

# The UMW VOICE



Dana Doney, Editor  
ddoney.msu@gmail.com  
570-5444

B O Z E M A N ' S      N E W S L E T T E R   O F  
U N I T E D   M E T H O D I S T   W O M E N

**The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers for election for the 2014 term:**

- President: Jackie Montgomery
- Vice President: Janna Christenson
- Recording Secretary: Sue Brown
- Asst. Recording Sec.: Patti Hatfield
- Treasurer: Wanda Myers

**Mission Coordinators:**

- Spiritual Growth: Brenda Anderson-Baker
- Membership & Outreach: Jen Smith
- Social Action: Patti Hatfield
- Educ. & Interp.: Gloria Zimmer
- Sec. of Program Res.: Rachel Jarvis
- Nominating Committee:
  - Virginia Manseau (2014)
  - Nettie Warwood (2014)
  - Lee Allinger (2016)
  - Elaine Smith (2016)
- Publicity/UMW Voice: Dana Doney
- CWU Representative: Cecilia Tank
- Historians: Cecilia Tank  
Lois Adams

All UMW Members are invited to participate in the election of 2014 Officers and approval of the 2014 Budget at 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 12, in the Friendship Room. And they are cordially invited to stay for the regular UMW Mission Team Meeting at 11:00 in which programs will be planned for the coming year.

## You are Invited

To Church Women United's  
"World Community Day" Celebration  
November 1st, 9:30 a.m.  
Hosted by BUMC UMW

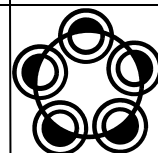
All women are invited to join Church Women United for World Community Day on Nov. 1st. BUMC will host the event, with refreshments served at 9:30 a.m., followed by the program at 10:00. Morgan Darlington of Family Promise will challenge us to "think outside the box" of our respective churches and act out our faith to improve our community, nation, and world.



ADVENT PROGRAM  
&  
GENERAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4TH  
9:30 A.M.

### "Outside the Box: The Gift That Can't be Contained"

All women are invited to attend our last General Meeting. A brunch will be served at 9:30 followed by the program presented by Janna Christenson & Patti Hatfield. Hostesses will be Miriam-Ruth Circle. The meeting portion will include officer installation, World Thank Offering, and Special Mission Recognition. Hope to see you then!



## Circle News...

Trinity Circle will be hosting their annual **auction** at the Senior Center in Bozeman on Wednesday, November 20th.

Please R.S.V.P. to the Senior Center if you would like to have lunch there at noon. The auction will start at 1:00.

Donation of auction items is appreciated! Please bring them to the Senior Center just before the auction. Call Lois Adams (585-2815) or Jeannie Haight. (586-6656) for more information.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS



<b>CWU World Community Day</b>	Friday, Nov. 1st, 9:30 a.m.	Friendship Room
<b>Inkspots Card Makers</b>	Monday, Nov. 11th, 1:00–5:00 pm	Friendship Room
<b>Mission Team Meeting</b>	Tuesday, Nov. 12th, 11:00 am -1:00 pm	Friendship Room
<b>Newly Retired Group</b>	Tuesday, Nov. 19th, 10:00 am	IHOP Restaurant
<b>Miriam-Ruth Circle</b>	Wednesday, Nov. 20th, 10-11:30 am	Conference Room
<b>Trinity Circle</b>	Wednesday, Nov. 20th, 12:00 pm	Auction at Senior Center
<b>Evening Circle</b>	Monday, Nov. 25th, 5:30-8:00 pm	Conference Room
<b>UMW General Meeting</b>	Wednesday, Dec. 4th, 9:30 am	Friendship Room
<b>Brunch and Advent Program: "Outside the Box: the Gift That Can't Be Contained"</b>		
<b>Noon Luncheon Group</b>	Thursday, Dec. 5th , 12-1:00 pm	Christus Collegium



## Prez Says...



### A Message from BUMC UMW President Jackie Montgomery

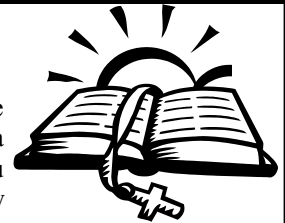
At recent meetings the UMW Mission Team decided not to sponsor a Rummage Sale in 2014 and to explore other ways to earn dollars for mission projects. Currently the local unit is accepting pledges from its members to support next year's budget. A **Pledge Campaign** is different from practice in recent years locally, but it has a long tradition in United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations. Deadline for pledge slips to Treasurer Rachel Jarvis is October 30.

#### Thank you to . . .

- Wanda Myers and Gloria Zimmer (program) and Dana Doney and Martha Hendricks (authentic refreshments) who coordinated the excellent program about the "Roma People of Europe" October 1st;
- Cecilia Tank for planning and coordination on behalf of Bozeman UMW to host the Church Women United World Community Day Celebration November 1st;
- Martha Hendricks, Jeannie Haight, Virginia Manseau, and Nettie Warwood, Committee on Nominations, for securing nominees for officers to serve in 2014.

"Welcoming Women to United Methodist Women" -- as well as to the church -- has been a recurring theme at recent meetings. Bozeman UMW Luncheon Group animatedly discussed ways to create interesting programs, to invite new participants, and to contact absent members. Women at Yellowstone Conference UMW Annual Meeting, October 11-12, experienced warm hospitality by Shiloh UMW, Billings, as they were challenged to explore "Radical Welcome" for all of God's people. Western Mountains District UMW used the theme, "Coming Home", to be more specific about opportunities within local units.

## Spiritually Speaking...



In the past few years, I have been focused on spiritual formation, so much so that I am immersed in the language of it. Then, when someone asks me what spiritual formation means, I have to stop and think a minute and try to put it into words. Some things become so much a part of your experience that you own them in a kind of wordless way—like trying to explain when to start braking to your teenaged new driver or describing how the internet works to your mother.

The definition of spiritual formation that I like best is both concise and thorough. In his book *Invitation to a Journey: A Road Map for Spiritual Formation*, Robert Mulholland defines it like this: "Christian spiritual formation is the process of being conformed to the image of Christ for the sake of others."

First of all, it's a process. We are all being formed continuously; the question is: What are we letting form us? Our family, friends, history, job, television? Or God? All of life becomes spiritual formation so we need to be attentive to the factors that shape us.

Being conformed to the image of Christ is entirely the work of God. Spiritual formation is not a self-improvement project that we can work at and accomplish ourselves. The best we can do is put ourselves in a posture of openness and receptivity to God and pray to be changed through grace. It's like planting a garden—nothing we do can make seeds grow. But unless we create the conditions for growth, we can pretty much guarantee that nothing will happen.

So how do we put ourselves in this posture of openness to God? That's where spiritual practices—such as prayer, scripture reading, worship, and Sabbath, among others—keep us focused on God and help us develop a deeper relationship with God that lets Him form us. It's important that we offer these practices to God freely, with no expectations or conditions or time frames. Remember, God is doing the work in the fullness of His own time. Our only role is to simply show up.

Finally, spiritual formation is for the sake of others. The purpose of being shaped by God is to affect our relationships with other people. Mulholland offers this test: "Are you more loving, more compassionate, more patient, more understanding, more caring, more giving, more forgiving than you were a year ago?"

*Loving God, help me realize that your presence in my life is more important than anything else. Grant me the obedience to bring myself intentionally to you again and again so that you may form me into the person you want me to be. Amen.*

—Brenda Anderson-Baker,  
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth