MBH District Spring Celebration is cancelled

We hope to see you in the Fall
On October 3, 2020
at Holbrook UMC,
60 Plymouth St., Holbrook, MA 02343

Speakers: Dr. Reverend Imani Sheila Newsome-Camara

Theme: Finding Peace in a Troubled World
The **PURPOSE** of United Methodist Women

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.

Out of the Purpose are four mission foci that relate to the mission initiatives and priorities of United Methodist Women.

- To be a community of women
- To know God
- To develop a creative and supportive fellowship
- To expand concepts of mission

Members of United Methodist Women are invited to complete the myUMW application and print a personalized membership card at [www.UMW.org](http://www.UMW.org)
God has hit the Pause Button

Without a doubt, these are anxious times. Heightened awareness of the Coronavirus and the potential consequences of exposure, have just about taken over our daily lives. All around us there is a sense of hyper awareness, leading to massive amounts of hoarding of what some people feel are must have necessities. I feel that we are experiencing an extreme case of FOMO. The fear of missing out as in, I won’t be caught without toilet paper should doomsday come. A message circulating these days on social media reads something like “we relax on a plane, on a bus, and in a ship even when we don’t know the pilot, driver, and the captain. Why don’t we relax in life knowing that God is in control?” Now that’s a thought. There are inevitable things such as the upcoming changes in the UMC, come July. These changes have the potential of increasing our anxiety. For the past 10 years I have had the pleasure of serving on the Metro Boston Hope District UMW Leadership team, and as the President for the past year and a half. Restructuring on the geography of the churches will lead to changes at the district level, including a name change to Commonwealth East District. Health scares, changes in the church, life; these things are inevitable. So I am thinking that to deal with anxious times I need to practice more spiritual self-care, to hold on, relax, and know that God is in control. We are experiencing a new normal as we follow public health and government mandates to stem the spread of COVID-19. Face to face meetings have been suspended for the foreseeable future. MBHD had hope for an engaging Spring meeting led by Dr. Reverend Imani Sheila Newsome-Camara on “Finding Peace in a Troubled World” and also to celebrate some of your accomplishments. We may take a break this spring but as sure as the sun will continue to shine, there is a UMW meeting in our future. Be safe! Now, about that TP…

Scripture to reflect on: Proverbs 19:21

For redistricting information go to https://www.neumc.org/redistricting

Marie Wagner-Clarke, President
Greetings my sisters in Christ

It is that time of year again. Spring time. The rains come and wash the earth clean and we spring forth anew. This year started on a negative slant and as I watch the tv news predicting doom and gloom if we do not practice social distancing, I wonder if I entered the twilight zone.

As we look forward to Easter and the resurrection of the son, Jesus Christ, I pray that we find peace in our lives during these troubled times. When we picked the theme for the Spring Meeting, little did we know that there would be so much cause for concern. The storm is not over yet, but I know the Lord watches over me and I pray that you and your family will also be covered by the blood of Jesus.

The Annual Spring Celebration on Saturday, May 2, 2020 has been cancelled due to the Corvid-19 virus and the request of government to practice social distancing. For many of you taking a deep breath may be a struggle as this virus continues to spread but I pray we find peace and balance as we go thru this Spring season. For those with allergies, I hope your runny eyes and clogged noses find relief.

May the Lord bless and keep you now and always.

Janice Galloway - Vice President - MBHD UMW

Social Distancing. We strongly encourage EVERYONE to practice social distancing: avoiding groups, keeping six-feet of distance from people outside of your usual, immediate, most intimate network, washing hands frequently, staying out of the public if you’re sick.
April 23-25, 2020 - Northeast Jurisdiction Quadrennial Mtg - postponed
July 24-26, 2020 - Mission u - See flier below
October 3, 2020 - MBH District Fall Gathering – Holbrook UMC
October 24, 2020 - NECUMW Annual Mtg, Brunswick UMC, ME -- Justice
May 20-22, 2022 - UMW National Assembly, Orlando, Fl

Please...
Copy this Newsletter Pass it around Post it at church
Ask who might like their own copy Send it around electronically
Share your copy Would you like a copy?
Give your Pastor a copy (he or she is a member of United Methodist Women)

To keep you better informed, we need an up-to-date mailing list for this Newsletter and other mailings concerning United Methodist Women’s information. Please review the attached roster and verify the information we have on record. If these are not accurate for your church, please provide the current officers, or if you don’t have a unit an updated contact information for a woman willing to be our contact so she can POST this newsletter for all to see.

Support the Spring Celebration and the Fall Gathering meetings.
Consider hosting a District UMW meeting. We look for churches that are “accessible for all” and available to host 50-65 women and to serve breakfast and lunch. Your church or UMW will receive $ 7.00 per person for the Lunch. Call or contact Janice Galloway if you are interested in hosting the 2021 Spring Celebration or Fall Gathering.
We need your contact information

Can you help us to increase our reach in the District?

Please complete this form

Church Name: Address: Phone Number: Email:

President: Name: Address: Phone Number: Email:

Vice-President: Name: Address: Phone Number: Email:

Secretary: Name: Address: Phone Number: Email:

Treasurer: Name: Address: Phone Number: Email:

Any other officers you may have:

When do you meet?

What special events are on your calendar?

When do you install your officers?

What special projects do you participate in?

____________________________________

Send info to:
Charlene Williams - Nominations Chair
41 Hermon St. Brockton, Ma. 02302

wcharlesm14@gmail.com 508-584-1284
We are looking for a few Bold Women

**METRO BOSTON HOPE DISTRICT OFFICERS - 2019**

President: Marie Wagner-Clarke
Vice President: Janice Galloway
Treasurer: Jennifer Rajala
Secretary: Arlene Josiah
Asst. Secretary: YOU!!
Social Action: Joan Joyce
Spiritual Growth: Gloria Riley
Education & Interpretation: Marta Rodriguez
Nominations Committee: & MNO
   Chairperson: Charlene Williams
   Cynthia Green
   Joyce Mack
Cooper Representative Betty Lew
The United Methodist Women website: https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org offers a vast source of information.

Check out the SHOP link: https://www.umwmissionresources.org for Educational Resources. You will find books for self-help and spiritual enrichment as well as materials for teaching others. For those whose first language is not English, there are Spanish and Korean books as well.

Among the interesting titles offered, the book “Finding Peace in an Anxious World” ($10) will be used in this year’s 2020 Mission Studies. This study will be offered by the Urban Village Church. The book of Proverbs and the “Serenity Prayer” will be utilized “as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God’s peace that surpasses all understanding.”

Other 2020 Mission Studies that you might want to consider are:

Spiritual Growth Youth Study: Managing Anxiety.
Spiritual Growth Children's Study: Managing Our Emotions
Issue Study: Pushout - The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools Special Publication: Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission

You are encouraged to attend Mission u! It will provide United Methodist Women a great resource for spiritual growth, knowledge of issues that impact society and opportunity to be in community with fellow United Methodists Women. At Mission u you will be working to put faith, hope and love into action.

Looking for Leadership Training: Local leaders are trained to lead one of the three mission studies through the organization's Mission u program offered around the country. Those leaders, in turn, are able to lead mission studies in their local and district groups.

These year’s dates and locations are: 2020 Leader Training Events,
Tempe, Arizona, April 30- May 3, 2020 and St. Louis, Missouri, May 27-30,2020

Faithfully submitted, Marta E. Rodriguez Holbrook UMC
Meditation for the remaining days of Lent.

We are almost at the end of the 2020 Lenten Journey, and we look forward to the joyful and glorious celebration of the risen Christ on Resurrection Sunday.

This Lenten Journey calls for us to enter a time of renewal; to ask God to renew us daily for his service. Lent is a time to fix our eyes on Jesus and accept his grace that liberates us, and to experience the healing and reconciling tenderness of God.

Lent is a time to make that extra effort to spend a little more time in reflection and prayer and meditation, so the Holy Spirit can do a good work in us and we can shine from the inside out.

Admittedly, life gets busy and sometimes we fall short of our goals for daily renewal, but everyday is a new day. Lent is a time of grace, a time to taste and see the goodness of the Lord as we strive to re-focus our days and carve out that extra time to grow and prosper in the richness of prayer and worship. It’s a time to ask the holy spirit to soften our hearts and to turn our hearts and minds to recognize our need for our eternal savior.

