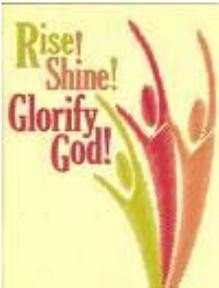




"Think Globally, Act Locally"



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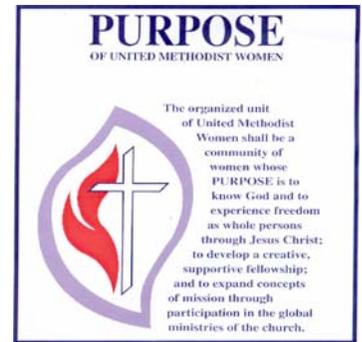
Wow! Witness of Women

Welcome to the first issue of **WOW!** The Gay Street United Methodist Women newsletter that we hope you will find informative, interesting and inspiring.

Did you know that the United Methodist Women has close to 1-million members across the United States?

Did you also know that any woman committing herself to the PURPOSE of the organization can be a member?

All women are invited to be involved in leadership at the local, district, conference, jurisdiction or national level. By doing so, you become a woman committed to mission with women, children and youth!



Welcome to the **Witness of Women!**

Social Action

John Wesley often preached about works of piety and mercy as inseparable. Charity is a gift, but social action helps change systems that keep people oppressed and dispossessed. As United Methodist Women, we believe that these are **i n s e p a r a b l e**.

At board meetings, directors of the Women's Division study closely the issues affecting women and children. They study scriptural mandates and work within the resolutions established by the General Conference, the legislative-making body of The

United Methodist Church. Then, they communicate to United Methodist Women members about initiatives in which they can become **i n v o l v e d**.

For over 135 years, children, youth, and family advocacy, racial justice, public policy, and global policy are the foci of United Methodist Women's advocacy and part of their mission call. Their advocacy helps improve and empower the lives of women, children, and youth, nationally and internationally.

UMW Executive Committee

- Peg McCracken
President, 397-2252
- Janet Rehling
Vice Pres., 397-5017
- Jan Moreland
Secretary, 397-9571
- Angie Richards
Treasurer, 392-7904
- Norma Siekkinen
Ast. Treas., 397-4386

Getting to Know the Glora Wysner Circle



The Glora Wysner Circle (named after a local missionary) meets monthly on the second Wednesday afternoon in members' homes, but being able to host the group is not a requirement of membership. We usually have a nice roomful of between nine and twelve, and often a guest. For example, in September we welcomed guest Barbara Humphrey who divides her time between Apple Valley and Florida.

It is not necessary to be a member of the church to be in our circle. A former member, Cindy Harper, now attending a different church, attends from time to time. We are happy that our circle provides a way for her to stay connected to friends at Gay Street UMC and vice versa.



One of our newer members is Jeanne Piatt. A couple of years ago Jeanne and her husband Terry learned that their neighbor Jim Magaw was to be the UMW Sunday speaker, so they decided to come hear him preach. Not long afterward they tragically lost their only son, and they appreciated our church's response. Now, they have become an active part of our congregation.

Another newer member is

Nancy Vail who began attending soon after she and Larry joined the church. Fern Harvey has come and we are hoping she will become a regular soon. We are always open to women exploring the idea of joining a circle.

For some reason, Glora Wysner seems to be the circle of wives or widows of ministers: Bonnie Magaw, Maurine Scott, Phyllis Bell, Janet Jennings, and before her death, Shirley Miller. We want to make it clear that this is not a membership requirement.

Currently Norma Siekkinen and Trish Rankin are sharing circle leadership, Janet Jennings is secretary, and Marge Winkle is treasurer. Alta Smith handles sending cards, and Alta and Kathleen Breneman phone members to remind them of meetings. Other actives in addition to those mentioned already are Rosa Lee Hogg, Elsie Spurgeon and Emily Gordon. When they can make it, Dorothea Auker, Margaret Durbin, Marjorie Boyle, and Belle Tinsley come.

We begin with a dessert around a table, then have a business meeting, and a member-led program which usually comes from

the UMW program book.

