

UMW VOICE

The Newsletter of Bozeman's United Methodist Women

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2014 UMW Directory coming soon!

Please contact Janna ASAP with any changes to your address, phone, and/or email that haven't already been reported to your circle chair so we can make sure our new directory is as current as possible! Thank you!

Phone: 586-3296
email: jannapfeil@yahoo.com

Plan now to attend...

April 25-27, Assembly 2014
Come to Louisville and connect with thousands of women just like YOU who are passionate about real, everyday change for women, children and youth! Get empowered to make it happen!

August 15-16th, Mission U Summer Session will be held at Mission Valley UMC. Make this a part of your summer plans now!

Did you know...

You can access UMW news and get more info on conference & national events easily by making this a "favorites" link:

<http://yacumc.org/ministries/detail/3>



Everyone is Invited to Feb. 5th Program

All are invited (yes, men too!) to attend our General Meeting Program on Wednesday, February 5th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Friendship Room. **Bob Hietala**, BUMC member and Dean of the newly formed Gallatin College will give the program:

"Gallatin College: Mission, Vision, & Future"

Refreshments will be served afterwards by NRG & Trinity Circles



Mission U Winter Session

February 7-8 at Grace UMC, Billings

This year's Winter School offers the following two studies:

The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly. This study, led by Diane Martin, is about spiritual formation and the culture of calling in light of John Wesley's two-fold thrust on "personal holiness" and "spiritual holiness," and serves as a "how to" guide for anyone interested in deepening their spirituality and engagement in mission.

The Roma People of Europe: An Overview. Tish Herries will lead this study of the Roma people, often referred to as "Gypsies", that roam primarily in Eastern Europe (though they exist throughout the world!) The Roma make up the single largest minority group in Europe. This class will open your eyes to the perceptions and discrimination of the Roma people.

Attendees will take both classes. Registration is due by January 25th. Forms are available in the church office. Cost is \$60 total for meals and class fees. Lodging is on your own, but a hotel list can be provided.

Upcoming Meetings



Ink Spots Card-making	Monday, Jan. 13th, 1:00 p.m.	Friendship Room
Mission Team Meeting	Tuesday, Jan. 14th, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Friendship Room
Miriam-Ruth Circle	Wednesday, Jan. 15th, 10-11:30 a.m.	Conference Room
Trinity Circle	Wednesday, Jan. 15th, 1:15 p.m.	Friendship Room
Newly Retired Group	Tuesday, Jan. 21st, 10:00 a.m.	IHOP Restaurant
Noon Luncheon Group	Thursday, Jan. 23rd, 12:00-1:00 p.m.	Christus Collegium
Evening Circle	Monday, Jan. 27th, 5:30-8:00 p.m.	Conference Room
General Meeting & Program	Wednesday, Feb. 5th, 1:00 p.m.	Friendship Room

LOCAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN PLEASSED TO GIVE TO MISSION PROJECTS

Submitted by Jackie Montgomery

At their annual Advent Brunch and Program December 4th, Bozeman United Methodist Women presented Rachel Jarvis with Special Mission Recognition in appreciation for her service as Treasurer for the unit as well as for numerous other ways in which she has contributed to the success of their work. Special Mission Recognition includes the distinctive gold pin with accompanying certificate indicating a donation has been given to the national organization.

Bozeman UMW was delighted in 2013 to exceed their Pledge to Mission by \$500 as well as to contribute to Gifts in Memory, Gift to Mission greeting cards, and annual World Thank Offering and Prayer and Self-Denial programs for a total of \$7173 to support UMW institutions and missions around the world helping women, youth, and children.

Closer to home, money was given to Intermountain

Children's Home, Blackfeet Parish, Leo Pocha Clinic (Helena), Church Women United, Family Promise, Haven, Love INC, Gallatin Clinic, "No More Malaria", and Engineers Without Borders. Emphasis on Youth Programs included support for WOW Kids, Youth Convo, BSA Troop 676, and Young Women's "Exploration Event." That \$2,960 gave the group a donation total of \$10,133, thanks to support from the BUMC congregation at the rummage sale and chili feed/craft fair added to giving by members.

Hands-on projects included creating birthday kits and soup mixes for Food Banks, gift bags of personal items for Haven, and serving a meal for college students.. What a joy to be able to present such wonderful Christmas gifts around the world! And to look forward to doing it again in 2014 with generous pledge amounts recorded. THANK YOU TO ALL!

Spiritually Speaking...

I took a class in Methodist history this fall and, although the course work was daunting, I am grateful for what I learned. I was particularly taken by the unsung role of women's work in the church's history.

Did you know how much southern Methodist women contributed to the civil rights movement? I didn't. In the 1930s through the 1960s, white women challenged their husbands, community leaders, cultural norms, and even the church. They broke down racial barriers and set examples by working alongside their African American sisters. These women held leadership trainings, worked for equality in education, promoted voting rights, and even influenced policy in the federal government. Through decades of visionary work, southern Methodist women worked tirelessly to bring about the kingdom of God. Most importantly, they challenged the church to follow the teachings of Jesus in taking a stance for racial equality.

I am most inspired by how the women of this era challenged themselves to live more Christian lives. They had to evaluate how they treated their own domestic help. They had to decide whether they would look away when they saw discrimination. When they learned of an impending lynching, they showed up in the area and talked with community leaders. They brought all of themselves to the issues of their day and they served *with* the people they were helping.

That's where I start feeling challenged. It's easy enough for me to write a check to a cause I support. But if I should start to feel pride or smugness for doing so, I only have to look at our history. Charity is unquestionably important; it's part of being a Christian. And when circumstances prevent my actual presence—I won't be going to the Philippines for typhoon cleanup, for example—I'm sure writing a check is better than not doing so. But would I have been one of the brave women who lived dangerous and countercultural lives? And what are the issues today where we might be called to do more than give money?

This quote from Sadie Tillman in 1963 is about racial issues, but her words make me uncomfortable today: "Are we going on as usual, 'putting on' programs that have no bearing on the agony we are in, making reports on ordinary affairs while closing our eyes to racial upheavals? Are we studying about our 'wonderful missionaries' instead of making a mighty effort to put into practice the truth that we send them to proclaim to others?"

I pray, I give, I study, I go to meetings. But when do I get my hands dirty? When do I serve in a face-to-face way with someone who needs my help?

Jesus, my Brother, grant me the courage and wisdom to follow you out of my comfort zone and into the world of your people.

—Brenda Anderson-Baker,
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth

