SPRING, 2019 LINKETTE
FARMVILLE DISTRICT
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Happy Easter and Spring to everyone as we thaw out and dry out from such a wet and variable weather winter. I know we are all looking at our spring flowers and budding trees as we enjoy the beauty of renewing life. Spring is truly God’s reminder to us that new life awaits us someday and it will open with his Glory.

I sent a letter to unit Presidents with all the dates and updates for Spring and Summer. First on our agenda is the Farmville District Mission Study held this year on April 27 at Mount Pleasant Church in Meherrin. Church address is Rt 633, Meherrin, Virginia 23954. The church is south of Farmville off 15 between Keysville and Farmville. I will send directions later. The second event will be a Conference Spiritual Life Retreat at Eagle Eyrie on May 3-5. Next is June 1 for Ferrum Day at Ferrum College. On June 21 the Conference will hold its annual Breakfast at Annual Conference in Roanoke Holiday Inn at 6:30 AM. The cost for that is $18. I currently have tickets for that Breakfast. You can also get tickets online from the Conference website. The Conference Mission Encounter will be held on July 26-28 at Smith Mountain 4H Camp at Smith Mountain Lake near Rocky Mount. This year ½ of your cost will be paid by district if you register through us. I have registration forms for that. You can rest in August as you prepare all your reports for us, which are due August 31. Our District Annual Meeting will be held on September 25 at Journey Church in Amelia. This year we will elect several new officers including president.

Thank you to all who attended Prayer Breakfast in March. We were

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sorry Jane Smith was not able to join us for her final program. She did write the program for us and got her wonderful daughter to read her part. We also had the opportunity to say a tearful “good bye” to our DS Bob Parks. His wonderful words to us at the end of the meeting were spiritual and hopeful for the United Methodist Church. Our music was lovely too at the breakfast.

In John 14:6-7 “Jesus answered, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you have really known me, you will also know the Father.” Jesus paved the Way the hard way with His suffering and His Life. Now, let us all accept His Gift and His Grace with our Faith and our Love for Him and for All his People.

Yours in Christ,

Mary Fulton

Farmville District UMW President

District Secretary

The United Methodist Women of Shiloh recently hosted a program regarding the “Wings Ministry” which is based in South Hill. We were delighted to have Susan Carrol worship with us and remain after the service as guest speaker for our ladies group. She presented a very informative program as to the origin and works of this remarkable sewing ministry. Those who attended the Prayer Breakfast will recall the “Wings Ministry” was the recipient of the donated items brought in by those who attended the event.

Brenda Gee

A newborn baby. Caterpillar turned butterfly. Buds on a branch. All of these images bring thoughts of fresh, new life. And while we certainly enjoy this kind of physical “new,” we thank God for providing our spiritual “new” that lasts for eternity. Second Corinthians 5:17 powerfully states, “If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” That’s good news! We are not what we used to be -- we are alive in Christ and forever changed.

I’ve been reading this on my calendar for several days now and wanted to share it with you all.

At this Easter season, let us be reminded that through His death we have new life...and it is eternal.

Blessings, Ebie Hines
**Education & Interpretation**

What a wonderful Prayer Breakfast we had back in March with 125 in attendance. Jane Smith’s daughter did an outstanding job.

Now it is time for our Mission Study coming up on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church. The church is located at 5083 Mount Pleasant Road, Meherrin, Virginia 23954. Reverend Nancy Robinson will be our study leader.

Registration begins at 9:30 am and the study is from 10:00 am to 12 noon with lunch following in the social hall. The menu is baked ham, string beans, potato salad, rolls and dessert with coffee, tea or lemonade.

Our mission project is canned or boxed food for the local food pantries. Hope to see you there.

Our Mission Encounter will be in July, 26-28 at Smith Mountain Lake. Hope to see many of you there.

Laura Jane Rash

**Spring has Sprung!!!**

I hope you are all enjoying the mild temperatures and colorful blossoms as Nature begins to wake up from her peaceful Winter nap. Bees are buzzing and butterflies are flying as children run through the green grass, their laughter filling the warm air. Easter will be here soon, reminding us of God’s unconditional love for us through the sacrifice of his only Son. While new life begins all around us, it also starts within us because of this gift of eternal life Jesus gave. May we all be aware of the meaning of Easter as we enjoy the blessings of Spring.

The ladies of Mt. Pleasant enjoyed a wonderful day of fellowship celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the United Methodist Women on March 24th. We conducted the worship service wearing period costumes and then served lunch consisting of foods prepared according to that historical time. It was a fun and educational day for all!

Women from Mt. Pleasant, Beulah and Mt. Harmony
Mt. Pleasant is getting very excited about hosting the Mission Study on April 27th. We look forward to meeting with each of you and sharing lunch. Nancy Robinson is a wonderful speaker and I know her message will be a blessing to all. Please plan to come visit us for a great morning of worship and praise as she speaks about her mission trips and experiences as a woman in the mission field.

Plans are solidifying regarding the District Fall Meeting. The Journey Church in Amelia will host this meeting. It will be very enlightening for those who have not visited a “start up” church. More details will be in the next issue of the Linkette.

Becky Thompson, Vice President

A Note of Thanks

Dear Sisters in Christ,

I am deeply grateful to each of you for the many ways you have helped me to recover. Your prayers, cards, calls, and flowers have sustained me through a long illness and provided the love and support that have helped me.

My heartfelt thanks also to the many members who helped with our March Prayer Breakfast, which, as I’ve heard from many, was deeply moving and enjoyed by all.

May God continue to bless you richly as you live out our U.M.W. Purpose.