Here are some examples of programs we have had:

In May 2008 Alta Smith led a program titled "Where the Money Goes," in which she explained the difference between Mission Giving and Designated Giving. The money we give to United Methodist Women through our circle and through the unit goes to help people either directly, for example funding a residential treatment center in Kansas City for troubled children, or indirectly, such as paying expenses for someone to teach in a School of Mission. UMW has more than 100 mission institutions in the US and many in other countries. During the discussion we looked at our local UMW budget to review the amount given to a variety of local missions. Although we feel we are making a difference locally, most recently through the rummage and bake sale which netted \$1,250.23 and helped several individuals and groups as well, we know the need is great and we want to do more.

In June 2008 Bonnie Magaw led a program called "For the Love of Children." The purpose of Bonnie's program was to explore our involvement in the education of children.

Getting to Know the Glora Wysner Circle—continued from page 2

Bonnie passed out a list of items we could donate that would help Children@CrossRoads. A fun activity was passing around individual and group school photos of ourselves and trying to guess identities.

In Sept 2008 Janet Jennings led a program called “Entertaining Angels,” which explored the Biblical idea of hospitality. The twelve present discussed the meaning of “hospitality,” and when ordinary hospital becomes radical hospitality. We soon realized that hospitality

goes far beyond serving food and offering lodging primarily to people we know. We decided that Jesus calls for radical hospitality. The Good Samaritan didn’t just slow down and say, “Are you hurt?” he reached across cultural barriers, took a risk, and followed up with money from his own pocket. We shared stories of situations in which we found ourselves in need of, and receiving, radical hospitality from strangers. In Trish’s case the person was Hindu and in Rosa Lee’s it was a Mexican. This is a program that could easily be re-

peated in other groups who would give their own personal examples. Maurine summed up hospitality by remarking, “Hospitality is just expressing to others the wondrous love of God.”

~Janet Jennings



Dr. Glora Wysner

- Dr. Glora Wysner was born in Anderson, Indiana and grew up in Mount Vernon, Ohio. She held an A.B. degree from Ohio University, an MS in Social Science from Western Reserve and a Ph.D. in anthropology from the Kennedy School of Missions. She taught at Mount Vernon Schools and did social work in Cleveland. She went as a Methodist missionary in 1927 to Algeria until 1939. Wysner Served in the Missionary Council Office in New York and traveled to all parts of the world from there. Dr. Wysner wrote two books, *The Kabeela People* and *Near East Panorama*. She taught at Garritt Seminary, retired in 1966. Missionary Wysner spent her retirement years at Wesley Glen United Methodist Home in Worthington, Ohio.

A Gift of Thanks

So often we are grateful for the powerful, positive, Christian influence certain people have in our lives, making a great difference in whom we have become. Now, you have a chance to say “Thanks” by honoring this special person or persons by buying a tablecloth for our Fellowship Hall. Each tablecloth is \$20, bright, colorful, and vibrant. They will add cheer to our plain meeting room. Your loved one’s name will be listed in a *Grateful Garnering List* in the bulletin just in time for Thanksgiving. We will use these cloths for dinners, meetings, and Apage Patria (meals after funerals), that the UMW sponsor. Fill out this form and put it into the offering plate along with a check to Gay Street UMC. Be sure to mark “Tablecloths” on the memo portion. Contact Carolyn Allar with questions.



MY NAME IS: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

Meet the Dorcas Circle



"As written in Acts 9, verse 36, Dorcas (or Tabitha) was a woman "...who was always doing good and helping the poor..."

Dorcas Circle now has eight active and three inactive members. Our September meeting was at the home of Marietta Van Fossen with a very informative and challenging program given by Virginia Kline. Her program was taken from the UMW library and titled "Lost and Found Sheep" based on the parable in Luke 15:1-7. The three points for us to be aware of are: 1) God's love is inclusive and our love should also be

inclusive; 2) God's love is forgiving as we too should be forgiving; 3) God's love is sacrificial and we need to be sacrificial in our love for one another. The Jackson Seed Project which Dorcas Circle sponsored in the Spring and all of the Gay Street United Methodist Church graciously participated in was a worthwhile mission project. There are 18 counties in the Appalachian area of Ohio who planted and

cared for 50,100 pounds of seed potatoes, 21,456 tomato plants, as well s many other vegetable seeds. We have sponsored this project for the past two years and are hoping to continue it in 2009. We feel we are helping those less fortunate to help themselves.

