



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

# Mission Tapestry

Arlington District United Methodist Women

Vol. XXXVII, No. 1



February 2016

**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.

The Mission Tapestry is a publication of the Arlington District United Methodist Women. Its goal is to keep units at the local/congregation level informed about opportunities for living out our PURPOSE. It is published quarterly—February, May, August, and November.

Articles for publication are welcome and should be directed to ArlingtonDistrictUMW@gmail.com by the 1st of the publication month.

Check out our website at [www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org](http://www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org)

## District President's Message

Hello beautiful women of the Arlington District United Methodist Women!

“Now all we can see of God is like a cloudy picture in a mirror. Later we will see him face to face. We don't know everything, but then we will, just as God completely understands us.”  
1 Corinthians 13:12

It's almost been 10 years since I started listening to Christian Radio. When I first became a parent I decided that it would be a smart, responsible decision to have contemporary Christian music be a part of my family's life. My intentions were to protect my children from the unpredictable voices and topics of regular radio stations and keep them surrounded by God's Word. As much as this was my initial thought, in the way that only God can provide, I know now that I am the one that has continued to be protected and comforted by God through the Christian music that I listen to everyday. One of the songs that have recently put a smile on my face and large tears in my eyes is a song titled Overcomer by Madina. The chorus to the song says:

*You're an overcomer  
Stay in the fight 'til the final round  
You're not going under  
'Cause God is holding you right now  
You might be down for a moment  
Feeling like it's hopeless  
That's when He reminds you  
That you're an overcomer.*

Through God's love we are all Overcomers! My prayer for you through this Lenten season is that you see and hear the voice of God through laughter and tears and that you know that because God is constantly holding us, we are overcomers. We've got this girls; now let's go make it happen!

I am very much looking forward to seeing you at the many upcoming district events in March, April, and May and experiencing how we are all Overcomers through our work as United Methodist Women. Please join us: March 11th—12th for our Spiritual Life Retreat “Who are you? Whose are you?” led by Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller in Front Royal, VA at the 4-H Educational Center as we take time to recharge our spiritual batteries during Lent; April 16th for our Spring Prayer Breakfast at Graham Road United Methodist Church; and May 21st for our Bi-District Day Apart, Charter for Racial Justice hosted by the Alexandria District at Annandale United Methodist Church. Dr. Youtha Hardman-Cromwell will be our resource leader as we further our efforts for human rights.

As United Methodist Women we make a difference, and it is when we come together that we can stand taller, speak louder, and Love more abundantly! YOU make it Happen! Many blessings to all of you for answering God's calling in your life through United Methodist Women.

Complete in HIM,  
**Angela Sokolowski**  
President, Arlington District UMW

## Vice-President

Susan Chung



Happy New Year and Best Wishes to you!

On January 30th, we had a successful and blessed Training Day event hosted by the KUMC, GW Unit. As usual, the breakfast that was prepared and served by the KUMC UMW unit members was so delicious and plentiful. Thank you ladies for your dedication, hard work, and willingness to host any of our district events.

Here are some of the photos of the event. Please note our youngest UMW member - Ellie, 6 months old (Katy White's daughter). Isn't she beautiful - love her smile:)

I would also like to invite you all for our next event -- the ADUMW Spiritual Life Retreat at 4H Educational Center, Front Royal, VA on March 11-12, 2016. Please mark your calendar and join us. We look forward to seeing you there and spending a wonderful time together.





## Treasurer



Frances Ellis

The 2015 Arlington District Pledge to Mission was \$36,000. We only met 90% of our pledge at \$32,643. At our annual meeting last September, we voted to reduce our pledge for 2016 to \$30,000 as a reflection of losing one of our units with the closing of Arlington UMC, and with the ongoing reports from many of our units of declining membership. Please remember that as a UMW unit, even though we may choose to support many important projects, it is necessary to also contribute to The United Methodist Women. See the February issue of Response magazine for information about where the UMW money goes.

I can tell you from personal experience that the only way to add members to your units is with continual, personal, face-to-face or telephone invitations. Announcements about your meetings in the bulletin or mass emails will encourage very few women to try something that they are not already familiar with.

The offerings collected at our November Mini-Mission Encounter and our January Training Day are:  
November—\$232.  
January—\$209.

We have 48 churches in our district. We have 24 churches that we think have a UMW unit. At Training Day, we had 13 churches represented and 31 attendees. If you don't attend district events, you are missing a time to fellowship with women from other churches and to exchange ideas.

Frances Ellis  
District Treasurer  
2933 Fox Mill Road  
Oak Hill, VA 20171  
fwellis@aol.com  
703-476-1127



P.S. There is a Christian radio station that helps get me back and forth to Richmond. Here is a song I heard recently that really spoke to me. I hope the words will help you too.

Hold it all together, everybody needs you strong.  
But life hits you out of nowhere, and barely leaves you holding on.  
And when you're tired of fighting, chained by your control.  
There's freedom in surrender. Lay it down and let it go.  
So, when you're on your knees and answers seem so far away,  
You're not alone, stop holding on and just be held.  
Your world's not falling apart, it's falling into place.  
I'm on the throne, stop holding on, and just be held.

Casting Crowns

Check out our website at [www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org](http://www.ArlingtonDistrictUMW.org)

# Membership Nurture & Outreach

Katy White

In an effort to streamline the process and make our lives easier, the UMW National Office has developed an online form to use for reporting membership numbers for this year. Rather than sending paper reports to me and then me sending them to the conference, who sends them to the national office, **your unit will be able to report directly to the national office.**

As is often the case, it will take time for everyone to adjust to the new system, but I will be here to help you along the way! Once the system is in place, there will be several benefits, including:

- No paper is involved (so we are saving trees!)
- The membership totals go directly to the national office (less chance for error)
- The national office can provide reports to each conference (we'll have a better picture of who and where we are)
- Faster and earlier receipt of the census information (so we can act on it in a more timely manner)

I've attached detailed instructions for how to use the new form and you can always give me a call at (804) 937-5289 if you are having trouble. **The deadline to submit your forms is February 28, 2016.**

And finally...here is the link to the online census:

<https://unitedmethodistwomen-public.sharepoint.com/>

*Excited to go on this new journey with you!*

*Katy*



# Membership Nurture & Outreach

Katy White

## Welcome to new 2015 UMW Membership Census!

The census is the gathering of important information to the life of the organization. Each census is uniquely vital to giving us a total picture of where we are in communities throughout the nation. This year we want to make capturing membership information easier and faster.

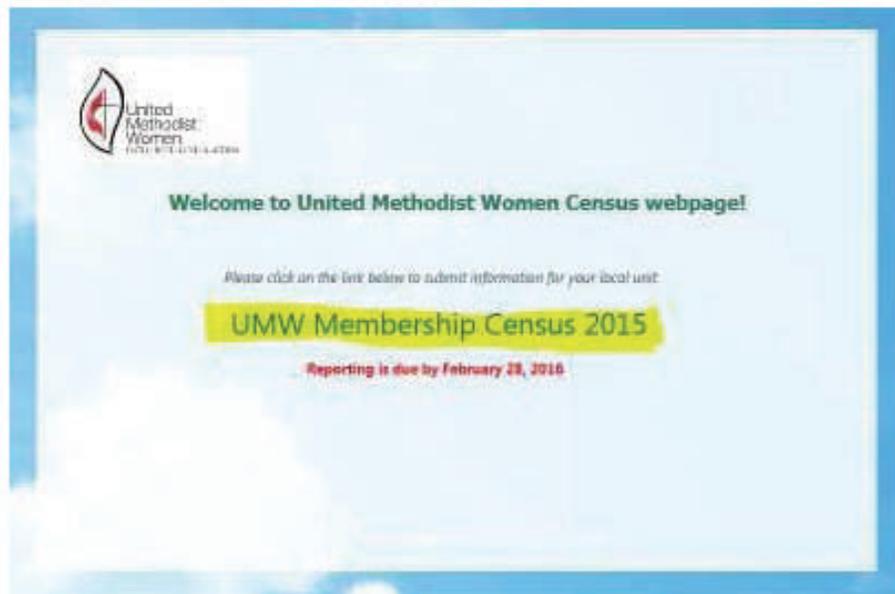
The link to the census web page should work on all internet browsers, Fire Fox, Google and Safari; However, we recommend Microsoft Explorer and Edge as the best option.

If you click on the link and the website page doesn't open, there are four ways to help you open the link:

- You could put a cursor on the link, right click and then click "Open hyperlink"
- While pressing the control key, double click the link. (Ctrl + double click)
- You could copy the link and paste it into your browser.
- You could type the link on your browser.

Please follow the link to open a new census web page:

<https://unitedmethodistwomen-public.sharepoint.com/>



Please follow directions on the screen and click on the highlighted link "UMW Membership Census 2015" to go to the actual census form. We attempted to make the form easy to fill out. Note that some fields must be completed. You will not be able to submit the form if necessary information is not provided. If some of required information was not entered, the field will be shown in pink.

- **Reporting is due by February 28, 2016.**

# Membership Nurture & Outreach

Katy White

## For your information:

We provide a series of drop down lists of all districts organized alphabetically by the first letter of the name of your district. Please "Select only one district."

District Name A-B

District Name C- F

District Name G-L

District Name M-O

District Name P- V

District Name W-Z

After all are fields filled out, please click "Submit" to complete the process.

A thank you message will appear on the screen as confirmation that your data was successfully sent to the national office.

The Membership Office greatly appreciates your time and prompt responses. Please feel free to contact Maria Rodriguez if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Membership Census 2015.

Phone: 212-870-3725

Email: [mrodriguez@unitedmethodistwomen.org](mailto:mrodriguez@unitedmethodistwomen.org)

Monday to Friday (Eastern Time)

9:00 a.m. – Noon & 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

# Spiritual Growth

Marjorie Long-Brown

## What A Fellowship

Our fellowship was truly strengthened when we attended our annual United Methodist Women's Training Day on January 30<sup>th</sup> at the Korean United Methodist Church of Greater Washington. Of course, Training Day is an annual event, but this year's event was quite different.

