



Agape Mission

West District United Methodist Women

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are again asking ourselves, "Where did the summer go?" We have been very busy with Assembly, Conference and District Meeting, School of Christian Mission, Vacation Bible Schools, county fairs, and now getting ready for our Fall District Gathering at the First United Methodist Church in Crawfordsville, and through all of this we have survived the hottest summer in years. At least we have cooler weather to look forward to, but as United Methodist Women we still have work to do: getting our pledges in, finish reading that one last book from the Reading Program, planning for our 2011 agenda, plus always keeping in mind what God wants us to do, and that is to **SERVE**.

ISAIAH 43:1

Have you been called by Name? Our nominations committee has been working very hard preparing a new slate of District Officers for 2011, and all Unit nominations committee's are doing likewise. Have you been called to **SERVE** your Unit in a leadership roll? Everyone has some talent that God has given you that you may not realize, but others have seen it in you and through Gods guidance, the opportunity is there, just sit quietly and listen to see if you are being called by name to **SERVE**.

Again I have traveled the West District and have visited five more units: Cloverdale, Putnamville, Gosport, Folsom and Mineral. So far I have visited 18 units and I have eight more units scheduled for this year. If

I have not been to your unit, please contact me as to when and where you meet and I will be there. This has been a joy to visit each of you and learn how hard all of you work for mission, giving of yourself to **SERVE** others in so many different ways.

Are you excited about going to RED BIRD MISSION? I am, this is a great opportunity for us to bring back information of their financial crisis and how our units and churches can help and give support to this very important mission, and again another opportunity to **SERVE**. Earlier this summer Red Bird announced that they would have to close their school due to the lack of funds. Through the active and aggressive fundraising efforts of Dr. Collins, the new Executive Director of Red Bird, they will have school for K-12. The funds are slim and they will only have the basic academic classes - no athletics programs until funds can support them.

Let's keep Red Bird Mission in our prayers so they can provide a good Christian education for the children in the rural area of Kentucky.

There is more information about this trip elsewhere in this newsletter.

Blessings,

Nancy Barnett

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United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

**PURPOSE of
United
Methodist
Women**

The United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through the participation in the global ministries of the church.

FROM THE DESKTOP OF...THE VICE-PRESIDENT (PRO TEMPORE)



For the time left in this calendar year, I have assumed this office. Even though I will hold this position for just a few more months, there is much to be done. Since we are now those wonderful women of the West District (W.O.W.), I want us to live up to that acronym.

When I looked at our description of this office I found that my most pressing duty was to present our Fall Annual Meeting. This was not such a hard task, because most of the work had already been done. There was still the site that needed to be visited, musicians, skits, and meals to plan, but.....

It is done.

All that is left to do is to invite you! Here is your invitation!



Saturday, September 11th
Registration at 9:00am

Crawfordsville First UMC
212 East Wabash Ave
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Phone 765-362-4817

Our Speaker is Kayc Mykrantz, Conference Co- Lay Leader, Director of Nurture, Outreach, and Discipleship at Crosswind UMC. Kayc states: "I am looking forward to being with you in September. The title of my message is: Go Ye??- Matthew 28 in the 21st. Century."

We start at 9:00 for registration and morning refreshments. Our Program Resource Room will be open and the church is an accessible facility. Childcare will be provided, but children need to bring a sack lunch. Our lunch will be provided by Crawfordsville First. The cost for lunch is \$7.00 (to be paid to our Registrar, Christine Deforest. Make all checks payable to West District United Methodist Women).

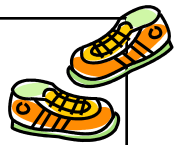
Our day will include:

Morning refreshments - Worship - a surprise skit - election and installation of officers
Kayc Mykrantz, (something special) - information and reports - **Lots of FUN and FRIENDS**
A wonderful lunch provided by those W.O.W. of Crawfordsville First

Come join us,

Patricia Cosby-Wilkins
pwilkins01@hotmail.com
765-832-8225

*We request every participant bring
Powdered Milk, T-Shirts of Any Size,
or Shoes for the Kissy Clinic*



SECRETARIAL REQUEST

I need for every unit to send me their nominations for local unit officers by Sept. 30th. They can e-mail me at sweet1244@msn.com or mail it to 705 Kirkwood Dr., Greencastle, IN 46135.

We need the name, mailing address, phone number and cell phone for each officer in the unit. We would also like to have the e-mail address of at least the Unit President. If she doesn't have one we can use the e-mail of either the Unit Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. They should put the name of the church at the top of the page.

