



Annual Meeting

United Methodist Women
Western North Carolina Conference

September 5, 6 and 7, 2003

ARTICLE X: RULES OF ORDER

Section 1: Rules Of Order For Annual Meeting Of The Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women

A. 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.

B. 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.

C. 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.

D. 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.

E. Voting Membership

The voting body of the Conference organization shall be composed of the following persons:

1. One representative of each local unit of fifty (50) members or less, with one additional representative for each additional fifty (50) members in the unit
2. All District officers and chairpersons of District Committees
3. 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)
4. District Presidents, as members of the Conference Executive Committee
5. Conference officers and chairpersons of committees
6. Any member of the Women's Division or of the Jurisdiction organization residing within the bounds of the Conference
7. The resident Bishop
8. The President of the Jurisdiction Deaconess Association if residing within the bounds of the Conference
9. All elected members-at-large

F. Delegates For Quorum

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

G. Parliamentary Authority

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



30th Annual Meeting

United Methodist Women Western North Carolina Conference

September 5, 6 and 7, 2003
Lake Junaluska, North Carolina

Mary Kizer, President

Lynne Gilbert, Vice President

Chair of Program Committee

Hostess District - High Point

Jeanne Montgomery, President

2003 Program Committee

Lynne Gilbert - Chairperson, Mary Kizer, Carolyn Kiker, Amy Johnson,
Irma Ellwanger, Polly Pearson, Angela White, Karen Wilkerson, Kris Peurifoy,
Sharon Smith, Elsie Kindley, Jeanne Montgomery, Bettie Sharpe Rowe,
Janet Turner, Sara Williams, and Reverend Mark Barden



FRIDAY EVENING

Gathering Praise - 6:45 P.M.

Debbie Averett & Michael Dougherty

God's Children Gather for Welcome - 7:00 P.M.

Call to Annual Meeting

Mary Kizer

Greetings from Lake Junaluska

Joetta Rinehart

Greetings from the Bishop

Bishop Charlene Kammerer

Greetings from the Hostess District

Jeanne Montgomery

Announcements

Presentation of Guests & Program Participants

Lynne Gilbert

God's Children Gather for Worship

Passing of the Peace

*Hymn: *Children of the Heavenly Father*

Page 141 UMH

*Please stand as you are able.

(United Methodist Hymnal)

*Call to Worship

Polly Pearson

Leader: How shall we worship God?

All: **With hearts ready to love God and all God's children.**

Leader: How shall we worship God?

All: **With hands ready to serve children and families in need.**

Leader: How shall we worship God?

All: **With minds ready to seek God's will and to understand the plight of children.**

Leader: How shall we worship God?

All: **With voices ready to sing God's praise and to speak out on behalf of children. Every child is our child!**

Leader: Come, let us worship God!

Prayer Calendar / Opening Prayer

Reverend Lynne Blankenship Caldwell

Special Music: *My Heart, Your Home*

Annual Meeting Choir

(Written by Nathan & Christy Nockels)

Every Child is Our Child - United Methodist Women Go Back to School

*Hymn: *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

Page 344 UMH

The Hearing of the Word: *Mark 10: 35-37, 41-45*

Carolyn Kiker

The Message

Dr. Michael E. Ward

*Theme Song: *Star Child*

Page 17

*Benediction

Bettie Sharpe Rowe

Postlude



LATE NIGHT AT ANNUAL MEETING

(For Young Women, and the Young at Heart)

Immediately following the Friday Evening Session until 11:30 PM

Susan Todd Lounge - Upstairs Harrell Center



Campaign for Children - Phase III - Public School Education
Let's Go Back to School

Some kids have never had a birthday cake.

Some need help with reading or math.

Some have never been fishing, eaten in a restaurant,
waded in the ocean, or ridden in an elevator.

Some will never have the opportunity to play the piano or paint a canvas.

Others...just need a friend to help them deal with life.

*"He put a child in the middle of the room. Then, cradling the little one in his arms, he said,
'Whoever embraces one of these children as I do embraces me,
and far more than me - God who sent me.'" Mark 9:36-37 (The Message)*

Help Change the World One Child at a Time



SATURDAY MORNING

Gathering Praise - 8:30 A.M.

Debbie Averett and Michael Dougherty

God's Children Rejoice in God's Mission - 8:45 A.M.

*Theme Song: *Star Child*

Page 17

*Please stand as you are able.

