

Conference Gram



Volume 56, Number 4 Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women

August 2007

WNCC UMW ANNUAL MEETING A Celebration of United Methodist Women Through The Eyes of A Child

September 7, 8 & 9, 2007, Lake Junaluska Assembly
Friday night – Opening Worship, Rev. Angela Pleasants
Saturday morning – Mission Speaker: Anne Kolbe
Saturday afternoon – *An Extreme Makeover*
Sunday morning – Closing Worship & Communion,
Rev. Angela Pleasants
Music Leaders: Gail and Charles Litaker
Hands-On Mission Opportunity: Gift to Mission Cards
Conference Love Offering – “*Celebrating Mission Giving
to Promote World Peace*”



Vice President's Message

Celebration time will be part of the next conference event for United Methodist Women. **Conference Annual Meeting** will be held at Lake Junaluska on September 7-9, 2007. We will gather to worship and be inspired to fulfill the *PURPOSE* of UMW. We will gather to fellowship as we renew friendships and make new ones. We gather to celebrate as we hear about the ministry of our conference reaching out to women, youth, and children around the world. We gather to be challenged to answer God's call for UMW. The chapel will be open all weekend for quiet time and prayer requests.

Through the Eyes of a Child is our theme for Annual Meeting. Through our *Mission Giving* and kind, loving acts, the world has hope *through the eyes of a child* who is sick, homeless, abused, lonely, or living in poverty. The Reverend Angela Pleasants will bring our Friday evening message. Late Night will be held in a new location, Harrell Center Auditorium. Both the young and young-at-heart will enjoy fellowship and music at Late Night.

Saturday morning will include the business and mission sessions. Reports and information will be given in the “Funny Business.” The mission session begins with the procession of the mission personnel living within the bounds of Western North Carolina.

It is an awesome sight to watch them walk down the aisle. The Pledge Service will take place and our Love Offering taken. Anne Kolbe will bring the mission message. The Cambodian Dancers will inspire you as they share their talent. Lunch with the mission guests is always a highlight as we visit and enjoy lunch with them at both the Terrace and Lambuth Inn. On Saturday afternoon, the session is entitled “An Extreme Makeover” which is prepared by Membership, Nurture and Outreach. The official Mission Walk will take place after this session, but participants may walk anytime. Saturday evening, we gather to hear from our conference president, Amy Johnson. We will recognize outgoing officers and install new officers. Elizabeth Holbrooks, former conference president, will conduct the installation of officers.

Sunday morning begins with Rev. Alec Alvord leading Sunday School – *Music and Mission* – or Singing at the Cross led by Virginia Robinson. Closing worship will include communion, memorial service, dedication of our hands-on Gift to Mission card opportunity, and a message by Rev. Angela Pleasants.

As requested, Program Resources will be open for a longer period of time. Plan to browse and purchase materials as well as Gift to Mission cards. Remember to purchase your

Gift to Mission Christmas cards to send to special people when we celebrate Christ's birth.

The North Wilkesboro District will be our host district. Many thanks go to Lynn Sloan Barnes, District President, and the dedicated ladies from the North Wilkesboro District. All of your Conference Team and the North Wilkesboro District are looking forward to welcoming you at Annual Meeting. You may come for a portion of the weekend or for the entire time.

United Methodist Women is a special group. I am rewarded, renewed, and inspired being in your presence. Bring someone new with you. Someone is just waiting to be asked. May God bless our being together at Annual Meeting.

Sandy Hieronymus
Sandyh46@aol.com

Please remember that registration for Conference Annual Meeting will be held downstairs in the Harrell Center Auditorium where Program Resources is located.

President

It's hard to believe that this is the final issue of the Conference Gram for 2007. We've had an opportunity to

United Methodist Women of the Western North Carolina Conference

2007 Love Offering

“Celebrating Mission Giving to Promote World Peace”

(Undesignated) Mission Giving to the United Methodist Women supports mission projects and mission personnel around the world. This Love Offering will help to relieve the suffering of women, children and youth globally. Your mission giving helps to 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, September 7-9, or send it directly to:

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

Please make checks payable to: Treasurer, WNCC UMW

come together this summer at our Spiritual Growth Retreats and the School of Christian Mission. Now, it's time to prepare for Annual Meeting. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every local unit had a representative at Annual Meeting? After all, each local unit has at least one voting delegate to make their wishes known in the business matters of the Conference. Annual Meeting is a time to celebrate the accomplishments of the districts for 2006. 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.