Carol Sweet
Secretary
sweet1244@msn.com

SALUTATIONS FROM THE SECRETARY

Hello to all of you UMWers in the West District –

Well the summer started out cool and wet and ended hot – hot – hot. I'm so glad that it is almost over. I can't wait for the first snow.

I have had a pretty busy summer even though I'm retired. I'm one more of "those" retirees that has too much to do. I will admit that I watch my share of TV and I do waste lots of time a lot. The weeds and crabgrass in my yard are never ending and I often wonder why God ever created them. I guess so that I would always have something to do.

I was able to attend the UMW Mission School at Anderson University this past July. I had a great time and look forward to next years Mission School. What great speakers we heard! The schedule kept us

going from 7 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. I thought we would be able to use the swimming pool and exercise equipment but there wasn't anytime for that. I had a wonderful roommate from Wabash, Ind. so I made at least one new friend – really we all made lots of new friends. I'll admit there were some frustrations but nothing that we couldn't overcome. From what I saw on TV, it looked like we might have broken in the dorms for the Colts football players. At least it appeared that they stayed in the buildings where we stayed. The rooms were very nice and had just been newly renovated – brand new furniture and a beautiful lounge area with a big TV.

I'm looking forward to our Fall District meeting in September and then on to our Annual meeting at Castleton UMC. I hear they are trying something new this year that sounds pretty neat. Hope everyone

gets a chance to attend. They have planned it so that our young United Methodist Women can attend and bring the kids.

I forgot to mention – Red Bird Mission School trip. If you plan on going I hope you have your reservation in. It sounds like a great time and a good chance for a "getaway". Being that I'm a caregiver for my husband (who had a stroke in 2006) I really welcome the chance for something like this. If you can't attend please get your school supplies into your unit so that we can take them down there. Thanks!

See you at Fall District meeting in September and at the Conference Annual Meeting in October.

Carol Sweet
Secretary
West District UMW
sweet1244@msn.com

TREASURER'S TIP

Hello again to all the local church UMW treasurers, fellow UMW members, and all other interested parties! As you can tell I am in a goofy mood as I write this newsletter article. It has been a joyful, busy, spirit filled, and interesting year so far as your West District Treasurer. I have learned new ways to do bookkeeping and other areas of UMW. It is always great to stretch my brain, even if it means getting past some frustration to do it! I get to keep track of registrations, attend, and keep track of any money at our inspiring West District meetings. I have very much enjoyed the inspirational speakers we have had at District and Conference meetings. It is great to share my life with all the wonderful, spirit-filled women I am meeting doing this job!

We have so many areas in UMW where we reach out to others to share the love of our wonderful Savior and Lord. One of the great ways, which several of you may know about from your own church experience, is the Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship fund. It is a Conference asking item that you can be involved in to help our teens and young adults in their attempt to find ways to work for and discover their talents for the Lord. Youth groups can apply for financial aid to the Conference to go on work trips. Groups of or individual young adults can also apply for funds to share their talents in a work mission for the Lord. We have helped many youth and young adults so far this year. Our churches are learning more about the program

that is available and it has been a great success so far. We all need to continue to support this wonderful program. My church's youth came back from their mission so blessed, excited, and anxious to do it again! They had raised money themselves by working and sales, but I was glad I could tell them about this program to help them make sure they had enough funds to make the trip to Henderson Settlement.

If you have any questions at any time, please feel free to contact me.

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Bloomington, IN 47403
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UMW UNITS—IN THE SPOTLIGHT

NEW MARKET

One of the ways we earn money to support our missions is to serve a luncheon once a month to the Senior Citizens in our area. The name of their club is “50 Plus”, but their ages range from 53 to 103. We serve 20 to 30 members per meal and deliver to those unable to attend. They enjoy the special meal and the fellowship. To make this work, we plan the menu, list the items needed and pass the sign-up sheet around at our monthly meeting. Members may choose how they would like to help—either by donating prepared dishes or funds to make needed purchases to make the meal. We have done this many years and enjoy the project as much as the guests.



GOSPORT

Our big money making project is our Harvest Auction; the income helps us to support all the following needy causes. It helps provide financial help for our local elementary Weekday Religious Education classes. We also donate money to our local food pantries as well as manpower for one of them. Our group has contributed money to our community Christian youth event, “Aftershock”, as well as helping with the organization and the actual running of the program. Christmas usually finds us providing gifts for at least one family and sometimes as many as four. In addition, we also provide Angel Food Ministries with food baskets to 4 or 5 families and filled stockings for our shut-ins.

We also donate to the Methodist Children’s Home and the Lucille Raines Home. On a year to year basis, we donate to the American Cancer Society. We proudly support our local Women’s Ministries.