In the past it has been our practice to begin training by having the attendees break into their various groups to receive training from the respective mission leaders. But a new year calls for new methods. This year we had each mission leader present her information to the entire group, thus allowing the entire group to learn about each mission role. As our president explained it, "Today everybody will learn about everybody's job."

I gained a new appreciation for the tedious, detailed work of the Membership, Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator. How does the Social Action Coordinator decide which area of social need will be addressed each year? How does the Program Resource (or book lady) keep up with what's being published or discontinued?

By having each mission role presented we could easily address the problem of absentee members. The attendees could return to their churches and educate the absentees.

Fueled by the delicious breakfast and hospitality of the KUMC we were well nourished and well educated. There is a phrase in our PURPOSE that speaks of a "creative, supportive fellowship." We experienced it on Mission Training Day.

Yours in Christ,  
Marjorie Long-Brown



Equip  
Leaders

# Social Action

Lisa George



## WHAT IS THE CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE?

The Women's Division of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries created and adopted the Charter for Racial Justice in 1978. In 1980 it was adopted by the entire church. This Charter continues the UMW's urgent call for study and action based on its principles. First, we have to answer some questions –

What is racism? It is the use of power to discriminate through institutions and structures of society. In other words – deny access to education, employment, housing, social services and other rights. Racism perpetuates the economic, political and social power of one group over another group.

Where is racism? Racism is evident in many areas. A person may be in relationships that are destructive, exploiting or in conflict. Some groups are banned from certain decision-making areas. Some groups are banned from basic human rights. One group sets the “norm” for everyone. The values pursued reflect a rejection of difference and diversity.

So, what is Racial Justice?

- 1.) Racial Justice is a biblical issue – read Exodus 1:8-14.
- 2.) Racial Justice is a community issue. Look at changes in your community, your county, your state, the nation. There are racial/ethnic tensions everywhere. Stand up for Racial Justice as a part of your spiritual practice.
- 3.) Racial Justice is a public policy issue. This involves learning about the laws that affect immigrants, racial/ethnic minorities, refugees, and the poor. What are the local public education policies? How about Social Services? Or employment? Or worship? Stand up and exercise your power to ensure equal and basic rights for all. Write letters to Congress, make phone calls, and get involved in your area. There is so much to change on all levels. At future events I will have available the League of Women Voters of VA Virginia's General Assembly Legislative Directory.

Our priority this year, in the VA Conference and the Arlington District, is **poverty**. All of these issues fall under the poverty umbrella. There is so much to do. Keep an eye out at future District events and pick up a copy of the Charter. They are in English, Spanish and Korean. They can also be obtained from the UMW Resource Center at no charge.

If you have any questions about the Charter for Racial Justice, please email me and I will do my best to answer your questions. If I don't know the answer, I'll find out.

Why did I bring up the Charter for Racial Justice? Our Churches, Units and Circles need to know about this. It is a template for living in accordance with the Faith Hope and Love in Action priorities of the UMW.

Lisa George

[lgeorge7@cox.net](mailto:lgeorge7@cox.net)

7401 Eastmoreland Road #810, Annandale, VA 22003

From Anissa New-Walker, the PR and Marketing Consultant of our National Staff in New York:

During Black History Month, please share with leaders and members:

Our [updated Racial Justice Timeline flipbook](#), which highlights important moments of racial justice history.

Dorothy Ravenhorst's story. Mrs. Ravenhorst, trailblazer and United Methodist Women member, [shares her memories of integration in Virginia and her conference's decision on the Charter for Racial Justice](#) during the years after Brown vs. Board of Education.

The February 2016 response article - "[Beyond Good Intentions: Cultivating an Antiracist White Identity](#)".

Our [action alert and download our Voter's Rights Toolkit](#). This toolkit will help us protect the Voting Rights Act passed in the Civil Rights era.

All available at [UnitedMethodistWomen.org](http://UnitedMethodistWomen.org).

# Mission Education & Interpretation

Doris Douglass

Hello Everyone,

In my role as Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation I would like to tell you about a National Mission Institution that supports women and children as they enter our country.

In Laredo, Texas, and other small towns along the Texas-Mexico border, more and more buses are arriving late in the day or at night at local bus terminals. The buses are filled with children and women from Honduras, Guatemala and other countries in Central America, who are often fleeing drug cartels and growing gang violence. The majority of the children are travelling alone and the women are tired. Once they've been dropped off, they are left to fend for themselves. Please keep reading. It is not what you think.

These immigrants have already been processed at government processing stations, and have been released until they appear in court at a later date. They are dropped off at local bus stations to make their way to their final destination. This could be family, friends or sponsors, where they will stay until their immigration status is determined.

The women and children are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance as they make their way to their US hosts. Did you know that during processing, belts, shoe laces and shoes are often taken away and not returned?

One National Mission Institution, the Holding Institute Community Center in Laredo, Texas is working with the First United Methodist Church and other faith-based or non-profit groups to see to the needs of these women and children. About 75 arrive every day and are given respite, food, clothing, showers and use of a phone to call the people they are staying with, in addition to other services. Places like the Holding Institute act as temporary resting places, where these women and children can get their immediate needs met before continuing on their journey.

Usually I tell you how you can donate money or collect donations, but this time I am asking for your prayers. Each day at 1 p.m. or any time, pray for a just and peaceful resolution to this crisis and for the children and families affected by our current immigration and deportation policies.

From the UMW web site

Blessings

Doris

Doris Douglass  
7213 Vellex Lane  
Annandale, VA 22003  
DorisDouglass@msn.com



# Program Resources

Gladys Packett

## Give Thanks and Praise

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Who would have thought that our Training Day would go on without a hitch after that huge snow storm!? I think that prayers had a lot to do with it! If you attended, you know what a wonderful job all the ladies did with their presentations. We began the day with a wonderful unending amount of food from our UMW sisters from Korean UMC of Greater Washington. Their hospitality is always amazing and there is no way that anyone can go away hungry.

As part of the presentation Doris Douglass and Lisa George gave a sample presentation from Program Book 2015-2016 September- pg. 5-12. The theme was on "Foundation of Blessedness" and it was done to demonstrate that even if you have a small group, you can always adapt the program to fit within a short period of time. I would encourage you to check out the program book as a resource for your meetings. If you don't have one there is a PDF file that you can download by visiting [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org)

For those of you who were not able to attend I am sharing the information that was shared during the meeting. Please note that there are a lot of resources that you can request for your own units. Also, Linda Porter, Resource Secretary from the Virginia Conference, reminded us that you can obtain books from the **Lending Library** in order to fulfill the required reading. A form for this purpose is attached. May God lead you to a book that will encourage you to a new study, and/or to get involved in mission work. Till we meet again, Happy Reading!

In His service,

Gladys Packett  
Secretary of Program Resources  
[gpackett@verizon.net](mailto:gpackett@verizon.net)  
Happy Reading!

HAPPY  
READING



# Program Resources

Gladys Packett

## Arlington District Secretary of Program Resources

The secretary of program resources has the responsibility of helping elected leaders of the district organization and secretaries of program resources in the local units know about and secure resources that enable them to fulfill the PURPOSE.

### As you get started, your local secretary of program resources should:

- Help you with resources to enroll in the Reading Program.
- Explain the Reading Program's procedures.
- Give you a Reading Program catalog.
- Develop displays to encourage book sales, especially around holiday seasons.
- Help you buy or borrow Reading Program books.
- Honor those who participate in the Reading Program; present Reading Program certificates to those who complete plans.
- Collect and compile data from each local unit and
- Report to the Conference UMW by October of each year.

### The Reading Program Leads to Action

The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. Here are a few suggestions to assist you:

**Pray.** Books often raise concerns about people, countries and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time at home and at group meetings.

**Host a program.** For example, a locally-sponsored program on the environment could help the church and community explore ways to be better stewards of God's Earth.

**Organize.** You and your group can contact the Office of Community Action to work on social action plans for your local group and church. To obtain resources for community organizing e-mail Carol Barton at [cbar-ton@unitedmethodistwomen.org](mailto:cbar-ton@unitedmethodistwomen.org).

### Action Suggestions

Encourage youth to read and review titles from the reading lists.

Continue your actions on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies of The United Methodist Church.

### Resources:

#### Downloads and Order Forms:

**Books, material for your unit, Reading Program, Mission Resources catalogs all available from United Methodist Women Mission Resources at [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org)**

#### Response magazine Subscribe:

[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response)

Back issues: [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org)

#### Amazon Store

United Methodist Program Books:

[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)

# Program Resources

Gladys Packett

## CONFERENCE UMW LENDING LIBRARY REQUEST FORM

**Ordered by:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Substitute Books \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Don't substitute \_\_\_\_\_

### Social Action

Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3: \_\_\_\_\_

### Nurturing for Community

Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3: \_\_\_\_\_

### Spiritual Growth

Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3: \_\_\_\_\_

### Education for Mission

Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3: \_\_\_\_\_

### Leadership Development

Choice 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Choice 3: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send all orders to:**

