



Dulin United Methodist Women's Newsletter

May, 2009

"Who's At the Table?"

MESSAGE FROM Amy: *by: Amy Henderson*



Our spring unit meeting, The Pot Luck "Listen and Learn around the Table" led by Gayle Porias will have taken place on May 2. We had a wonderful group and wonderful food! Five members of Dulin UMW attended the spring prayer breakfast at Sudley UMC on April 18. The speaker, Dr. Patricia Marks, brought a compassionate message regarding the issues of incarcerated women. We were thrilled to be able to donate almost \$100 worth of postage stamps from our unit to "Stamp out Loneliness" toward Dr. Marks' goal of \$400,000 worth of postage stamps. She has a long way to go having raised \$40K. You may refer to www.patmosministries.net for more information.

UMW Sunday is scheduled for May 17. Please be sure to attend church that day to be recognized as an UMW member. Our hope for that day is to spread the news of the good works we provide through our donations and our individual fellowship's efforts. We may be calling on some of you to assist in some way.

Have you all received your new UMW Directory? We owe Laura Nealley, Dulin's talented Office Manager, a special thank you for sharing her creative suggestions with an eager and cooperative attitude. THANK YOU LAURA! This will be the last newsletter this spring. We will resume in the fall. Sandy Rudolph is our editor and she also deserves our thanks for a beautiful job well done!

On this Earth Day 2009, and in recognition of our Native American program on May 2, I'll close with this message from Chief Seattle of the Dwamish Tribe:

THIS WE ALL KNOW, ALL THINGS ARE CONNECTED,
LIKE THE BLOOD WHICH UNITES ON FAMILY,
ALL THINGS ARE CONNECTED. WHATEVER BEFALLS THE
EARTH, BEFALLS THE SONS OF THE EARTH.
MAN DID NOT WEAVE THE WEB OF LIFE; HE IS MERELY A
STRAND IN IT. WHATEVER HE DOES TO THE WEB,
HE DOES TO HIMSELF.

FROM THE DISTRICT: *by: Ruth Mulkey*



It was great to see Dulin so well represented at the District Spring Prayer Breakfast at Sudley United Methodist Church on April 18. It was a beautiful day, and Sudley Church is a lovely, historical church, near Manassas Battlefield. The speaker for the Spring Prayer Breakfast was Dr. Patricia Marks, a deaconess of the UMC who has been involved in ministry with incarcerated women at Fluvanna Correctional Institution for 12 years. Her message to us was that the system isn't working! Since the closure of the mental health facilities such as Saint Elizabeth's, the communities have not met the needs of those women with mental health problems, many of whom are now incarcerated. Also, the system does not provide adequate help for the women who have served their time and are returning to their families and society. Pat Marks has established a program entitled "Stamp out Loneliness" which provides stamps to the inmates so they can communicate with their families. It was gratifying to see the response from UMW of Arlington District. Please keep these women in your prayers, and also remember their families who are suffering.

The next District event is the Day Apart at Camp Highroad on Saturday, June 13. We will be hearing about the program "All God's Children Camps" which is help in different locations throughout Virginia for the children of incarcerated women. In the beautiful setting of Camp Highroad, this will be a day of inspiration and rejuvenation. Please plan to attend!

DON'T FORGET: School of Christian Mission will be held July 24-26 and July 27-30 at VUMAC. If you have never attended, you should. It is a wonderful learning experience as well as an opportunity to be in community with other members of the UMC who are committed to learning and serving.

RED BIRD FELLOWSHIP by: *Marguerite Clossman*



Five members of Red Bird Fellowship met in the Multi-purpose Room on April Fool's Day. Marge Brescia gave a devotional of short poems about spring from Tapestries of Life. We collected the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering. We also collected to buy a book of stamps for the "Stamp out Loneliness" program of Patamos Ministries for incarcerated women. Ruth Mulkey presented a three-part program. (1) This is the Fast I Choose from the Program book. It's not what you give up for Lent, but what you give of yourself for others. (2) A video on the partnership between Virginia Conference and the people of Brazil. (3) A children's book "Listen to the Wind" by an American mountain climber who has established a school for the children in a remote village in Pakistan.

PATTY MADDOX FELLOWSHIP by: *Harriet Hunt*



Patty Maddox fellowship met in the Wesley Room for their April meeting and had a wonderful attendance of 15 members present! Members feasted on Easter-themed refreshments before the meeting began. We collected money for the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering. We also collected for the "Stamp out Loneliness" project of Patamos Ministries that will buy postage stamps for incarcerated women; this money will be turned in as an offering at the Arlington District UMW Spring Prayer Breakfast. Dorothy Brothers presented a wonderful program featuring a CD of original music written by her cousin, Alice Rohr, an 84-year-old retired school psychologist and grandmother of seven, who after retirement, went back to college and took many random music courses in whatever interested her. Alice plays the dulcimer and composes all kinds of music. We listened to two of her piano compositions, "Iceland Glacier" and "Thunderstorm". Alice is a marvelous example of taking life in new directions after retirement!

JOSHUA'S WAY FELLOWSHIP by: *Amy Henderson*

Sandy Rudolph shared a Lenten message on "The Art of Forgiving", we also celebrated Sandy's Birthday! We collected for the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering; and for the "Stamp Out Loneliness" program of the Patamos Ministries for incarcerated women. We discussed the following upcoming events:

April 18 – Prayer Breakfast: Brenda, Amy and Beth are planning to attend. Meet at the church at 8 am to carpool.

May 2nd – Our Spring Saturday Meeting. Please refer to the "Friendly Caller" and the Church Bulletin for more information. It is hoped that Joshua's Way will have a good group showing. There promises to be lots of good food!

Book Fair May 3 – Hermanita's fellowship is sponsoring the book fair to benefit Redbird Mission. Be on the lookout for more info.

May 4 – Our next meeting will be held at Kelly Hardy's home, (near West Falls Church Metro). We will be having dinner and celebrating Mary Mateer's nuptials.

UMW Sunday – May 17. I will keep you posted on this.

HERMANITA FELLOWSHIP by: *Anna Novak*



The Hermanita Fellowship sponsored a Book Fair to benefit Red Bird Mission School (K-12) on May 3rd. If you were not able to attend or contribute, you can help this effort in other ways:

Contribute Money: Through May 31st write a check to Dulin UMC, indicate "Book Fair" and place in the offering plate. The Learning for a Lifetime foundation will give a 50% match to your donation.

Order books online: Through Wednesday, May 13th: Usborne books can be purchased online at www.UKchildrensbooks.com click on the Dulin link in the upper right hand corner.*

Bring in books new or gently used. Place them in the collection boxes through May 31.

*A percentage of all sales will go to buy books for Red Bird Mission School.