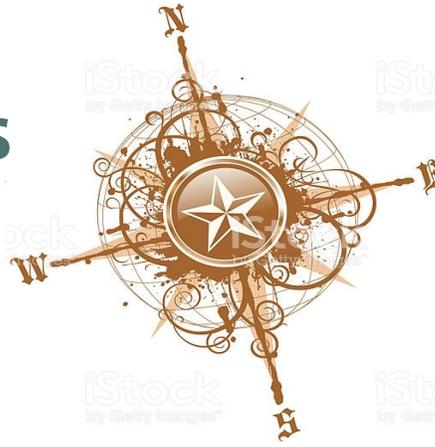


The Compass



President's Message

Janet Taylor, President

Dear Friends in Mission:

Summer is almost here! Some of our units will not be meeting again until September but mission will continue around the world. People will still have needs that must be met and the UMW will be there to answer those needs.

THEREFORE, we need you to make sure that you help us answer that call and make sure that you have sent at least half of your yearly pledge to our District Treasurer, Hatsy Droke. We are also asking if you could possibly send in an additional amount. Our district pledge is \$145,000.00 this year.

Thanks for your financial help and prayerful support!!!

Our program for our 2019 Ingathering Event this year was about the issue of sex trafficking in PA., (you're right, in our backyard). Our speaker was very personable and shared her own experiences with the girls who are caught up in this situation. We were so sorry that so many of you missed this opportunity to hear about this problem but also to hear that many girls have been able to be free and live lives of productivity.

Twice a year we try to have a program that brings us together to fellowship, learn more about our (con't next page . . .)

President's Message

SPECIAL
SOCIAL
ACTION
ISSUE

The Compass is published three times a year: March, June, and September. Deadline for article submission is the 15th of the month prior to publication.

President's Message

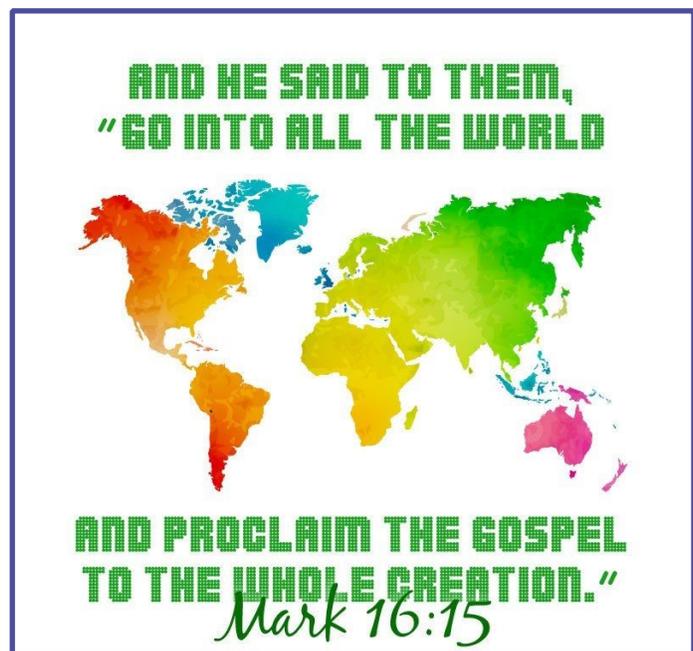
President's Message continued . . .

organization and become more knowledgeable about the issues that we should be concerned about. Unfortunately, we find it very hard to connect with you and build relationships with you because we do not get to know each other through face-to-face contact. Can you help us by letting us know how we can be more successful? What you think is very important to us as we march into the future in mission to those around us and abroad in other lands.

God's mandate to us, His disciples, is to "Go into the world and preach the gospel.....". Are you with us??

Blessings,
Janet Taylor

Call Janet Taylor 610-589-2207



Making Giving To Gift To Mission Much Easier

This summer we will change how we will handle our Gift to Mission cards. In the past, the unit treasurer was required to purchase the cards for use, making it hard to accumulate the funds for card purchases before you had the cards.

This procedure will change this summer. West District will now send out a packet of Gift to Mission cards for the units and church's use. A minimum payment for each card will be charged to the user and then that amount will be sent to the West District UMW Treasurer.