Prayer Calendar / Opening Prayer

Nina Tharpe

Business Session

Mary Kizer, President
Carolyn Kiker, Secretary
Bonnie White, Parliamentarian

- VOTING DELEGATES SHOULD SIT IN SECTIONS 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 (A-L) OR ON STAGE -

Devotion in Motion

Cathy Burleson

*Please feel free to move around or visit the restroom while we reset the stage
for the next part of our business session.*

Funny Business

A Class Act

- There will be a brief intermission -

God's Children Tell the Story of Mission

Convener

Karen Wilkerson

Special Guests:

Active & Retired Missionaries, Church & Community Workers,
Deaconesses, and Other Special Mission Guests

Processional Hymn: *The Summons*

Please remain seated.

Page 2130 TFWs
(The Faith We Sing)

The Hearing of the Word

Linda Reep

Mission Address

Reverend J. Denise Honeycutt

Love Offering:

*In Honor of Bishop Charlene Payne Kammerer
For Her Commitment To and Her Vision for Mission*

Amy Johnson

Offertory Music: *Child of God*

Written by Kathryn Scott

*Doxology

Page 94 UMH

Pledge Service: *Let the Children Come to Me*

Amy Johnson, Karen Wilkerson,
and District Treasurers

Recession of Guests: *Our Beloved Mission Personnel, Still Serving!*

Please remain seated as our honored guests depart the auditorium. Pictures of many of our mission personnel will run on the large screens...enjoy the pictures and special music. These persons are our special guests for lunch at the Terrace and Lambuth Inn. After our benediction, as you go to lunch, please help us host our guests by allowing them to go to the front of the line.

*Hymn: *Here I Am, Lord*

Page 593 UMH

*Please stand as you are able.

*Benediction

Amy Johnson

Postlude

MISSION LUNCH

You are invited to join our mission guests for lunch in the dining rooms of both the Terrace and Lambuth Inn. Seats have been reserved for our honored guests throughout the dining rooms at both locations. Please make these very special people feel welcomed!

Waynesville District Gathering: Waynesville District members are invited to a picnic at noon in the Hudnall House (red house with screen porch) behind the tennis courts.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Gathering Praise - 2:00 P.M.

Debbie Averett and Michael Dougherty

God's Children Go Hand in Hand - 2:30 P.M.

Introduction

Lynne Gilbert

Every Child is Our Child - United Methodist Women Go Back to School

The Eggsential Story: Hand in Hand

Sandra Honeycutt

Postlude

Asheville District Gathering: Asheville District members are invited to a picnic at 5:00 p.m. at the open-air gym at the far western end of the Lake.

United Methodist Women



Let's Go Back
to School!

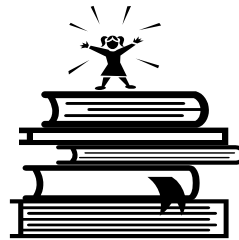
School Days,
School Days

+



A B C D

=



2 + 2 = 4

Suggestions For Helping Our Students Succeed

- Establish a partnership with a school
- Maintain the partnership throughout the school year
- Sponsor After School Programs
- Attend athletic events, music events or theater productions
- Adopt a student
- Adopt a teacher
- Collect backpacks, shoes and coats for children and youth in need
- Collect school supplies
- Be a Reading Volunteer
- Provide Job Shadowing
- Provide holiday gifts for families in need
- Chaperone field trips
- Create bulletin boards for classrooms
- Support a community-wide health fair
- Greet students at the beginning or end of day
- Be a hall monitor
- Be a lunch buddy
- Provide transportation to extra-curricular activities
- Mentor a student or students
- Tutor in Math
- Grade papers for teachers
- Furnish refreshments for Parent / Teacher conferences
- Provide "prizes" or "incentives" for classrooms
- Coordinate your church/school connection
- Recruit other volunteers from the church or community

Pray for Students, Teachers, and Staffs



SATURDAY EVENING

Gathering Praise - 6:45 P.M.

Debbie Averett and Michael Dougherty

God's Children Look to the Future - 7:00 P.M.

