

# Conference Gram



Volume 55, Number 4

Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women

August, 2006

WNCC UMW ANNUAL MEETING  
*A Celebration of United Methodist Women*

## “Rise! Shine! Glorify God!”

September 8, 9 & 10, 2006, Lake Junaluska Assembly

Friday night - Opening Worship, Rev. Beth Crissman  
Saturday morning - Mission Speaker: Rev. Keith Turman  
Saturday afternoon—*All God's Children? Celebrating Our Differences*  
Sunday morning - Closing worship & Communion, Rev. Beth Crissman

Music Leaders: Lauralee Bailey & Rev. John-Palmer Smith

Hands-On Mission Opportunity: Gift to Mission Cards

Conference Love Offering: “*Celebrating the Diversity & Gifts of Young Women*”



### Vice President's Message

Assembly in Anaheim, California, in May was an inspiring event. It was great to be with United Methodist Women from around the world, celebrate worship and communion together, and be a part of sessions with a wide diversity of music and worship styles. Parts of Assembly will be brought to you at Annual Meeting. **Rise!** is the focus on Friday evening as we are challenged to “rise” and answer our call. **Shine!** is the focus for Saturday as we celebrate, learn, and are challenged to “shine” for Christ. **Glorify God!** is our focus for Sunday as we learn, celebrate communion, worship and “glorify God.”

Our theme this year requires action on our part. **YOU** are involved in mission. **YOU** make mission possible. Come and celebrate all **YOU** have done in mission work through United Methodist Women. You will get ideas and resources that you can take home to your local unit. Plan now to come to Lake Junaluska, September 8, 9 & 10, for the Annual Meeting of the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women. Come for a day! Come for the weekend! Come and be a part of **YOUR** Annual Meeting! Just being at Lake Junaluska with UMW members is inspiring. Our guest speakers and our music leaders for the weekend have been selected to make our theme **Rise! Shine! Glorify God!** come alive. You will be blessed in many ways by attending this event. You can read more about them on the following pages.

We will begin on Friday evening with worship. Rev. Beth Crissman will be with us to bring the evening message. Late Night at Annual Meeting will return with special activities planned for women of all ages.

A Mission Walk will be held early Saturday morning. Later Saturday morning, we will take care of the important business of our organization to prepare for the coming year. The ever popular “Funny Business” will once again be on our agenda. This is where your conference officers will share some reports and information in a fun way. Saturday morning will also include one of the highlights of Annual Meeting - the processional of mission personnel residing in our conference. We will hear from our mission speaker, Rev. Dr. Keith Turman, participate in our conference love offering and close the morning session with our pledge service. You will have the opportunity to visit with our mission guests during lunch at both the Terrace and Lambuth Inn. On Saturday afternoon, we will celebrate 25 years of the **Charter for Racial Justice**. Saturday evening, we will gather to hear from our conference president, Amy Johnson. We will recognize outgoing officers, and Barbara Campbell, formerly on the staff of Women's Division, will install our newly elected officers.

You will definitely want to stay for Sunday morning. The morning begins with a choice between Sunday School - **Shalom, Salaam, Peace** - led by Rev. Alec Alvord

or Singing at the Cross led by Virginia Robinson. Our closing worship service will include communion, memorial service, dedication of our hands-on mission opportunity, and a message by Rev. Beth Crissman.

Program Resources will be open on Friday and Saturday, so plan to spend some time browsing the many materials that you can find there such as mission studies, the new **Program Book** for 2007, wonderful reading program books, and more!

Your conference program committee has worked hard to plan a meaningful weekend full of opportunities. We especially want to thank all of the dedicated folks from the Northeast District who have spent countless hours preparing to be your host district. All of your Conference Team and the Northeast District are looking forward to welcoming you.

Annual Meeting is an important event in the life of United Methodist Women. We gather for worship as we center ourselves and listen for God's direction for our lives. We gather for fellowship as we make new friends and re-unite with old ones. We gather for celebration as we sing praises to God and listen to those who share. We gather to be challenged as we recommit ourselves to our **PURPOSE** and to our ministry with women, children and youth. God is calling us. How will you rise, shine and glorify God?

## United Methodist Women of the Western North Carolina Conference

### 2006 Love Offering “Celebrating the Diversity & Gifts of Young Women”

Mission giving to the United Methodist Women supports mission projects and mission personnel around the world. With your love offering, you help to relieve suffering and make the world a better place for women, children, and youth.

