

"Farmville District United Methodist Women"



LINKETTE

January 2011

MEMBERSHIP

WHO?

WOMEN OF ALL AGES

NURTURE

HOW?

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CHILDREN

JESUS

OUTREACH

Farmville District

United Methodist Women

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www.umcfarmville.org

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A Message From Your District President—Sue Mayo

Happy New Year! Have you made any New Year's resolutions yet? And have you broken them yet? Yes, I admit it; I'm cheating on my diet already? But, my supporters tell me that it's OK, just start back tomorrow, today is a new day, and we can enjoy a new beginning. What about you? Are you always saying that you would like to attend more of the wonderful district programs and events, but you don't have time, or you don't have anyone to ride with, or whatever. Well, it's a new day, and you **CAN** decide again that THIS year that you will take advantage of the District Prayer Breakfast, the District Mission Study or the District Advent Day Apart. What about the great School of Christian Mission studies in July—this is a vacation in itself (for yourself) as you give yourself quiet time and become educated on what the word *mission* is all about. Decide today, and then mark these dates on your calendar. Make announcements at your church that you intend to go, and invite your church members to ride with you. This will make it even harder for you to back out if you have invited people to ride with you. Don't forget to ask your husband to come with you—we won't send them away and they will be equally blessed by the program—think of the great conversation you will have returning home.

We have invited our Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Mary Jane Rawley to be our speaker for the Prayer Breakfast on March 19th at VUMAC. When Mary Jane gives the devotional at our Executive meetings you can hear a pin drop. I know you will not want to miss this great morning.

Darlene Amon will be coming to our District on April 30th to teach our District Mission Study on "Joy and Evangelism" at Crenshaw UMC. Lunch will be provided at no charge—what a deal—your body and soul will be filled to the brim at NO EXPENSE!

This year is a year of renewal as we show our hospitality to the units in the Petersburg District that will be joining the Farmville District. Units from Brunswick and Mecklenburg Counties will be joining us effective July 1, 2011. I hope you will feel as I do—United Methodist Women in the Virginia Conference are not strangers to one another. We already attend many events together. As we reorganize to incorporate more members things may change to accommodate the larger geographic area we will become. I look forward to the leadership potential with the women in the Petersburg District.

Ok now, check out the calendar and the event notices in this newsletter—and put them on your calendar right now before you forget (I know how it is!). Then, stand up in your unit or church and invited people to go with you. And (shame on them!) if no one will go with you, then call someone from a church close by or even a District Officer that lives close by. Some of our district officers drive alone to these events, so you might be able to hitch a ride with one of us!

UMW Sisters, we need more of you to join us on the District Mission Team. Please stop "hiding your light under that bushel" and let us know about your talents and spiritual gifts. If you are good at coming up with program ideas (themes) we could use you as District Vice-President right now! We need more helping hands and willing workers to help us continue to present these mission events for you (free programming—just like Public TV!). Please help us help you.

Don't forget your Mission Team is ready to come and visit with your unit, and we want to visit every unit this year. Please call—we would love to come and visit with you! I look forward to serving you the next two years as my tenure come to an end. The work of United Methodist Women is so exciting and so awesome! As I read your Charge Conference Reports I am humbled by the work that each unit in this district does for those less fortunate than them! Each one of you is awesome!

Grace and peace to you,
Sue Mayo
District President

SOCIAL ACTION

Kathleen Mitchell, 434-542-5447
henry@linkabit.com

Ladies I hope you have made your reservations for United Methodist Day at the General Assembly. As United Methodist Women we must be empowered to wonder "How can I make a difference? This day helps us look beyond and ask "What caused this problem? Poverty? Inadequate health care? This day introduces us to the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church in a meaningful way. With the budget cuts being planned, we must raise our voices for "the least of these" that may be affected. Attending this event will also fulfill criteria 4 of The Mission Today form.