Evening Prayer

Sara Williams

A Time of Appreciation

Mary Kizer & Amy Johnson

Installation of New Officers

Bishop Charlene Kammerer

Dedication of the Annual Report

Elsie Kindley

The Hearing of the Word: *Hebrews 12:1-2a, Luke 4:18-19*

Sharon Smith

President's Address: *Then, Now, and Into the Future...*

United Methodist Women Continue

Mary Kizer

*Hymn: *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve*

Page 2241 TFWS

*Benediction

Patricia Wiseman

Postlude

**Please stand as you are able.*

DISTRICT GATHERINGS (Following Saturday Evening Session)

Albemarle	Room 316, Terrace
Charlotte	Auditorium A & B, Terrace
Gastonia	Room 104, Lambuth
Greensboro	Auditorium A & B, Harrell Center
High Point	Susan Todd Lounge
Lexington	Auditorium C, Harrell Center
Marion	Morganton House
Northeast	Room 100, Lambuth
North Wilkesboro	Room 103, Lambuth
Salisbury	International Room B & C, Lambuth
Statesville	Room 319, Terrace
Winston-Salem	Room 202, Harrell Center

SUNDAY MORNING CHOICES - 8:30 - 9:30 A.M.

Take your pick between ...

A. *Exodus: The Journey to Freedom*

Reverend Alec Alvord

- OR -

Harrell Center Auditorium

B. Singing at the Cross

Virginia Robinson



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Gathering Praise - 10:00 A.M. Debbie Averett and Michael Dougherty

God's Children Share Praise and Commitment - 10:15 A.M.

*Call to Worship

Janet Turner

Leader: Deep inside us all...old and young alike

All: There is a place of faith

Leader: A place of trust, and hope, and love

All: Without which there can be no peace

Leader: Jesus said, "Let the children come unto me, and do not hinder them,

All: For to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."

Leader: Hear, then, O people of God...Approach this hour as children of the Almighty

All: With innocence of heart and unlimited hope

Leader: With a trust that makes you vulnerable

All: And with a love that is easy and quick. Amen.

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*Hymn: *Where Children Belong*

Page 2233 TFWS

Prayer Calendar / Opening Prayer

Kris Peurifoy

Petition and Pardon

Angela White

Prayer of Confession and Petition

Leader: Like the prodigal son, we stray from the lives God wants us to lead and follow our own selfish pursuits. When we recognize that we have lost our way, God welcomes us with open arms and joyous celebration. So with confidence, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

All: Creator God, you have made each of us in your image, and yet we fail to reflect your love and justice. You have created every child in your image, and yet we don't treat every child as a precious reflection of you. We see some children as valued treasures, and others as lost causes. We invest our time, money, and hopes in some children, while we squander the great potential of others. Open our eyes, we pray, to see that every child is made in your image and belongs to you...Every child is our child. Help us to love, protect, and nurture all children. We pray these things in the name of the One who came to us as a child. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon and Hope

Leader: Hear the good news! God sent Jesus that we may know ourselves to be loved and forgiven children of God. Rejoice in God's love!

All: We rejoice in God's love! Amen.

Sung Response: *Open Our Eyes*

Page 2086 TFWS

Memorial Service

Irma Ellwanger

*Hymn: *Hymn of Promise*

Page 707 UMH

The Hearing of the Word

The Message

Reverend Dr. Lillie Madison Jones

Communion

Reverend Mark Barden, Celebrant

Reverend Lynne Blankenship Caldwell, Celebrant

A Service of Word & Table III

Page 15 UMH

*Hymn: *One Bread, One Body*

Page 620 UMH

Dedication of the Gift in Memory Cards

Karen Wilkerson

Leader: God of love, please accept these cards representing gifts to mission in memory of persons who touched our lives in so many special ways.

All: **We thank you God, for these persons that you have received into your loving arms, and into the glorious company of the saints of light. Each of them was one of Your unique and beautiful children. We are your children, God, help us to love and serve you in all that we do. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Hymn: *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

Page 581 UMH

*Litany of Commitment

Lynne Gilbert

Leader: I watched her go uncelebrated into the second grade, a greenless child,
Gray among the orange and yellow,
Attached too much to corners and to other people's sunshine.
She colors the rainbow brown, and leaves balloons unopened in their packages.
Oh, who will touch this greenless child?
Who will plant alleluias in her heart, and send her dancing into all the colors of God?
Or will she be left like an unwrapped package on the kitchen table...
Too dull for anyone to take the trouble?
Does God think we are her keeper?
Who will touch the greenless children, and work to see that every child enters school ready to learn?

All: **We will, with the grace of God.**

Leader: Who will believe, and act on the belief, that all children can succeed?

All: **We will, with the grace of God.**

Leader: Who will work to support children, parents, teachers, and principals to make the best educational decisions possible?

All: **We will, with the grace of God.**

Leader: Who will support quality teaching and let our teachers know their work is valued?

All: **We will, with the grace of God.**

Leader: Who will work to involve our whole community to see that our children get what they need to learn and succeed in school and beyond?

All: **We will, with the grace of God.**

Leader: We are all called to covenant with God and with one another. God will be with us as we help all children, especially the greenless children, to learn, succeed, and fulfill their God-given potential. Every Child is Our Child!

All: **Every Child is Our Child!**

*Theme Song: *Star Child*

Page 17

Blessing and Sending Forth

Mary Kizer

Postlude

Program Participants

Reverend Alec Alvord - *Director of Volunteer Response Ministries, WNC Conference*

Alec has served Christ through the United Methodist Church in countless ways, including as Director of Missions and Outreach for the Western North Carolina Conference, and as a missionary in Africa with his wife and partner, Dot.

Debbie Averett - *Director of Contemporary Worship, Wesley Memorial UMC, High Point*

Debbie uses her many talents and diverse background to communicate God's never-ending love in this unique worship setting. Debbie, her husband Bob, and two teenage children are also members at Jamestown United Methodist Church. "I often brag that I am double blessed because I have two wonderful church families." Debbie is a graduate of Gardner-Webb College, with a B.S. degree in Health and Physical Education, and a minor in music.

Reverend Mark Barden - *Director of Missions and Outreach, WNC Conference*

Mark serves as the conference liaison for United Methodist Women, and is a member of our Conference Executive Committee. He continues to be supportive in so many ways, including serving on our Program Committee. We are glad he is on our team!

Cathy Burleson - *Vice President, North Wilkesboro District United Methodist Women*

When she is not moving and shaking with United Methodist Women, Cathy teaches at Appalachian State University, and is President of the United Methodist Women unit at Boone UMC.

Reverend Lynne Blankenship Caldwell - *District Superintendent, High Point District*

Lynne has served appointments across our conference, and is in her second year as District Superintendent of the High Point District. She is a graduate of Berea College and Asbury Theological Seminary. In 2001, she earned a Certificate in Church Leadership from the Royce and Jane Reynolds Program in Church Leadership through Duke Divinity School in Durham and the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro. Lynne is a native of Asheville, North Carolina, and is married to Neill Caldwell.

Michael Dougherty - *Organist, Wesley Memorial UMC, High Point*

Michael Dougherty is a United Methodist Diaconal Minister. He received an undergraduate degree in Organ Performance from Kalamazoo College, Michigan, and a Masters Degree in Sacred Music from Emory University in Atlanta. For three years he served as Director of Chapel Music at Westminster College in Oxford, England. In his spare time he enjoys composing, spending time with his British wife, Hannah, and barefoot waterskiing.

Reverend J. Denise Honeycutt - *Associate Director of Mission, Virginia Conference*

An ordained elder in the Virginia Conference, Denise has also served as mission interpreter in residence for the Southeastern Jurisdiction. As a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries, she was dean of students and taught theology and biblical studies at Banyam Theological Seminary (Africa). She has also pastored churches, and served as a chaplain in a hospital and hospice. She is a native of Locust, North Carolina, and is married to the Rev. James P. "Pat" Watkins.

Sandra Honeycutt - *Director, The Hand in Hand Project - WNC Conference*

Sandra helped to establish *Hand in Hand* in response to the Bishop's Initiative on Children and Poverty. She is a lifelong advocate for children and for rural North Carolina. She has also served as Director of Volunteer Services with Communities in Schools of North Carolina, as a reading tutor, substitute teacher, and volunteer storyteller and artist. Sandra and her husband Danny have four children and three grandchildren. Sandra enjoys touching the future of North Carolina through volunteers.

Reverend Dr. Lillie M. Jones - Pastor, St. Paul UMC and Faith UMC, Mooresville

Dr. Jones was commissioned a probationary member of the WNC Annual Conference in 2003. Before her call to the ministry, she worked over thirty years in public education and education administration. She served as Interim Superintendent of the Guilford County Schools from 1999-2000, and held Deputy and Associate Superintendent positions there from 1993-1999. She holds an undergraduate degree from Bennett College, and graduate degrees from A&T State University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Hood Theological Seminary, where she was the recipient of the senior preaching award.