You may bring your Love Offering or your Local Unit's offering to Conference Annual Meeting at Lake Junaluska, Sept. 8-10, or send it directly to:

Sharon Smith, Conference Treasurer, PO Box 903, Marion NC 28752

Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, WNCC UMW

Being with other United Methodist Women is always rewarding for me. Bring someone new with you along with your other traveling friends. Someone is waiting for you to ask them to Annual Meeting. I hope your trip to Annual Meeting will be a special one. Come be a part of Annual Meeting as we come together at beautiful Lake Junaluska. May God bless our time at the lake.

Sandy Hieronymus—[sandyh46@aol.com](mailto:sandyh46@aol.com)

#### President

In May, 135 UMW from the Western North Carolina Conference traveled to Anaheim, California, for Assembly. What a wonderful experience it was to worship with approximately 7,000 UMW from all around the world. Our Conference Mission Team wants to share some of our Assembly experiences with you at Annual Meeting in September. Of course, Annual Meeting is also our business meeting of the year. Officers must be elected and the budget adopted. We will also celebrate the accomplishments of the districts for 2005. We will also have opportunities to live out our **PURPOSE** with periods of worship “to know God,” as well as opportunities “to expand our concepts of mission.” If you have not made your reservation, it's not too late. I look forward to greeting you at the Lake.

It's hard to believe that this is the final issue of the Conference Gram for 2006! This is a good time to recheck your unit's progress in helping to meet our Conference goals: **Financial Goal** – Increase the unit's pledge to mission by \$1.00/member. **Membership Goal** – Add at least one new member. **Mission Today** – Is your unit a Mission Today Unit? Let the Conference Team know how we can help. We are always ready to answer your ques-

tions.

I also want to encourage all local unit officers to attend their District training events this fall. I firmly believe that God doesn't call the equipped-He equips the called. When you say “Yes” to your Committee on Nominations and accept a leadership position, there are opportunities to learn about your position, as well as many available resources to help you. This training will only make you and your unit stronger.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all of the local unit officers and members. **YOU** are the ones who make mission possible with your prayers, your giving, and the many ways in which you are in mission. It is my prayer that God will bless each of you as you continue to give of your time and talents as you serve in His name through the UMW.

Amy Johnson — [jdeere620@aol.com](mailto:jdeere620@aol.com)

#### Leader Development

I know all of the district officers are making plans to attend Officer's Training on October 14 at First United Methodist Church in Gastonia. All district officers should attend! You will gain a wealth of knowledge to take back to your district and pass on to the local units to continue the **PURPOSE** of United Methodist Women.

I encourage all of you to continue with the LUV visits. Communication is vital in our connection with United Methodist Women. Make phone calls or send letters to the presidents to find out the meeting times for your local units. You do not have to present a program unless asked to do so. Convey the idea that you just want to come and fellowship with the members of the unit. This visit can mean so much to a new unit just getting started. But to a

unit that has been chartered for many years, the visit might be just what the unit needs to rejuvenate the members and get them more excited about United Methodist Women. Let's have 100% visitation of all units in the Western North Carolina United Methodist Women!

Virginia Robinson  
[varobinson55@yahoo.com](mailto:varobinson55@yahoo.com)

#### Education & Interpretation

Time to check your calendar to see what UMW event is next!! It just happens to be our Conference Annual Meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at beautiful Lake Junaluska! I know that you are planning to be with us to **Rise! Shine! Glorify God!** Join us as we celebrate our accomplishments for 2005 and bring some of the National Assembly 2006 in California home to North Carolina. I know you will want to be a part of this event.

As we are fast approaching the end of 2006, you will need to check your unit's status on becoming a Mission Today Unit for this year. This is easy to accomplish and it helps us to fulfill our **UMW PURPOSE** statement.

Our hands-on mission opportunity for annual meeting is Gift to Mission Cards. You can send a card to anyone you wish and there are seven different cards available to send. They are **Thank You/ Happy Birthday/ A Baby/ Thinking of You/ A Special Day/ Congratulations/ In The Service of Christ**. There will be a limited supply of stamps available in the Resource Room and a basket to drop your cards in if you are not going to be there on Sunday. This helps your unit complete criteria # 12 and it is one with an asterisk.