~Marietta Van Fossen

"Think Globally, Act Locally"

Mission Outreach of the UMW—Dorcas Seed Project



The Gay Street United Methodist Women mission work touches those within our church, in our community, within our state and globally.

We will be highlighting one UMW Mission Project each month.

This month we are proud to present the **Jackson Area Ministries (JAM) Garden Project.**

This project provides vegetable seeds as well as money for tomato plants and seed potatoes for low-income families in southeast Ohio. With increasingly limited inventory at area food pantries, the ability of families to supplement their food needs by raising vegetables is important.

This provides low cost

nutritional supplements for many of our southern Ohio neighbors in need.

Over 200 people planted 5,101 seed potatoes and 21,456 tomato plants in Jackson County, Ohio

The UMW gave a total of \$200 to the Jackson Area Ministry seed project.

2008 Spiritual Growth Study—I Believe in Jesus



The study at the School of Missions dealt with four key components, namely (a) the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, (b) the meaning of faith in Jesus, (c) whose faith counts, and (d) faith in Jesus in a post-modern world.

The early Christians had to find Jesus for themselves. Those who were of Jewish descent had to address the fact that they could not depend on their ancestors for their faith. The community of faith informs one's faith and nurtures one in faith, but belief in Jesus is a matter of personal encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Further, gentile Christians had to trust that the Good News of Christ Jesus was truly a world of redemption and hope for all. Faith in Jesus is a gift. It is the work of the Holy Spirit as God reaches out to the world through grace.

As the years passed since the crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus, preserv-

ing the faith as well as helping disciples articulate the faith led to the development of Christian doctrines.

Over the centuries, faith in Jesus has often been co-opted by the ruling authorities.

The conversion of the Emperor Constantine, the Crusades, and the conquest of the Americas are historical expressions of the co-opting of Christian faith.

The transcendent nature of the reign of Christ Jesus and its implications for how one lives out faith in him has not always been clear in the life, mission, and ministry of the church.

Knowing Jesus is not the task of a select few but rather the work of the people of God. The Christian community is enabled to be faithful to Christ Jesus as it receives the witness of its many members.

In this new millennium, God's people again hear the voices of those who challenge any notions of

knowing Jesus other than through their particular ways. The issue of how to discern what is faithful to the Gospel message is an ongoing theological task of the church. The Wesleyan Quadrilateral proves a means for prayerful consideration of who Jesus is.

The post-modern world provides opportunities to bring a word of hope to a world that, in spite of all its achievements and advancement, cannot fill the deep yearning of the heart. Jesus is the name above all names; the salvation of the world.

Intentional efforts to come to know the experience of God of persons from other living faiths of the world, however, affirm God's mercy. The witness of Jesus, as someone who loved all persons, must be the model of discipleship.

~from East Ohio UMW
www.eastohiomw/scmspgr.htm

Faith in
 Jesus
 is a
 gift.



Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.

~Albert Camus

October - World Thank Offering Month

31-DERFUL WAYS TO SAY THANKS

OCTOBER 2008

Living the Sacred Daily, through Mission Giving

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>PLEDGE</p> <p>Honor God with our first fruits.</p> <p>Proverbs 3:9</p>		<p>1. In the beginning God created the heavens & the earths. Gen. 1:1 We are blessed with this biblical knowledge.</p> <p>Give 25¢</p>	<p>2. For each minister that shares this knowledge in your church.</p> <p>Give 25¢</p>	<p>3. God separated the elements and there was light and dark. Give thanks for daytime for work, play & worship and nighttime for rest.</p> <p>Give 10¢</p>	<p>4. Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered into one place. Gen. 1:9 Give 3¢ for each river and ocean you can name.</p>
<p>5. SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION</p> <p>See your Treasurer for SMR pins.</p>	<p>6. God said let the earth bring forth herbs that yield seed. And it was so.</p> <p>Give 2¢ for each herb in your cabinet.</p>	<p>7. God said let the earth bring forth fruit trees that yield seeds.</p> <p>Give 5¢ for each piece of fruit you ate this week.</p>	<p>8. Then god said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures.</p> <p>Give 10¢ for a meal of seafood/fish this week.</p>	<p>9. Then God said bring forth living things: creatures, cattle and beast of the earth.</p> <p>Give 25¢ if you ate meat today.</p>	<p>10. So god created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him, male & female.</p> <p>Be thankful. Give as you wish.</p>	<p>11. Then God blessed them. Gen. 1:28</p> <p>Give 25¢ for each member of your family.</p>
<p>12. God saw that it was good and He rested.</p>	<p>13. God created it! Let us pledge to take care of our environment.</p> <p>Give \$1.00 It is worth more than pennies.</p>	<p>14. Think GREEN. Log onto Greeniacs.com and find out how Native Americans did it.</p> <p>Give 5¢ for this lesson.</p>	<p>15. 88% of disposable water bottles are not recyclable. Source: Greeniacs.com.</p> <p>Give 50¢ if you drank bottled water today.</p>	<p>16. Use toothpaste to polish your silver. Source: thedailygreen.com</p> <p>Give the cost of a jar of silver polish.</p>	<p>17. Recycle old batteries. Save and drop them off at Radio Shack or other local source.</p> <p>Give 3¢ for each</p>	<p>18. Help a youth group earn money with recycled newspaper.</p> <p>Check local sources. Give as you wish.</p>
<p>19. GIFT IN MEMORY</p> <p>Send a gift in Memory Card.</p>	<p>20. We are blessed to live in America where we can give thanks openly.</p> <p>Give 25¢</p>	<p>21. We are blessed with good clean tap water to drink.</p> <p>Give 5¢ for each cup you drink today.</p>	<p>22. Waste not, want not. If you wasted food or water today...</p> <p>Give 25¢</p>	<p>23. If you have flowers blooming in your yard...</p> <p>For the beauty of the earth, Give 10¢.</p>	<p>24. If you have standard lighting outside, instead of solar....</p> <p>Give 50¢</p>	<p>25. If you have a pet that shows unconditional love...</p> <p>Give 25¢</p>
<p>26. SEND A MISSION THANK YOU CARD</p> <p>To a soldier for serving his country.</p>	<p>27. If you have a refrigerator with food in it....</p> <p>Give 25¢</p>	<p>28. If you have a closet full of clothes that you don't wear....</p> <p>Give them to someone that needs them. Put pennies in the Thank Bank.</p>	<p>29. If you know someone who is living alone....</p> <p>Let them know that you care. Call or visit them.</p> <p>Give 1¢</p>	<p>30. Mission Giving From the Heart!</p> <p>A way to say thanks.</p> <p>Give as you please.</p>	<p>31-derful ways to say THANKS!</p> <p><i>United Methodist Women's Mission Program</i></p> <p>Give as you please.</p>	

~excerpt from the Louisiana District UMW webpage



October Happenings



- October 1 ~ Rummage and Bake Sale, 4 p.m.—8 p.m.
- October 2 ~ Rummage and Bake Sale, 9 a.m.– 3 p.m.
- October 8 ~ Dorcas Circle 9:30 a.m. at Virginia Kline's
- October 8 ~ Mary Martha Circle, 9:30 a.m. at Bobbie George's
- October 8 ~ Glora Wysner Circle, 1:30 p.m. at Rosa Lee Hogg's
- October 15 ~ Sarah Circle, 7 p.m. at the church
- October 25 ~ Fall District Meeting at West Lafayette United Methodist Church

Meet the Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle is the youngest Circle, in number of years of existence. This group of women began 19 years ago, when gals who worked outside the home wanted to get together for an evening group as a United Methodist Women's Circle. We currently meet at the church on the third Wednesday evening of the month. Topics of special interest and a time of mission sharing take place. This is a group who enjoys one another and the opportunity to share in a caring, Christian atmosphere.

