



Connection

Racism and Spirituality

How do we sustain ourselves spiritually during difficult times of social injustice?

Winter Gathering: February 1, 2020, Good Samaritan UMC

Rev. Dr. Curtiss Paul DeYoung is the CEO of the **Minnesota** Council of Churches. Previously he was the Executive Director of the historic racial justice organization, Community Renewal Society, in Chicago. He also was the Inaugural Professor of Reconciliation Studies at Bethel University in St. Paul. Rev. DeYoung earned degrees from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Howard University School of Divinity, and Anderson University. He is an ordained minister in the Church of God and is a member of Park Avenue United Methodist Church. He is an author and editor of 12 books on reconciliation, interfaith social justice activism, racism, and cultural diversity. His most recent book, Becoming Like Creoles: Living and Leading at the Intersections of Injustice, Culture, and Religion (Fortress) was co-authored with six women. He was also on the editorial team for The Peoples' Bible (Fortress). He has extensive relationships among activists and peacemakers in South Africa and the Holy Land.



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Reading Program – KEEP READING!

I'll be the first to admit that I really don't like not having UMW Reading Program books available to review and purchase at our District Meetings. When consignment sales were part of our meetings, we were able to see the books up close and personal. Maybe a title to a book did not thrill us but after looking at the book and reading the back cover, we would discover that this **really was a book we wanted to read and a subject that really did interest us**. It was more work for the Program Resource Manager, but it seemed like a good system to me. But "times they are a'changin'!"

In an effort to give you a better look at the books for the 2020 Reading Program, paper copies of the on-line catalog of the new books will be available at the February 1st TC District Meeting. This information gives detailed instructions for being involved in the reading program along with short synopses of this year's books. This same information is available in the Nov/Dec 2019 issue of response magazine, pages 28-34 and at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org>. Also available will be copies of local library availability for the reading program books from the last several years through the 2020 books.

Getting your books through other sources is not a bad thing either. The cost of the books through Amazon.com are oftentimes less expensive than what was charged through the service center. Also, when using the Amazon Smile Program you can benefit United Methodist Women – either the global office in New York, or you can set up an account to benefit your own local unit. Purchases made for any reason – not just books - using Amazon Smile can help send money to the organization that you designate. With minimal purchases made, postage is **free**. If units are ordering books for their libraries, the minimum will be very easy to reach. If you are building your own library and want to purchase books for yourself, usually 2 books will put you at the minimum. If you don't reach the minimum, consider sharing an order with a friend to reach the minimum.

Whatever method you use for finding the books involved with the reading program, please **KEEP READING!** The books are chosen to educate and

inspire us in the various areas of mission and social justice issues. Reading leads us to become active in causes benefitting women and children around the world.

Currently there is no one who will be taking on the job of Program Resources Manager beginning in 2020. See our President, Sandra Adelmund, if you are interested in talking about this job.

To put a cap on the 2019 reading program, there is still time to report your reading activity. Please send your list of books to me no later than January 8th for inclusion in recognition at the February meeting at Good Samaritan. Christmas blessings to all.

Carol Foster

Program Resources Manager

grumpytf@aol.com

4724 Zane Avenue N, Crystal 55429

763-234-7543

Treasurer's Report

The following financial report of the Twin Cities District is for the third quarter plus October.

Balance for Administration and Membership Development funds as of October 30, 2019 is \$5911.33.

Our total Mission Giving is \$26,474.50.

Our total Mission Giving Plus is \$5966.55.

Our 2019 Mission Giving Pledge is \$68,000. So far we have given \$26,474.50 which is 38.9% of our pledge.

Our Emma Norton Pledge is \$10,000. so far we have given \$4410.00 which is 44.1% of our pledge.

Thank you, TC District Treasurer, Helen Eslinger, for your careful accounting of our funds.

We Want to Hear from You! Send in Your Mission Today Forms

It's that time of year again—time to tell the world—well, at least our little part of it—all about what your local unit is doing to raise awareness of United Methodist Women as well as nurture the spiritual lives of the women in your midst. Filling out (and sending in!) the Mission Today 2019 form is an important way to let your district and conference leadership know the many ways you support United Methodist Women's mission to help support the needs of women, children, and youth in need and to fulfill our Purpose:

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.