Remember our conference financial goal and encourage your unit to increase their pledge by \$1 per member. Our member-

ship goal is to encourage each local unit to add at least one new member. One strategy is to have a membership emphasis at each district event.

Our Mission Today Goal is to increase the number of Mission Today Units by 2% over 2005. Please help us to obtain these goals as we seek to **Rise! Shine! Glorify God!**

Sherry Sink—[Sherika12754@aol.com](mailto:Sherika12754@aol.com)

### **Spiritual Growth**

I don't know about you, but as I write, it is hot, hot, HOT! I am sure that most of you in the Western NC Conference are also having unusually hot weather. However, summer is supposed to be a season to be lazy, and heat can certainly have a hand in allowing that to happen. Hopefully you are experiencing opportunities to let down and spend some time with family and friends. With the Retreats and the School of Christian Mission behind us, it is time to focus on another opportunity coming up.

Annual Meeting will be held Sept. 8-10 at Lake Junaluska. In addition to the wonderful speakers, the beautiful retreat grounds and the great music, there is an opportunity to learn more about how our organization of UMW is involved in efforts to make the world a better place for women, children and youth. I hope you are making plans to attend. You will be glad you did.

As Spiritual Growth Coordinator, you help to promote special days such as **Call to Prayer and Self-Denial**, the **Children's Sabbath**, retreats and other forms of worship. If your name has been sent to the Service Center, you will receive a packet of materials for the **Call to Prayer** in the fall. If you do not receive them, your Secretary of Program Resources or your President should have a packet. The **Program Book** will also include the poster and worship service.

The new **Children's Sabbath (Congregations Stand for Healthy Children)** for 2006 is now available from the Service Center (1-800-305-9857) or at district and conference events. As you plan the Children's Sabbath for your church, remember that although children may be included in the service, it is a service *about* children and how we as people of faith can help with the many problems they face. The book is a *wonderful* resource for planning. The **Program Book** for 2007 (#3733/\$3.75), entitled **Rise! Shine! Glorify God!**, is also now available.

I would like to encourage you to attend

your **Officer's Training** when it is offered in your district or conference in the fall. It is wonderful that you have agreed to accept an office, but you need to know what you are supposed to be doing in order to help your unit or district in their spiritual growth. Reading a job description just doesn't quite "get it"! UMW is a *supportive* community. This is just one way in which you can experience that support, by starting to build a foundation through training. It will give you information needed and ideas that you can use in your unit or district. It also allows you to brainstorm with other Spiritual Growth coordinators who share the same questions and concerns and ideas as you. As a local unit officer, you might want to go as a team from your unit and, if training is over by lunch, go out to eat somewhere. Let it be a time of bonding and fellowship with the other officers in your unit.

Continue to work with your ladies through devotional materials or little articles you might want to put in your church newsletter. You can encourage spiritual growth through music, reading, Bible studies, and attending district and conference events. Use *your* creativity. There are many different ways you can carry out the responsibilities of Spiritual Growth Coordinator. Use *your* gifts as you nurture the spiritual side of your sisters in Christ.

As always, your district counterpart and I are willing to help you in any way we can. Just give us a call.

Kris Peurifoy—[Krispeurifoy@aol.com](mailto:Krispeurifoy@aol.com)

### **Nominations**

Finding leaders is a year-round task. Conference Nominating Committee members are visiting your district executive committee meetings, and conference events looking for persons who have leadership qualities and skills and can work as a team. I hope that you are doing the same. Leadership is needed on local, district, and conference teams each year. When officers for 2007 are in place, it's not too early to begin working on 2008. Make sure your term and tenure lists are up-to-date, and that you are collecting profile sheets from those you feel are qualified to serve. In order for United Methodist Women to continue to be the strong organization it is, we need to diligently and prayerfully seek persons who are capable of being excellent leaders. We must match skills to the job descriptions as well as finding persons who can

be team players. If I can help you in any way, please feel free to contact me.