This is a good time of year to check your progress in several areas,

1. Has your local unit given in all 5 channels of Mission Giving?
2. Has your local unit received a visit from a District or Conference officer?
3. Has your local unit participated in a hands-on mission project from the *Material Resources for Mission* catalog?
4. Have you completed at least Plan I of the Reading Program? Have you implemented the Children's and Youth Reading Programs in your local church?
5. Are you using the Prayer Calendar and Response magazines in your meetings?
6. Have you corresponded with at least five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar?
7. Have you conducted or attended a mission study?

If the answer is "no" to any of the above, you still have time to complete the requirements that will help your unit become a Mission Today unit.

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 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 and grow through UMW.

Amy Johnson
jdeere620@aol.com

Leader Development

I know that all of the 14 Districts are making plans for each of the officers to attend Officer's Training on October 13th at First United Methodist Church in Conover. All of your district officers should attend! You gain a tremendous amount of knowledge from the conference counterparts as they lead in the training. Thereby, you pass on this information to the local units in the district. United Methodist Women continues with our *PURPOSE* throughout our conference.

I encourage all of you to continue making those LUV visits. Communication is vital in our connection with United Methodist Women. Make telephone calls or send letters to the presidents of the local units to find out their meeting times. You do not have to present a program unless they ask you to do so. The idea is to 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 they need 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 Conference!

Virginia Robinson
varobinson55@yahoo.com

Education & Interpretation

“Mission Today started Yesterday and ends Tomorrow”

Yes, we are quickly finding that time is of the essence as we approach the last few months of yet another UMW year. It is time to pull out your copy of Mission Today Criteria, or view it from the website, and see what has taken place in your unit these past few months. Look at it like you are making a progress report for your unit. Check those items that have been done and see what it takes to make others happen before the end of the year.

Mission Today is a tool to use to help your unit make our UMW *PURPOSE* come alive!

How do we come to know God?-Through the use of the Prayer Calendar, attending Spiritual Growth Retreat, School of Christian Mission or a District Mission Study, reading articles in *Response* and participation in the Reading Program and use of the Program Book-Just to name a few!

How do we experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ?-Implement the Charter for Racial Justice, use books from the Reading Program to learn about other cultures. Involve surrounding churches in your worship and meetings!

How do we develop a creative, supportive fellowship?-Participating in Hands on Mission projects, joining UMW Action Network, or having a Children's Sabbath and don't forget- to INVITE others to JOIN!

How do we expand concepts of Mission through participation in the Global Ministries of the church?-Through our *MISSION GIVING!* Making and meeting our Pledge. Giving in all Five Channels-Participation in School of Christian Mission and the Reading Program!

Our Conference Goal is to Make Our *PURPOSE* come alive!! The emphasis of our conference goal is, "to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church." Participation involves action! Being a Mission Today unit involves action!

Don't delay! Take Action Today! Mission Today started Yesterday and ends Tomorrow!

Sherry Sink
Sherika12754@aol.com

**Hands-On Mission Project
for
Conference Annual Meeting**

Gift to Mission Cards

The Financial Goal for 2007 is to increase giving in the Gift to Mission Channel by 10%. Gift To Mission Cards (and stamps) will be available in the Program Resources Room throughout the weekend. Remember someone with a special card. A Gift to Mission Card!!!!

(The Gift to Mission Cards will be dedicated on Sunday morning. If you are not attending Annual Meeting, please send your cards with someone else.)

Spiritual Growth

It is hard to believe that we are in August and that it will soon be fall with all the activity that comes at that time of year. Please try to attend your officer's training when it is given in the fall, usually in October or November. Your officers work hard to see that you understand the "how-to's" of your office and they will appreciate the support given by your attendance.

As Spiritual Growth Coordinator, you help to promote **A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial**, usually held in the first three months of the year. If your names have been sent into the Mission Resource Center, either you or your Program Resource person will receive a packet in the fall for this program. There will also be a **Quiet Day Service** and poster in the 2008 Program Book.

Each year, in June, the **Children's Sabbath** book is available for use in your church. This service of advocacy for children is usually held in October, although it may be held at any time. You may pick this book up at conference events and through the Mission Resource Center at 800-305-9857 or cs@missionresourcecenter.org. You may also order online at the website of the Children's Defense Fund.