The sale of Gift to Mission cards is a way to enhance your Mission Giving for the year. These cards are Thank You, Birthday, Baby, Thinking of You, Peace, and In the Service of Christ. Now, when a church member wants to send a birthday card or thank someone, they can purchase these cards and give a gift to UMW Missions. In many churches, these cards are made available to the congregation for purchase.

West District Unit Treasurers, please look for these packets of cards to arrive this summer. In September, at your next meeting, please share these cards with your unit members and church members. If you need additional cards, just send me an email and I will mail them to you.

Harriette Droke
West District Treasurer
717-824-3717
hdroke552@gmail.com

Actual gift to Mission Cards:



Treasurer News



Social Action

~Excerpt from Gambling
(Social Principles)

“Gambling is a menace to society, deadly to the best interests of moral, social, economic, and spiritual life, destructive of good government and good stewardship. As an act of faith and concern, Christians should abstain from gambling and should strive to minister to those victimized by the practice....”

The Church's prophetic call is to promote standards of justice and advocacy that would make it unnecessary and undesirable to resort to commercial gambling- including public lotteries, casinos, raffles, Internet gambling, gambling with an emerging wireless technology and other games of chance as a recreation, as an escape, or as a means of producing public revenue or funds for support of charities or government.”

<http://www.umc.org/what-we-believe/economic-community#gambling>

Legalizing something harmful never removed the harm. It just changes the legal consequences for those who promote, produce, or otherwise profit financially from the legalized substance or activity with little to no regard for society-at-large.

PA GAMBLING (The UMC Social Principles clearly states opposition to gambling.)

On October 27, 2017, in a stealth move, a massive 936 page gambling expansion bill, Act 42 of 2017, was passed in hours. The State House had only two hours to examine it before they voted! There were NO public hearings, and NO public input. Ten so-called “mini” casinos with 300 to 750 slots machines, table games, slots at truck stops, gambling on tables at airports, and sports books were included in this legislation. Municipalities only had until the end of December 2017 to have their municipality opt out of being a site for one of these bookie joints. In a quick collaborative effort by many people in that very brief time, forty percent of PAs municipalities opted out. ALL of Lancaster County municipalities opted out.

Penn National submitted an application for a “mini” casino in Caernarvon Twp. which had not opted out, and there is opposition by the citizens. **Casino applicants are prevented from encroaching on another casino within a twenty-five mile radius.** There was a hearing before the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board (PGCB) on March 4. There was a lot of opposition. Another application was filed for one in Shippensburg. The hearing was in the middle of March and also had a lot of opposition.

Although this sneaky legislation should be repealed, at the very least, **shouldn't the municipalities within a twenty-five mile radius of the proposed venue be protected ?**

Rutter's has applied for twenty truck stop licenses for five video gambling machines each and Penn National, which owns a video gambling machine company, is to be their chosen supplier.

The PGCB has issued 43 conditional truck stop licenses throughout the state. Senator Scott Martin has introduced a bill to let municipalities have a voice by having their governing bodies opt out of truck stop slots. It is SB 87 and he is seeking other senators to co-sponsor this bill. This part of Act 42 has been interpreted by some to also include convenience stores. This is one more reason to repeal or at least issue (continued on p. 6)

OPEN Positions: West District UMW

Membership

All United Methodist Women members within the district are members of the district organization. They may be asked to serve on various boards, councils, commissions and committees of the district and/or annual conference as needed

Leadership Team

United Methodist Women members from within the district are elected to leadership roles to serve at the district level. Each leadership team should include a president, treasurer, secretary and chair of the committee on nominations. Additional persons may be named at large or for specific functions as they help the district organization fulfill the PURPOSE. Additional teams or committees may be formed as needed to fulfill the PURPOSE and to meet the needs of the district.

Members of the leadership team have specific responsibilities as well as some that are common to all. These common responsibilities include:

- Understanding and upholding the PURPOSE and the constitution and by-laws of United Methodist Women.
- Developing personal spiritual practices.
- Preparing through reading, studying and participating in district and conference meetings, leadership training and educational opportunities such as Mission u.
- Using and promoting **response** magazine.
- Understanding, interpreting and engaging the membership in the current United Methodist Women emphases on domestic violence, human trafficking, immigration and climate change.
- Strengthening relationships with other district leaders for effective teamwork and collaboration. Example: District lay leader, United Methodist Women president and district superintendent.
- Offering training for local leaders.
- Regularly engaging in planning, goal setting and evaluation with the leadership team.
- Promoting Mission Giving.
- Ensuring membership lists are used appropriately and safeguarding them from distribution outside of the organization.
- Promoting United Methodist Women's mission among all women in the church.