Bishop Charlene Payne Kammerer - Resident Bishop, Western North Carolina Conference

Elected to the episcopacy at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference in July 1996, Bishop Kammerer was assigned to the Charlotte area. In July 2000, she was reassigned to the Western North Carolina Conference, where she superintends 288,575 members in 1,144 churches. She is passionately committed to the Episcopal Initiative on Children and Poverty and is giving significant leadership in this arena across the church.

Virginia Robinson - President, Marion District United Methodist Women

This talented vocalist serves as Director of Music for Salem UMC in Morganton. In addition to her United Methodist Women work, she is Trial Court Coordinator for the 25A Judicial District.

Dr. Michael E. Ward - State Superintendent of Public Schools of North Carolina

Serving his second term as State Superintendent, Dr. Ward is a committed educator with past experience that includes service as a local superintendent of schools, a high school principal, and a teacher. A three-time graduate of North Carolina State University, Dr. Ward has received the University's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He believes strongly in the power of teaching and learning, and in high expectations for students. And, he is active in community activities, works regularly with projects that address homelessness and hunger, and is a volunteer in the short-term missions program of the United Methodist Church. Dr. Ward is married to the Reverend Hope Morgan Ward of the North Carolina Conference, and they have two children.



- Special Thanks -

The Program Committee would also like to thank the following individuals and groups for volunteering their talents and gifts for this meeting:

- * Jeanne Montgomery, and all of the women of the High Point District
- * All of the District Mission Teams, and members of the Conference Executive Committee, for their assistance in a variety of ways
- * Annual Meeting Choir volunteers
- * Hostesses for our persons in mission for the mission lunch
- * Kevin & Kenneth Eller, for providing music for Late Night at Annual Meeting
- * Megann Marie Marbry, of Zion UMC (Albemarle District), for sharing her creative talents
- * The many local units and individuals across our conference who shared photographs of their involvement with children in our schools.
- * YOU, for your commitment to mission, and for coming to Annual Meeting! All of the planning would be for naught if you were not here.

Many of the ideas for this program were adapted from: *Campaign for Children, Phase III: Public School Education, National Observance of Children's Sabbaths 1999 - Wonderfully Made: Preparing Children to Learn and Succeed; and Hand in Hand - The Project Guide.*

Report of the Treasurer



The United Methodist Women of the Western North Carolina Conference remember the words of Christ, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," as they again gave very generously in support of mission around the world. **In 2002, undesignated giving from the local units increased by over \$6,500, and total giving again went over the one million dollar mark - \$1,082,944.95.** Your monetary gifts helped to relieve suffering and improve the quality of life for women, children, and youth by providing food, clothing, health care, education, community centers, missionary support, and funds for many other mission projects.

In 2002, we again gave more than our Pledge to Mission! Our giving through Women's Division totaled \$950,519, which included \$830,000 in Undesignated gifts. Our Designated gifts totaled \$119,710. The Conference Love Offering was \$35,113, again the largest ever received. We also gave \$12,715 to other projects, including \$4,576 of contributions to the WNCC UMW General Scholarship Funds.

We also reached our 2002 Conference Financial Goal of increasing giving to the World Thank Offering by 10%. We increased our giving in this category by \$11,722, approximately a 14% increase over 2001.

For the second consecutive year, Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women were "**NUMBER ONE**" in our mission giving. Based on financial reports from the Women's Division, we ranked first in the following categories:

**Gift to Mission
Gift in Memory
World Thank Offering
TOTAL UNDESIGNATED GIVING
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
AND
TOTAL GIVING!!!**

Although giving was down across the nation, we were one of the few conferences who met their pledge. Thank you for your continued commitment to mission which is reflected in the generous giving of United Methodist Women across our conference. We must continue to give generously, as the need for undesignated mission funds is greater than ever. When we join together as United Methodist Women, our monetary gifts do make a difference in ways that we could not accomplish individually. Every mission dollar makes a difference!

Thank you for your continuing support of mission. **YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

Amy Johnson, Conference Treasurer

Report of the Historian

The 2002 Annual Report has been placed in the Conference Archives at Memorial Center in Charlotte. Copies of conference programs were also placed in the Archives. One copy of each is kept in a file for use by the Executive Committee. Pictures that are dated and labeled are kept, also. Each district historian was given a packet of material for her own enrichment and use in district newsletters. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Conference Historian.

