

UMW VOICE

April
2014

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The Newsletter of Bozeman's United Methodist Women

Spring Cleaning?

With the church kitchen renovation scheduled this summer, United Methodist Women will not have the annual church rummage sale this year. We encourage you to recycle your good, used items at any of the local organizations that can benefit from the sale. Or, perhaps you (and others) can hold a garage/yard sale and donate the proceeds to BUMC or another worthy cause!

—Jackie Montgomery
UMW President

Happy Easter!



Western Mountains UMW Spring District Meeting Saturday, April 5th, at Stevensville UMC.

Hurry! Registration deadline is March 25th!

The Big Picture Today— Connecting the Dots

Come learn about UMW supported missions in the USA. Share unit missions supported in your community.

Take part in our mission project by bringing items for Pantry Partners. Items needed include: Shampoo, Conditioner, Feminine Hygiene Products, Diapers, & School Supplies.

Meeting Timeline

8-8:45 a.m.—Breakfast & Registration
8:45 a.m.—Opening/Program
Noon—Luncheon Provided
1:00 p.m.—Program Continues
3:00 p.m.—Communion
3:30 p.m.—Tour of St. Mary's Mission
Cost is \$12. Registration information can be obtained in the church office.

Chili Feed/Bake Sale Serves Mission In Many Ways!

Thank you to all who prepared food, served, set-up, cleaned-up, and participated in this year's Chili Feed and Bake Sale on February 22nd. Your efforts brought in \$1000! While that was less than in previous years because of smaller crowds due to no craft fair this year and no table rental income, we can still consider it a success! In addition, leftover chili fed CYAM students twice! Extra baked items went towards their breakfast fundraiser for their mission trip to Mexico, as well as providing dessert for BUMC 101 participants. So, as we always point out, our work is in mission for/with others...even if, at the outset, we can't imagine the many ways it will do so.

—Jackie Montgomery, UMW President

Upcoming Meetings



Western Mountains District Meeting	Sat., Apr. 5th, 8:00 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.	Stevensville UMC
Mission Team Meeting	Tuesday, Apr. 8th, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Friendship Room
Ink Spots Card-making	Monday, Apr. 14th, 1:00 p.m.	Kathy Peyton's home
Newly Retired Group	Tuesday, Apr. 15th, 10:00 a.m.	IHOP Restaurant
Miriam-Ruth Circle	Wednesday, Apr. 16th, 10:00 a.m.	Conference Room
Trinity Circle	Wednesday, Apr. 16th, 1:15 p.m.	Fireside Room
Noon Luncheon Group	Thursday, Apr. 24th, 12:00-1:00 p.m.	Christus Collegium
National UMW Assembly	Friday, Apr. 25—Sunday, Apr. 27	Louisville, Kentucky
Evening Circle	Monday, Apr. 28th, 5:30-8:00 p.m.	Conference Room

Last call for attending National Assembly in Louisville, April 25-27

Registration is open until April 1 or seating capacity is reached. Expect spectacular worship, a huge variety of workshops, and the joy of being among thousands of United Methodist Women. Go to the national UMW website:

<http://prod.umwomen.org:88/assembly>.

There may still be some beds available in the rooms Yellowstone Conference reserved in The Galt House Hotel; if interested, contact me at gloriazimmer@mcn.net or 406-586-9152. Or, you may also make a reservation directly with hotels listed in the registration information. Hoping many of you can take advantage of these opportunities! Giving thanks for all that you do!

—Gloria Zimmer
Conference UMW President



Some of the women of Evening Circle: (front) Linda Hospodor, Nettie Warwood, Wanda Myers, Virginia Manseau. (Back) Judi Wackerbarth, Dana Doney, Marj Hunt, Fran Goosey. (Fran Shellenberger was taking the picture.)

Spiritually Speaking...

The Psalms are everywhere this month: in the Lenten Bible study, in a book I'm reading with a small group of friends, and in my morning prayer practice. I've been trying my hand at writing my own; some are personal paraphrases of the "real" Psalms, and others are simply my prayers. Here's one that's partly tongue-in-cheek, but partly a reminder too of hope and resurrection. After all, we are Easter people.



Psalm 151

A song of lament and praise for those living in northern mountainous lands during springtime

How long, O Lord, we beseech you, how long will this bitter wind plague us? Have you forsaken your children in this cold, dark world?

Our ancestors told stories of warm sun and green grass, soft breezes and lush grape vines. You blessed them, they said, with blue skies and singing birds, but we could scarcely believe it.

As for us, our hearts turned as cold as a winter night on the mountain, and we lost hope. Friends became enemies as our weary tempers took hold and our sharp tongues lashed out. Wives cursed their husbands, and workers grumbled at their masters.

We dreamed of green and blue, sun and warmth, but still we waited in a harsh, gray world. We felt betrayed by a glimpse of sun, only to feel once again the unforgiving wind on our skin. Our eyes watered, and we sought comfort in wine and honey; hear our cry for mercy, O Lord, we prayed.

Then you shone your face on us once more and we were made glad. The sun dawned once again and we felt the blessing of your comfort. Songbirds appeared, buds burst forth, and our hearts were gladdened. We sang praise to you, our God, for delivering us and reviving our hope. We gave you thanks for spreading your hand over us.

You reminded us once again that you do not act on our time, but on your own. We prayed for patience and trust and hope, and you rewarded us with spring. We will trust in your unfailing love forever.

—Brenda Anderson-Baker,
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth