

Beacon District



Finding Peace 2021-2024 Quadrennial Theme

Quadrennial Scripture: “And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple - truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”
Matthew 10:42 NRSV. This intimacy as a disciple of Christ deepens our capacity of peace.

Quadrennial Hymn: Heal Me Hands of Jesus #267 in The United Methodist Hymnal

Our theme for 2021

Color: White

SERENITY - Find peace through the Serenity Prayer. “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.” “Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.” Psalm 34:14,15 NRSV

BEACON DISTRICT PRESIDENT: Cyndi Phelps

As we begin this new year, I pray that we are mindful of the difficulties of the past year, but only to the extent that we use these trials as a spring board for the work that is before us in 2021. Let us mourn our losses to the pandemic but remember to celebrate the victories like the Beacon District meeting its Pledge regardless of the challenges faced. I am so proud to stand with each one of you as we begin another year of finding ways that we can touch those around us, both near and far, with a servant’s heart. I am sure with the talent and creativity of our

The Purpose of The United Methodist Women



The organized
unit of 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 participation
in the global ministries
of the church

members around the District, each Unit will find a local project that will benefit their communities.

This year is the beginning of a new Quadrennial Theme for 2021-2024: Finding Peace. This year, the focus is on Serenity—Finding peace through the Serenity Prayer. “God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.” I believe that this is an excellent way for each of us to approach this year’s endeavors.

The Conference has challenged each District to read the book Gum Moon, a novel of San Francisco Chinatown, by Jeffrey L. Staley before March 26, 2021. The book is available on Amazon in paperback and on Kindle. Please keep a record of those in each Unit who read this selection and report these numbers to Jessie Rivers by March 19th so that she can forward them to the Conference. Our first Mission Study for the Beacon District will be held via Zoom on Saturday, February 20th, entitled “Finding Peace in an Anxious World”. Don’t forget to put this on your calendars as I hope to see many of you there. Each

Unit should be receiving an updated 2021 Beacon District Directory. Many thanks to Gayle Eason for putting this together in the absence of a District Secretary. **THERE WILL BE NO IN-PERSON SUB-DISTRICT MEETINGS AT THIS TIME.** A meeting for Sub-Districts will be held on March 6th beginning at 10 AM via Zoom. More information will be forthcoming at a later time.

As always, there is much to do and I look forward to hearing of each Unit’s projects. I encourage each District Officer to be in touch monthly with their local Unit counterparts to make sure that the local Units have the support from the District needed to meet their goals. I will leave you with this verse from **Hebrews 13:8** “**Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**” In our ever-changing world, let us cling to these words of comfort and step out courageously in faith.

May peace be with you all,

Cyndi Phelps, President, Beacon District UMW

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FROM THE TREASURER: Gayle Eason

Hello my friends,

2020 has come and gone, and I'm sad to say that 2021 has not changed much about the way we live our lives. We are still wearing masks, social distancing and limiting our human contact. But be of good cheer, our prayers are being heard, and we must trust that God is in control of all things and He will bring us through this pandemic stronger and more faithful because of it. My prayers are that the vaccine will work and we will be able to get back to some normalcy by Fall.

On a happier note.....

CONGRATULATIONS! The Beacon District was the only District in the North Carolina Conference that made its pledge goal. Yes, you read correctly – we sent in \$31,006.00 to the NC Conference Treasurer for 2020. What a challenge we had, but as usual, you stepped up to the plate and put us over our goal of \$30,000. We not only had a “home run”, but we had a “grand slam” (excuse my baseball analogy).

Our pledge for 2021 will remain at \$30,000. We will not be holding the Sub-District Meetings in 2021, but you will receive a packet from our President, Cyndi Phelps outlining our goals and changes in the 2021 calendar. We are working on plans for a **ZOOM** “Sub-District” meeting for all of the Sub-Districts on March 6. While the ZOOM meeting will not work for everyone, we are hopeful that those who do have the capability of joining via their computer will do so. Cyndi will be sending you more information about this as the ZOOM meeting plans are finalized.

Your treasurer packets should have been received by the time you read this newsletter. I hope the information and forms will be self-explanatory, but if you have questions, PLEASE don't hesitate to call or email me.

May God bless each of you and keep you safe,

In His Awesome Love,

Gayle Eason, Beacon District UMW Treasurer

geason1952@gmail.com

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252 339-6798 ©



Home for Methodist Children Event

An Evening to Dream Big
Saturday Jan 30 at 7PM; go to DreamBig.fun

Visit our DreamBig.fun website and scroll down on your page to find the SILENT ACTION tab. Go ahead and register now to get access to bidding and raffle ticket. *The site will not run on Internet Explorer; please use another browser.

Register early gives you a head start on logging in to the pre-show and program on January 30 (remember your password!). You don't want to miss a minute of it

Best-selling author Bob Goff will join us to share his three secrets to naming and fulfilling our biggest dreams. You'll also meet a couple of our kids who are dreaming big - and visit the hopes and wishes of other children on our "dream board." Together, we will give kids the chance to dream big and live to their full, God-given potential . . .

EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION: Carol Kuhn

Welcome to an exciting and different 2021. As you are aware we cannot meet in person for the mission studies. We are holding the studies via Zoom. You can attend either by computer, cell phone, or landline.

Our first study is "Finding Peace in an Anxious World" to be held on February 20. Dr. Carolyn Roy is the facilitator. This study is based on "The Serenity Prayer". Our UMW theme for 2021 is Serenity so this is a very well timed and exciting study.

The second study is "UMW 150 Years" which is a continuation of the history of the UMW and is well worth our learning about as this is our history. This will be held on March 13.

I am hoping to hear your thoughts for a third study, We can also join other districts for their studies when they are open to the conference. I will let you know when I hear of a mission study in another district.

Please sign up for both studies. You can sign up on the Beacon District Website or using this <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1SV44B9bYc-G6SK3ON5MnJ4vxi55S25y93-ppu2KZuE5A/edit?ts=5fb2c487>

Please sign up at least five days prior the the event to ensure that you get your Zoom invite.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing/hearing you at both studies.

Yours in Christ,
Carol Kuhn, Education and Interpretation Coordinator

kuhncarol@gmail.com

252-619-9007

PROGRAM RESOURCES: Jessie Rivers

The Conference Reading book for 2021 is an Education for Mission selection and an historical novel, GUM MOON: A NOVEL OF SAN FRANCISCO CHINATOWN, by Jeffrey L. Staley.

"In 1898, three-year-old Chinese-American girl Mei Chun Lai is sold to a cruel brothel keeper, where a sympathetic prostitute befriends her. Two years later, at the height of a plague quarantine, a young Methodist woman rescues Chun and places her in a home for abused and trafficked girls. The home is destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire. Chun (aka "Maud") and a group of seven other Chinese children embark on a cross-country singing tour to raise funds to rebuild. When their home matron suffers a breakdown, 13-year-old Maud must lead the band of children home."

~from Reading Catalog

"GUM MOON is Cantonese for 'Gold Door' or 'Golden Gate....'"

"The novel is based on events in the life of the author's wife's grandmother" and is the "remarkable coming of age story of a Chinese-American girl."

~from Back Cover

Amazon has the book and shorter shipping times if you would like to purchase from them instead of United Methodist Women. The book is also available on Kindle.

All districts are asked to participate in a challenge to read GUM MOON: A NOVEL OF SAN FRANCISCO CHINATOWN by Jeffrey L. Staley and send me the number of members who read our NCC book results by March 19th. The results will be reported at the April Conference Leadership Team meeting.

Happy Reading!

Jessie Rivers

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252-482-7903



**THE LEGACY FUND
ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN**

There are many ways to contribute to the Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign. You can send your one-time contribution or plan a monthly commitment, make a planned gift or speak with us if you have questions or need additional information.

United Methodist Women Development Office
475 Riverside Drive, 15th floor, New York, NY 10115
212-870-3705; legacy150@unitedmethodistwomen.org

Give online: unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund
Together, we are building our legacy!

SAVE THE DATE - MARCH 23, 2021

This will be our Day of Giving to honor our foremothers through giving to the Legacy Fund to ensure that United Methodist Women continues in service and advocacy for women, children and youth from this generation to the next.

-Response Magazine

Faith Talks are monthly conversations with United Methodist Women hosted by Jennifer R Farmer, Spotlight PR. Each conversation explores themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope and love into action.

**Faith
Talks**

A UNITED METHODIST WOMEN PODCAST

I have enjoyed listening to the conversations on Faith Talks. The talks were very interesting and informative.

UPCOMING FAITH TALKS:

1. Thursday, January 28 at 2:00 pm ET -

Faith Talks: Sustaining Faith with Jennifer Farmer

2. Thursday, February 11 at 2:00 pm ET • Faith Talks: Sustaining Faith with Emily Jones • [register now](#)

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Response, an award-winning publication, is the official magazine of United Methodist Women and is published by the national office. Each issue will touch your heart, stir your soul and challenge your mind. Topics and issues cover spiritual growth, mission outreach and reports on our local, national and international work. The response podcast features audio versions of some of the articles from each issue.



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2021 Beacon District Calendar

January

1 New Officers Assume duties
16 10:00 a.m. - District Leadership Team Meeting – Trinity UMC, South Mills

February

20 Mission Study via ZOOM – “Finding Peace in an Anxious World”

March

5 World Day of Prayer
6 10:00 a.m. Sub-District Meeting via ZOOM
13 Mission Study via ZOOM - “Women United for Change”

May

7 Church Women United - Friendship Day
TBA District Spiritual Enrichment

June

TBA Annual NC Conference of UMC
TBA Beacon District Mission Encounter - Place TBA

July

10 9:00 a.m. District Finance Committee Meeting – Hertford UMC
(Committee Includes: Treasurer, President, Vice President, Secretary, Mission Coordinators for Social Action, Membership-Nurture and Education & Interpretation)

July 22-24

Mission u – Methodist University – Fayetteville

August

1 ALL REPORTS DUE EXCEPT CANDLE BURNING AND NEW OFFICERS
21 Conference Finance Committee Meeting - Wake Forest Family Life Center,
905 South Main, Wake Forest, NC

September

18 10:00 a.m. - District Leadership Team Meeting – Place TBA
TBA Mother/Child Retreat, Camp Don Lee

October

TBA NC Conference UMW Annual Meeting (Date/Place TBA)
TBA Beacon District UMW Annual Meeting (Date/Place TBA)

November

5 Church Women United World Community Day

December

5 UNIT REMITTANCES DUE TO DISTRICT TREASURER BY THIS DATE

2021 NC CONFERENCE UMW CALENDAR

January

- 01 New Officers assume duties
- 08 4:00 pm Mission u Committee Meeting, Mission u Nominations Committee Meeting
Wilson Temple UMC, 1023 Oberlin Rd., Raleigh, NC 27605
- 09 9:30 am Leadership Team Meeting, Wilson Temple UMC,1023 Oberlin Rd., Raleigh, NC
- 09 District Mailing List for KEDE due to KEDE Editor

February

- 06 KEDE Deadline (Women in Mission)

March

- 05 World Day of Prayer

April

- 10 10 am Leadership Team Meeting via Zoom
- 10 KEDE Deadline (Mission u & Mother-Child Retreat)
- 15 Final Deadline - Book of Reports to Secretary

May

- 06 National Day of Prayer
TBD Scholarship Committee, Teleconference Meeting 1:00pm-3:00pm
- 07 Church Women United-Friendship Day
- 22 Women in Mission/Social Action Event

June

TBA Annual Conference of the NC Conference United Methodist Church; Greenville,NC

July

- 22-24 Mission u - Methodist University, Fayetteville, NC
- 22 Mission u Nominating Committee - Luncheon Meeting
- 22-24 Mission u Committee Meeting

August

- 14 KEDE Deadline (Annual Meeting)
- 21 Finance Comm. Meeting, 9:30am, Wake Forest Family Life Center, 905 So. Main, Wake Forest, NC
- 29-Sept 7 United Methodist Church General Conference

September

- 01 All reports due to Coordinators & President
- 11 Leadership Team Meeting, 9:30 am; New Creation UMC, 4705 Old Chapel Hill Rd, Durham, NC
Standing Rules Committee lunch meeting
- TBD Mother-Child Retreat, Camp Don Lee, Arapahoe, NC

October

- NEW LOCATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING TBD
- TBD Mission u Committee - 4:00 pm
- TBD Conference UMW Annual Meeting - Mission u Nominating Committee Meeting @ lunch
- 15 2022 District Officers Slate of Officers due to Conference Secretary

November

- 05 Church Women United World Community Day
- 06 Conference UMW DO-IT-DAY, 9:30am-12:30pm St. James UMC, 2000 E. St. Greenville,NC
- 10-12 United Methodist Church SEJ
- 13 KEDE Deadline (Spiritual Enrichment Event, District Mission Studies, 2022 Calendar)