It is a time to confess where we have gone astray, where we have not loved God fully or have not loved our neighbors as ourselves; to declutter our lives with the thoughts and actions that that are causing us to disconnect and be separated from God.

Take this opportunity and use the remaining days of Lent to get back on track; take time to pause, to renew our faith; to be truthful with our selves and to get into the habit of confession and repentance. Be renewed, strengthened and refreshed by reading and meditating on God’s Holy Word, with prayer and thanksgiving.

Let us pledge to seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God. Let us love our brothers and sisters with the Love of Christ, if we want to remain in the Light, the Light who is Christ Jesus.

We want to emerge from Lent having grown closer to God and having the beauty of Christ glowing from within us - “and they’ll know we are Christians by our love”.

Prayerfully submitted by
Gloria Riley (Spiritual Growth Leader), MBH
Treasurer’s Report

Mission Giving Makes Mission Happen

Ngoy Banza Joel and Ngoy Wa Ngoy Euphrasi work at a youth training program funded by United Methodist Women in Democratic Republic of Congo

United Methodist Women Mission Giving and special offerings make mission happen!

From 2016 to 2018 more than $10 million annually was allocated for U.S. and international mission for projects supported by United Methodist Women. This is only a glimpse of how Mission Giving dollars are at work around the world supporting programs that improve life and help empower women, children and youth.

In the United States, Mission Giving provides vital support for United Methodist Women-related national mission institutions and other U.S. ministries as well as spiritual growth programs, membership nurture and opportunities for leadership development, mission education and service and advocacy.

Internationally, United Methodist Women supports some 150 programs, carried out by up to 116 organizations in more than 110 countries annually. Mission Giving also provides scholarships to more than 73 students enrolled in institutions of higher education in 18 countries.

United Methodist Women also supports eight regional missionaries. Their work reaches 49 countries and the Caribbean and focuses on gender justice, economic empowerment, restorative justice work with women in jail, and leadership development for women and youth. Regional missionaries partner with Methodist and United Methodist women groups on organizational development, mission education, spiritual growth opportunities and education. Their direct work with other women’s societies, ecumenical organizations and grassroots groups enables these partners to identify for United Methodist Women what programs are needed in their countries.

Your gracious giving changes lives for women, children, youth and families down the street and around the world!

PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND YOUR PLEDGES TO:
Jennifer Rajala
District Treasurer
9 Felton Street
Saugus, MA 01906
EMAIL: LEILAO430@COMCAST.NET
CELLPHONE: 617-240-9586
MISSION GIVING
5 Channels of Mission Given: Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, and World Thank Offering. Learn more at: https://s3.amazonaws.com/umw/pdfs/M5108fivechannelsmissiongiving.pdf

NEW DISTRICT TREASURER
Remit all funds to:
JENNIFER RAJALA
9 Felton Street, Saugus, MA 01906
leila0430@comcast.net

For Remittance Forms and other Resources:
https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/treasurers
Units are encouraged to remit their pledges quarterly but no later than December 10, 2019.

ARE YOU CONSIDERING STARTING A NEW or REACTIVATING YOUR UNIT?
Learn more at: https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/downloads Contact MBHD President.

Mission Today
The total program of United Methodist Women is mission. Working to become a Mission Today Unit helps local units to be fully engaged in mission. Mission Today criteria involves activities of spiritual growth, education for mission, social issues awareness, leadership development and membership development.

Every unit of United Methodist Women is encouraged to become a Mission Today Unit. The purpose is to:

1. Encourage the use of mission resources throughout the organization;
2. Increase contact between units and mission personnel and project, thus helping units understand where their money goes;
3. Expand concepts of mission including social justice as mission; Energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action.

How Do We Become a Mission Today Unit?
In order to be recognized as a Mission Today Unit, UMW Units must complete a minimum of twelve items, including four of those marked with an asterisk (*). #1 of the Criteria is not optional.

You must complete this one to become a Mission Today Unit. Activities conducted between August 1, 2019 – July 31, 2020 will be recognized at Annual Meeting in 2020.
Hattie B. Cooper Community Center
1891 Washington St.
Roxbury MA

Mission Statement:
Cooper Community Center is committed to providing children and youth with the strongest developmental foundation to inspire a life long excitement for learning and the skills to become caring and responsible citizens.