You may not realize that many of the “ordinary” activities you and your local unit do, are indeed ways of “doing” Mission. When you attend mission u, or write a letter to a missionary listed in the UMW Prayer Calendar, or make a pledge to Mission Giving, or subscribe to *response* magazine (yes, it's a little “r”), or attend a District Annual Meeting, or participate in the UMW Reading Program, you are participating in and supporting United Methodist Women's mission. More specifically, you are helping your unit be a **Mission Today** unit.

When your local leadership team fills out the Mission Today form (just one per unit please), you help your unit achieve **Mission Today** status which tells us all the ways YOU are keeping the work and mission of United Methodist Women alive and relevant.

You can find a copy of the Mission Today form in the **MN Conference UMW 2019 Directory**. Each unit has at least one. If you need a form, please email me (jennifer.hipple@gmail.com). Go to pages 18 & 19 and you'll see the “**Mission Today 2019**” form. Check off all the different ways you and other members of your unit (church) did Mission in 2019.

Talk to your Circles about what they did. This year forms are due to ME, your **District Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator** by **December 23**. In 2020, we'll make a fuss and recognize YOUR unit as a **Mission Today** unit. Let's show the other districts how it's done!

Please return your Mission Today form to:

Jennifer Hipple
4538 Vincent Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55412

Census 2019 Q & A

Once again, your help is needed in counting Minnesota's United Methodist Women. Answering a few survey questions will help the national office and Conference United Methodist leaders with their planning.

Q.: Where do I find the census form?

A: Go on line:

Unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2019

Q: My unit has no president. Who should fill out the form?

A: Anyone in your unit can fill out and submit the form. Just one submission per unit.

Q: How can I fill out the form if I don't have a computer?

A: Ask someone in your church office to help you or a friend or even a family member. Or call the conference membership coordinator: Melinda Kohrt at 952-934-9325.

Q: When should the form be submitted?

A: The deadline is **March 30, 2020**. Do it soon before you forget.

Q: Does our unit need to do this every year?

A: Yes

Q: My UMW unit is so small, do we still need to send in a census report?

A: Yes. There are many small churches around Minnesota, and everyone counts. All of us together make things happen!

TIP: Once you reach the online census site, scroll down to find the form. You may first want to read the results of previous censuses.

Thank you!

Jennifer Hipple, TC District Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

Emma Norton – A Year of Growth and New Partnerships

The following article was written by Shawna Nelsen, Advancement Director at Emma Norton Services, to provide the exciting “latest” news about Emma Norton Services. The article was submitted to Susanne Mattison, a long time supporter of Emma Norton. Susanne continues to sell vintage pins, as well as Open Door pins, at our gatherings, with proceeds going to Emma Norton Services.

Emma Norton has had a magnificent year of growth this year. In 2019, we brought our annual Opening Doors Dinner to the heart of St. Paul, established new partnerships with the St. Paul Saints, the Winter Carnival, and Hamline Dining Hall. We also held very successful winter coat and holiday gift/gift card drives. Looking ahead to 2020, we are excited about launching an extensive renovation of Emma’s Place, including the 13 townhomes, the green space/playground, and the community space in Maplewood in early spring. Additionally, we are moving forward with plans for a new building in St. Paul (to replace the aging Emma Norton Residence) to provide more trauma-informed care and increase the number of individuals we serve. We are still 3 to 5 years away from a new building, but excited to kick off a campaign in 2020 to bring our dreams to reality.

We’re incredibly grateful for the support of our donors and partners, especially from our UMC and UMW partners, as we’ve grown to serve over 300 individuals and families (nearly double from three years ago!). With the support of numerous UMC/UMW groups, as well as a generous grant from the Balch Memorial Fund, we will be able to give each resident a small gift and a \$25 gift card at our three holiday parties (for Emma Norton

Residence, Emma’s Place, and our new Scattered-Site Housing Program) this December!

In addition to our holiday needs, our program staff has identified a need for the following items this winter: twin/queen sized mattress pads, comforters, and warm blankets; diapers (newborn-size 5), wipes, and pull-ups; and journal sets and art supplies. Donations may be dropped off at any time to Emma Norton Residence, 670 Robert Street North in St. Paul. Thank you for your generous support of Emma Norton and our mission to provide transformational housing to women and families on their journey to recovery. Please save the date for **the annual Emma Norton Opening Doors Dinner to be held Thursday, April 23, 2020 at the Inter Continental St. Paul Riverfront. Registration opens in February 2020.** We hope to see you there!