[ellwanger@bethlehemcenter.org](mailto:ellwanger@bethlehemcenter.org)

### **Program Resources**

What do you think of when you try to "sell " the Reading Program to others? There are many, many reasons to read from the United Methodist Women's Reading List. As I've said before, *it's not just a list*, rather it's a gleaming of knowledge, a conversation with the author, yourself and the characters and a sensitizing to the needs, interests and concerns of others. I have come to realize this when I began reading many books in the Social Action category. Read **The Betrayal of Work**, a real eye-opener and a Bonus Book. A book in the Nurturing For Community category is **Ashes Transformed: Healing From Trauma**, a collection of personal stories of faith. Also in this category, I hope to soon begin to read **Women On War** that I purchased at the Spiritual Growth Retreat (a Bonus Book). **My Indian Jatra**, also a Bonus Book, was written by Frances Majors, a missionary residing at Brooks Howell.

Just one or two hours a day (you owe that to yourself) can get you started and once you've started, you're on your way to who knows, Plan III or IV. I have these books available at all conference events and your district Secretary of Program Resources has them at district events. If you're unable to get to these, ordering is easy. Call Service Center at 1-800-9857, order from the catalog, email [SCorders@gbgm-umc.org](mailto:SCorders@gbgm-umc.org) or on line at [www.scorders.org](http://www.scorders.org). Take advantage of the many ways to get reading books. Also our many resources are available by these means. I'm sure you're aware of the wealth of knowledge about United Methodist Women that can be gleaned from the resources. If not, just peruse a catalog and welcome to the world of Program Resources. What a Blessing to have these at your fingertips!

Are the children in your unit reading from the children's books in the Reading Program? We have some wonderful books. If your children are like mine were, they could read 5 books in an amazingly short time.

Get the children involved and enthusiastic about reading from the United Methodist Women's Reading List. Send me the names after reading five books and certificates will be issued. I think as they get to be adults, these certificates will be a keep-

sake. You can get detailed information from our web site at [www.gbgn-umc.org/wncumw](http://www.gbgn-umc.org/wncumw). Let's see if we can top last year's total of 192 readers.

Assembly was inspiring and we were able to put faces with names that were familiar to us. I enjoyed seeing so many of you at the Spiritual Growth Retreats. I think they get better each year!

Many other resources for programming and informational items in addition to Reading Program books will be for sale in the Program Resources Room. See you at the Lake.

**Bettie Sharpe Rowe**  
[cnbsrowe@northstate.net](mailto:cnbsrowe@northstate.net)

### **Social Action**

In my July 4th local paper, the question was asked, "WHAT FREEDOM DO YOU VALUE THE MOST AS AN AMERICAN?" Several responses were, "The ability to worship freely in the faith of our choice."--"Freedom of speech. I like my voice to be heard."--"The freedom to go to church. Every freedom is valuable. I appreciate being in America."--"Freedom to travel. The fact that we're allowed to go where we want (in the U.S.) without worrying about crossing certain borders."

Many Americans take their freedom very lightly while hundreds of thousands of immigrants are taking the plunge to become full-fledged American citizens. Our government says nearly 400,000 immigrants are choosing to become citizens. There is a study guide of 100 questions about U.S. history and government in multiple choice format and flash cards posted on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services web site to help prepare one seeking to become an American citizen. The real test is not multiple choice. An immigrant *must* have been a legal resident for five years; *must* be of good moral character and have committed no major crimes; *must* be able to answer in ENGLISH a series of questions about the United States government; *must* read, write; *must* speak and understand words in ordinary ENGLISH by being able to answer oral questions posed by an examiner and be able to write and read sentences; *must* take an oath of allegiance to support the constitution and obey U.S. laws and renounce any foreign allegiance or title; *must* pay an application fee of \$330.00 plus \$70.00 for fingerprinting and a background check.

### **CAN YOU PASS THE UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP EXAM?**

Here are some sample questions. (Please circle answer.)