**Make postage checks to: Linda Porter**

**Virginia Conference UMW Lending Library**

**Linda Porter, Secretary of Program Resources**

**2808 McLeod Rd.**

**Email: [lpfromnc@msn.com](mailto:lpfromnc@msn.com)**

**Richmond, VA 23224-5928**

**Phone: (804) 674-5220**



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

# Arlington District United Methodist Women 2016 Calendar

**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.

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Arlington District UMW Training Day @ KUMC of Greater Washington</b>	<b>January 30</b> Feb 6 snow date
United Methodist Day @ the General Assembly	February 4
<b>Arlington District UMW Spiritual Life Retreat @ 4-H Educational Center, Front Royal</b>	<b>March 11-12</b>
<b>1st Quarter Treasurer's Report due.</b>	<b>March 15</b>
Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice @ DoubleTree Crystal City	April 15-18
<b>Arlington District UMW Spring Prayer Breakfast @ Graham Road UMC</b>	<b>April 16</b>
VA Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat @ VUMAC	April 29-May 1
<b>Bi-District UMW Day Apart @ Annandale UMC</b>	<b>May 21</b>
UMW Day @ Ferrum College	June 4* <b>note change</b>
<b>2nd Quarter Treasurer's Report due.</b>	<b>June 15</b>
VA UMC Annual Conference @ Roanoke	June 17-19
VA Conference UMW Breakfast @ UMC Annual Conference in Roanoke	June 18
Mission Encounter @ VUMAC	July 29-31* <b>note change</b>
<b>3rd Quarter Treasurer's Report due.</b>	<b>September 15</b>
VA Conference Young Women's Event @ VUMAC	September 16-17
<b>Arlington District UMW Annual Meeting @ tba</b>	<b>September 24</b>
VA Conference UMW 44th Annual Meeting @ VUMAC	October 29-30
<b>Arlington District UMW Mini-Mission Encounter @ tba</b>	<b>November 12</b>
<b>4th Quarter Treasurer's Report due.</b>	<b>December 15</b>

## Arlington District United Methodist Women Officers for 2016

### **ELECTED OFFICERS**

#### President

Angela Sokolowski  
808 Potomac Ridge Court  
Sterling, VA 20164-1368  
703-421-6445  
TheSokos@mac.com

#### Vice President

Susan Chung  
851 N. Glebe Road, Apt. 1520  
Arlington, VA 22203  
202-731-6092  
SusanChung1122@gmail.com

#### Secretary

Janet Keener  
1803 Midlothian Court  
Vienna, VA 22182-3428  
703-281-7685  
Janet\_Keener@cox.net

#### Treasurer

Frances Ellis  
2933 Fox Mill Road  
Oak Hill, VA 20171-1527  
703-476-1127  
fwellis@aol.com

### **MISSION COORDINATORS**

#### Education and Interpretation

Doris Douglass  
7213 Vellex Lane  
Annandale, VA 22003  
703-642-0661  
DorisDouglass@msn.com

#### Social Action

Lisa George  
7401 Eastmoreland Rd #810  
Annandale, VA 22003  
703-623-8071  
LGeorge7@cox.net

#### Membership Nurture and Outreach

Katy White  
25508 Upper Clubhouse Drive  
South Riding, VA 20152  
804-937-5289  
Katy.H.White@gmail.com

#### Spiritual Growth

Marjorie Long-Brown  
5575 Seminary Road #313  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3556  
703-575-8353  
marjol@fastmail.fm

#### Secretary for Program Resources

Gladys Packett  
879 N. Jacksonville Street  
Arlington, VA 22205-1323  
703-522-0341  
gpackett@verizon.net

### **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

*Vacant at this time*

### **APPOINTED OFFICERS**

#### VUMAC Representative

Sally Bradford  
703-281-3584

#### Editor of the *Tapestry*

Frances Ellis  
2933 Fox Mill Road  
Oak Hill, VA 20171-1527  
703-476-1127  
fwellis@aol.com



For general information about Arlington District UMW, e-mail  
[arlingtondistrictumw@gmail.com](mailto:arlingtondistrictumw@gmail.com)

## Who Are You? Whose Are You?

Arlington United Methodist Women Spiritual Life Retreat

March 11-12, 2016

4-H Educational Center, 600 4-H Center Drive

Front Royal, Virginia 22630

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller, Retreat Leader

### March 11

- 3:00 Registration, Getting to Know You  
 4:00 Gathering, Greetings from our President  
 5:00-5:25 Worship  
     Scripture: Isaiah 43:1-4a  
     Hymn: "How Firm A Foundation" P. 529  
     Prayers and Concerns  
 5:45-6:45 Dinner  
 7:30-9:00 Session I - Connect to Your Belovedness  
     Introduction – Marjorie Long-Brown  
     Scriptures: Matthew 3:13-17 and Isaiah 42:1  
     Hymn: "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" P. 526 UMH



### March 12

- 7:45 Breakfast  
 8:30 Arrival of half-day participants  
     Hymn: "Morning Has Broken" P 145  
     Scripture: Matthew 4:18-22  
     Hymn: "Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet" P. 601  
 9:00 – 10:45 Session II – Claim Your Vocation  
     Scripture: Matthew 5:13-17  
 11:30 Lunch  
 12:00-1:00 Session III – Go Beyond  
     Scriptures: Colossians 3:12-17 and Matthew 5:38-48  
     Hymn: "Here I Am Lord" P. 593  
 1:15-2:00 Closing Worship and Communion – Proclaim Transformation  
     Scripture: Matthew 17:1-8

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller is an elder in the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, serving as the appointed pastor for Redland UMC since 2013. Her other appointment has been St. Stephen's UMC in Burke (Assoc., 2007-2013).