I encourage each unit to subscribe to the Response magazine which is a great resource in educating us all on the Social Action problems we can work together to do something about. If you are working on your Social Action Award criteria look at the three Conference priorities/goals below and look for ways your unit can work on those priorities.

I look forward to working and educating us all on the social issues facing our world today. I ask that you pray, learn and advocate on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves.

Our District will be focusing on one of the Conference Goals at our Prayer Breakfast. We will be collecting needed items for Madeline's House which is a shelter for abused women located in the Farmville District. You can see the list of items to bring on the registration form in this newsletter.

VA CONFERENCE SOCIAL ACTION PRIORITIES FOR 2011-2012

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
HEALTH CARE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**



Ideas for Successful Units*

Taken from the Portsmouth District UMW 2008 Handbook

- **Give everyone an opportunity to serve. Don't keep the same position year after year. Change all officers at least every two years. Volunteer to take another office after two years thus leaving your position open. Others can do your job! Monitor how power is shared. Allow new members to hold office. It's a good way to learn!**
- **Avoid cliques and overbearing, uncaring attitudes.**
- **Use the UMW Program Book which has excellent mission programs or prepare quality mission programs of your own.**
- **Attend District UMW activities.**
- **Smile and be pleasant.**
- **Seek out others' opinions.**
- **Send birthday cards.**
- **Give awards.**
- **Say "thank you" at every opportunity.**
- **Be positive and understanding.**
- **Be open to new directions and change.**
- **Participate in mission projects, local, national, and international.**
- **Invite District leadership to unit meetings.**
- **Encourage each member to talk to a prospective member.**
- **Be enthusiastic and encouraging.**
- **Pray for United Methodist Women.**
- **Include All women in meaningful participation.**
- **Send information on your unit's activities to be included in your church and district newsletter.**

Do all projects for the glory of God!

DISTRICT DAY DATE CHANGE

Please note a date change for our District Day. We will be having our District Day on Saturday, October 1, 2011. We are attempting to reach out to our working ladies who have to take a personal day to attend during the weekday. It will begin in the morning and end with lunch.

DISTRICT TREASURER

Mary Fulton, 6321 Phillis Rd.,
Boydton, VA 23917, 434-738-6841,
mfulton@kerrlake.com

I am please and thrilled to be part of our leadership serving as treasurer. Jean Church did a wonderful job as treasurer and I am sure we all thank and appreciate how she has handled her responsibilities. I am still very wet behind the ears on this job, but I will do my best to handle these new responsibilities and work with the local treasurers when needed.

I feel I need to restate some things that Jean reminded us in the last newsletter. As the new treasurers in each unit set up their books and deadlines for 2011, these items need to be kept in mind. Also remember to include your \$2.00 AMD fund and Call to Prayer and Self Denial in your first quarter pledge. Thank you Jean for these guidelines that I am repeating for our units.

"Over the past four years Women's Division has received over 70% of our pledges in the second half of the year. Since this places them in a difficult financial situation each year, please look at your patterns of giving to see if it is possible to move more of your giving to the first two quarters of the year

It is also important that our organization is able to track our giving to projects in the state of Virginia. Each year our conference UMW gives \$30,000 in grant money to Virginia Projects. We need to track the local giving to keep this giving equitable throughout the state. In an attempt to keep the information flowing while streamlining the process, your Virginia Conference UMW is asking that each unit and district follow these guidelines:

- Giving to UMC projects in the Virginia Conference will continue to go through your district treasurer to the conference treasurer. These projects would include, VUMAC, UMFS, Ferrum, Henry Fork, Camps and other Virginia Conference Mission projects.***
- Donations made to local community organizations will be paid directly to the organization by the unit treasurer.***
- At the end of the 4th Quarter, the unit treasurer will send forward to the District Treasurer a list of all local giving including the name of the organization and the dollar amount. This information will then be compiled by the conference treasurer and included in our Total Giving figures.***

Your conference UMW also asks each unit to consider and use the 80%/20% giving guidelines, giving 80% of all donations to UMW projects and the designated Virginia projects.

Again thank you Jean. I look forward to working with all our unit treasurers. I can be reached at Mary Fulton, 6321 Phillis Rd., Boydton, VA 23917, 434-738-6841, mfulton@kerrlake.com. If possible I prefer email so that I can research your questions before responding.



BECOME A RAINBOW GIVER IN 2011:

A \$60.00 donation to Mission Giving makes you an individual 5 Star Giver. Ask your unit Treasurer for the Rainbow Giver Form.

- \$5.00 to Pledge
- \$5.00 to Gift to Mission
- \$5. 00 to Gift in Memory
- \$40.00 to Special Mission recognition
- \$5.00 to World Thank Offering

DISTRICT SECRETARY

Shirley Martin

804-492-4329, email: snmartin@ceva.net

Greetings! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. I know many of our local units are getting started on their projects for the upcoming year. When you are

making your plans for 2011, be sure to put the district events on your calendar as well as your local unit's so there are no conflicts. Keep your members informed of these upcoming dates! I hope these little tidbits will help you in your position as Secretary:

- Keep good communications open with your president. Be sure the agenda is followed. Ask her how she would like the minutes prepared, distributed, and maintained.
- Be knowledgeable about the topics scheduled for discussion.
- The minutes should start with the name of the group, place of meeting, date and time, including when the meeting was adjourned, names of those present.
- Have a form available for motions as to who made them and who seconded them.
- Ask speakers who are presenting reports to provide a copy. Keep the copy attached to your minutes.
- Record the happenings during the meeting as stated, not your opinion.

I look forward to meeting you at the District events. If there is any way I can be of help to you, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail me.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Lynda Anderson

434-983-2843,

email: lundaanderson@embarqmail.com

The 2011 Reading Program has lots to offer. The purpose of the Reading Program is to encourage United Methodist Women members:

- to expand their understanding of; participation in God's mission;
- to increase sensitivity to all human beings – their needs, interests and concerns;
- to encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today;
- to grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life;
- to enhance self-knowledge and to act from that knowledge;
- to strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

United Methodist Women recommend a diverse range of books with the intention of broadening exposure to a variety of concepts. The Reading Program does not intend that readers accept each word or idea contained within each volume. Some books you may agree with; some you may not. Either is all right. United Methodist Women care and want you to be a knowledgeable and caring Christians about current issues.

Our 2011 Reading Program has some great new books available for our reading pleasure and spiritual growth. Don't forget the new category "Leadership Development".

These are a few of the new ones, *Half the Sky: Turning oppression into opportunity for women worldwide*, *unChristian: Finding Faith in a New Generation*, *The Perfect Board: Learning the ropes of a new job*. The reading plans will stay the same for right now. Remember you can count books from 2006 through December 31, 2010.

Just remember that Bonus Books count as two books. They count either as two in one category or as one in each of two.

The reading program is open to anyone in the church to participate: Women, Men, Youth & Children. The Reading Program helps your local UMW unit to meet one of their qualifications towards becoming a Mission Today Unit by fulfilling Criteria #22 on the report form. Don't forget *Response* and the great articles you can share with your units each meeting. Every unit should be able to check off criteria #10 and #21 on the Mission Today Form.

I look forward to working with each of you as God leads me in my position as District Secretary of Program Resources.



MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH

**Sherry Guerrant, 434-374-0332
sherrylg37@yahoo.com**

Happy New Year! Thank you to the units that returned your membership reports to me by January 4, 2011. I did not receive reports from 23 units, your numbers from 2010 were used to make the first initial report to the Virginia Conference UMW. If you did not return the form please return it now so that I can make adjustments with the Virginia Conference UMW.

The units I did not receive reports from are: Arvonias-James River, Beulah-Prince Edward, Boydton, Brown's Chapel, Centenary-Cumberland, Centenary-James River, Farmville, Glenmore, Harmony, Kenbridge, Keysville, McCanless, Mt Cana, Mt Carmel, Mt. Pleasant, Mt. Tabor, New Hope, Oakwood, Olive Branch-Prospect, Salem-North Amelia, Shiloh, Tabernacle, Victoria, Ward's Chapel.

Thank you, Sherry Guerrant I had to report a number by Jan 8th. But have until Feb 15 to get the final numbers together hopefully the above units will respond.

This year it would be great to see each United Methodist Women in the Farmville District bring someone new to your unit meetings or to a District or Conference Event. They don't have to be a United Methodist Woman to attend our events—maybe that will spark some interest and they will want more and decide to attend your meetings!

These women I am talking about are all around us—some might even live on the same street or attend your church or a church across the street.

They might come in a different nationality than yours, be in a different age category, or wear clothes a little different than yours. Invite them. How

about your pastors—do you personally invite them to join you at UMW events or

do you assume they know and will come anyway. A pastor stated last year that she came to District Day because her unit invited her—spend a few dollars and pay for their registration! Keep your eyes open to the events and activities planned for you this year. We also look forward to welcoming our sisters to the South of us July 1st.



EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

**Lynne Pridden, 434-392-6556
lpridden@kinex.net**

United Methodist Women of the Farmville District there are several activities planned in the next few months that I hope you have marked on your calendars. These events are planned to help you grow spiritually and educate you on how we can help women, children and youth all over the world.

I want you to be sure and mark April 30th on your calendars right now. You won't have to worry about snow or cold weather for this one. Our District Mission Study will be on "Joy to the World" and will be led by Darlene Amon. Darlene taught this study at the School of Christian Mission last year and I know you don't want to miss her! Crenshaw UMC in Blackstone will host the study this year. Lunch will be provided at no cost!

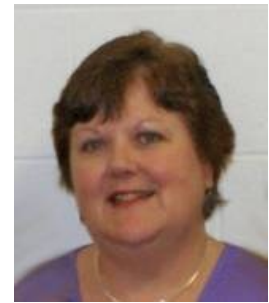


THE Farmville District UMW Newsletter "The Linkette" will be published quarterly, January, April, July and October. A printed copy will be mailed to each unit President and Circle Leaders. We will email copies to anyone who wishes to receive a copy. Just send Sue Mayo, bns mayo@yahoo.com your email address and you will receive a copy. If you have anything you would like to include send your suggestions or events to the same email.

Report Forms for the current year 2010-2011 will be available on the Farmville District Website farmvilleumc.org under communities—UMW. Officer information, pictures and the Linkette will also be posted during the year, as well as event registration forms.



**FARMVILLE DISTRICT
United Methodist Women
Prayer Breakfast**



**Speaker, Mary Jane Rawley, Spiritual Growth Coordinator,
Virginia Conference United Methodist Women**

March 19, 2011, 9AM @ VUMAC

Cost \$8.00

*Menu: Breakfast quiche (made with bacon, sausage),
fresh fruit, coffee, water, juice, milk, cereal*

*We would appreciate completed registrations with payment as soon as possible (No later than March 12) If
you have any questions, call Susan Rigg (434)572-4406) or email revedsusan@embarqmail.com*

REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) _____



Name & Phone Number of contact person:

Church or charge attended:

Make check (\$8.00 per person) payable to: FDUMW

Mail to: Betsy Hanmer, PO Box 206, Keysville, VA 23947

The absolute deadline for reservations is March 12,2011.

Mission Focus: Madeline's House—needed items:

Over-the-counter medicines: Tylenol, Isoprene (adult & child)
Lysol (liquid cleaner), Laundry detergent (liquid), Pine-sol, flashlights & batteries, gift cards
(Food Lion or Wal-Mart (\$5/\$10))

Farmville District United
Methodist Women
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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN BENEDICTION

May the joy of our united service enrich and beautify our lives and be a mutual blessing to our United Methodist Women, our Missionaries, our Church and our Community, that all may share in bringing the Kingdom of peace to our world.

Amen