The Center began in 1916 by Methodist women in the church to serve children and families in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston. Today it provides childcare and after school programs for nearly 100 infants to age 10.

One word in the UMW purpose. Mission. What can you do? ACT.

Donate to their wish list: (suggestions) Clorox baby wipes, Clorox handi-wipes multi-use, Bounty paper towels, Tide detergent, extra large 55 gallon trash bags, non toxic glue sticks, markers, children’s toothpaste, children’s books (ages 1-10).

Spend some time volunteering.

Include in your yearly budget, donate to Cooper Community Center under Designated Giving.

Thank you for your support.
Betty Lew
Announcement of district name changes under new seven-district structure

The New England Conference Redistricting Transition Team announced a change to the new district names planned for the seven-district structure that begins July 1. The two districts comprising most of Massachusetts will be called Commonwealth West and Commonwealth East.

Announcement of district name changes

March 11, 2020

As you know, the 2019 Annual Conference approved a new district structure so that as of July 1, 2020, the New England Conference will have seven districts rather than the current nine.

As part of the restructuring, we made the decision to change the names of all of the districts. It is our feeling this will allow our congregations – both those that will change districts and those that would not have – to come together in this new structure on equal footing rather than as “new” and “old” churches or district members.

In considering the new names, we sought to find names that represented the district’s geography while being clear and descriptive. The name Freedom Trail was chosen for the district that will include churches primarily from the Metro Boston Hope District.

Since announcing the new name, we have learned that “Freedom Trail” is trademarked. While the foundation that operates this Boston landmark may well have given its permission for us to use the name, we felt it was best to avoid any confusion and potential entanglements that could result from using this as a district name.

In response, we have chosen new names for the two districts that comprise most of Massachusetts. As of July 1, they will be the Commonwealth West District (Commonwealth under the original seven-district plan) and the Commonwealth East District (Freedom Trail under the original seven-district plan). The information about our new structure on the website has been updated to reflect this change.

We will continue to update the FAQ and new structure information as developments happen, and will keep the Conference informed about the progress of the transition.

Restructuring will be an ongoing process for a while yet, and our willingness to be flexible as unanticipated issues arise will be important to making things go smoothly. Please keep the transition team, our Conference and The UMC in your prayers.

New England Conference Redistricting Transition Team
Statement from United Methodist Women re Jurisdiction Events & Mission U

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, United Methodist Women today announced changes for two of its major program events scheduled for March through May 2020.

The organization will seek to reschedule four of its five quadrennial Jurisdiction events where members elect United Methodist Women’s Board of Directors and Program Advisory Group members. Also, the organization is exploring online distance learning resources for those registered for its annual national Mission u training events for conference study leaders.

Additional information about these events is forthcoming.

As people of faith, our first commitment is to the health and safety of our members and the women, children and families we serve. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, we cannot, in good conscience, continue regular convenings. This decision aligns with the guidance of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s call for postponement or cancelation of gatherings of more than 50 persons.

The four Jurisdiction events include United Methodist Women’s South Central Jurisdiction, Western Jurisdiction, Southeast Jurisdiction and the Northeast Jurisdiction. As of now, the North Central Jurisdiction event in Sioux Falls from June 26 – 28 will still take place. Additional information is forthcoming regarding the potential new dates and election plans.

For individuals who have registered for a postponed jurisdiction event but cannot attend the new date, we will offer an opportunity to transfer registrations. We are unable to offer refunds. This is consistent with our current cancellation policy.

Please note this situation is fluid. Should federal or state governments issue, advise or strongly recommend that social distancing remain in place for longer than expected, we will govern ourselves accordingly. We will notify registrants as soon as possible if a change of plans occur.

It goes without saying that this is a situation none of us could have anticipated or imagined. The rapid spread of the COVID-19 has rightly inspired pause and fear. There is legitimate concern for our families, vulnerable community members, persons suffering from the illness, and the children and older people entrusted to our care. While we endure a season of behavior modification, we must hold fast to our faith, our calling and our mission to put faith, hope and love into action. Even as we look to the government for guidance, we want the broader community to look to us, and see in us, a beacon of light in these uncertain times. We will remain prayerful, vigilant and hopeful.

