

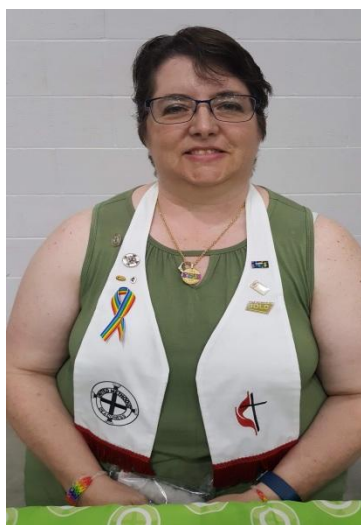


# Connection

## Maternal and Child Health Campaign: END MATERNAL MORTALITY

**Call on health care workers, lawmakers, and advocates to fund maternal mortality review committees and implement recommendations in hospitals and communities. WHY? Because many women are unable to access proper health care prior to, throughout, and after pregnancy. WHY? Since 2000, the maternal mortality rate in the U.S. has increased 26.4% - the only developed country whose rate did not decline. (From a poster distributed by United Methodist Women Social Action Campaigns)**

Our speaker, Deaconess Kim Harris, is highly qualified to enlighten you on this subject. Deaconesses and Home Missioners are laywomen



and laymen who are called by God to be in a lifetime relationship in the United Methodist Church for engagement with a full-time vocation informed by history, driven by mission, ecumenical in scope, & global in outreach. Their call is defined in the United Book of Discipline mandates

the following, among others alleviating suffering and eradicating causes of injustice and all that robs life of dignity and worth.

Kim had had the pleasure of attending the United Methodist Church of Anoka (UMCA) for 16+ years. She also belongs to the local unit of United Methodist Women. She was consecrated into the Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner on May 16, 2016. Her current ministries are teaching at Kids& CO Child Care, ministering at her church, and serving as the Minnesota Conference United Methodist Women Communication Coordinator. Kim has been involved in many ministries of the church, including youth activities, choir, and Sunday School classes. She is currently the Family Promise Coordinator. Family Promise is a ministry that provides homeless families with food, shelter, and hospitality for 90 days.

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## **FROM THE PRESIDENT: MATERNAL MORTALITY/MORBIDITY Legislative Action Campaign**

Our sisters in the Southern Prairie District of United Methodist Women undertook a Social Action Campaign on behalf of women and children, to address the disturbing information that maternal and infant mortality and morbidity had risen drastically all across the U.S. and in Minnesota in the last 19 years. There has been a 24.6% rise in mothers dying while giving, or soon after, giving birth.

While we have a Minnesota Maternal Mortality Review Committee Program (MMMRCP) in place, it is underfunded. This program investigates the causes of mortality in mothers giving birth and is funded partially through grants from the Center for Disease Control and from the Public Health Department budget.

This year, Minnesota State Senator Dave Pinto addressed this issue in the state Senate by introducing Senate File #909. A 450 postcard campaign mailing from Southern Prairie District UMW helped the bill make its way through the legislature. #909 requests an increase in funding for prenatal and postnatal care of American Indians and other women of color in parity with white women. In addition to sending in postcards, women in Southern Prairie district were also requested to call their senator and representative and urge them to properly fund the MMMRCP as well as Bill 909 and Senate File #2294.

On March 11, 2019, State Senator Melissa Wiklund introduced Senate File #2294 that would add “maternal morbidity” (almost died/disabled because of giving birth) to the now standing Maternal Mortality legislation. It was too late in the session for SF #2294, so it needs to be addressed again in 2020.

It is time the Twin Cities District of UMW joins this campaign and all District officers are helping by promoting the campaign in their home churches and liaison churches. The postcards to send to the legislature are now available and should be

addressed to the district senator and district representative of the person signing the card. You may find out whom your senator and representative are by going to <https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/>. In most cases, all that is required is to enter a zip code in the box requesting your address, but if that isn't sufficient, put in your name and entire address. The number of your district will appear. The list of the 67 districts with their senator and representative listed is on page 3.

Once postcards are completed they should be gathered together with others from the same church and mailed to the Twin Cities District President Sandra Adelmund by **February 10, 2020** so they can be sorted by district and brought en masse to the Capitol before the 2020 legislative session begins. The Presidents of your local units should be able to help you with this process, but if you have difficulty, contact any Twin Cities District officer.

We pray God will lead us in this endeavor to help women and children in this small way. We believe we can make an impact.

Sandra Adelmund, President, 10161 Uplander St. NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433

**MORE INFORMATION WILL BE  
MADE AVAILABLE IN THE COMING  
MONTHS.**

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL  
BE EMAILED TO THE CONTACT  
PERSON OF YOUR UNIT OR YOUR  
CONTACT WILL RECEIVE A  
PERSONAL CONTACT BY PHONE.**



## Wanna Be a Star? It's All About Mission! (Membership Nurture & Outreach)

When you think of Mission, does it conjure up visions of traveling to distant lands to do heroic things? 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.

Working to help your unit achieve *Mission Today* status is an important way YOU can keep the work and mission of United Methodist Women alive and relevant. As Minnesotans we may be a little naturally shy about tooting our own horn about our accomplishments. Am I right? But I need you to prove me wrong!

At your unit's next leadership team meeting, please open up the neon yellow (It's bright isn't it?) **MN Conference UMW 2019 Directory**. Each unit has at least one. If you need more, please email me ([jennifer.hipple@gmail.com](mailto: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) are doing Mission. Talk to your Circles about what they're doing. Mention it at your events. Start recording what women are doing. The forms are due to the District E&I Coordinator by **December 15** but since we don't have the role filled this year, I am filling in. (Good news though! We WILL have that role filled in 2020!) 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!

I would LOVE it if you would keep that little form at the top of your mind as we move through the next few months and continue to update it. Then, when

December rolls around, please send it to me. Please submit ONE form per unit. Mail to Jennifer Hipple, 4538 Vincent Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55412 While you're thinking of it, pull out that 2019 Directory NOW and go to page 18 and write my name and address on the page so you'll remember whom to send it to. So, let's get moving on checking off all the great ways we are **Doing Mission!**

Jennifer Hipple, Coordinator – Membership Nurture & Outreach

## From the Conference Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

Even in early August, farmers and gardeners are thinking about the harvest. They go over what went well, what were the problems, what solutions were tried, and how to incorporate what they learned in planning for the next season. As workers in the Lord's field and garden, we need to evaluate our work, as well. The Mission Today report is one tool to help us.

The Mission Today report will be in the conference yearly mailing to unit presidents. It will be on a separate sheet of paper and included within the body of the “Minnesota Conference United Methodist Women 2020 Directory”.

The report is designed to help units evaluate programs and determine ways to grow in service. As your unit plans for 2020, you could review and complete the 2019 report. Use the report to “expand concepts of mission” as you plan for 2020. Send completed Mission Today reports to Jennifer Hipple by December 2019, (as stated in the previous article.)

Linda Brinster, Minnesota Conference Education and Interpretation Coordinator

## News about the Reading Program

Even though we are still enjoying summer, we know that the end of the year will be here before we know it. And, with the end of the year approaching, it is time to begin compiling our lists of books read for the 2019 UMW Reading Program. If you have not started reading any of the books in the program, there is still plenty of time to read the required books - one book from each of the five categories for Plan I. Of course, you can read more for the additional Plans. Books from reading lists for the years 2014 through 2019 are eligible to be counted toward this year's program. Regular reading of **response** magazine is also required. Please send me your reading lists by December 31, 2019. The lists can be submitted either by email to [grumpytf@aol.com](mailto:grumpytf@aol.com) or through U.S. mail to 4724 Zane Avenue, North, Crystal, MN 55429.

Certificates will be awarded to all Reading Program participants at the Winter Gathering on February 1, 2020. Don't forget that the books used for Mission u also count as selections for the reading program. More detailed information regarding the reading program and the 2019 books can be found on pages 24 – 29 of the December 2018 **response** magazine.

As of writing this for the newsletter, I have not found any information regarding the 2020 reading list. I am hopeful that information regarding the books will be available prior to our Fall Gathering at Minnetonka UMC on September 28. If that information is available before our meeting, I will compile a list of the books as well as a listing showing what books are available through the local library system. These lists will then be available at the Fall Gathering on September 28.

One book from 2019 that I would highly recommend is "Women United For Change – 150 Years in Mission" written by Ellen Blue. This book was used at Mission u and Mission u too this year. It is a history of our foremothers and the various organizations which eventually became United Methodist Women. What a legacy these strong, courageous women have provided for us! They helped to change and empower the lives of women here in the United States, and their reach was international as well. They did not accept "no" for

an answer when they met opposition from the men who controlled their churches. They found ways to do what they wanted to accomplish. They led the way in so many areas of community life and laid the foundation of our mission work which continues today. At times they were considered "trouble makers", but they were following God's call. This book can be counted as a Reading Program selection for Spiritual Growth, but it is my personal feeling that it definitely fits into Leadership Development as well. I think this book would make a wonderful reference for any unit's library. It can be ordered through the [unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org) website at a cost of \$10.00 plus postage and is available in a Kindle version through Amazon.com for \$5.95. There is also an accompanying 40-minute DVD for \$14.00.

