be delivered to the Hermitage or left in the designated area upstairs outside the balcony entrance of Trinity. Tax receipts are available in the church office. Furniture can be picked up by calling Hilda Taylor (275-2955) or Teedie Johnson (264-5337).

Hours for Hidden Treasures are 10:30-2:30 on the fourth Friday.

Questions: call Nancy Miller (740-3772) or Marble Jones (740-8002)

VA Conference Mission Encounter

Jo Lewis and I participated in this year's Mission Encounter from July 27-29 at the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake. The theme for this year was "Learning Together for the transformation of the world." The following mission studies were offered:

- **Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the U.S.**
There are 3 Missionary Conferences in the U.S. (Alaska United Methodist Conference; Red Bird Missionary Conference in Tennessee, and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference). The study explored church history alongside history in these regions, our ability to welcome and marginalize those we consider to be different from ourselves and the ways in which the church comes together to welcome and support our brothers and sisters through creative and authentic ministry.
- **What about Money**
This study explored how we understand money within the context of our faith. This study was both personal and communal. It explored our own relationship with money, the money choices available to us and how we individually and collectively respond to economic inequalities in the light of our faith.
- **Embracing Wholeness**
The study explored the ways God was calling us to live in covenantal relationship with all of creation and challenged participants to work toward stronger and healthier relationships with creation.
- **Children's Study (Money Matters)**
It endeavored to teach children about the concept of money, the importance of generosity and how God intends us to use money as an expression of love for others.

Jo participated in the mission study on Embracing Wholeness while I participated in the mission study on Missionary Conferences.

Jo and I bunked with another lady in the Reid Jones building. There were 3 beds and a bathroom in our room. Our accommodations were very comfortable and clean and the meals were delicious and served buffet style. We learned a lot about our respective mission study and made new friends. It was a small world for me because I met a fellow Filipina-American who is one of the recipients for the Missionary awards this year. She is a pediatrician who has been involved with less fortunate children in Portsmouth, VA for over 20 years. We also met and interacted with fellow UMW from our Richmond District like Ruth Wilkinson, Brenda Nesmith, Jessie Swain, Lloydette Diggs and Scotty Doyle. It was nice to spread our wings and meet new people from other districts, too. Districts like Lynchburg, York, and Roanoke. It was a gathering of inspired and colorblind Methodists willing to work together for the transformation of the world. Their passion for mission was palpable and evident. I came away from the conference inspired to echo what I learned in my mission study with the rest of our Unit in the new year. Please be on the lookout for announcements regarding the topics that Jo and I participated in at this year's Mission Encounter if you will not plan to attend the Richmond District Mini-Mission Encounter on Saturday, September 8, from 8:30 am-12:30 pm at Beulah UMC.

We hope you'll make time to participate in future Mission Encounter Conferences (whether it be the full or Mini-Mission Encounter) as well. It was a fun and enriching experience for me.

Janet Sommerville

*Learning
Together
for the
Transformation
of the World*



150th Anniversary of the United Methodist Women

Building a Strong Foundation with the Methodist Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

The United Methodist Women will celebrate its 150th Anniversary on March 23, 2019. As we approach this significant milestone, it is an excellent time to reflect on and celebrate the accomplishments of Methodist women. Countless ladies have contributed to the mission and success of the United Methodist Women. Over the course of the next year and a half, there will be a monthly article that focuses on significant figures and events in the organization's history.

As many of you may know, the title United Methodist Women wasn't used until 1973. It was chosen following the unification of multiple Methodist women's groups. The first of these groups was the Methodist Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS), which was founded on March 23, 1869 by Clementina Butler and Lois Parker. The WFMS evolved and the name changed, but it is the foundation of the UMW. These ladies had a vision of a mission organization lead by women to help women. A legacy that has persisted to present day.



Mrs. William Butler

Let us take a closer look at the beginning of our story. Who are Clementina Butler and Lois Parker? What inspired them to found the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society? How did they serve their church as Methodist women?

Clementina Rowe Butler (1820-1913) and her husband William Butler (1818-1899) were Irish immigrants. William joined the Wesleyan Church and became a minister. The couple was married in 1854. Just two years later, in 1856, they traveled to India as missionaries. They were among the founders of American Methodist mission work in India. They assisted in establishing Methodist churches abroad. The Butlers returned to the United States in 1865.

Lois Parker and her husband Reverend Edwin Parker (1833-1901) were also American Methodist missionaries in India. They spent many years abroad, and Reverend Parker would eventually oversee the Methodists ministries of India. When they returned to the United States in the late 1860s, they settled in Boston alongside the Butlers.

Lois and Clementina had many shared experiences, and they formed a friendship. Having witnessed the living conditions and healthcare for women and children in India, Lois and Clementina felt that they were called to send aid. In 1898, Frances Baker recalled that, "Mrs. Parker expressed her deep conviction that unless Christian women took up this work as a special and separate duty, it would not be practicable to evangelize India to any great extent. Women alone could have access to women there."



MRS. LOIS PARKER.

They had a clear mission. It was their responsibility as Christian women to uplift these underserved women and children in India. By providing basic care and educational opportunities, they could share Methodist teachings and demonstrate the power of God's love through their actions.

On March 23, 1869 they called a meeting at Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston. There were eight women in attendance, and they were the inaugural members of the WFMS. They worked quickly to establish the organization and raise money. Their first initiative was to send Isabella Thornton, a teacher, and Dr. Clara Swain, a physician, to aid Indian women and children. Though the long term stability of the organization was in question, these women were determined to succeed. Mrs. Porter, an inaugural member of the WFMS, said "Shall we lose Miss Thornton because we have not the needed money in our hands to send her? No, rather let us walk the streets of Boston in our calico dresses, and save the expense of more costly apparel." It is clear that these women would do what was necessary to perpetuate their cause.



It took less than ten years for the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society to take hold in the Methodist Church. By 1879, there were many auxiliary chapters across New England and in the Mid-West. Their goal was that every Methodist church would have a chapter and every woman would be a member. Francis Baker explains that "The method adopted for raising funds and prosecuting the work of the Society was not by public collections for special work, but by every Christian woman laying aside two cents a week, or the payment of one dollar a year, which should constitute membership. So small was the amount that all women, even the most humble, could have a share in the work." We will see that this notion of inclusivity is fundamental to the success and strength of the UMW throughout its history.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society may have been Clementina Butler and Lois Parker's most notable legacy; but both of these women were remarkable in their lifelong dedication to missionary work and to their faith. Clementina accompanied her husband to Mexico in 1873 to complete similar missionary work as they had done in India. They established a printing press, schools, a girls' orphanage, and churches. Clementina also promoted Methodist's literature, in particular literature for women of the church. She published a least four books, including a memoir on her husband's service as a missionary as well as a book on Pandita Ramabai Sarasvati, an Indian woman who studied Methodist teachings. Lois Parker remained dedicated to women's ministries, and she held leadership rolls alongside her husband as they continued to oversee missionary work in India.

Clementina Butler and Lois Parker lead the way in carving out a special place for women of the Methodist Church. They dedicated their lives to serving God, which is why it is an honor to share their stories as part of our anniversary celebration. Next month, we will continue to discuss the WFMS, and we will see the impact that Isabella Thornton and Dr. Clara Swain had in India.

For images, quotations, and more on the history of WFMS, see Miss Francis J. Baker, *The Story of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. 1865-1895* (Cincinnati: Curts & Jennings, 1898).

Emily Campbell