- 1. What is the supreme law of the United States?**  
a. The Declaration of Independence b. The Bill of Rights c. The Magna Carta d. The Constitution
- 2. What were the 13 original states of the United States called?**  
a. New England b. Articles of the Confederation c. The Mayflower d. Colonies
- 3. In what year was the Constitution written?**  
a. 1787 b. 1776 c. 1876 d. 1812
- 4. What is one benefit of being a citizen of the United States?**  
a. Travel b. Vote for the candidate of your choice c. Health care d. Right to work in the United States
- 5. Who becomes the president of the U.S. If the president and vice president should die?**  
a. Speaker of the House of Representatives b. Senate Majority Leader c. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff d. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
- 6. What are the three branches of our government?**  
a. Democratic, Republican, Independent b. Department of Justice, Department of State, Department of Defense c. Legislative, Executive, Judicial d. Police, Education, Legislative
- 7. What special group advises the president?**  
a. The Executive b. The Cabinet c. The Electoral College d. The Supreme Court
- 8. What is the introduction to the Constitution?**  
a. The Bill of Rights b. The Articles of the Confederation c. The Preamble d. The Declaration of Independence
- 9. How many representatives are there in Congress?**  
a. 10 b. 50 c. 435 d. 102
- 10. What is the United States capitol?** a. Where the president lives b. A suburb of Washington D.C. c. Where the Supreme Court meets d. The place where Congress meets

How did you do? Remember the real test is not multiple choice. Also, other topics for questions include the symbol-

ism of the flag, term limits, U.S. laws, U.S. holidays and history. Many immigrants think it's too complicated or they don't think they can find help to do it. But yet across the country immigrant advocacy groups are launching "DEMOCRACY SUMMER" to help qualified immigrants take the step toward citizenship. (Answers to the quiz can be found on page 6 of this Conference Gram.)

The Declaration of Independence states, "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." In order to secure or maintain Liberty, we cannot be silent.

United Methodist Women are encouraged in our **PURPOSE** to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, who commanded us to do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Let the fireworks continue!!

*Linda Young—[lmyou2253@aol.com](mailto:lmyou2253@aol.com)*

### **Leadership Training for District Officers**

**Saturday, October 14, 2006  
9:00am - 2:00pm**

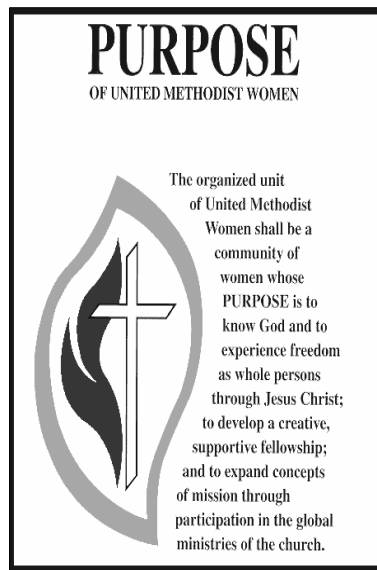
**First UMC in Gastonia**

**Bring a bag lunch.  
Drinks & dessert will be  
provided.**

**It is important for new and  
continuing district UMW  
officers to attend this training  
event.**

**Look at What's New!!!**





### Membership Nurture and Outreach

Membership in UMW is many things to many women, as you have probably noticed in my previous articles. The list continues to grow! (Just as United Methodist Women continue to grow!)

This confirms what we already know—UMW is an organization with meaning and purpose for everyone, with unlimited opportunities to serve!

We continue to be inspired as we share and receive new ideas. One new idea received from assembly is the "**Walk for Mission.**" This is something in which each local unit can participate! You may have your own "**Walk for Mission**" if you cannot attend annual meeting September 8, 9, & 10 at Lake Junaluska. This will be a great way to involve young women, children and non-members as well. Those who cannot walk, for whatever reason, can sponsor those who walk. Simply fill out the sponsor forms, collect the money and send it through your local treasurer or directly to our conference treasurer, Sharon Smith. Units or individuals raising the most money will be recognized. On Saturday morning, September 9 at 6:30am, I will be leading the "**Walk for Mission**" around the lake at Lake Junaluska. This will replace the "**Wake-up Walk.**" Making this a "**Walk for Mission**" will give it additional meaning. We will not only have great fellowship, but will be raising money to help support our mission projects for women, children and youth! This will be a great fun way to boost the mission giving for your unit!

**What UMW means to me....** Unlimited Mission Work for women and children in our community, in our nation, in our

world, all for the glory of God! Delinda Rodgers

**Membership in UMW is...**"Acceptance of Christ as we embrace each other." Jacqueline H Kerr

We would like to hear from you with ideas or questions! We continue to grow as we share and learn from each other.

Linda Baity—[lindabaity@wnireland.com](mailto:lindabaity@wnireland.com)

### 2006 UMW Annual Meeting PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS September 8, 9 & 10, 2006

Join your sisters-in-Christ for a Spirit filled, informative weekend at beautiful Lake Junaluska.