Recap of the Minnesota Conference United Methodist Women 46th Annual Gathering at Centennial United Methodist Church in Roseville, MN

- After 8 years, Bishop Ough will be leaving the Minnesota/North and South Dakota Conference. The attendees were honored to hear him speak about “Where are we as United Methodists?” as our cultural environment has changed, resulting in at least 5 plans for the restructuring of the world wide Methodist church. One take away is to engage in conversations at one’s church. There is a need to know one’s core values and to know who we are as United Methodists.
- Bridget Sabo, from the Legal Rights Center, talked about her work in YEARS (Youth, Education, Advocacy, Restoration, Series). She referenced the School-to-Prison Pipeline and how the practice of restoration is so important in providing justice to all youth.

The center has a need for mentors and those who can help with reading skills.

- New Standing Rules for the Minnesota Conference UMW were adopted. Perhaps the most noteworthy change is that in even-numbered years, only the Treasurer and the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee will be elected; in the odd-numbered years, only the President and Secretary will be elected. All other coordinators and leadership positions will be filled by appointment by the Committee on Nominations. *In the Twin Cities, a committee has been appointed to revise the district's standing rules and by-laws and to align them with the Conference's revisions of the last 2 years.

Newly Elected 2020 Conference Leadership

ELECTED:

President – Cindy Saufferer (term begins August 1)
Sandy Meyer (term continues until July 31)
Secretary - Linda Brinster
Treasurer – Teri Arnold
Co-Chairs, Committee on Nominations – Shirley
Durr and Becky Coleman

APPOINTED:

Program Coordinator – Diana Eickelberg
Spiritual Growth Coordinator – Julie Adams
Membership Nurture and Outreach – Melinda Kohrt
Social Action – Linda Kotschevar
Education and Interpretation: Pam Johnson
Resource Manager – Grace Swanson
Communications – Kim Harris

Committee on Nominations: Becky Coleman
(2021), Shirley Durr (2021), Thalia Duffield (2022),
Barb Hanson (2022)

There are 7 others appointed and 5 who have been
named to the mission u Team.

Newly Elected 2020 District Leadership

The following are continuing in office for the
coming 2020 year.

President - Sandra Adelmund,
s.adelmund1@gmail.com
Secretary – Sylvia Farrells, angelseyf@gmail.com
Treasurer – Helen Eslinger, heleneslinger@aol.com
Chairperson, Committee on Nominations – TBA

Program Coordinator – Diane Denkmann,
denkmannd@hotmail.com
Spiritual Growth – Cindy Waldt,
cynthiawaldt@yahoo.com
Social Action – TBA
Education & Interpretation – Carol Foster,
grumpppytf@aol.com
Membership Nurture & Outreach – Jennifer Hipple,
jennifer.hipple@gmail.com
Resource Manager - TBA
Committee on Nominations – TBA

Communications – Sylvia Farrells,
angelseyf@gmail.com
Emma Norton (Pins) – Susanne Mattison,
susanne_mattison@yahoo.com
Walker Care Center – Maxene Schwanke,
wallysgirl2@q.com
Historian – TBA
Methodist Hospital – Clarice Lien,
lemndrps@msn.com
Church Women United – Bonnie Bougie,
bougiebj@hotmail.com
COSROW - TBA

Thanks from Walker

A sincere thank you to all who contribute and/or
purchase the jewelry that is sold for the Walker
Methodist Care Center. You certainly help to
provide extra treats for the residents with your
purchases. At least \$100.00 is made at every sale
that is held.

Maxene Schwanke, Walker Methodist Care Center
Representative

Minnetonka UMW Receives Grant

A grant for projects helping to break the School-to-Prison Pipeline was awarded to Minnetonka UMW from National United Methodist Women, for work on this issue in 2020. The UMW group will be partnering with the Restorative Justice Community Action Youth Diversion Program (RJCA) in the Twin Cities to provide training for participating in the Youth Diversion program, and with the Commission on Race and Religion team (CORR) at Minnetonka UMC to hold two implicit bias circles. The Youth Diversion program for first time offenders, helps the youth take responsibility for their actions and make amends so that they do not have to go to prison and break the cycle. Other United Methodist Women groups in the Twin Cities area are invited to join in this effort.

Watch for more information in early 2020, or contact Melinda Kohrt, Minnetonka UMW Leadership Team Co-chair at her email address, mnomnumw@gmail.com.

Legacy Builder FAQ

What is a Legacy Builder? A Legacy Builder moves forward the mission of United Methodist Women by making a monthly gift of \$18.69 or more to The Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign in honor of United Methodist Women's 150th anniversary.