The theme for this year's Annual Meeting is "Through the Eyes of a Child." Whether we have children, grandchildren or work with children, we find that the younger the child, the more often the world is viewed as simple and fresh as he or she experiences things for the first time. Unlike adults, who

often view the world with jaded eyes, they accept what they see and what they are told.

It is refreshing to view the world through children's eyes as they experience the wonder of a caterpillar turning into a butterfly or smell the flowers or question why the sky changes color. We, in turn, relive our childhood as we listen and experience all over again their amazement at something new.

Sometimes, through the eyes of a child, we see the fear and quiet acceptance of those children who have lost their parents to AIDS, who have been abused, who have no home, who see the wars created by adults as the only life they know, who delight in finding a piece of fruit in a garbage pile....Yes, children, in their innocence, accept what they see and are told. Jesus calls us to be like little children for he says "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." When we come to God as little children, God's peace and grace will hold us close for all eternity. Praise be to God!

Kris Peurifoy
Krispeurifoy@aol.com

Nominations

Conference Nominating Committee members have been assigned to visit at least one of your district executive committee meetings and one district event to help find persons who have the leadership skills to become effective conference leaders. A good source of information for district officers is through the LUV visits at your unit meetings. Good leadership skills are needed for local, district, and conference positions. As soon as your 2008 officers are in place, it's not too early to begin for 2009.

Make sure your term and tenure lists are updated. If you need forms, they'll be available at the training session in October. Skills must be matched with the job descriptions, taking into consideration that persons selected must be team players. **District officers**, be sure you attend the Training for District Officers on Saturday, October 13, at First UMC in Conover. **Local unit officers**, be sure you attend the training your district officers provide for you. Training for the positions you accept is not only beneficial for you but definitely beneficial for your districts and your local units. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Irma Ellwanger
IrmaEll@AOL.com

Program Resources

Conference Annual Meeting is going to be as exciting as ever and another event you'll want to be sure to attend. If you're a "first timer," you're sure to return next year.

The theme is "Through The Eyes Of A Child." Scan this newsletter for full details.

Things will be buzzing in the Resource Room as new literature will be available, as well as old favorites. 2008 Reading Program books should be available as well as the new *Program Book*. Plan some quality time in your week-end to spend with us in the "book room."

We'll have a table for "Simply Sitting" for your use to peruse the literature we have. We are really blessed to have such a wealth of resources from which to choose such as programming, reading books, organizational materials, and youth and children's studies.

Response and *New World Outlook* are excellent resources for programming and to increase your awareness of the presence of United Methodist Women in the world.

WOW! Because of *you*, we increased the numbers in our Children's Reading Program. To date, I have reports of 301 children participating. I know you know the importance of reading, both on a child/youth level as well as on an adult level. Starting children early in the Reading Program and receiving a certificate, may just be an incentive to opening the door to join a unit and read on the adult level.

Children's books are **exciting** and remember, they may read on these lists beginning with the year 2000. Youth may read from the youth list as well as the adult list. Continue to send me the names of your children and youth, and certificates will be mailed. Please specify the year, church and district.

Resources can now be ordered from **The Mission Resource Center**, 1221 Profit Drive, Dallas, Texas 75247-3191, telephone 1-800-305-9857. Fax number is 1-214-630-0079. Resources are available in many places, The Mission Resource Center, at district and conference events, at your local library. Why not contact another church and set up an exchange system for your Reading Program? You may even want to share book reports.

The five-year lists of the Reading Program are listed on the conference web site at www.wncumw.org. Additionally, information about the Children and Youth programs is also available there.

Two books have been highly recommended to me, *Bethlehem Besieged* and *Angry Wind*, and are next in line for my reading. These are categorized in Education for Mission.

Reading is.....a thinking and teaching process, an awareness of new words, thoughts and ideas, a stimulating exercise to sharpen the mind. The Reading Program Booklet is **not just a list**, but an informative description of books to whet your reading appetite.

My reading word of wisdom to you is, "Never be without a book in your possession." I hope you will continue to make

reading an important entity in your life...something only you can do "for you."