Blessings and love.

Jane Smith, Spiritual Growth

Clover United Methodist Women

The Clover UMW celebrated their 47th birthday and also 150th birthday of UMW in Mission on March 24th, 2019. A luncheon and gifts were given to members and guests by the UMW following worship service at Clover United Methodist Church. A memory candle burned during the celebration honoring former members.

Participating in the presentation are members, (from left) Carol Martin, Linda Williams, Eva Lacks, Rev. Kerry Halbert, pastor of the church, Becky Morefield, Wanda Smith, Cathy Halbert, and Nettie Irby.

Communication Coordinator

I would like to thank everyone for getting their articles in on time. I’m very sorry that I let everyone down by being late getting the Linkette out. Please forgive me.

I pray that everyone has a wonderful year and I will get to see some of you at the different meetings and retreats that are lined up for this year.

Marilyn Johnson
SPECIAL INVITATION
FOR
CLERGY AND LAITY

TO WISH BOB AND SUSAN A HAPPY RETIREMENT.

Send cards in advance. They will be opened and placed in a scrapbook for Bob & Susan.

Monetary donations are appreciated. They will be combined to purchase a special retirement gift.

Please make your check payable to F.D.P.A. On memo line write - Bob Parks, FD Retirement.
Calendar of Events

April 27th  District Mission Study at Mt. Pleasant Church
            Registration at 9:30am. Program at 10:00am

May 3-5  Spiritual Life Retreat

May 4  Leadership Team Mtg. at Crenshaw UMC 9:30am

June 1  UMW Day at Ferrum College

June 10  2nd Qtr. Remittance to District Treasurer

June 20-21  Virginia Annual Conference, Roanoke

June 20th  Annual Conference UMW Breakfast 6:30am.
            Tickets are $18.00. See Mary Fulton (434-738-6841)

July 26-28  Mission Encounter at Smith Mountain Lake 4-H Retreat.
            See Mary Fulton for registration forms and more information.
            (434) 738-6841

Aug. 3  Leadership Team Mtg. at Crenshaw UMC 9:30am

Aug. 20  Candle Burning monies with list of “in Memory” and “in Honor”
            Due to District Treasurer

Aug. 31  Reports are due—Reading, Deceased Members, and
            Living into Our Purpose

Sept. 5  3rd Qtr. Remittance due to District Treasurer

Sept. 13-14  Young Women’s Retreat (under 40) at Camp Overlook in Keezletown

Sept. 25  48th Annual Meeting at Journey in Amelia

Oct. 10  Linkette deadline for article submission—Fall Issue

Oct. 17  Linkette Published

Oct. 26  UMW VA Conference Annual Meeting in Richmond

Nov. 2  Leadership Team Mtg. at Crenshaw UMC 9:30am

Dec. 5  4th Qtr. Remittance to District Treasurer + World Thank Offering

Dec. 31  Unit Officer Report and Membership Report due
**UMCOR**

UMCOR provides humanitarian relief and disaster response to people in more than 80 countries, including the United States. UMCOR was started in the 40’s as a response to the millions of refugees during WWII. It is because of that original vision that today UMCOR continues. People can donate to UMCOR and a hundred percent of the donor dollar goes to helping. You can also provide kits, like health kits, hygiene kits and school kits and bag. A new kit in development is the food kit. Sager Brown is UMCOR depot in Baldwin, Louisiana. They also welcome new volunteers to work in the UMCOR Depot or in service to the community of Baldwin, La.

Sager Brown Mission Experience for 2019 is from September 29th thru October 4th. Deadline to Register is Sunday June 16th. [www.umcmission.org](http://www.umcmission.org)

**UMCOR Hygiene Kit**
Providing basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Hygiene kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition and cooking classes.

**Kit Value:** $12 per kit

**UMCOR School Kit**
In some areas, children lack access to books and essential school supplies. Classes are held in inadequate buildings. School kits may be some children’s only educational resource.

**Kit Value:** $11 per kit

**UMCOR Cleaning Kit**
Enabling those affected by floods, hurricanes and tornadoes to begin the overwhelming job of cleaning up.

**Kit Value:** $75 per bucket

For more information go to [www.umcmission.org](http://www.umcmission.org)

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**Operation Christmas Child**

Yes, I know, it’s not even summer yet and I’m posting something that pertains to Christmas. But I have a very good reason for this. And yes, National Collection Week is Nov. 18-25, 2019.

**Year-Round Packing Ideas**
Savvy shoppers know that they can impact more children around the world for eternity by looking for shoe-box items throughout the year. Each month there is a list of suggested items that can be used for the Christmas boxes.

**Suggestions for the following months:**

- **April:** Stuffed Animals
- **May:** Hygiene Items
- **June:** Toys
- **July:** Clothing Items
- **Aug.:** School Supplies
- **Sept.:** Games
- **Oct.:** Letter & Photo
- **Nov.:** $9 Donation
- **Dec.:** Prayer

“The most important thing you can send with a box is prayer.” Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan’s Purse

“Quality is important. A child will probably only get one box ever and they deserve it to be a nice box full of good stuff. You can see their excitement when they are waiting to get their box. They deserve a box FULL of things that will last and not break right away.”

—Linda D.

“Operation Christmas Child is my passion! I buy all year long. This year I am making at least one box a month until collection time. I have challenged my church family to do the same.”

—Yalanda T.

At our church, Beulah UMC, Tiffany Catron has set up a box at the back of our church for people to drop items in for the Shoe boxes. She also has a list of items for each month plus other items that would be good for the boxes and which age group is in need more so than others.