Nina Tharpe, Conference Historian

The Conference Gram

The *Conference Gram* is published four times per year by the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women and is mailed, free of charge, to all district and conference officers, and to local unit presidents, vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers, and circle chairs. Others may subscribe by sending their name, complete address, district, and \$2.00 to Sharon Smith, Communications Coordinator, P. O. Box 903, Marion, NC 28752. Checks should be made payable to WNCC UMW.

Sharon Smith, Conference Communications Coordinator

Making Our PURPOSE Come Alive Through Mission Today!

To live out our PURPOSE as United Methodist Women is an awesome responsibility. To be in mission with women, children, and youth around the world is what God calls us to do as United Methodist Women. How can we best live out our PURPOSE and find our way as UMW units to be in mission to others? The answer is MISSION TODAY!! The resources for Mission Today help to educate our local units about the many mission opportunities that exist around the world, and they also help us to understand where and how our money is used to help others.



Becoming a Mission Today Unit helps your unit interpret the mission work of United Methodist Women. Using the *Prayer Calendar*, the *Material Resources for Mission Catalog*, *Response Magazine*, the *Where the Money Goes Packet*, the *Five Channels of Undesignated Giving Packet*, the *Membership Brochure*, *Reading Program books*, and the *Program Book* are all ways of learning how we can be, and how we are, in mission. By attending Conference and District events, we receive spiritual renewal (to know God); learn about general issues and other countries (to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ); share great fellowship (to develop a creative supportive fellowship); and celebrate our work as United Methodist Women connected to other UMW units all over the world (to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church).

The Women's Division goal for Mission Today is 50% of all units around the world to be Mission Today Units by the end of 2004. We were close to 50% for 2002 (our goal for 2002 was 55%). Our conference goal for 2003 however is 60%. Our conference leads the way in so many other areas, let's also help to lead the way in Mission Today.

Is your unit striving to be a Mission Today Unit? Yes, we hope so! It takes meeting eight of the criteria, four with asterisks, to be a Mission Today Unit. Help make our UMW PURPOSE come alive in your unit by helping your unit work through the resources listed in the Mission Today criteria. You can do more than the eight. Strive to do all of the criteria to make our UMW PURPOSE complete. Then at the end of the year report your progress to your district. If your unit needs any help with Mission Today, please contact your district or conference coordinator for Mission Education and Interpretation. YOU make mission possible for women, children, and youth around the world. Thank You!!

Karen Wilkerson, Conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation

Report of the Scholarship Committee

From the campus of Brevard College to the campuses of Pfeiffer University (Charlotte and Misenheimer) to High Point University and Greensboro College, YOU are changing lives. This happens because of the Scholarship Program administered by the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women. The lives that are changed by a scholarship in turn make a difference in untold lives of women, children, and youth locally and worldwide.

This year, 2003, the Scholarship Committee interviewed thirteen students, ranging from newly graduated high school students to persons entering their second career. All the applicants were answering God's call to service. The interview process is an experience both wonderful and depressing. It is wonderful because we meet exciting people who shine with God's spirit. They are so excited about their call and eager to share what God is leading them to do. It is depressing because of the limited amount of money that we have to distribute among the applicants. This year we had \$9,250.00 to award to the thirteen applicants.

As the committee met with students during our interviews in April, we attempted to be open to God's guidance in awarding funds. Each person interviewed was deserving, and we wished for enough money to fully fund each request. The Scholarship program is funded by eight endowed scholarship funds and the General Scholarship fund. Contributions to the General Fund are encouraged after units have met their pledge to mission and have given in all five channels of undesignated giving. Support of the Scholarship Program helps us fulfill our Purpose as United Methodist Women who are working to make "Every Child Our Child."

Scholarship committee members for 2003 are: Angela White, Karen Wilkerson, Sara Williams, Amy Johnson, Nina Tharpe, Mary Kizer, and chairperson Linda Reep.

Linda Reep, Conference Scholarship Chairperson

Report of the 2003 School of Christian Mission

"Grace to you and peace..."

If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, Be uprooted and planted in the sea, and it will obey you.
Luke 17:6 - NW Women's Devotional Bible

A paraphrase from "Our Doctrinal Heritage" in the Book of Discipline, describes Methodists as persons of personal piety, salvation, and love of God linked with love of neighbor involving Christian mission and service to the world.