Pastor Melissa served for five years as a young adult missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries, serving in Tucson, Philadelphia, Ireland, and Baltimore (US-2 Program, Mission Intern Program). Her husband Robert Miller is a native of Northern Ireland. They have two children, a nine-year-old son Shea, and three-year-old daughter Siobhán.

Pastor Melissa is a graduate of Wesley Theological Seminary (M. Div, Urban Ministry Program) and The College of William & Mary (B.A, Government & Psychology). She has a passion for mission, evangelism, and for meeting people where they are and helping to take the next faithful steps in the walk with God.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

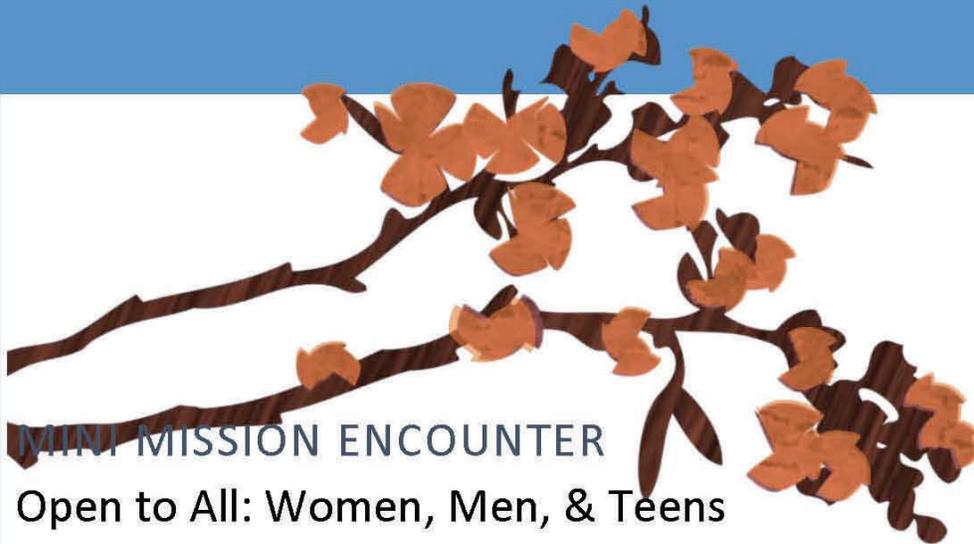
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Full Retreat (\$90.00 includes Lodging and 3 meals) Friday 4:00-Saturday 4:00pm or

\_\_\_\_ Saturday only (\$40.00 includes lunch only) 8:30am – 4:00pm.

Please send registration form and check made to ADUMW by March 1 to Frances Ellis, 2933 Fox Mill Road, Herndon, VA 20171.



## MINI MISSION ENCOUNTER

Open to All: Women, Men, & Teens

**SPONSORED**

**ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**MARCH 12, 2016**

**9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**ST. MATTHEW'S UMC, 8617 LITTLE RIVER TURNPIKE  
ANNANDALE, VA 22003**

**MISSION STUDY: – LATIN AMERICA - PEOPLE & FAITH**

**LEADER: LORI VALENTINE DE SEGOVIA**

**MISSION STUDY: CREATED FOR HAPPINESS - UNDERSTANDING YOUR LIFE IN GOD**

**LEADER: DARLENE RUNALDUE**

**COST: \$18.00 INCLUDES LUNCH REGISTER BY MARCH 5, 2016**

**REGISTER BY MAIL: BRENDA ROMENIUS, 413 PARK AVENUE,  
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22046**

**OR REGISTER BY EMAIL: [brendaromenius@yahoo.com](mailto:brendaromenius@yahoo.com)**



FOR GLOBAL PEACE WITH JUSTICE

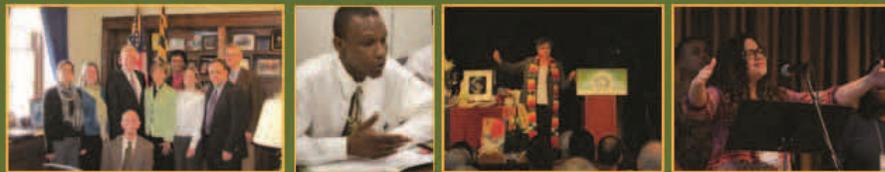
# *Lift Every Voice!*

*Racism, Class & Power*



*Annual National Gathering  
& Congressional Lobby Day*

*April 15-18, 2016  
Washington, D.C.*



## *AdvocacyDays.org*

 /advocacydays  @advocacydays

#EAD2016 #LiftEveryVoice

### *Lift Every Voice! - Racism, Class & Power*

In a major U.S. election year when lives, votes and the global economy are at stake, followers of Christ ask, "Who has a voice?". The response is, "Everyone!"