Working to ensure the participation of a diverse, inclusive group of women in all parts of United Methodist Women, including strategies to start or reinstate local organizations so that all women members have a local or district groups that will help them to respond to God's invitation to participate in mission.

Work/Mission Opportunities

The district organization helps local organizations by providing program assistance, leadership development, mission interpretation, resources and encouragement. District leaders plan and coordinate regular visits to congregations and local groups to offer support, discuss local needs and share information and provide an open channel for communication.

Annual Meeting

District leaders develop an annual meeting to conduct the business of the district organization. The meeting may also include worship and other program. (See section on tips in Section 4 for further information about annual meetings and program planning.)

Current
District
Openings:

Treasurer

Spiritual
Growth

Secretary

~Excerpt from UMC
Book of Resolutions.

III. Drugs A. Marijuana

“Like alcohol and tobacco, marijuana is frequently a precursor to the use of other drugs. The active ingredient is THC, which affects the user by temporarily producing feelings of euphoria or relaxation. An altered sense of body image and bouts of exaggerated laughter are commonly reported. However, studies reveal that marijuana impairs short-term memory, altering sense of time and reducing the ability to perform tasks requiring concentration, swift reactions, and coordination. Some countries permit the use of marijuana in medicines. Recently, some states in the United States have passed legislation permitting the medical use of marijuana. Some studies indicate circumstances in which marijuana can have an important palliative medicinal effect unavailable through other means. The medical use of any drug, however, should not be seen as encouraging recreational use of it. We urge all persons to abstain from all use of marijuana, unless it has been legally prescribed in a form appropriate for treating a particular medical condition.”

(continued from page 4.) a moratorium on any gambling included in the Act 42 of 2017. The legislature continues to expand even more types of gambling as if our commonwealth is only capable of fleecing people in order to gain revenue. Their moral compass definitely needs to be reset.

PennsylVEGAS is overrun with gambling. Not only should we be stopping the onslaught of new locations and licenses, we need to begin to roll back the legalized gambling in the Commonwealth until there is a complete REPEAL. There was NO demand by the citizens for gambling. Gambling interests were pushed for the various forms of gambling and the Commonwealth, which had no legalized gambling for over one hundred thirty years, enabled this vice which for every one dollar of benefit has three dollars in costs. The reality is that this is “taxation by exploitation.”

Gambling interests are the winners and the majority of gamblers will get nothing for something rather than the other way around. And the faith community and other charities will be faced with the clean up of destroyed individuals and families. Our elected officials need to hear from each of us. They need to act on behalf of the common good of the citizens.

PA MARIJUANA/CANNABIS/HEMP

A very carefully crafted push for “legalization” of the street drug marijuana for medical purposes was passed in our legislature and signed by our governor. The FDA is the only designated authority to approve drugs or reject drugs for medical purposes. Credibility, integrity, consistency, accurate labeling, warnings, etc. are to be expected from any FDA approved drug and liability is the burden of the producers.

Due to the well financed, slick, savvy pot pushers, our legislators, of whom most have little medical expertise, were conned into believing that they were expert enough to deem marijuana legal for all kinds of medical uses without the scientific proof. The marijuana pushers used their own “research” and tout relief or cures for just about any medical condition one can imagine. Recently, there was a notice in PA that is one wanted to have a medical condition added to the “approved use” list, they were to send it in. The psychotic side effects of the THC in this drug are reasons to be very concerned. The THC in the “pot/weed” of the 60’s & 70’s has tripled and more. Mental Health problems will only increase with the continued normalization of the use of cannabis/marijuana/hemp.

PA has pseudo pharmacies called “dispensaries” and only some “certified” doctors can “recommend” marijuana. Because this drug is still federally illegal, no pharmacy can sell it and doctors cannot prescribe it. Legislators had the arrogance to even list what medical conditions needed marijuana. There has been a recent approval for marijuana related drug, Epidiolex, for very limited use in two rare, severe (continued on top of p. 7 . . .)

(continued from page 6.) forms of epilepsy and this can be obtained at a regular pharmacy.