The 2003 School of Christian Mission, July 17-20, provided three studies, woven together with the common thread of love of God and neighbor, which enhanced our understanding and broadened our knowledge of these interrelationships. The story of Exodus, a powerful tool in the journey toward justice, gave us an opportunity to compare this journey with the African-American experience of slavery. The geographic study of Mexico called us to address the contemporary issues facing the church in our relations with our bordering country. The events of September 11, 2001 presented us with a new urgency for Creating Interfaith Community... understanding our neighbors of different faiths and finding ways of getting to know each other better while being grounded in our own Christian faith.



The expertise and wonderful spirit of our Study Leaders made it possible for each participant to have a meaningful learning experience. The preparation done by the leaders of our workshops, focus groups, our music leaders, and the Resource and Discovery Rooms, gave support to the classroom offerings. The morning praise, the plenaries, the UMW banquet theme, and the "news" reports were events of joy and celebration. We felt the warmth of the welcome given by President Craven Williams and all of the personnel of Greensboro College as that Extra Ingredient of our school. The total registration for this year was 356, of which 246 were full time students, and 110 were participants in the one day overview sessions. Of this number, 74 were first timers, many of whom said that they were inspired to come again.

We are in preparation for returning to Greensboro College for our 2004 School of Christian Mission, July 22-25, 2004. Our spiritual growth study will be Concerning Prayer; the geographic study will be Cuba, and the general issues study will be Public Education. Make plans now to be in attendance as we explore the impact of these topics on our call to be in Mission.

Patricia W. Wiseman, Dean, Conference School of Christian Mission

An Invitation to the Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting March 12-14, 2004 - The Galt House Hotel - Louisville, Kentucky

It is with joy, excitement, and anticipation that I invite you to the SEJ Quadrennial Meeting in Louisville, KY, March 12-14, 2004. The theme, *Vessels of Mission*, reminds us that it is God's mission and that we are the clay in the Potter's hands.

Come and be drawn closer to God through the *breaking of bread*...Come and be molded, shaped, and filled through *worship and the hearing of the Word*...Come and let your concepts of mission be stretched through *cutting edge focus groups*...Come and be filled by the breath of God through special times of *Prayer*...Come and share your faith journey - your story - in a wonderful *fellowship and sisterhood*...Come celebrate and rejoice as we *sing praises together*...Come and participate in *electing and affirming new leaders*...Come! *We will laugh, cry, pray, sing, love, dance, worship, hope, and forgive.* Come! The Potter waits!

Dori Thurman, Member, SEJ Core Planning Group

- OUR THEME SONG -

Star-Child



1. Star - Child, earth - Child, go - be-tween of God,
 2. Street child, beat child, no place left to go,
 3. Grown child, old child, mem-ory full of years,
 4. Spared child, spoiled child, hav - ing, want - ing more,
 5. Hope - for - peace Child, God's stu-pend - ous sign,



love Child, Christ Child, heav-en's light - ning rod,
 hurt child, used child, no one wants to know,
 sad child, lost child, sto - ry told in tears,
 wise child, faith child, know-ing joy in store,
 down - to - earth Child, Star of stars that shine,

Refrain



This year, this year, let the day ar - rive when



Christ-mas comes for ev-ery-one, ev-ery-one a - live!

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray (Matt. 2:1-12)

MUSIC: Carlton R. Young

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STAR CHILD
45.45 with Refrain

Used with permission

- The Logo -



The chalkboard is reminiscent of our own childhood school days. If we close our eyes we might see once again the dust rising from freshly dusted erasers. It is a reminder of a simpler time and place.

The photographs on the chalkboard bring us sharply back to reality. These are the faces of our own children, grandchildren, nephews, and nieces. These children are in the fast paced, demanding, and highly technical world of the public schools of the twenty-first century. It is not a simple time and place.

This logo challenges us to get involved in the education of all children. Every Child Is Our Child and it is our responsibility to see that their education is the best that it can be.