**Registration:** Friday, beginning at 2:00pm, Harrell Center. Housing reservation forms for Lake hotels and facilities are available from your district president, and on the conference web site at: <http://www.gbgm-umc.org/wnccumw>.

**Hotel Check-In at Lake Junaluska hotels:** Friday, beginning at 3:00pm.

**Hospitality and Refreshments:** Friday, 2:00-5:00pm, Susan Todd Lounge, Harrell Center.

**Program Resources Room:** Beginning Friday at 2:00pm, and open various other times through Saturday afternoon, downstairs in Harrell Center.

**Friday Evening:** 7:00pm, Opening Worship, Guest Speaker - Rev. Beth Crissman.

**Friday Late Night:** Immediately following the evening session, special activities are being planned for young women and the young at heart. Join the fun in the Susan Todd Lounge until 11:00pm.

**Saturday Morning:** 8:30am, Business session, "Funny Business" presentation of reports, procession of Mission Personnel and Special Guests, Mission Speaker - Rev. Keith Turman, the Conference Love Offering, and the Pledge Service.

**Lunch with our Mission Personnel:** Join mission personnel, retired and otherwise, who live in our area. They will be honored guests at the Terrace and Lambuth Inn Dining Rooms. Enjoy sharing a

meal with them and learning how they are still serving God.

**Saturday Afternoon:** 2:00pm, "A Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Charter for Racial Justice."

**Saturday Evening:** 7:00pm, Officer recognition and installation, President's report.

**District Parties:** Relax with others from your district after the evening program.

**Sunday Morning:** 8:30am, Meet Virginia Robinson at the Cross for singing and worship through music. It's a wonderful way to welcome the day and worship through music.

**Sunday School:** 8:30am, A spiritual growth study on *Shalom, Salaam, Peace* led by Reverend Alec Alvord, Harrell Center Auditorium.

**Sunday Worship Service:** 10:00am, Communion, dedication of our hands-on mission opportunity and message by Rev. Beth Crissman.

**Individual Prayer Time:** The Chapel next to Stuart Auditorium, open all weekend.

### FEATURED GUESTS, SPEAKERS, AND MUSIC LEADERS

#### Reverend Elizabeth (Beth) M. Crissman, Guest Speaker

Beth, a native of Graham, NC, is a graduate of the University of NC-Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Science of Nursing degree, University of California-Los Angeles with a Master of Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner degree, and Emory University where she received her Master of Divinity degree. She and her husband, Rev.

Kelly Crissman, have two children, James and Maddie. Beth, an ordained elder in the WNCC, serves as Shepherd of the Vision (CEO) for Plowpoint. This nonprofit ministry is committed to breaking ground for the seed of the Gospel through ministries that prepare and repair the church and church leaders to be effective instruments of healing for our broken and hurting world. Before her ministry with Plowpoint, she served churches in Forsyth, Georgia and Asheville, NC. Beth is the author of three books and other writings. She lives in Graham, NC, with her family.



**Reverend Keith Turman,  
Mission Speaker**

Keith is the son of missionary parents. He was born in Ithaca, NY, where his parents were training for mission service. Keith lived in Indonesia for four years. He and his father are both elders in the WNCC. His parents, Don and Ramona Turman, have recently returned to the United States after serving as missionaries with the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) in Jakarta, Indonesia. Keith received his BA degree in Psychology from Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, his Master of Divinity degree at Chandler School of Theology, Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and Doctor of Ministry degree in the Beeson Program at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. Keith and his wife, Chan, and their four children, Ben, Joe, Clair and Ross, served for 3 years as missionaries with the GBGM in Lithuania.



Keith was the founding pastor of Hillsdale UMC in the Lexington District and served churches in the Waynesville District. He is currently serving as the Director of Shared Ministries in the Asheville District.

**Lauralee Davis Bailey,  
Song Leader/Soloist**

Soprano Lauralee Davis Bailey, a native of Burlington, NC, is an extremely versatile artist with a widely varying musical career that ranges from musical comedy to dramatic repertory theater and vocal performance in both oratorical and operatic works. Her musical training began at Appalachian State University where she completed a bachelor's degree in Music Education. Lauralee has experience in oratorio chorus work, madrigal groups and was a member of the touring company of Opera Memphis. While living abroad for four years in the Netherlands, she performed leading roles with the Anglo-American Theater Group. She began a Kindermusik International program there and taught music to over 130 students. Lauralee lives in Cornelius, NC, with her husband, Rev. Michael F. Bailey, where



they serve the Mt. Zion UMC. They are the proud parents of four children ages 15-29.