GOBIN MEMORIAL

On June 17, 2010 a group of about 25 ladies (and one gentleman!) traveled from Gobin Memorial United Methodist Church in Greencastle to visit the Franklin Methodist Community in Franklin, IN. On our way there, we stopped at Gray’s Cafeteria in Mooresville for a delicious noon meal.

Our purpose for going to Franklin was to deliver adult clothing protectors (bibs) that the facility uses at mealtimes. The women of Gobin Church learned that nearly 600 bibs are used each day at Franklin Methodist Community (200 per meal X three meals per day) and more are needed all the time due to general wear-and-tear, laundering, etc., and we adopted the making of these bibs as one of our projects.

gather in the church’s Colonnade Room the last Monday of each month to cut, pin, press, and sew the bibs. It’s a social occasion as well as a work event, and a break for lunch at a local restaurant is always part of the fun.

So far, we have completed (and delivered) around 250 bibs to the facility in Franklin. We delivered approximately 150 of them during our visit in June and were treated to a tour of the lovely facility there. Many of us had the pleasure of visiting with some of the residents who had previous ties with Gobin Church. It was an extremely pleasant day. We enjoyed seeing the facility where the products of our workdays were being used, and were gratified by the kindness and hospitality of the staff and residents of the Franklin Methodist Community.



Ladies of Gobin Church

Written by Kathy Sanders of Gobin Memorial UMC

**WEST DISTRICT
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
2010 CALENDAR**

* denotes that registration is required

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, 11th West District Fall Gathering 9:00am at Crawfordsville First UMC
Kaye Mykrantz, Indiana Conference Co-Lay Leader, will be the guest speaker

OCTOBER

Saturday, 2nd West District Executive Meeting 10:00am at Bloomington Fairview UMC
* Friday, 8th Mission Day in Indy
* Saturday, 9th UMC Annual Celebration at Castleton UMC, 10am-3pm
* Fri.-Sun., 22nd-24th Red Bird Mission Trip

NOVEMBER

Saturday, 13th District Officers Training, Plainfield UMC

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

As I have grown old, I believe that I have become more introspective. I want to be doing and saying the things that please our God. I realize that what we do down here determines our ultimate destiny.

1 Peter 2:5 reads: "You also are like living stones. Let yourselves be used to build a spiritual temple . . ."

I really believe that we and others who are members of the UMW are striving to be obedient to God's will and are trying to build spiritual temples. We see our participation in the mission of the church through this channel as a means of serving Christ.

Some years ago the story was told of an unemployed man, who had not only lost his job, but also, his wife, his fortune, and his home. However, he remained true to his God though he did not understand why such adversity had come to him.

One day he stopped to watch some men doing stonework on a church. One of the workers was carefully chiseling a piece of stone.

The observer asked, "What are you going to do with that piece of stone?"

The workman replied, "See that little empty space away up there on the top of the church? Well, I'm shaping this down here so it will fit in up there."

The observer of the procedure walked away with tears in his eyes.

That incident speaks to us for we know that our preparations down here are of utmost importance.

Many of us go through life half-blinded to the rich blessings of the Christian faith. We do not see the opportunities for service. We know from the Bible that Jesus will walk with us and never leave us or forsake us once we become aware of His nearness and power—once we take up with Him, and continue our walk with Him.

Let us, as Christians, strive to strengthen our faith through learning to love more deeply, learning to forgive more readily those who have hurt us, and to strongly believe the truth of how great is (and was) Christ's love for us.

Prayer:

We thank you, Father, that in thee, we find new life
—that we are given the chance down here to prepare to meet you.
Help us to hold fast to you hand,
for then we know you will lead us safely through all our trials.
Whenever we cannot stand, carry us lovingly in your arms.
Thank you, Lord. Amen.

Mary Wood
Spiritual Growth
West District UMW

THE BOOK NOOK

LEAD KING for something to do? READ for missions!!

New books will be available for purchase at Crawfordsville for 2011 but don't forget to finish reading your books from 2005 to 2010 for this year. Names will be turned in by February 2011 so you still have 4 or 5 months to read.

Don't forget to have your unit budget for the purchase of new books. There are four categories in the reading program. You may be able to share books with churches close to you so try to work something out. You could also lead discussions to encourage others to get involved in the program.

New Program Books are available that offer great lessons to use throughout the year, such as Call to Prayer and Self Denial, Pledge service, World Thank Offering and more.

Prayer Calendars should always be used as missionary and staff birthdays are listed along with their addresses so you can drop them a line. There is also a Mission Focus listed daily to pray for. Prayer Calendars are a great gift idea too. Individual UMW monthly meeting date books are available if you don't have time to make your own.

