

PURPOSE  
Of United Methodist Women

*The organized unit of  
United Methodist Women  
shall be a community of  
women whose PURPOSE is*

*To know God*

*To experience Freedom as  
whole persons through Jesus Christ;*

*To develop a creative,  
supportive fellowship;*

*To expand concepts of mission  
through participation in the global  
ministries of the church.*



*Peace, Popcorn, and Pansies*

*Spiritual Growth Retreat*

**United Methodist Women**  
*Western North Carolina Conference*  
*Lake Junaluska—June 17-18, 2011*

### ***Memorial Chapel***

The Memorial Chapel is open this weekend for you to visit. Spend time there in prayer and meditation. In the quietness of the Chapel, you may kneel and truly commune, open your heart, with our Heavenly Father. A place is provided that you may leave prayer requests there. You are asked to take a prayer request as you leave yours.

### ***Registration***

REGISTRATION is DOWNSTAIRS in the Harrell Center Auditorium from 2:00—5:00 PM. (Follow signs.) PLEASE register even if you are not staying on the Lake property. This is important so we will have accurate records. There will be an opportunity to register in the lobby of Stuart Auditorium before each session. Each one attending is important and we want to know you are experiencing this weekend.

### ***Program Resource Room***

The Program Resource room is located on the ground floor of the Harrell Center. Kim Keyse, Conference Secretary of Program Resources, has an abundant supply of materials for you to purchase, as well as a variety of free leaflets and brochures. Please browse through the Reading Program books. The room will be open:  
Friday: 2:00—5:00 PM; Saturday 8:00—8:30 AM and 1:00 —2:00 PM

### ***Meal Times at Lake Junaluska***

Dinner: 5:00-6:30 PM Breakfast: 7:00-8:30 AM Lunch: 12:00-1:30 PM

++++++

An **Offering** for Mission Giving will be taken in the First session. Checks should be payable to WNCC UMW.

++++++

Program Participants and Spiritual Growth Committee Members have many duties this weekend so we request that you allow them to break line if needed. They will have ribbons on their nametags. Thank you.

### ***Our Appreciation to:***

**Reverend Dr. Heather Murray Elkins  
for her inspiring messages and her loving spirit  
that touched our souls and helped us see Jesus. We appreciate  
also her helping lead us in celebrating Holy Communion.**

**Mr. Jim O'Dell, Trinity, and Central Praise Band  
for lifting our hearts in music and praise. Thank you  
for sharing your excellent musical talents with us.**

**Sarah and Abby Mills for sharing your beautiful violin music.**

**Deaconess Maureen Carr for helping lead in celebrating  
Holy Communion.**

**Reverend Mark Barden for the beautiful  
and meaningful portrait of our life-giving tree.**

**Jane Smith, Shelia Barrell, Margo Bowman,  
Betty Durham, Vickie Morrison, and Connie Martin  
for participating in the program.**

**Kris Peurifoy for training and directing Communion servers.**

**Jane Norman, President of the Charlotte District and  
Martha Efird, Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Charlotte District  
for the lovely worship center.**

**Snyder's-Lance for providing our POPCORN!**

**The Conference officers, the Conference Spiritual Growth  
Committee, the District Spiritual Growth Mission  
Coordinators, and to the many others that volunteered  
and encouraged so that our weekend might be truly special.**

**Our appreciation to each of you for attending the Retreat.  
It is our desire that while you have been in this place, you have felt  
the presence of the Holy Spirit. As with the woman at the well,  
go and tell the things God has done for you.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Conference Spiritual Growth Committee  
Dixie Tyson, Chair; Mildred Carter, Tonya Lanier, Julia Willis,  
Virginia Robinson, Martha Phillips, Sherry Sink,  
Kim Keyse, Jane Norman, Jane Smith, Emily Johnson**







# Peace, Popcorn, and Pansies

Session II—Saturday Morning

Gathering Praise in Stuart Auditorium 8:45—9:00 AM

Announcements and Introductions ..... Dixie Tyson

Prayer Calendar ..... Tonya Lanier  
WNCC UMW Vice President

Opening Prayer ..... Margo Bowman  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator, North Wilkesboro District