Bettie Sharpe Rowe
cnbsrowe@northstate.net

Social Action

A special priority for 2007 from the Conference Executive Committee was to make the *PURPOSE* come alive with emphasis on "To expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church." In order to participate, you have to act, to take part in. Now you may ask "to participate in what?" In global ministries, 'GLOBAL' -That's big. Yes, global is big but you are one in a million members of United Methodist Women. That's BIG! Just put forth an effort on a social issue that you are so passionate about. In the "Up Close and Personal" Growth Opportunity at the 2007 School of Christian Mission in Greensboro, we heard from Joyce Hart of the North Wilkesboro District. Joyce shared how she and her husband, Paul, were selected to journey to the Holy Land. She had opportunities to get Up Close and Personal with the Palestinian and Israeli Christians alike. Joyce told of the encounters with those that did and did not welcome them while there. Joyce stated that she returned home with a passion for justice for the Palestinians. She read book after book, wrote to all forms of the media, and did programs on the Holy Land. Joyce stated that since her first visit and several since then, she has flooded the President, Senate, House of Representatives, state, and local government with emails, snail mail, faxes, telephone calls, letters, and cards voicing her concerns and passion for the situation in Israel/Palestine. This is what Social Action is--developing a passion for something/someone, gathering information, and ACTING on behalf of it/them.

Still wondering 'what can I do'? Well, thanks to our website, and the Conference Social Action committee, we now have a Social Action webpage. Check it out. Many issues, some urgent, are posted for your immediate attention. Also, you are encouraged to sign up for the *United Methodist Women's Action Network*. This is an excellent tool to assist members of the organization in being informed and prepared to act on public policy issues affecting women, children, and youth. By joining the *Network* you make a commitment to act on issues that are brought to your attention. You may not agree with some of the information in the *Network*, but study and pray about it. Remember our *PURPOSE*, the scriptures, the Social Principles Social Creed, and Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church, and Women's Division policy statements lay the foundation from which issues are reviewed and analyzed. So sign up. Each District President and Social Action Coordinator should have the *Action Network* forms.

One of the many issues facing society is

POVERTY. You are invited to a seminar in Washington DC on September 26-30, 2007. The seminar is sponsored by the General Board and WNCC Church and Society of which Social Action Coordinators are a member. The theme for the seminar is 'Advocating Justice In The Midst of Poverty.' We will lodge in downtown Washington, just minutes from The Methodist Building and the U.S. Capitol. We have a responsibility to face economic injustices wherever they exist and work to restore justice to people living in the midst of poverty.

In a few weeks, we will come to the lakeshore for our Annual Meeting of the United Methodist Women. I hope to be there and see you there. The Conference's first Social Action Award will be presented during the business session on Saturday morning. Is it you? If not, go to our Social Action webpage and see how you or your unit can apply for this award. Application is due December 1, 2007 and awarded at the 2008 Conference Annual Meeting.

Our last gathering for 2007 will be at Conference Officers Training on October 13, at First United Methodist Church in Conover. All District continuing and outgoing officers are invited/expected to be present. Outgoing District Social Action coordinators will be training at the District Officer's Training for the local units. If churches are operating under the basic structure, (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Chair. of Nominations) please give your Social Action packets to the Presidents.

When John Wesley began "open-air preaching" in Bristol's marketplaces, cemeteries, even coal mines, he drew large crowds. He also drew criticism from local-church pastors, who charged Wesley's open-air preaching was unwarranted, if not illegal, because the areas where he preached were not his assigned parish. Wesley responded, "I look upon all the world as my parish." Wesley's point was clear. When engaging in God's work, boundaries cannot be drawn. Boundaries weren't for Wesley, and they are not for us as United Methodist Women.

Linda Young
lmyou2253@aol.com

Historian

Time certainly has a way of passing by really fast. For United Methodist Women, they are so busy trying to live our *PURPOSE* that we do not think of the history we are making.

Did you know that Dr. Clara Swain took an assignment to the Girls' Orphanage in Bareilly, India in 1873? She was in charge of a medical class of 14 orphans. Two years later, 13 of the students passed their examination, permitting them to practice medicine in ordinary diseases. In the year 2000, a gift from Women's Division made major renovations to this hospital possible,

which continues to offer hope for women and children in India.

As UMW members, our mission giving offers assistance in many lands and in our own country. Many times we just forget and go our own way, but the people receiving the assistance will remember for a long time.

Do you recall some of your earlier memories of UMW? Keep your bulletins/programs of your special events throughout the year. Attend District and Conference Events. Take pictures whenever possible. Some day in the future your daughters and granddaughters may look at the programs and decide they want to know more about what the United Methodist Women are really about. They may decide to join because of the memories you have to share with them. I know that each of you have some good memories that need to be shared and recorded.

