

"Think Globally, Act Locally"



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Items Needed for Rummage & Bake Sale

Top Seven Reasons the UMW Rummage/Bake Sale is a blessing:

1. Every item given to the Rummage Sale is used!
2. You get to sample sweet treats from the Bake Sale.
3. You get your Spring Cleaning done early!
4. The sweet treats you donate to the Bake Sale stay off your hips!
5. You will have more room in your closet for future bargains.
6. The money generated from this "only money making project of the UMW" goes to fund local missions.
7. You get to spend time with your fellow UMW'ers.

You may start bringing

items in on Monday, March 30. Please leave them in the Fellowship Hall.

April 1 sale time is: 4–8 p.m.

April 2 sale time is: 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Baked goods are needed for the Bake Sale. Please bring them in on the day of the sale.



Spring District Meeting—at Mulberry Street UMC

The Three Rivers District UMW meeting will be held **on Saturday, April 25, 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.** at Mulberry Street United Methodist Church in Mt. Vernon. Registration, coffee and fellowship begins at 9:00 a.m. The coffee hour will be provided by Beulah UMW, South Vernon UMW and our UMW. You will also be able to stop by the Resource room to pick up books, cards and forms you may need.

Starting at 9:45 a.m., Yvonne Clutter from Mulberry Street UMC will be playing her Vibraharp in the sanctuary. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Wendy Guion from Hayesville UMC will be the event keynote speaker. She has been the pastor at Hayesville UMC for the last twelve years. Pastor Mary Owen from

Fresno United Methodist Church will speak in the afternoon session.

The theme for the day is "Diversity, Differences, & Decisions."

Cost: \$6.00 includes lunch. Offering for the day will be divided in the following way 1/3 towards our Pledge, 1/3 to Journeys End of Newcomerstown and 1/3 to Interchurch. To register contact Angie Richards at 392-7904 before April 7.

**Please bring hygiene items (toilet paper, a bar of soap, a toothbrush, tissues, diapers, paper towels, items not covered by food stamps) we will take these items to the UMW Fall Conference. These items will be collected and divided for distribution to each of the ten districts to take back to their local mission centers.

UMW Executive Committee

- Peg McCracken
President, 397-2252
- Janet Rehling
Vice Pres., 397-5017
- Marietta Van Fossen
Secretary, 397-1133
- Angie Richards
Treasurer, 392-7904
- Norma Siekkinen
Ast. Treas., 397-4386

Meet Our President—Peg McCracken

~Jan Talbott

If you attend the semi-annual Rummage/Bake Sale, you will no doubt see Peg McCracken zipping hither and thither amongst the people as she is in her element. She is busy being God's hands as she ministers to those in need. She uses the talents God has given her to touch the lives of many folks in our community. Peg sees the United Methodist Women Rummage/Bake Sale as a mission outreach to the local community. The United Methodist Women always plan the semi-annual Rummage/Bake Sale at the first of the month to benefit the folks receiving financial assistance.

Before Peg's senior year in high school, her family - the Bettingers, moved back to Mount Vernon from Grove City, Pennsylvania, where her Dad had been working for Coopers. Peg joined our church in 1947. During high school she tended the soda fountain at Heckler Drug Store and after graduation, she enrolled in nursing school. After only one year, she quit to get married and have five children! Peg worked on and off at Mercy and Martin Memorial hospitals in the nursing assistant field. In 1967, she went to work at the Developmental Center. While she was there she was allowed to take the test for State Boards to be a LPN and was certified!

During her tenure at the Developmental Center, she again was busy being God's hands as she ministered to those in need. Peg's compassionate care for those less fortunate has always led her heart in



**Margaret "Peg" McCracken
Gay Street United Methodist
Women ~ President**

all that she has done and continues to do. She retired after twenty-four years of ministry at the Developmental Center where she oversaw the care of countless patients and employees under her supervision.

The roles of daughter, wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother has brought her many joys. When Peg and Bob got married she had five children and Bob had two. She thought she would like one more but Bob's response was, "I will go to Australia. . . I can't swim and I won't wait for a boat!" She got his point and stills laughs about it today! Bob was a wonderful husband who was lots of fun to be around. They enjoyed their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bob loved being with his family. Bob's death this past December has left a big hole in Peg's heart.