A new item this year is the UMW NRSV Holy Bible. In the back there are stories of Biblical women. It also has the Purpose and a Litany on the Purpose. There are informational pages you can fill out and more. Be sure to look for it at the meeting. (Another great gift idea.)

Something to remember is when you purchase your books and material from the Mission Resource Center and at District and Conference meetings all profits go to missions.

Again, thank you to all readers for 2009. Your names should be listed in the program book in October at our Conference meeting.

Look for a good book and continue to read for 2010. See you at Crawfordsville, September 11th.

Peace and Prayers,

Judy Foulke, Sec. Program Resources

765-655-2300

jkfoul63@hotmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

Hello W.O.W. (Women of West),

I easily survived my first West District UMW Executive Officers Meeting on Saturday, August 14th at Bainbridge UMC. It had all the characteristics of a great novel: wonderful characters, inspiration, some good drama (in figuring out the proposed budget for next year and wording for our Standing Rules) and a satisfying, happy ending.

The best part had to be meeting these women of the West District Board of UMW. They are so intelligent, inspirational, and hard-

working. What a great group of women to meet and be a part of!!

The second item I wanted to let you know about is that the Women's Division of the United Methodist Church recently adopted a new logo. The logo was used in the 2010 Assembly promotions and has been adopted as the official logo for the organization.

The new logo conveys clearly the message of the organization. The cross and the flame are symbolic of the United Methodist Church and the lettering brands the organization as women of Faith-Hope-and Love in Action.



Thanks for allowing me to communicate on behalf of the West District. I welcome any suggestions, comments, or ideas.

Denise Thede
Communications Coordinator
denise.thede@gmail.com
765-247-9240

The Who, What, When and Why of Becoming a Mission Today Unit

WHO: Every unit is encouraged to become a Mission Today Unit by completing 8 or more suggested criteria. See page 8 for a complete list of possibilities.

Category	# Items Completed
Bronze	8 (Including 4 Asterisked items)
Silver	12 (Including 6 of the asterisked items)
Gold	16 (Including 6 of the asterisked items)

WHY become a Mission Today Unit:

- ◆ To encourage use of mission resources
- ◆ To increase contact between units and mission personnel and mission projects, thus helping units understand where their money goes,
- ◆ To expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission
- ◆ To energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and actions.

Ways to implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies:

- ◆ Plan a joint unit meeting with a unit of different racial/ethnic background, using programs from the Program Book
 - ◆ Develop bi-racial/cultural or multi-racial/cultural Koinonia groups
 - ◆ Hold a joint Vacation Bible School
 - ◆ Hold pulpit exchanges
 - ◆ Share joint worship services on special occasions
 - ◆ Encourage the church to sponsor a refugee family



Ways to participate in the Campaign for Children:

- ◆ Help sponsor a church or community program related to children and youth needs
- ◆ Sponsor a Children's Sabbath, promoted by the Children's Defense Fund
- ◆ Get involved with children in mentoring, tutoring and 'big sisters' programs.
- ◆ Write letters, e-mail, or call congressional representatives and/or others in government regarding children's issues
- ◆ Visit your local schools
- ◆ Attend a school board meeting
- ◆ Learn how our schools are funded


Watch the video *Resurrection Road* and get the accompanying study guide *Resurrection Women* to prepare for a Mini-Spiritual Growth Retreat. For additional information contact the Women's Division Office of Spiritual For-

What is a Green Unit?

To find out get:
How to Become a Green Unit
 at: <http://www.umwonline.org/environment>
 Or contact Women's Division,
 Office of Community Action



WHEN: To receive recognition for 2010 return your completed checklist (on pg. 8) by January 5, 2011
To: Lila Waugh—2650 Kings Ct—Terre Haute IN 47802

<p>United Methodist Women of Indiana West District</p>		<p>Mission Today Unit Reporting Form For the year 2010</p>
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Criteria	Description	Check
1	Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting to pray for mission workers and projects.*	
2	The unit will make and meet its Pledge to Mission.*	
3	The unit will add at least two members to its roll.*	
4	The unit will have at least two members subscribe to <i>Response</i> magazine.*	
5	The unit will use two programs each year from the Program Book for United Methodist Women.*	
6	The unit or circle will conduct at least one mission study a year.*	
7	The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year.* See page 7 for some suggested plans for action.	
8	At least one member of the unit (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the Conference School of Christian Mission.	
9	At least two members (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the district or conference annual meeting.	
10	The unit will have at least one person join the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information.	
11	Members will write to five persons listed in the prayer Calendar each year.	
12	The unit will participate in the Campaign for Children in at least two ways. See possibilities for action on reverse side.	
13	The unit will be a Five Star Unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving.	
14	Each unit or circle will include a <i>Response</i> moment where an item from the magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.	
15	Have at least two people from the unit, circle or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on one of the books read; encourage all members to complete Plan One; have a book review program.	
16	The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year.	
17	Make a pledge to care for God's creation and become a "Green" United Methodist Women Unit. See reverse for details.	
18	Hold a Mini-Spiritual Growth Retreat. See reverse for details.	

Return completed checklist to: Lila Waugh
2650 Kings Ct.
Terre Haute IN 47802

Deadline for reporting: **January 5, 2011**

SOCIAL ACTION... UMW ACTION ALERT



Support the Paycheck Fairness Act

The August 10, 2010 article on the gbgm-umc.org website, urges United Methodist Women to support the Paycheck Fairness act. (Also known as the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act)

Here is some information from the article:

- The bill will amend the 1964 Civil Rights Act, enhanced workers rights to sue for pay discrimination.
- Female Wal-Mart store workers won a court ruling in April, allowing more than a million of the store's women workers to move forward with claims seeking back-pay due to discrimination. This was the largest gender-bias case in U.S. history. This events point to the reality that gender wage bias and the occupational segregation of women in low-wage service jobs makes families more vulnerable. Women represent half of America's workforce, but two-thirds work in the lowest paid occupations -- including 75.5 percent of the nation's cashiers. The decline in the U.S. economy and the loss of jobs means working mothers in families where fathers or partners have lost jobs are now stretching their dollars even more.
- One year after graduating college, women who work full time already earn less than their male colleagues; and this pay gap widens by the 10-year mark, according to research by AAUW. When researchers controlled their studies for factors such as hours worked and parental status, they found one-quarter of the pay gap is still unexplained and is likely due to sex discrimination.

This article also states the fact that according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are only four occupations out of 108 where women earn more than men. Those occupations are dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender helpers.

What we need to know:

1. Passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act would help the most. Passed by the House in 2009, this bill is expected to come before the Senate this year.
2. The Women WIN Jobs Act would aim to improve job training and create better jobs for women.
3. Congress can reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and use it to focus on workforce development needs of single women.
4. Congress can reauthorize and expand the Child Care and Development Block Grant, to subsidize child care for low-income families.
5. Congress can make higher learning more accessible, with bills such as the Pathways Advancing Careers Training Act, targeting opportunities for job training. ([htt](http://))

As the Social Action person for the West District, I urge you to be informed and speak to this issue. Please read the Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church 2008 #3445, The Status of Women, "Economics" page 528 The article on the UMW website, visit www.aauw.org/act/issue_advocacy/actionpages/payequity.cfmt and <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/act/alerts>. Then voice your "informed" opinion by contacting you Senator and ask them to support S. 182 this year. **(Call phone number: 202-224-3121)**


It is crunch time for the Paycheck Fairness Act.

Patricia Cosby-Wilkins
Social Action, West District
pwilkins01@hotmail.com

(n.d.). <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/act/alerts/item/index.cfm?id=236> .

Support the Paycheck Fairness Act. (n.d.). <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/act/alerts/item/index.cfm?id=236> .

Gobin Memorial UMC
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 <p>United Methodist Women <small>FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION</small></p>
<p>Agape Mission is a quarterly publication of the United Methodist Women of West District.</p>
<p>Fall 2010 Volume I, Issue 3</p>

God has been working on many of the UMW and their husbands. Everything for the Red Bird Mission Trip is coming together great!!! Currently the bus is full!!! If anyone is interested in going and wants to add their name to the waiting list, just give me (Lisa Kelley) a call at 812-859-3766. Final payment is needed by August 30th. We will be collecting school supplies to take with us. So if you or your unit would like to send supplies, please contact me. Continue to pray for our trip and Red Bird Mission. Come and join us!!!

Red Bird Mission Announces School Reopening

We have just received word that our prayers have been answered. The board of directors of Red Bird Missions, Inc. approved a school budget back in late July, for the remaining months of 2010 that allowed K-12 students to return to classes on August 5th. The Mission's new executive director, Dr. O. Taylor Collins, presented a school budget of \$756,521 for the 2010-11 school year that represents a budget reduction of approximately \$1 million from previous budgets. Dr. Collins stated the following, "We will operate the school that we can afford until we are able to afford the school we envision . . . "

Sponsors are still needed to support student tuition. Annual cost is now \$5,000 per student. If you or your church is interested in helping, contact Time Crawford at tcrawford@rbmission.org. You can also find them at www.rbmission.org or on Facebook.



Red Bird Mission Trip Oct 22- 24