Marjorie Knight
eknight@netpath-rc.net

Membership Nurture and Outreach

We continue to watch our *PURPOSE* come alive with our membership efforts throughout 2007. You are proving it is OK to "step out of the box." Congratulations! Several of you have requested visits with programs defining our *PURPOSE* in a variety of ways. There is interest in starting new circles and/or enhancing the current unit, at least two churches have reorganized units that were no longer active, and ministers have requested information and visits where there is no UMW unit, and there is more! At the time of this writing, two new teen circles have been organized with some of teens attending School of Christian Mission. This makes a very positive and encouraging statement for your leadership in the Western North Carolina Conference.

This positive trend in 2007 will continue at the gathering for Annual Meeting September 7-9 at Lake Junaluska, with the theme *Through the Eyes of a Child*. During the "funny business" we will receive the membership report for 2006 and see who will carry home the membership trophy. After the Friday night session, we will gather for "**creative, supportive, fellowship**" and lots of fun as we celebrate "Late Night" (but not too late!). This has become so popular, we are moving to a larger space.

On Saturday afternoon, following our interpretation of "**An Extreme Makeover**," we will continue to "**expand concepts of mission through participation of the global ministries of the church**" as we lead the Walk for Mission. Notice, new time! (Of course anyone is welcome to walk around the lake at 6am in the fog if they prefer the early morning.) If you are unable to walk, you may sponsor someone

else, or encourage your unit to have their own walk. Raising money for **mission giving** is one of the best ways of making our *PURPOSE* come alive, as it helps more women, children and youth **“to become whole persons through Jesus Christ!”**

You will not want to miss this event! Let me know if I can assist you in any way.

Linda Baity
lindabaity@wnireland.com

**2007 UMW Annual Meeting
 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
 September 7, 8, & 9, 2007**

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

Registration: New Place!!! Friday, beginning at 2:00pm, downstairs Harrell Center. Housing reservation forms for Lake facilities are available from your district president, and on the conference web site at: www.wnccumw.org.

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. Angela Pleasants.

Friday Late Night: New Place!! Immediately following the evening session, special activities are being planned for young women and the young at heart. Join the fun downstairs in Harrell Center until 11:00pm.

Saturday Morning: 8:30am, Business session, “Funny Business” presentation of reports, procession of Mission Personnel and Special Guests, Mission Speaker - Rev. Anne Kolbe, 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, “An Extreme Makeover”

Saturday Mission Walk: Following the afternoon session, join others in front of Stuart Auditorium to walk around the lake or as far as you are able to raise money for Mission Giving. Get sponsor forms from the website and keep healthy while supporting Mission Giving.

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 *Music and Mission* led by Rev. Alec Alvord, Harrell Center Auditorium.

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

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

Emergency Telephone Number of the Assembly Switchboard number is 828-452-2881

2007 Program Committee
 Sandy Hieronymous, Chairperson, Linda Baity, Lynn Sloan Barnes, Pat Gilbert, Martha Houser, Amy Johnson, Kris Peurifoy, Virginia Robinson, Bettie Sharp Rowe, Dixie Sheff, Sherry Sink, Sharon Smith, Karen Wilkerson, Linda Young.

Host District
 The North Wilkesboro District UMW, under the leadership of President Lynn Sloan Barnes, is the host district this year for the WNCC UMW School of Christian Mission & Annual Meeting. Thanks to all of you!!

**FEATURED GUESTS, SPEAKERS,
 AND MUSIC LEADERS**

Reverend Angela Pleasants, Guest Speaker

Angela A. Pleasants is a native of Greensboro, North Carolina. She is a graduate of NC A&T State University and a seminary graduate of Duke Divinity School. Angela is an ordained elder in our conference. Before taking her new appointment this summer at Central United Methodist Church in the Charlotte District, she was pastor for 5 years of Wingate United Methodist Church in the Albemarle District. She was elected as a delegate to the 2008 General Conference. She serves on various boards and committees both in the community and church. Angela is single. She enjoys sports – running marathons and boxing. She is involved in self-defense training for ladies to build confidence as well as protection skills. Angela loves to travel. One of her hobbies is pysanky, Ukrainian egg painting.



