

"Think Globally, Act Locally"

# Wow!

WITNESS OF WOMEN

## Scenes from the UMW Christmas Luncheon



Inside this issue:

Christmas UMW Luncheon 2

Christmas UMW Luncheon 3

Dates to Remember 4



### UMW Executive Committee

- Catherine Seward co-leader 392-3496
- Carolyn Allar co-leader 507-9825
- Linny McNeill co-leader 397-3686
- Peg McCracken, Secretary 397-2252
- Angle Richards Treasurer 392-7904
- Norma Siekkinen Ast.Treas. 397-4386
- To be named Program Resource



# UMW Christmas Luncheon

~Linny McNeill

On Wednesday, December 7, the UMW held their annual all circle Christmas Luncheon and General meeting. The Gay Street fellowship hall was beautifully decorated for the season by Ms. Claus, Carolyn Allar and her elves. Featured were Christmas trees representing several different missions in our church with their own themed ornaments. Trees on display were from church staff, UMW, Children@CrossRoads, Library, Chancel Choir, Hot Meals, Hospitality, Piece Corps. Prayer Shawls, Newborn in Needs and Women’s Spirit.



Winning Tree



Carol Navin

Carol Navin played Christmas music on the piano as we gathered, mingled and voted on our favorite tree. The winning tree was by the choir – complete with bells, trumpets, French horns and garlands with musical notes!

The buffet meal was soups, cheese & crackers, and many wonderful holiday desserts.

A brief memoriam was held for the three UMW ladies who have passed on this year: Ida Mae Smith, Virginia Walker and Margaret Durbin with a bell ringing and candle lighting.

At our program, we were entertained by members of the Carole Dance Studio who performed to Christmas carols with modern, tap, ballet and jazz selections. Carolyn Allar’s granddaughter, India Allar, danced a tap number. At the closing, Carolyn interviewed each dancer, asking their name, school, years in dance and favorite type of dance.

(Continued on page 3)



Carole Dance Studio performers



India Allar & Carolyn Allar



~pictures provided by Lee Dunlop, Janet Jennings and Linny McNeill

# UMW Christmas Luncheon—*continued from page 2*



Mary Blencowe installing officers—Linny McNeill, Marna Burwell, Carolyn Allar, Janet Jennings, Trish Rankin

- President – Marna Burwell
- Secretary – Janet Jennings
- Asst. Treas. – Angie Richards
- Spiritual Growth – Janet Rehling
- Membership Outreach – Carolyn Allar

This was followed by a general UMW business meeting. We voted to purchase 24 new large round tablecloths – 12 white and 12 blue for the new larger round tables in the fellowship hall. The cost will be approximately \$860 or about \$36 each.

Peg McCracken gave a report on The Closet and how its use has increased dramatically.

All categories have tripled in client taxable goods such as diapers, household products, cleaners, toilet paper, toothpaste, shampoo, etc. Last month sixty-seven families were served.

Next our new slate of UMW Executive Board Officers were installed by Mary Blencowe. They are:

- Vice President – Carolyn Allar
- Treasurer – Marjorie Winkle
- Program Resources – Trish Rankin
- Missions Coordinator – Shirley Workman
- Publicity – Linny McNeill



2011 Special Membership Awards went to Linny McNeill, Norma Siekkinen, Peg McCracken, Joan Neighbarger

2011 Special Membership Awards were given to Joan Neighbarger of Dorcas Circle, Linny McNeill of Glora Wysner Circle, and a tie from Sarah Circle between Peg McCracken and Norma Siekkinen.

The Trish Rankin led us in a Christmas hymn sing accompanied by Caorl Navin on the piano. We adjourned with “A Christmas Prayer” by Robert Louis

Enjoying the festivities!





## Gay Street United Methodist Women Newsletter

*Gay Street United Methodist Church*  
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# Witness Of Women

Deadline for the next issue is:

February 23, 2012  
(No February Issue.)

### Dates for your Calendar

Sarah Circle will meet January 18 at 7 p.m. at the church (weather permitting).

Dorcas Circle will meet March 14 at the church at 9:30 a.m. Marietta Van Fossen will be the hostess.

Gloria Wysner Circle will meet March 14 at Maurine Scott's home 1:30 p.m.

March 2 World Day of Prayer

April 15 UMW Sunday

April 28 Three Rivers UMW District meeting at  
Mulberry Street UMC 9 AM registration

May 2 & 3, 2012 – Rummage/Bake Sale

June 19-20 Jurisdiction in Des Moines, IA, Drake University



Isaiah 9:6 proclaims God's plan of salvation through the birth of the Christ child. Children are still a tangible reminder of God's hand at work in the world. See Paul Jeffrey's photo essay at: <http://gbgm-umc.org/umw/media/slideshow/>