Hymn # 344 UMH ..... “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

Special Music ..... Abby and Sarah Mills

**Prayer: We are here, O God, seeking you, straining to hear you and know your will. We want so much to do as you call us to do. You have such faith in us. But we believe we know ourselves better than you. How can you possibly call and believe in us to carry your message of love, peace and forgiveness to the world when we see and know all of our failures? How can you build your kingdom message on the likes of us? We have turned from you in fear and in selfishness, worried you might take too much of our time. Yet, you believe, even in our unbelief. Help us, Lord, to know of our value, that we might see ourselves the way you see us. Fill us with a new spirit so that we can be the disciples you call us to be. Amen.**

Special Music .....Trinity

Scripture Reading .....Mark 4:26-29 ..... Betty Durham  
President, Greensboro District UMW

Message .....“Marking Time” ..... Rev. Dr. Heather Murray Elkins

\*Hymn # 572 UMH ..... “Pass it On”

\*Benediction ..... Kim Keyse  
WNCC UMW Secretary of Program Resources

\*Postlude

\**Please stand as you are able.*

*(Each dove added to the tree on the stage has the name of one of our deceased sisters that departed in 2010. We thank God for their ministry to us and around the world. May they rest in peace.)*

## Trinity



This group of Christian young women sing for the glory of God. The ladies find great joy in witnessing through their music. They have been singing for two and a half years as part of the Central United Methodist Church, Monroe Music Ministry outreach to the community. The group sings contemporary, three part vocal arrangements (many arrangements are of familiar hymns) with piano alone, or full band back up. All money collected at their concerts goes to help fund the *Turning Point* Women's Crisis Shelter in Monroe. This is a way

for them to share their faith. They will be leading our Gathering Praise and other music. You will not want to miss their concert on Friday evening after our worship service. You will be blessed by them.

(Amanda Eaton, Debbie Deese, Linda Thomas, Liv Brown, Lisa Hassell, Patty Reaves, Diana Ollis and Jennifer Miracco)

## Abby and Sarah Mills



Abby is 11 years old and a rising 6th grader. She has been playing violin for five years and enjoys performing at church and with a local violin group, the *Allegro Strings*. She is a preparatory member of Central United Methodist Church in Monroe, NC. Abby also enjoys reading and sports, especially the Atlanta Braves.



Sarah is a 13 year-old rising 8th grader. She has been playing violin for seven years and also clarinet in her school band. Sarah recently joined Central United Methodist Church in Monroe, NC. For fun, she enjoys horse-back riding, clogging, and performing with *Allegro Strings*. Sarah says: “I have met so many new friends playing with my violin group, I love it!”

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

### Mr. James O'Dell



Mr. James O'Dell is the Director of Music/Organist at Central United Methodist Church in Monroe, NC. He has held this position for five and a half years. He and the Praise Band from Central will be providing our music this year. Currently in his 30th consecutive year as a Music Minister/Organist, he has held full-time positions in Indianapolis, IN, Victoria, TX, and Lancaster, PA. Jim began his music training at age eight in Rochester, New York. In high school, he began organ lessons

and continued his piano training. Mr. O'Dell's primary instructors have included Emily Vanderpool (Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY), Robert Hobstetter (Nazareth College of Rochester, NY), Craig Hella-Johnson (University of Texas at Austin) and Barbara Harbach (University of Buffalo) where he received the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance.

As a member of the American Guild of Organists, he has held the chapter positions of Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Sub-dean. His active participation in this organization has included numerous public organ recitals, choral and organ workshops.

In addition to his church responsibilities, he was a Ragtime pianist at the Boggstown Inn & Cabaret, Boggstown, Indiana. He has served as the accompanist for the United Methodist Southwest Texas Conference Adult Choral Workshops and Youth Choir Rallies. He was organist to the United Methodist Southwest Texas Annual Conference in Corpus Christi. We are delighted to have him share his incredible talents with us this weekend.