Anne Kolbe, Mission Speaker

Anne says she owes her beginnings to great grandparents and other family members who had visions of mission in their own communities as well as abroad. “It takes a village to raise a child.” That was the childhood of her brothers and sisters – growing up in the richness of the church communities where they learned about God’s love and the joy of living a daily life in God’s presence. After raising her two sons, Anne found that she was free to go into the mission field. She got her degree in nursing and worked here in the States as a nurse in cardiology, developmental disabilities, psychiatric care and geriatrics. GBGM accepted her as a missionary and sent her to train in India in community-based health care before being assigned to Cambodia. In Cambodia, she worked collegially



with the pastors in the villages to strengthen the outreach health care ministries of their congregations. They helped the poor to access the government health services that are getting stronger. They trained health volunteers in the churches and did subsidized water filter campaigns.

Now Anne has returned to the US and is working this summer at a summer camp as their nurse. (She hopes to also be their "missionary in residence.")

Music Leaders

Charles and Gail Litaker are residents of Wadesboro, North Carolina, and are active in First UMC



there. Gail is a music teacher in the Anson County Schools, where she teaches K-3 music at Wadesboro Primary School, and was selected as the Anson County Teacher of the Year for 2006-2007.

She is also the Associate Director of Music at First UMC, where she directs the Handbell Choir,



Joyful Noise Youth Choir, and "Thursday's Child," a community children's choir made up of first through sixth graders from all across Anson County. In addition, she is the Children's Choir director at First Baptist Church,

Wadesboro. Charles is the Director of Music and organist at First UMC, Wadesboro. He retired several years ago as music teacher at Anson Senior High School, after 30+ years of teaching. They are the parents of three grown children, and grandparents of three grandchildren in Winston-Salem and California.

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.

NEW FOR 2007!!!!

There will be a registration fee collected from all persons attending Annual Meeting. Fees are as follows and will be collected downstairs at Harrell Center at time of registration. If possible, please pay with cash. Checks will be accepted as a second option.

The registration fee is **\$5.00** for those staying in Conference owned facilities: Terrace Inn, Lambuth Inn, Lakeside Lodge, Sunnyside Lodge, Junaluska Apts. and for those renting or staying in a private home on the grounds.

\$10.00 is the registration fee for those staying in Providence Lodge, Sunset Inn and off the grounds of Lake Junaluska.

(Part of these fees go directly to Lake Junaluska for the use of the facilities.)

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.

Leadership Training for District Officers

October 13, 2007
9:00 am - 12:30 pm
(No Lunch this year.)

First UMC in Conover

As the District Nominating Committees work to complete the slate of district officers for 2007, please stress the importance of new and continuing officers attending this training.

PURPOSE
OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

For your next *Response Moment* in your local or district unit meetings, share a touching story entitled One Woman's Story about Pauline, who fled from Cameroon to the United States. This can be found on page 32 in the May 2007 issue of RESPONSE. This is another way "we tell our story."

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.

2008 Proposed Slate of Officers For The WNC Conference UMW

Nominees for a two-year term:

Secretary: Ann Aldridge, Marion District

Mission Coordinator of Spiritual Growth: Patricia Wiseman, Greensboro District

Secretary of Program Resources: Kim Keyse, Greensboro District

Nominating Committee Class of 2011: Nancy Clark, Marion District & Janet Turner, Winston-Salem District

Chairperson, Committee on Nominations: Patsy Baker, Albemarle District

Nominees for a second two-year term:

President: Amy Johnson, Winston-Salem District

Vice President: Sandy Hieronymus, Charlotte District

Treasurer: Sharon Smith, Marion District

Mission Coordinator for Social Action: Linda Young, Statesville District

Mission Coordinator of Membership Nurture & Outreach: Linda Baity, North Wilkesboro District

Nominees for GBGM Women's Division Directors: Dixie Liggett, Asheville District; Lynne Gilbert, Greensboro District; Polly Pearson, Statesville District; Karen Wilkerson, Statesville District (Alternate)

Charter for Racial Justice Committee, two-year term: Pam Shoffner, Greensboro District & Virginia Robinson, Marion District

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 2007

September 7-9.....Conference Annual Meeting at Lake Junaluska

October 13.....District Officers Training, First UMC in Conover

**April 4-6, 2008..... SEJ Quadrennial Meeting in Hampton, Virginia
Theme — “Called By Name”**

April 22-May 2, 2008.....General Conference, Fort Worth TX

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 this page. You may also choose to 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 Lynne Gilbert (lynnegilbert@bellsouth.net) or Karen Wilkerson (kwilkerson@charter.net), giving your name, email address, and district name. Join Now!!

Web Site Address: www.wnccumw.org—Lynne Gilbert maintains the web site. You are invited to send her articles and photos for the web site.

2008 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