See you at our next meeting at Minnetonka UMC!  
Blessings and Keep Reading!

Carol Foster, Resource Manager

## Dates to Remember – Twin Cities

September 14, 2019 Church Women United of Minnesota Annual Meeting @ Discovery UMC (see registration on page 8)

September 28, 2019 Fall Gathering/Annual Meeting @ Minnetonka UMC (see registration on page 9)

February 1, 2020 Winter Gathering/Leadership Development @ Good Samaritan UMC

May 2, 2020 Spring Gathering @ Messiah UMC

September 2020 (specific date to be determined)  
Fall Gathering/Annual Meeting @ Richfield UMC

## Dates to Remember – Conference

October 12, 2019 Minnesota Conference UMW Annual Meeting @ Centennial UMC – registration @ [www.mnconfumw.com](http://www.mnconfumw.com)

October 26 & 27, 2019 Minnesota Conference Leadership Development Retreat @ Kelly Inn, St. Cloud



## Legacy Fund Update – July 2019

As we move into fall, we celebrate the progress to raise \$60 million for the Legacy Fund by 2020, as well as the challenges to accomplish that goal. We are about half-way there. That means we need to raise \$33 million more nationally by December 2020.

Through the faithful giving of Minneosta United Methodist Women, our conference contributed more than \$9,000 from January through April 2019. The challenge comes in increasing our giving – our Minnesota goal is an additional \$23,000 by December 31, 2019. We continue to ask each member to make an annual contribution of at least \$18.69. We thank the more than 60 individuals who gave in 2018, but we know there are more than **60 UMW members!** Many units shared “birthday” pictures and sent in gifts; don’t stop!

This fall a new program called Legacy Builders will be unveiled; it will be recurring monthly contributions by individuals.

We also encourage each member to consider naming the Legacy Fund as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or will. We know there are women with assets who can also make a major gift to this campaign; encourage them. Development officers from the National Office will assist them in structuring that gift.

You can learn more about the Legacy Fund at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/home](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/home). You know the impact UMW has had on your life; insure its future with an additional gift this fall!

Becky Coleman, Legacy Liaison,  
[beckyc57@gmail.com](mailto:beckyc57@gmail.com)

## ELECTIONS!

Elections for the Twin Cities District 2020 Executive Team will take place during the Annual Meeting, which will start around 1 p.m. after the Fall Gathering lunch at Minnetonka UMC on Saturday, September 28.

## Report from the Committee on Nominations

The following women have agreed to continue in their respective offices for 2020.

\* “T” means Term; “Y” means Year

\*\* means Open Position

President, T-2, Y-2, Sandra Adelmund  
Program Coordinator (Vice-President), T-2, Y-1,  
Diane Denkmann

Secretary, T-2, Y-2, Sylvia Farrells  
Treasurer, T-3, Y-1, Helen Eslinger

Chair of Committee on Nominations\*\*  
Spiritual Growth, T-2, Y-1, Cindy Waldt

Social Action\*\*  
Education & Interpretation\*\*

Membership Nurture & Outreach, T-1, Y-2,  
Jennifer Hipple  
Resource Manager\*\*

Emma Norton Representative: Susanne Mattison  
Walker Methodist Care Center Representative:  
Maxene Schwanke

Historian\*\*  
Methodist Hospital Representative: Clarice Lien

Church Women United Representative: Bonnie  
Bougie  
Communication Coordinator: Sylvia Farrells

COSROW Representative: Joyce Prudden  
Members for the Committee on Nominations\*\*

Please notice that there are OPEN positions on the Executive Team. UMW needs YOU. Women can be nominated from the floor at the Annual Meeting on September 28. If you are interested in knowing what the position is all about, your the time it will take to accomplish your tasks, please let President Sandra Adelmund know ASAP.

Email: [s.adelmund1@gmail.com](mailto:s.adelmund1@gmail.com)  
Phone: 763-789-8434

## **Treasurer's Report 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 2019**

District Treasurer Helen Eslinger reported the following as of June 30, 2019.

- Balance \$5132.83
- Total Mission Giving \$12,393.50 This represents 18.2% of our 2019 Mission Giving Pledge of \$68,000
- Total Mission Giving Plus \$4741.45
- Total Giving to Emma Norton \$3338.00 which is 33.4% of our 2019 Pledge of \$10,000.