Why is it important? Becoming a Legacy Builder is a way for our members to participate in a sustainable and regular way of giving to the Endowment Campaign that moves us close to achieving the fund's \$60 million goal by the end of 2020.

How do I become a Legacy Builder? Make a commitment of \$18.69/month or more. Gifts can be made on a quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis. Ways to give include: 1) Online gift on a secure website: unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacybuilder; 2) Text-to-Give by dialing 41444 and texting LEGACYBUILDER to set up payments; 3) Contact the Development Office at 212-870-3705 or via email: legacy150@unitedmethodistwomen.org

Dates to Remember – 2020

***District dates are in bold print**

2/1-Winter Gathering/Leadership Training at Good Samaritan UMC

3/14-Planning for Spring Gathering at Messiah UMC

4/23-Emma Norton Opening Doors Dinner
5/1-Spring Gathering at Messiah UMC

5/5-15-UMC General Conference in Minneapolis

7/17-19-Mission u at Kelly Inn, St. Cloud

7/25-Mission u Too at faith UMC, Waseca

7/?-no set date: Planning for Fall Gathering at Richfield UMC

8/1-Mission u Too at La Puerta Abierta, St. Paul

9/26-Fall Gathering/Annual Meeting at Richfield UMC

10/10-Conference Annual Gathering at Riverside UMC, Park Rapids

10/24-25-Leadership Development Retreat at Kelly Inn, St. Cloud

Volunteers Needed for General Conference, May 5-15

The Dakotas-Minnesota Annual Conferences are hosting the event taking place at the Minneapolis Convention. The host team is looking for volunteers of all ages, interests, and abilities, the goal being to extend radical hospitality to guests. Most volunteers will select 3 hour shifts during the 10 days. You can indicate your interest by going to <https://gc2020welcome.org/volunteers/> to sign up.

Or for questions, email GC2020.volunteers@dkmnareaumc.org

Opportunities include: at the Airport-greeters and drivers; at the Hotels-greeters; at the Convention Center-greeters, prayer room hosts, technology specialists. Other – skyway guides, off-site venue hosts, translators, and administrative support.

Remember those purple scarves? Goal was 10,000. More than 13,000 were completed!

**Twin Cities District
United Methodist Women
Winter Gathering/Leadership
Training**

**Good Samaritan UMC
5730 Grove Street, Edina
(west of Highway 100, between
Highway 62 and Vernon Avenue)**

- 8:30 Registration, Emma's Tea/Coffee (checks may be written to TC District UMW with your church's name on the memo line)
- 9:20 Gathering with music in the Sanctuary
- 9:30 Welcome, worship, program with guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung; offering lunch, Leadership Training, closing
- During registration, breaks, and lunch, visit the displays and jewelry/pin sales

Cost is \$12, including lunch; \$5 for worship & speaker OR leadership training – no lunch

Make check out to Good Samaritan UMW; mail check and registration form to

Mary Parsons, 8330 Heather Ave, Eden Prairie, MN 55347

Questions? Call Mary at 952-949-3718 or email her at marykrisSmith46@gmail.com

Deadline is Friday, January 24. Let Mary know about late registrations or if you plan to walk in. The childcare deadline is also Friday, January 24. No walk-ins or late registrations will be accepted for child care.

HANDS ON GIVING FOR EMMA'S:

Paper products **OR** write a check to TC District with Emma's AND your home church on the memo line.

Directions: From the north-Highway 100 south, exit on 50th St, west (right to Tracy), south (left) on Tracy to Grove, west (right) on Grove to church.

From the south-Crosstown 62, Tracy exit; at stop, north (left) onto Tracy to Grove (Tracy winds a bit), west (left) on Grove to church.

Park in lot where the BIG sculpture stands at the lot entrance and enter Door 1.

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Home _____

Church _____

Church _____

City _____

Food/dietary _____

Concerns _____

Options

_____ \$12 for speaker, lunch, training

_____ \$5 no lunch

_____ Personal check(s) enclosed

_____ Group registration – one check for multiple registrations

CHILDCARE: Yes, I need childcare

for (number) _____ child/children.

Child/children's names(s) and age(s)

**REMEMBER TO BRING A BAG
LUNCH FOR HIM/HER/THEM**

Sylvia Farrells, Communications Coordinator
Twin Cities District United Methodist Women
c/o Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church
9920 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington, MN 55437

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E-mail: angelseyf@gmail.com

Address corrections or subscription requests, contact:
Shelley Knoblauch
labelpromnumw@gmail.com