But in our neighborhoods, cities, and around the world, the voices of too many people are silenced. For generations in this country, social, economic, corporate and political powers have colluded to reduce and eliminate access to voting. Historically, systemic injustice has been carried out through poll taxes, unreasonable and egregious voter requirements and violent opposition to calls for justice and change. Today, we are experiencing injustice through not only an attempt for voter suppression, but police brutality, detention and mass incarceration. In the U.S. and around the world, communities whose health, water, air and land are threatened by corporate greed, voices for justice are often curbed through extreme violence, intimidation and murder.

In this country, communities of color are under siege: named and unnamed black lives are killed each year by police; immigrants are detained and scapegoated; and public displays of discontent and calls for solidarity have too often been met with disregard, suppression or violence. Around the world, decisions that affect the well-being of lives and the entire global economy - one based on continued growth despite the limits to earth's natural resources and capacity to absorb such growth - are often made in closed boardrooms and in great secrecy.

But as Christians, we believe that leaders and policy makers are called to act and to govern in fairness and with justice for all! Like the persistent widow who demands that the judge hear her plea (Luke 18:1-8), at EAD 2016, we will bring our petitions for justice to Capitol Hill. Like the persistent widow, we will not be silenced.

Come to "Lift Every Voice" on April 15-18, 2016, where people of faith will speak truth to power concerning the suppression of political and economic rights, and the corporate undermining of the local voice of ordinary people in the U.S. and around the world. Through prayer, worship, advocacy training, networking and mobilization with other Christians, we will face the reality of racism, class and power impacting politics and policies and advocate for the liberty of "Every Voice!" - all culminating with EAD's Congressional Lobby Day on Capitol Hill.

#### *REGISTRATION FEES*

Entire Four-Day Event: Before March 18: \$199 | After March 18: \$215

One Day: Saturday or Sunday: \$110

Register online or by mail at [AdvocacyDays.org/register](http://AdvocacyDays.org/register)

#### *HOTEL*

DoubleTree Crystal City, Arlington, Va.

Special Room Block Rate: \$127 / night

Reserve online at [AdvocacyDays.org/housing](http://AdvocacyDays.org/housing) or call (800) 222-8733 and mention code "Ecumenical Advocacy Days" or "EAD".

*For More Information and Event Schedule  
Visit [Advocacydays.org/2016](http://Advocacydays.org/2016)*

LEARN  
MORE



#### Ecumenical Advocacy Days

110 Maryland Avenue NE, Suite 110 • Washington, DC 20002

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ARLINGTON DISTRICT  
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
SPRING PRAYER BREAKFAST



# GROWING IN BLESSEDNESS

Please join us for an exciting day of Fellowship,  
Prayer, Food, Music, & Mission.

As Pastor Janet Salbert guides us  
in learning more about spirituality and  
enhancing our prayer life.

**APRIL 16, 2016**

**9:00AM - 12:00**

Breakfast & Childcare Provided

**GRAHAM ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2929 Graham Road Falls Church, Virginia 22042



**VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED  
METHODIST WOMEN**

**SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT**



**Rev. Kathleene Royston**

A provisional elder in the Virginia Conference, Kathleen serves as an associate pastor at Mount Olivet United Methodist Church in Arlington. She is a graduate of Emory University and the Candler School of Theology. She is also an avid home cook who gets weepy over in-season peaches and takes Jesus' commandment to "feed my sheep" rather literally.

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**Mission Emphasis for Retreat:** Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth, the only national United Methodist Women project in VA, needs **gift cards** in any amount from **Food Lion** or **Walmart**. The cards allow the Center to offer assistance for food or pharmacy items. Please bring a gift card(s) to the retreat.

**Other items to bring to retreat:** Bible, pen/pencil, paper, money for offering and ice cream social, layers of clothing for WARMTH, and cash or checks for the Book Room and logo items.



**April 29-May 1, 2016**

**Spiritual Slow Food**

**Retreat Leader:  
Rev. Kathleen Royston**

**Blackstone Conference & Retreat Center  
(Former Blackstone College)  
707 Fourth Street  
Blackstone, VA 23824  
434-292-5308**

**April 29-May 1, 2016 Spiritual Life Retreat TENTATIVE Schedule**

**The Retreat Program begins officially on Saturday at 10:00 a.m., with the option of arriving Friday afternoon or evening, and ends with lunch on Sunday. There will be two offering opportunities, one Saturday and one Sunday. Dress will be casual. Bring your favorite snacks. There are vending machines for soft drinks.**

