

"Think Globally, Act Locally"



Rummage/Bake Sale Coming Soon

It's that time again! Time to go through all your "stuff" that you have been meaning to bring to the United Methodist Women Rummage Sale. I know you can find lots of things in your spouse's closet, garage and basement. . . that you know they don't need any longer! Gently used clothing, kitchen items, toys, whatever you find bring it on down to the church the week of August 24. You may drop it off anytime in the Fellowship Hall by the stage.



This is the United Methodist Women's outreach to the community. It is one of their main mission projects. Besides helping

the local community, monies generated from the sale of items are used to fund other mission outreach projects that the United Methodist Women support.



Don't forget your baked goods! Brownies, cookies, pies, cake.....mmm good!

Questions, call Peg McCracken at 740-397-2252.

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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

Rummage/Bake Sale Dates & Time
Wednesday, September 2
3:30 pm –8:00 pm
Note new time!
Thursday, September 3,
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Gloria Wysner's Circle Goes Tropical



Seated I-r: Bonnie Magaw, Elsie Spurgeon, Carole Blackburn, Maurine Scott, Alta Smith



Seated, I-r: Alta Smith, Trish Rankin, Elsie Spurgeon, Nancy Vail; 2nd row: Kathleen Breneman, Shirley Workman, Norma Siekkinen, Linn McNeill, Carol Topping; 3rd row: Carole Blackburn, Virginia Kline, 4th row: Maurine Scott, Bonnie Magaw; Top row: Debbie Butler, Pat McGlothen.



Seated I-r: Kathleen Breneman, Kaye Rine, Nancy Vail, Shirley Workman, Carol Topping, Trish Rankin



Seated I-r: Debbie Butler, Virginia Kline, Norma Siekkinen, Pat McGlothen



Gloria Wysner Circle Goes Tropical continued from page 2

~Linny McNeill



Nancy Vail ramps up the elliptical



A summer picnic was held at Jim & Linny McNeill’s home for the Gloria Wysner Circle, friends and guests. Following the tropical theme, the ladies wore colorful flowered “vacation style” shirts. All were given a bright cheerful “lei” upon arrival.

Tropical themed decorations adorned tables, (complete with pink flamingos!) utilizing Linny’s shell collections and various “tourist treasures” from Florida, Hawaii, and the Caribbean. Members and guests enjoyed food choices from fresh fruit & vegetable trays, cheese & cracker assortments, deviled eggs, barbecue weenies, tropical drink smoothies, Bonnie Magaw’s delicious pineapple upside down cake, and Linny’s neighbor, Pat McGlothen’s pineapple-rice pudding. Fortunately, the food selections were plentiful, because no

one seemed to miss the fabulous homemade spinach dip the hostess discovered forgotten in the refrigerator after everyone had gone home!

Several of the party goers even ventured into “Jim Gym,” a rather extensive workout area in the basement, and some put themselves through a few paces on the weight machines and equipment. It was gratifying seeing everyone fellowship and visit together, and at their departure, we decided maybe we should make it an annual summer event!?



Elsie Spurgeon speeds along as Trish Rankin tries to hitch a ride.



Kathleen Breneman and Shirley Workman pump some iron!



Nancy Vail, Carol Topping, Trish Rankin and Elsie Spurgeon improve their cardio systems!



Upcoming Meeting Dates



“Forget-Me-Not”

Remember these dates!

September 2:

10 a.m. Executive Committee meets
11:30 a.m. Unit Luncheon

September 9:

9:30 a.m. Dorcas Circle at the church
Room 102, Joan Neighbarger hostess

September 9:

1:30 p.m. Glora Wysner Circle at
Marge Winkle’s, program Bonnie
Magaw

September 16:

Sarah Circle at the church Room 102,
Peg McCracken hostess, program
Angie Richards

Dorcas Circle NOT Disbanding!

The Dorcas Circle is NOT disbanding as was reported in the last issue of WOW! The Dorcas Circle invites anyone who is looking for a morning circle, to join the group. They will be meeting September 9 at the church, room 102 (downstairs parlor) with hostess, Joan Neighbarger.

Piece Corps will NOT meet in August. Their next gathering is September 14 (since Labor Day is September 7).

East Ohio United Methodist Women
Annual Celebration

“Gather at the Table”

October 9-10, 2009

New location! Sunbury United Methodist Church,
Sunbury, Ohio Mid-Ohio District

- Gather Friday night to learn why racial justice is so important
- Attend Saturday’s gathering to hear how poverty affects so many of God’s children and how you can help.
- Learn more about East Ohio United Methodist Women as the team conducts any necessary business
- Experience the fellowship of your East Ohio sisters.

Contact Peg McCracken for more information 740-397-2252.

A Journey's Reflection

New World Outlook, May/June 2009

~Michelle Scott, photos by Paul Jeffrey



An internally displaced woman and child in Geles, an Arab village in Darfur. ACT-Caritas' Darfur Emergency Response Operation helps Arab villages host IDPs in Darfur. Image by: Paul Jeffrey

Sudan is a place of contrasts: dusty and dry, lush and green; Muslim and Christian; peaceful and hostile.

It is also a place where one can see Easter hope springing up in corners where once all hope was lost. You can see it on the faces of children who attend school -- be it under mango trees or in thatched-roofed classrooms. It's evident in the pride farmers have as they bring in an abundant peanut harvest. It's in the smiles of women who are carrying clean water from nearby wells to provide for their families.

These are all examples of work started in Sudan in

2005 by the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). The work was funded by a generous gift from Ginghamburg United Methodist Church in Tipp City, Ohio, and by additional seed money. Over the past four years, UMCOR's efforts have grown to encompass work in Sudan's capital city of Khartoum, in Southern Darfur province, and in Southern Sudan.

In a country that has known little peace in its 50 years of independence, new wells, schools, and seeds provide a glimmer of hope where once there was none.

Seeds of Hope

I had the privilege of seeing UMCOR's work in Sudan first hand in the summer of 2007. It was my first trip to Africa and I had no idea what to expect. I knew what I had seen on television -- the people in the Darfur region and their suffering. But what I saw didn't prepare me for the wonderful hope that filled each camp we visited where UMCOR is at work. Smiling children pressed against us. Women brought gifts. Men came to talk about the good progress.

We were there at the end of the dry season. Dust reigned. The only color in the landscape could be found in the brilliantly hued fabrics the women wore in traditional Darfurian style. Everything else was brown -- parched and brown. We visited an agricultural project where, in what seemed to be a

field of dust, people were working the land. They were planting seeds and preparing the earth because they knew the rains were coming. They had hope for a new day -- one that would be filled with abundance.

Peanuts and millet would be planted on this patch of dust and the coming rains would transform it into a verdant and fertile field. That field would provide food for these farmers and seeds for next year's planting -- with enough left over to share with another farming family in need. This agricultural project is the first one implemented in Southern Darfur with Ginghamburg's contributions. Now, it is self-perpetuating, with enough seeds from each year's harvest to provide for additional farmers in the next.

"They Can Dream Now"

I visited several classrooms when I was in Southern Sudan and asked the children: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Even though they spoke English, they didn't understand my question. I explained it further and my Sudanese hosts chuckled uncomfortably, as if it were a silly thing to ask. They translated it into the local language to help the kids along. In every class there was at first an awkward silence. Then a hand would go up, then another, and another. "I want to be a pilot," said one. "I want to be a nurse," said another. Some others wanted to be doctors or teachers, and there were even several aspiring presidents. My hosts were surprised. Then one said out loud, to no one in particular: "This is good. They can dream, now."

The fact that these children can dream of a future -- other than being a refugee or a soldier -- is a strong sign of a new thing about to happen. It is a sign of Easter hope -- a symbol of a new day. Change is coming. Life is being restored to the way it ought to be.

Michelle Scott is Executive Secretary for Communications for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR).



A child directs a donkey in Dondona, an Arab village in Southern Darfur, that has received families displaced by fighting between Arab communities.

*Image by: Paul Jeffrey
Source: New World Outlook*

Gay Street United Methodist Women Newsletter



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Deadline for the next issue is:
August 20, 2009

Watch Out Lakeside ~ Gloria Wysner Circle Is Headed Your Way!



The Gloria Wysner Circle has been invited to be the guests of Janet Jennings at their Lakeside home. Becky Stewart has offered to drive the church van and if that fills up, Nancy Vail has graciously volunteered to drive folks in her vehicle. Interfaith Week at Lakeside will be that week. There are two optional free lectures that day, One at 10:30 a.m. by a Jewish leader and one at 1:30 p.m. by an Islamic leader. Both deal with how these faiths view repentance. The program that evening is the Lakeside Symphony. The normal gate and auto fees will be waived for the Gloria Wysner circle. Be sure to RSVP by August 1 with Norma Siekkinen at 397-4386.



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

August 15 is the deadline to register for the East Ohio UMW Schools of Mission to be held at Lakeside. Theme for the 2009 school is "Together At The Table." For more information or to register contact rebecky4659@yahoo.com.