**Rev. John-Palmer Smith, Organist**

John-Palmer Smith is a native of Oklahoma, where his early musical training was inspired by the Church. He holds the Bachelor of Music Degree with a major in Organ Performance from Oklahoma Baptist University, where he was recipient of the Music Performance Award, the McKinney Award for Choral Arranging, and the Nell Denyer Award of Excellence for Performance in Organ. Graduate studies were completed at Southern Seminary with the Masters of Church Music Degree in Organ Performance and Sacred Music. John-Palmer is an ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church, and an active recitalist and composer. He is presently appointed to the staff of Davidson UMC, where he serves as Minister of Music and the Arts.



**2006 Program Committee**

Sandy Hieronymous, Chairperson; Amy Johnson, Sharon Smith, Kris Peurifoy, Linda Baity, Sherry Sink, Linda Young, Bettie Sharpe Rowe, Karen Wilkerson, Virginia Robinson, Vicki Walker, Dixie Sheff, Lynne Sloan Barnes, Bess Redmond.

**Host District**

The Northeast District UMW, under the leadership of President Vicki Walker, is the host district this year for the WNCC UMW School of Christian Mission & Annual Meeting. Thank you, Northeast District!!

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**Annual Meeting Info on the Web**

Annual Meeting Information and housing reservation forms for Lake Junaluska are also available on our conference web site: [www.gbgm-umc.org/wncumw](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/wncumw). Check it out!

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**Directions to Lake Junaluska**

**FROM THE EAST:** Travel west on I-40 to Exit 27, US-23/US-74. Go 1.5 miles. Bear right on US-19/US-23/US-74 and go 2.5 miles. Continue on ramp at sign reading "US-19 to Maggie Valley/Cherokee/Junaluska Assembly" and go for 0.2 miles. Bear right on US-19 and watch for the signs.

**FROM THE WEST:** Travel east on US-19 and watch for the signs.

**FROM THE SOUTHWEST:** Travel northeast on US-23/US-441. Turn right on ramp at sign reading "US-76 East/US-23 North to Waynesville/Asheville." Go 20 miles. Exit 102B, sign reads "US-276 North to Maggie Valley/Junaluska Assembly." Turn right on US-276, Dellwood Ave., go north 1.4 miles. Turn right on US-19 & watch for the signs.

As soon as you get to Lake Junaluska, look for the bright yellow UMW Registration signs. Stuart Auditorium and Harrell Center are right next to each other on Lakeshore Drive. Parking surrounds the auditorium.

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**Answers to Social Action exam:** 1D, 2D, 3A, 4B, 5A, 6C, 7B, 8C, 9C, 10D

(source: U.S.Citizenship and Immigration Services)

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The **Conference Gram** is published four times per year by the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women. It is mailed, free of charge, to all district and conference officers, and to local unit presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries, treasurers, and circle chairs. If you hold one of these offices and have not received your copy, please send your name, address, local unit name, office, and district name to Karen Wilkerson, WNCC UMW Communications Coordinator, 2829 17th Avenue SE, Newton, NC 28658.

Any other persons may use the subscription form on page 8. You may also receive the **Conference Gram** via email.

**Join Our Conference Email List!!**

To receive conference event information, updates, the Conference Gram, etc: send an email to **L y n n e G i l b e r t** ([lynnegilbert@bellsouth.net](mailto:lynnegilbert@bellsouth.net)) or Karen Wilkerson ([kwilkerson@charter.net](mailto:kwilkerson@charter.net)), giving your name, email address, and district name. Join Now!!

**Web Site Address: [www.gbgm-umc.org/wncumw](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/wncumw)**

—Lynne Gilbert maintains the web site. You are invited to send her articles and photos for the web site.

## INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES

### Rules of Order for Annual Meeting Voting Membership

The voting body of the Conference organization shall be composed of the following persons: one representative of each local unit of fifty (50) members or less, with one additional representative for each fifty (50) members in the unit; all District officers and chairpersons of District Committees; Past Presidents of the former Western North Carolina Conference Woman's and Women's Societies of Christian Service, Past Presidents of the former North Carolina-Virginia Conference Women's Society of Christian Service, former Secretaries of the Wesleyan Service Guild, and Conference Past Presidents of the United Methodist Women now living within the bounds of the Western North Carolina Conference (the Conference organization assumes no financial responsibility for this group); District Presidents, as members of the Conference Executive Committee; Conference officers and chairpersons of committees; any member of the Women's Division or of the Jurisdiction organization residing within the bounds of the Conference; the resident Bishop; the President of the Jurisdiction Deaconess Association if residing within the bounds of the Conference; and all elected members-at-large.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- (1) Meetings shall open and close at the times stipulated in the official program.
- (2) Members and guests shall wear nametags at all times to all functions to indicate delegate status.
- (3) During voting sessions (business sessions) delegates shall be seated within a designated voting bar.
- (4) Members and visitors not designated as delegates shall be seated elsewhere.

### NEW BUSINESS

- (1) All new business that has not been considered by the Executive Committee of the Conference shall be presented in writing to the Secretary twenty-four (24) hours prior to being considered by the voting delegates.
- (2) Proposed Resolutions must be submitted in writing to the

Conference President sixty (60) days prior to the beginning of the Conference Annual Meeting.

### MOTIONS

- (1) All motions except on matters of procedure shall be written and signed by the maker and furnished to the Chair before action is taken.
- (2) The Secretary, unless directed otherwise, shall not record motions ruled out of order, points of order on which no appeal is taken, or trivial matters of privilege.

### DEBATE

- (1) In seeking recognition from the Chair, a member must stand to address the Chair and, upon being recognized, state his or her name before making comment or motion.
- (2) The maker of a motion in preference to any other delegate shall be entitled to the floor immediately after the motion is stated.
- (3) Debate shall be limited to fifteen (15) minutes per topic.
- (4) No delegate shall speak to a motion a second time until all others have been given the opportunity to speak.
- (5) No delegate shall speak more than twice on the same question on the same day, nor more than two (2) minutes at one time without consent of the body.
- (6) General consent shall be required if additional time is to be given.

### DELEGATES FOR QUORUM

A quorum shall be a simple majority of the delegates registered for the meeting.

### PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- (1) *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority.
- A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates is required to suspend or amend these rules.

## 2006 PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR THE WNCC UMW

The Committee on Nominations is pleased to submit the following proposed slate of officers for 2007 for the WNCC United Methodist Women:

### NOMINEES FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM

Coordinator of Mission Education & Interpretation:

Sherry Sink                      High Point District

Communications Coordinator:

Karen Wilkerson              Statesville District

Committee on Nominations – Class of 2010

Carolyn Jones Connor      Statesville District  
 RoAnn Cox                      North Wilkesboro District  
 Polly Pearson                  Statesville District



### Mission Giving

The name for United Methodist Women's basic financial giving has been changed from *undesignated giving* to **Mission Giving** to make it easier to tell the story of the organization's vast mission outreach. The new name says what UMW is about – **mission** – and what makes that possible – **giving**. Mission Giving is the foundation for mission work through United Methodist Women and the Women's Division. Your contribution enables a full and consistent response to human need, especially the needs of women, children and youth. It affirms the wholeness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and a commitment to its proclamation in word and deed. Mission giving strengthens basic programs and projects. It also makes emergency response and exploration of new and evolving areas of mission possible.

**CONFERENCE GRAM**  
The official newsletter of the  
**WNC Conference United Methodist Women**  
Karen Wilkerson, 2829 17th Avenue SE, Newton NC 28658



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR WNC CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2006**

- September 8-10** Conference Annual Meeting at Lake Junaluska
- October 14, 2006** District Officers Training, First UMC in Gastonia

**Looking Ahead:**

- April 4-6, 2008** SEJ Quadrennial Meeting in Hampton, Virginia  
Theme — “Called By Name”
- April 29-May 2, 2010** Assembly in St. Louis, Missouri

**2006 Conference Gram Subscription**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Make \$2.00 check payable to WNCC UMW & mail to: Karen Wilkerson, 2829 17th Avenue SE, Newton NC 28658