<u>Friday evening</u>	Registration (maps available)	
4:00 to 7:00 p.m.	Book Room open (limited books available)	
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.	Dinner	
6:00 p.m.	Book Room open, etc.	
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.	<b>Small Group Leaders meeting, VA Rm</b>	
7:15 p.m.	Vespers, VA Room	
8:30 p.m.		
<u>Saturday morning</u>	Morning Stretch, Carroll Rm. 117	
7:00	Devotions, VA Room	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast	
8:00 a.m.	Free Time, Book Room open, Registration (maps available)	
9:00-9:45	Musical Praise, Auditorium	
9:45 a.m.	Session 1	
10:00 to 11:00 a.m.	<b>Small Group I</b>	
11:15 to 12:15 p.m.		
<u>Saturday afternoon</u>	Lunch	
12:30 to 1:30 p.m.	<b>Focus Groups</b>	
1:45 to 2:30 p.m.	Free Time, Book Rm. open	
2:45 p.m.	Musical Praise, Auditorium	
3:00 to 4:00 p.m.	Session 2	
4:15 to 5:15 p.m.	<b>Small Group 2</b>	
5:15-6:00	Book Room open	
<u>Saturday evening</u>	Dinner	
6:00 to 7:00p.m.	Musical Praise, Auditorium	
7:15 p.m.	Session 3	
7:15 to 8:30 p.m.	TBD	
8:35 p.m.	Ice Cream Social	
9:00 p.m.		
<u>Sunday morning</u>	Morning Stretch, Carroll Rm. 117	
7:00	Devotions, VA Room	
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast and packing	
8:00 a.m.	Session 4	
9:00 to 10:00 a.m.	<b>Small Group 4</b>	
10:15 to 11:00 a.m.	Musical Praise, Auditorium	
11:15	<b>Worship and communion</b>	
11:30 a.m.	Lunch/Depart	
12:30 p.m.		

**Virginia Conference United Methodist Women  
Spiritual Life Retreat  
April 29-May 1, 2016**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teens: Age \_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_ Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Are you a Young Woman (age 18-40)? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
 Are you a first timer? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
*Any condition requiring special room assignment, diet, etc.?* \_\_\_\_\_

**Overnight Attendance:** please check-in when you will arrive;  
 linens, soap, TP provided  
 \_\_\_ Friday through Sunday (with Friday dinner) \$160.00  
 \_\_\_ Friday through Sunday (without Friday dinner) \$152.00  
 \_\_\_ Saturday (Sat. lunch at 12:30 - Sunday lunch) \$104.00  
 \_\_\_ Private room requested — add \$5.00 more per night  
 \_\_\_ Goodson Lodge room requested — add \$10.00 more per night  
 Total for **Overnight registration** remitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: ABOVE PRICES DO INCLUDE ROOM, MEALS, AND \$17.00 REGISTRATION FEE.**

**Day Attendees:** \$17 registration fee **plus cost of meals;**  
 participation begins upon arrival  
 \_\_\_ Friday dinner \$10.50 \_\_\_ Saturday lunch \$8.75  
 \_\_\_ Saturday dinner \$8.00 \_\_\_ Sunday breakfast \$6.50  
 \_\_\_ Sunday lunch \$9.75  
 Total for **Day registration** remitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail registration form and check for the total amount payable to  
**Virginia Conference United Methodist Women** to the registrar:  
**Joyce Winston:** 2411 E Pembroke Ave., Hampton, VA 23664-1243,  
 757-851-6897, buckrow@aol.com

**Registration deadline: April 25, 2016**  
 No refunds after April 25th

MISSION ENCOUNTER 2016 IS SCHEDULED FOR  
**JULY 29-31, 2016 AT BLACKSTONE-VUMAC.**

2016 MISSION STUDIES

**Spiritual Growth Study**

The Bible and Human Sexuality: Claiming God's Good Gift by Ellen Brubaker;

Participant's Guide by M. Garlinda Burton

Leaders: Rev. Dr. Rob Vaughn, Rev. Myrtle Frances Hatcher, Prof. Esther Barkat

This study explores the Bible and human sexuality as two essential components of our Christian faith. The Bible is part of the foundation of our faith. Human sexuality is part of who we are as human beings, created by God and called good. The study invites us to explore the complexity of the biblical text and our varied understandings of it in light of human sexuality.

**Issue Study**

Climate Justice: Call to Hope and Action edited by Pat Watkins;

Study Book by Pat Watkins

Leaders: Rev. Pat Watkins, Rev. Dottie Yunger

Korean Study Leader: Rev. Eugene Kim

This study invites you to understand climate justice, which means setting right our relationships with each other and the earth. Climate injustice is the result of climate change. The study will challenge you to see what needs to happen for climate justice to become a reality in the world today. The church needs to more powerfully model a way of doing it differently. This will entail not just focusing on the environment, but also asking hard questions regarding financial profit, a growing economy, our independent way of thinking and our understanding of efficiency.

**Geographic Study**

Latin America: People and Faith

Leader: Rev. Dr. Don Edwards

Latin America: People and Faith is an overview of the richness of Latin America and its people for readers on the North American continent. The study examines the history of the region from pre-Colombian times until colonization and the struggle for independence. It also explores the current challenges of the nations, along with their rich art, culture and the ongoing contributions of women. The role of religion is woven throughout the pages and will help the reader understand how Latin America has been influenced by various religions and faith traditions. Photos by missionary Paul Jeffrey offer a glimpse of the work of The United Methodist Church in the region.