## *Peace, Popcorn, and Pansies*

*Session III — Saturday Morning's Closing Session  
Gathering Praise in Stuart Auditorium 10:15—10:30 AM*

Announcements ..... Dixie Tyson

Opening Prayer ..... Vickie Morrison  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Winston-Salem District

\*Hymn # 707 UMH ..... "Hymn of Promise"

Special Music.....Trinity

**Prayer: Eternal God, shining into the world of darkness, we confess that too often we have failed to observe your presence, and when we have seen your way, we have failed to follow or ask for guidance. We have wondered at your ways, raising up the weak and putting the powerful in their place. We have assumed that our way was your way and our priorities yours too. You continue to surprise us, showing up in the lowliest of places and in the humblest of persons. Forgive us. Break into this world once more bringing peace into its hidden recesses where hope is lacking and your grace is necessary. Hear our words, spoken and silent, as we now turn ourselves to worship. Amen.**

Special Music ..... Abby and Sarah Mills

Scripture Reading .....Matthew 6:26-33 .....Connie Martin  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Marion District

Message ....."Still in One Peace" ..... Rev. Dr. Heather Murray Elkins

### *Dressing the Altar for Holy Communion with "Peace" Lilies*

Martha Phillips, Julia Willis,  
Virginia Robinson, Sherry Sink,  
Kim Keyse, Tonya Lanier

Service of Holy Communion.....Reverend Dr. Heather Murray Elkins  
Deaconess Maureen Carr

\*Benediction..... Mildred Carter  
WNCC UMW President

\*Hymn # 2130 TFWS....."The Summons"

\*Postlude

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

## Service of Holy Communion

Reader: Peace Lilies are placed around the Holy Communion Table as we remember God's children seeking peace around the world.

Reader: We place a Lily as we remember wars that rage within the homes of some of our sisters due to domestic violence around the world and next door.

**All: God grant them your Peace.**

Reader: A Lily is placed today remembering the war torn country of Haiti, torn by the war of destruction of repressive leadership and the disastrous earthquake of 2010: where women and men struggle to provide the basics for the survival of their children.

**All: God grant them your Peace.**

Reader: This Lily reminds us of young children that are held prisoner to the war of human trafficking.

**All: God grant them your Peace.**

Reader: A Lily is placed at the Communion Table as we remember the war across our border of drug lords ravaging Mexico and those leaving their homeland seeking a better life for their families.

**All: God grant them your Peace.**

Reader: A Lily is placed remembering the many countries torn by war, the people displaced from their homes, and the injustice of years of occupation.

**All: God grant them your Peace.**

Reader: We place a Lily and remember the children that live within the sounds of guns and the women and girls used as weapons of war.

**All: God grant them your Peace. Amen.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Peace, Popcorn, and Pansies* – About our Logo

Our Logo was designed by Barbara Funderburk, Central United Methodist Church, Monroe, NC. The artist who did the painting of our banner is Lisa Benton, New Hope United Methodist Church, Monroe, NC. We appreciate their gifts and their willingness to share with us.

**Peace:** We long for Peace in our world and within our own hearts. We long to walk “*beside the still waters*”.

**Popcorn:** Most of our lives are more like popcorn. Popping out of control. We yearn to abide in the “*paths of righteousness*”. When popcorn is heated, it becomes a delicious treat.

**Pansies:** Their smiling faces bring us comfort and joy even after they have endured the tough winter season. “*He restores my soul.*”

## RETREAT LEADER

**Reverend Dr.  
Heather Murray Elkins**

HEATHER MURRAY ELKINS is professor of worship, preaching, and the arts at The Theological School of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey. She is a graduate of Prescott College (B.A.), the University of Arizona (M.A.), Duke University (M.Div.), and Drew University (Ph.D.). In addition to numerous articles in academic journals and church publications, she is the author of *The Holy Stuff of Life* and *Worshipping Women: Re-forming God's People for Praise*. She is contributing editor of *Wising Up: Ritual Resources for Women of Faith and Pulpit, Table, and Song*. Many of Professor Elkins' essays, poems, and sermons are available in denominational publications, such as *Lectionary Homiletics*, *Weavings*, and *Storyteller's Companion to the Bible*. She is an ordained elder in the West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church and has served as a pastor, a truck stop chaplain, university minister, and an academic dean. Her husband, William Wesley, is also a pastor and adjunct professor.