Should you have questions in reference to the jurisdiction events, please direct them to jurisdictions2020@unitedmethodistwomen.org. Questions about Mission u’s can be directed to mission.u@unitedmethodistwomen.org.
**Mission u: It’s for you**

Mission u provides opportunities for persons to grow in understanding of the mission of the church in the current world context as well as initiate opportunities for spiritual and educational experiences. The time is spent in worship and in-depth study with music, prayer, sharing, exploring and much food for the body and the soul. Mission u is for women, men, youth, children.

**2020 Mission u - Friday to Sunday, July 24-26, 2020**

This mission education experience for all ages will take place at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester.

**2020 Studies**

**Spiritual Growth Study:** Finding Peace in an Anxious World  
Instructor/s: Marie MacDougall, Rev. Dr. Yoo-Yun Cho-Chang

**Korean Spiritual Growth Study:** Finding Peace in an Anxious World  
Instructor/s: Rev. Chung Ho Lee

**Issue Study:** Pushout – The Criminalization of Black Girls in School  
Instructor/s: Rev. Catharine Cummings

**Youth Study:** Managing Anxiety  
Instructor/s: Pastor Michael Terrell and Sherry Culver

**Children’s Study:** Managing Our Emotions  
Instructor/s: Tammy Verity, Aileen Stumpf

*Here are links to some of the resources for Mission u 2020:*

**Finding Peace in an Anxious World (English)**

Finding Peace in an Anxious World (Korean) — available soon

**Youth Study**

**Children’s Study**

“Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools” by Monique Morris (Link goes to Amazon; the book is also available through local retailers and local libraries)

**Find more from UMW**
The nation has come to a dramatic halt in a matter of a few days. We are living in a truly unprecedented time that no one has seen or imagined. This pandemic has shaken the foundation of all aspects of our lives: physical, social, economic and religious. Many are already suffering. Many more will face unforeseen hardship and challenges. For most of us, our personal and congregational life has been organized and centered around Sunday and its corporate worship. Now that no gathering of more than 10 people is recommended for the safety of the whole nation, it is certainly a disorienting and anxious season for all of us. It is indeed a time to find a quiet center that can ground us firmly.

**District Superintendent** - Rev. We (Hyun) Chang

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**Tell Your Governor: Protect Incarcerated People from COVID-19!**

[Click here](https://p2a.co/Jvxf2cE) to take action.

"Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering." (Hebrews 13:3, NIV)

People who are incarcerated in jails, prisons, immigration detention centers and juvenile justice facilities are at heightened risk from the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Many of those incarcerated do not pose a risk to public safety and yet would be, themselves, quite medically vulnerable to a COVID-19 outbreak.

Join United Methodist Women in calling on governors to take appropriate and swift action to reduce the number of incarcerated people, prioritizing the immediate release of people who are elderly, immunocompromised, sick or pregnant.

[Click here to take action today](https://p2a.co/Jvxf2cE).

If you have trouble with the link above, copy and paste this address into your browser: [https://p2a.co/Jvxf2cE](https://p2a.co/Jvxf2cE)
2020 Reading Program:

The Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work.

Spiritual Growth Mission Study: 2020

Finding Peace in an Anxious World, the 2020 Spiritual Growth Study by staff of the Urban Village Church, uses the book of Proverbs and “The Serenity Prayer” as a guide to help Christians find their way through anxiety, worry, and fear and move towards God’s peace that surpasses all understanding. Using “The Serenity Prayer” as a scaffold, Finding Peace in an Anxious World explores ways to discover peace through scriptural and spiritual disciplines so that we can be rooted in God and energized to live fully as disciples of Christ.

“The Serenity Prayer” shaped a 2015 four-part sermon series at the Urban Village Church in Chicago. It was through that series that the church was able to address the tumultuous events of that summer and present a framework for how to approach a God who desires peace for the hearts of God’s people in times of anxiety. These sermons are the basis for this book.

The four chapters, each written by a different Urban Village Church leader, focus on different aspects of the prayer—serenity, acceptance, courage, and wisdom—and each concludes with a spiritual practice to help further develop the featured characteristic in your life.