

## *Next stop: Zion*

Yes, we are marching to Zion, each of us in our own way. Those whom we have loved and who have passed this year have reached Zion in all its glory! Hallelujah! This year we say good-bye one last time as we celebrate, for it is a celebration, the lives of our guiding women of faith – United Methodist Women. Just who were these women? Well, we do know some things about them. In the **Albemarle District** (step forward) the women were awesome, agile in mind, and agitators! **In the Asheville District**, they were ardent workers for God, active in their communities and addicted to the work of the UMW. In the **Charlotte District**, our loved ones were caring women who were chock full of faith and committed to the UMW.

The **Gastonia District** had gals who were guiding lights and generous in giving but who sometimes liked to gossip. **Greensboro's** women were go-getters for God's work, full of gumption and grit, glorious songs of praise springing from their lips. **High Point District** ladies were helpers, healers and sometimes "high-steppin'". In the **Lexington District**, literate lovers of good reading program books flourished as did leaders and life-givers. **Marion** women had mega faith, were mission oriented and were marvelous witnesses for Christ. **N. Wilkesboro** women were nurturing, no-nonsense UMW who also preached non-violence. **Northeast** had many normal (although sometimes noisy) women who used their noodles to do spectacular things for God and who noticed and cared for their brothers and sisters. **Salisbury District** women were savvy, squeaky wheels, singing songs of mission. The women of **Statesville** had sensitive seekers of the truth, who were service oriented and social activists. **Waynesville** had witty, wonderful women who wept for those in need. **W-S** women, though sometimes weary, welcomed others as they walked with and worshipped God.

As UMW, they all worked to carry out God's Purpose, and our Purpose, human frailties and all. God's glory is theirs. Are we there yet? No, we are still marching on with the hope that someday, we too, will join our sisters-in-Christ at the golden throne of God.

Prayer

## Memorial Service Notes

Have banners lined on each side of auditorium. (See Diagram) We will need rehearsal to go on stage. Have tape marks on stage. Each side will come down at the same time, meet in the middle on stage, with Albemarle being last to go up on left side and W-S being last on right.

Come in to “Marching to Zion”

Song after MS: “Faith of Our Mothers”