When we recently reconvened after a summer break, our September gathering focused on learning more about the many aspects of the Red Bird Missionary Conference in Kentucky. Information about the Red Bird Clinic, Community Housing Improvement, and Henderson Settlement was shared. The next couple of months, our monthly gatherings will take a different direction, when we discuss the book "Mini Skirts, Mothers, and Muslims," by Christine Mallouhi. To participate, please notify Colleen at the church office (392-6626). The cost of the book will be \$10.40 + tax. If it is not possible right now for you to pur-

chase a book, please feel free to use a copy from the UMW book shelf or the church library.

During the year, we help support the ISS pantry --- particularly supplying for women's needs. This will continue this fall. Another outreach is the "Bible of the Month Club." Members of the group assist with the Agape Patria (Love Meals) which are served for families of the church following a memorial service. Sarah will be decorating tables for the UMW Christmas Luncheon, held December 3, at 11:30 a.m. We also care for one another, sharing joys and concerns in our lives.

Sarah Secretary Peg McCracken will again chair the Rummage Sale on October 1 and 2. HELP is appreciated from anyone who will take the time to assist with this important UMW event, which raises funds for the GSUMC Unit's mission projects. PLEASE CONSIDER ASSISTING!

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, October 15, 7:00 p.m. in the downstairs parlor, room 103.

~Colleen Hicks

Mary Martha Circle

The Mary Martha Circle has eight members and they are: Bobbie George, Lucille Bowden, Ruth Hubbell, Barbara Jones, Joan Braddock, Marna Burwell, Joan Mertz and Melva Dorton.

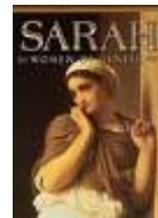
Our September meeting was with Ruth Hubbell. We are looking forward to working the upcoming Bake Sale on October 1 and 2.

Our October meeting on the 8th is at Bobbie George's home.

We have previously helped work the luncheon for the Bloodmobile and continue to strive to make a difference locally as well as globally.

Come join us!

~Lucille Bowden



In Hebrews 11:11 Sarah is cited for her devout faith.

Don't forget the
UMW Rummage Sale
October 1, 4 pm—8 pm
October 2, 9 am—3 pm



In the house of Mary & Martha

Gay Street United Methodist
Women Newsletter



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(USPS Permit #635)
Mount Vernon, OH
43050-3287

Witness
Of
Women



Genie Bank

East Ohio Conference
United Methodist Women
Annual Celebration

"CALLED BY NAME"

October 10-11, 2008

Thoburn United Methodist Church,
St. Clairsville, Ohio

Friday, October 10 registration starts at 6:15 p.m.

The evening will be filled with fun and getting to
know each other AND a sleepover, too!!

Saturday, October 11 ~ 8:15 a.m. Check in

9:30 a.m. Gathering Music

"Necessary Business"

2 lunch times alternating with Children's Choir and
report on General Conference by Jessica Vargo

Worship Service with Genie Bank,
former Women's Division President

3 p.m. Closing

Cost: \$12.00 fee includes snacks Friday evening and
lunch Saturday

Childcare provided; pre-registration needed

☀ ☀ ☀ ☀ ☀ ☀ ☀ ☀ ☀

ANNUAL CELEBRATION REGISTRATION FORM

Must be Postmarked by September 26, 2008.

Please send your Unit's reservations together in one mailing. Enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope, tickets and travel directions will be mailed to the contact person. In case you do not receive your tickets, stop at the registration table.

CONTACT
PERSON'S NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS (Street, City, Zip) _____

Email _____ CHURCH (UNIT) _____

Voting Delegate for our unit _____ DISTRICT _____

Indicate Special Dietary Needs (Who has what need?): _____

No. of Reservations @ \$12.00 _____ (This includes Friday snacks and Saturday lunch.) TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

_____ Childcare (please check if needed).

Send completed registration form and check payable to East Ohio Conference UMW to:
Yvonne Lautzenheiser
Questions? Contact: ravon@eohio.net

BUCKS FOR FLOOD BUCKETS!!!

There is a great cost to UMCOR in the distribution of flood buckets. More buckets have been distributed this Spring than all of last year. The East Ohio Conference UMW is going to help defray this cost by collecting "Bucks for Flood Buckets" at the Annual Celebration. Encourage local units to participate!!