Being involved in United Methodist Women, thanks to Janet Rehling's recruitment, is a natural fit for Peg. United Methodist Women are all about missions and so is Peg! There are many acts of mercy that the United Methodist Women do in and around our community that the rest of the church is unaware of. They do it quietly and discreetly . . . so as not to "toot their own horn." But God sees the work they do on His behalf and is greatly pleased.

Peg took on the yoke of being president of the United Methodist Women because she believes in their mission. Her wish is that other women in our church . . . and other United Methodist congregations take up their yoke and join their United Methodist Women sisters as they seek to be true to their Wesleyan heritage. Mission cannot be solely charity, but involves empowerment and advocacy for social change. By combining the two, we can be witnesses to the love and life of Jesus Christ.

If you would like to join one of our Circles or maybe you would like to start a new Circle, give Peg a call at 397-2252 for more information. She'll be glad to talk with you!

"Think Globally, Act Locally"

Attention Ladies! And Gentlemen also!

~Virginia Kline



"You're never too young or old to start reading!"

Let us read! The United Methodist Women (UMW) have a Reading Program. In the downstairs parlor are books for our study, growing and facing issues. Books are purchased each year by the UMW having four mission emphases. Books added for 2009 are:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education for Mission: "Three Cups of Tea" (in large print) 2. Nurturing for community: "Here If You Need Me" 3. Social Action: "Confronting the Controversies" | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Spiritual Growth: "A Perfect Love" <p>It is a goal to read at least one book from each of the study areas. Any of the books from 2005 to the present can be read. Keep track of the ones you read!</p> |
|--|---|

General meetings and luncheons are held the first Wednesday of the month each year in March, June, September and December unless canceled. Mark your calendars!

The Mary Martha Circle met at Lucille Bowden's on March 11. Lucille had the Lenten program and we all enjoyed a great lunch at Parkside. The next meeting will be with Bobbie George on Wednesday, April 8.
Mary Martha Circle ~Lucille Bowden, Secretary

Five-Star Woman vs Five-Star Unit

As a refresher, there are five channels of mission giving:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| 1) Pledge to Mission | \$ 5.00 |
| 2) Special Mission Recognition (SMR) | \$40.00 |
| 3) Gift to Mission | \$ 5.00 |
| 4) Gift in Memory | \$ 5.00 |
| 5) World Thank Offering | \$ 5.00 |

TOTAL \$60.00



If an individual woman wants to become a 5-Star Woman, she contributes the above amounts to all the channels of giving. She then receives a pin that she can keep or honor someone special in UMW. This contribution does not count toward a local unit's Five-Star achievement.

To become a Five-Star Unit, your unit must contribute to all five channels of mission giving. Units are recognized for this distinction at their District Meetings.

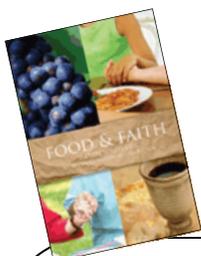
The Rainbow Award goes to all units that exceed their total giving of the previous year. These units are also recognized at the District Meeting.

We are about Mission Giving. Consider becoming a Five-Star Woman. Help your local unit receive the awards of Five-Star and Rainbow Units.

*East Ohio Conference United Methodist Women
 School of Christian Mission 2009
 "Together at the Table"*



Mount Union One-Day Sampler July 17
 Mount Union Three-Day Event July 17-10
 Lakeside Weekend Event September 11-13



Spiritual Growth Study: **Food & Faith**
 Our faith is nurtured, strengthened, and enhanced by food. This study explores all the ways food touches our lives. The presence of God is served at His table with bread and wine. Our faith and food connections travel from Communion to the fellowship dinners, coffee and doughnuts, dinners for the bereaved, celebration dinners, etc. This study explores the entwining of faith and food.
 Study leader: Yvonne Matus