We have a drug problem throughout our country. It isn't just one drug but many. We hear a lot about opioids but rarely has there been a recent attack on alcohol which takes the lives of 88,000 to 100,00 every year. Tobacco which will claim over 400,000 lives each year is experiencing a rise in use due to vaping which is also used for smoking pot. Alcohol and tobacco are "legal" drugs which if put through the FDS approval process of blind clinical trials and independent, peer reviewed research would probably not pass that scrutiny.

Recently the FDA stated that they will be cracking down on the many health claims on dietary supplements. You may have seen CBD oil advertised. Many claims are made and because it is not approved by the FDS, there are no standard regulations for production, dosage, uses or side effect. There can be THC and other ingredients in the CBD oil. Let's hope that the FDA acts fast.

PA legislators, our Auditor General, the Governor and Lt. Governor of Pa all support legalizing 'recreational' marijuana. On the Federal level, there is legislation to remove the ban. If we stay silent, these drug pusher will succeed and our children, families, and communities will pay dearly.

If anyone is interested in more information on these two issues, please contact me at damberlin@aol.com and put UMW Request in the subject line.

Diane Berlin, Social Action Chair for the West District UMW

Special Social
Action Section

Upcoming
Events

Mission u	July 19-20	Inn at Reading
Conference Celebration	Oct 19	Grandview UMW
West Dist. Team Meeting	Aug 8	Long Memorial UMC
West Dist. Celebration	Sept 28	Zion UMC, Myerstown

Mark your Calendars!!



Ingathering

4/27/19

Ingathering chairperson :

Donna Blanshine

Ingathering Report

Total \$939.25 (offering collected \$284.25)!

45 Quilts !

1767 Items !



Thank you to our President,
our Program Chairperson,
St. Paul's UMW, and
everyone who participated
in making Ingathering a
great event!

Our Special Guest at
Ingathering was:

Peace Promise

Mission: We assist in recovering hope and strengthening the lives of those impacted by sexual exploitation in our community.

<https://www.peacepromise.org/>

Main Office: 717-686-9160
admin@www.peacepromise.org
P.O. Box 1502
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



United Methodist Women

WEST DISTRICT

Annual Celebration!

WHEN: September 28th, 2019

WHERE: Zion UMW, Meyerstown

More details coming soon!!!

Reading Program Books

As of January 2019, United Methodist Women Mission Resources are no longer stocking and warehousing large quantities of books on the Reading Program lists.

Program
Resources

WHAT THIS MEANS:

Do we still have a UMW Reading Program: YES! Absolutely!

Will I still be able to buy Reading Program books at UMW District Events like Ingathering?
No. We are no longer able to order books on consignment to bring to our District events. District events will have a sample table where you may get information about special resources and how to order them.

Will I still be able to order Reading Program Books online through United Methodist Women Mission Resources? No. You will be able to purchase the books from Cokesbury, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, other major retailers, often at less cost than offered by Mission Resources. Some books may be available at your local library.

The UMW Website will continue to have the Annual Reading Program Catalog and Listing so that members can review the new selections.

What About The Mission u Study Books?

You may purchase Mission u Study Books through
UMW Mission Resources online:

<https://www.umwmissionresources.org/search.asp?searchString=Mission+u>

OR
Barnes and Noble
OR
Amazon.com

Texts will not be available for sale at Mission u. THEY MUST be purchased in advance.
They may also be purchased online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/mission-study. What About Our Money is also available on Kindle from Amazon

West
District
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Program Chairperson	Carole Haigh jerehaigh@comcast.net
Secretary	Carol Capp Cecapp414@gmail.com **POSITION OPENING UP THIS YEAR**
Treasurer	Harriette (Hatsy) Droke Hdroke552@gmail.com **POSITION OPENING UP THIS YEAR**
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Spiritual Growth	***OPEN POSITION NOW**
Educ./Interpretation & Membership Dev.	Ruth Daugherty rasdaugherty@gmail.com
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InGathering Chairperson	Donna Blanshine
Nominations 2019	Chris Kimmich rkimmich@aol.com
Nominations 2020	Sally Smedley smedleys@ix.netcom.com
Nominations 2021	Kathy Reilly Sandrigirl01@yahoo.com
Nominations 2022	Joyce Zimmerman fjzimm33@verizon.net

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bskarbowski@gmail.com



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