Helen Eslinger, Treasurer

## **News from Walker Methodist Health Center**

I know you are all waiting to find out about the next JEWELRY SALE!!! Well, it will be here before you know it. Mark your calendars for this coming November 7, 8, and 9. The sale opens at 8 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. on Friday and Sunday, **except for Saturday, the 8<sup>th</sup>, when closing will be at 2:30 p.m.**

There will also be a Vendor Sale on December 13, 2019 that you won't want to miss.

Do you receive the Walker Auxiliary Newsletter? Would you like to keep in touch with all that goes on there? It is published 3 times a year with a membership cost of \$5 per year which pays for postage. If interested, call Clarice Lien at 612-790-5622 or mail her the \$5 at 7505 Aldrich Ave., Richfield, MN 55423.

If you have been receiving the newsletter and haven't yet paid for your \$5 membership, the funds will be used for future publications. **Thanks for your support.**

Maxene Schwanke, Walker Methodist Health Center Representative

## **2020 Mission u**

It is not too early to start thinking about attending Mission u next summer. The dates are July 17-19 and will be held at the Kelly Inn in St. Cloud.

The studies are:

Finding Peace in the Midst of Anxiety

Mass Incarceration: School-to-Prison Pipeline

The study book is Pushout: the Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools by Monique Morris.

## **2020 Mission u Too**

If a weekend away is not your thing, think about attending Mission u Too. The two sites will be:

July 25, 2020 at Faith UMC in Waseca AND

August 1, 2020 at La Puerta Abierta UMC in St. Paul.





# Twin Cities District United Methodist Women

**Fall Gathering/Annual Meeting  
Saturday, September 28, 2019**

**Minnetonka United Methodist Church  
17611 Lake Street Extension,  
Minnetonka 55345  
(on Hwy 101 between Hwy. 7 and  
Minnetonka Blvd.)**

- 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 – Kim Harris, United Methodist Women Deaconess, offering, lunch, Annual Meeting, closing

During registration, breaks, and lunch, visit displays and jewelry/pin sales

Cost is \$12 including lunch; \$5 without lunch.

Make check out to Minnetonka UMW.

Mail check and registration form to  
Karen Malmstrom, 6460 White Dove Drive,  
Excelsior, MN 55331 OR  
Barbara Stark, 3780 Northome Avenue,  
Wayzata, MN 55391.

Questions? Phone Karen at 952-470-4172 or email [kmlmstrm@mchsi.com](mailto:kmlmstrm@mchsi.com); OR phone Barbara at 952-913-9582 or email [jabastark@gmail.com](mailto:jabastark@gmail.com).

Deadline is Wednesday, September 18. Let Karen know about late registrations or if you plan to walk in. Childcare deadline is also September 18. No walk-ins or late registrations will be accepted for child care.

**HANDS ON GIVING:** Paper products (not toilet paper) for Emma's or **write a check to TC District UMW with Emma's and your home church on the memo line**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Home \_\_\_\_\_  
Church \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
city \_\_\_\_\_  
Food/dietary \_\_\_\_\_  
concerns \_\_\_\_\_

**Options**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **\$12 for speaker and lunch**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **\$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 name(s) and age(s)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

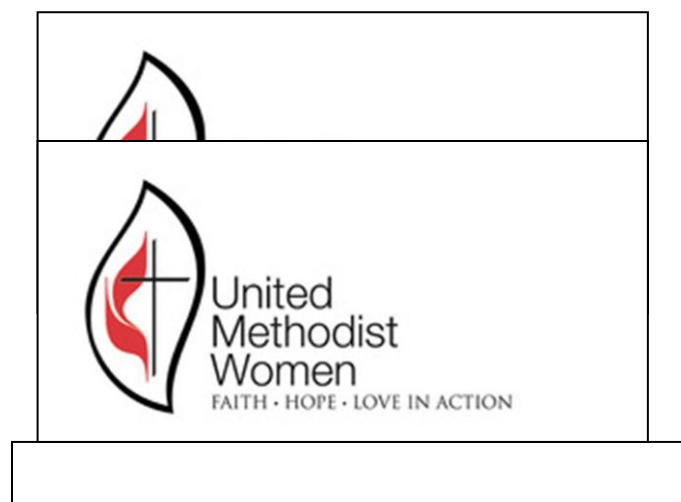
Sylvia Farrells, Communications Coordinator  
Twin Cities District United Methodist Women  
c/o Normandale Hylands United Methodist Church  
9920 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington, MN 55437

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E-mail: [angelseyf@gmail.com](mailto:angelseyf@gmail.com)  
Address corrections or subscription requests, contact:  
Shelley Knoblach, MN&O Label Order Processor  
Shellrk13@gmail.com  
Melinda Kohrt, MN&O Coord. [mnomnumw@gmail.com](mailto:mnomnumw@gmail.com)





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