Interpretation by Sara Williams, District President, Northeast District United Methodist Women

2003 Conference Officers

President	Mary Kizer
Vice President	Lynne Gilbert
Secretary	Carolyn Kiker
Treasurer	Amy Johnson
Mission Coordinators:	
Spiritual Growth	Irma Ellwanger
Membership Nurture & Outreach	Polly Pearson
Social Action	Angela White
Education & Interpretation	Karen Wilkerson
Secretary of Program Resources	Kris Peurifoy
Communications Coordinator	Sharon Smith
Parliamentarian	Bonnie White
Chair, Scholarship Committee	Linda Reep
Chair, Leader Development	Elsie Kindley
Historian	Nina Tharpe
Dean, School of Christian Mission	Patricia Wiseman
Chair, Committee on Nominations	Linda Young
Members, Committee on Nominations	Brenda Alexander, Faye Ashe, Linda Estes, Rosetta Everett, Kathy Gwyn, Nina Hogan, Louise Jones, and Dixie Sheff
Member, SEJ Core Planning Group	Dori Thurman
Director, Women's Division	Janet Collins
Staff Representative	Reverend Mark Barden
Resident Bishop	Bishop Charlene Payne Kammerer

2003 District Presidents

Albemarle	Dixie Tyson	Marion	Virginia Robinson
Asheville	Mary Lou Stamey	Northeast	Sara Williams
Charlotte	Sandy Hieronymus	North Wilkesboro	Mildred Carter
Gastonia	Vickie Boyd	Salisbury	Evelyn Eller
Greensboro	Kim Keyse	Statesville	Norris Wilson
High Point	Jeanne Montgomery	Waynesville	Lavenia Hawk
Lexington	Bettie Sharpe Rowe	Winston-Salem	Janet Turner

-Notes-

Nominees for 2004-2005

	President	Mary Kizer
	Vice President	Lynne Gilbert
	Secretary	Carolyn Kiker
	Treasurer	Amy Johnson
	Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth	Kris Peurifoy
	Mission Coordinator for Social Action	Angela White
Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach		Polly Pearson
	Secretary for Program Resources	Bettie Sharpe Rowe
	Chair, Committee on Nominations	Brenda Alexander
Member, Committee on Nominations, Class of 2007		Irma Ellwanger
Member, Committee on Nominations, Class of 2007		Marie Leonard

2003-2004 School of Christian Mission Officers

Dean: Patricia Wiseman
Assistant Dean: Dot Alvord

Housing Manager: Martha Houser
Business Manager: Winifred Helton



Looking Ahead to 2004

Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting
March 12-14, The Galt House Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky

Spiritual Growth Retreats - June 18-19/19-20, Lake Junaluska

School of Christian Mission - July 22-25, Greensboro College

WNCC UMW Annual Meeting - September 10, 11 & 12, Lake Junaluska

Visit Our Conference Web Site!

You can find lots of information at our conference web site. Conference event information, registration forms, Mission Today resources, the *Conference Gram*, and links to the many resources available on the Women's Division web site, are just a few of the things you can find there. Our web address is:

www.gbqm-umc.org/wnccumw



Join Our Conference Email List!

If you are interested in receiving email periodically with Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women information, updates, the *Conference Gram*, etc., send an email to Lynne Gilbert (lynnegilbert@bellsouth.net) or Carolyn Kiker (kiker2@aol.com), and give your name, email address, & district.

Join now!

Welcome to Lake Junaluska For the 30th Annual Meeting of United Methodist Women of the Western North Carolina Conference

Meeting Registration:

Friday: Harrell Center, Room 202
2:00 - 5:45 p.m.
After the evening session

Saturday: Stuart Auditorium, Entrance -- 8:00 a.m. - Noon

Hospitality & Refreshments:

Friday: Harrell Center - Susan Todd Lounge
2:00 - 5:00 p.m., High Point - Hostess District

Prayer Room: Memorial Chapel (Open all weekend)

Program Resources & Social Action Area:

Friday Downstairs in the Auditorium of Harrell Center
2:00 - 6:45 p.m.
After the evening session

Saturday 7:45 - 8:25 a.m.
12:45 - 2:00 p.m.

Other Important Schedule Information:

Meal Schedule: Please allow Program Participants, Pages, and Program Committee members to break line, since they have responsibilities that limit their time. Most have blue ribbons on their nametags. Thank You!

Breakfast 7:00 - 8:30 AM Lunch 11:45 - 1:30 PM Dinner 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Wake Up Walk: Join other early birds for a morning walk! Meet at 6:15am (Saturday & Sunday mornings) at Harrell Center.

Please Note:

- ☺ Members of units meeting the Mission Today criteria in 2002 have smiley faces on their nametags. Congratulations!
- ★ Persons attending Annual Meeting for the first time have stars on their nametags. Welcome!