Giving Our Hearts Away: **Native American Survival 2008-2009 Mission Study Theme**
 The purposes of this study are to learn the inter-relatedness between the indigenous peoples and their land, to identify selected key issues affecting the Native Americans in the United States and to examine the root causes of these issues, to understand and appreciate the "Give Away" culture of the Native Americans in the areas of spirituality, ecology, language, story-telling, food and our job to learn to act as responsible Christians.
 Study leaders: Dr. Gloria Brown, Jeanette Kraus (Lakeside); Iris Andrews (Mount Union)



Geographic Mission Study 2009-2010: **The Beauty and Courage of Sudan: "Why a Dream of Peace is Possible"**
 The people of Sudan, a country that has been plagued with severe drought, famine, and unremitting war has much to teach us about survival. Aside from the landscape's beauty, there is an inner beauty. There is a spirit of courage and a richness of tradition, antiquity, cultures, and natural resources. Human interchange and endurance is apparent in all of its mystery. The study will give an overview of the country which began back in Biblical times up through today where women are contributing to the peace process.
 Study leaders: Judy Nutter; Marva Usher-Kerr (Mount Union only)

For more information you may contact Peg McCracken or the church office 392-6626. Registration for Mount Union School of Missions due June 1, 2009. Contact Angie Richards, our UMW Treasurer, to register. Fee is paid by United Methodist Women.

Trimming the Cost of Living

Article submitted by Peg McCracken

Economy seems to be the buzz word of the day. We hear each day about how much we do not have. Maybe it is time for us to realize how much we have.

GO GREEN!

Even when we fall upon hard times, there are always others who are worse off. Now is the time to really analyze our spending. Even if we still have a job and a roof over our head, we need to be good stewards of our money. Our country is going through tough times. Is it just our country? NO! The world is suffering. Our pledges to UMW are more important than ever. Let's explore ways that we can trim costs in order to help put food on the tables of others.

FOOD

Purchase locally grown and locally produced food.

Make tap water your primary drink.

Eliminate or cut back on soda, fast foods, and pre-pared convenience foods.

Eliminate or cut back on meat. Eat more plants!!



CLOTHING

Shop resale shops.

Purchase clothes only as needed.

Resist buying the —trendy clothes.

Host a clothing swap party.

Wash clothes in cold water; use a clothes line or drying rack.

Stick to a budget. Don't spend money that you don't have.

Avoid creating revolving debt with credit cards.

Tithe or give proportionately to church and charity.

Use a *graduated* tithe to give more than 10 per cent if you are able.

SHOPPING

Shop only as needed.

Shop with a grocery list.

Avoid unusable trinkets or heavily packaged items.

Bring cloth bags rather than using paper or plastic.

Support local small businesses.

Reduce driving. Fit several errands into one trip.

When possible, carpool, take the bus, ride a bike or walk.

Drive at reasonable speeds.

Check tire pressure regularly.

Encourage members to carpool to church and United Methodist Women's meetings.



SUGGESTIONS FOR BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF OUR MONEY
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Gay Street United Methodist Women Newsletter



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Deadline for
the next issue
is April 23.

Upcoming United Methodist Women Meetings

Wednesday, April 8:

- 9:30 a.m. Dorcas Circle at Ida Mae Smith's
- 9:30 a.m. Mary Martha Circle at Bobbie George's
- 1:30 p.m. Glora Wysner Circle at Janet Jenning's

Wednesday, April 15:

- 7:00 p.m. Sarah Circle at the church

Upcoming Events: April 1 & 2 Rummage Sale

April 25 Spring District Meeting at Mulberry Street UMC

May 6: 6:30 p.m. All-Daughter Dinner at the church

June 15-18: East Ohio Annual Conference, Lakeside ~ June 16 Women's Breakfast at Annual Conference

July 17: Mount Union School of Mission One-Day Sampler for Adults and Children

July 17-19: Mount Union Schools of Christian Mission Three-Day Event for Adults, Young Women and Children.

September 11-13: Lakeside School of Christian Mission Event for Adults

October 9-10: East Ohio Conference United Methodist Women Annual Celebration
at Woodlawn United Methodist Church, Bucyrus, Ohio



UMW Dates

