



Let's Get Together

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United Methodist Women Newsletter May 2011

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Joshua's Way by Pat Turner

We discussed rearranging the UMW reading program materials in the library to make it more accessible and agreed to make the suggestion to the library committee for their consideration. Pat Turner presented a program on Lent. She shared a quiz about Lent, including when it is, what the name Lent means, what color represents Lent and what connection Lent has to preparing Christians for Easter. After hearing scripture related to the parable of the blind man, we discussed how we can open our eyes to the needs of the world as we observe Lent as a time of self-denial and selfless giving. As each member told of her experience with Lenten observances, we explored the change in the United Methodist Church and how we observe Lent now.

Glowing Service Fellowship by Jean Myers

The Glowing Service Fellowship met in the church library on April 4 with 11 members present. We collected birthday wrapping paper and money to send a "Birthday Box" to the Henry Fork Center near Rocky Mount, Virginia, where they see that every child has a party on their special day.

Marguerite Clossman reported her recent visit to our shut in, Mille Barwick. Linda Strother presented a program based on a story about a very young boy from Pakistan who was sold into slavery. We had a group discussion about children's rights, which pointed to one we had not listed—the right to have a name and a country. We talked about our individual names—where they came from and what they meant. We ended by looking over the UMW books in the library, and several were taken home to read.



Message from Amy Henderson

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We are still getting compliments on our Spring Tea! I have a favor to ask of everyone who decorated a table or anyone who would like to help out. Please let us know of one thing you would possibly change about the tea and the one thing you would definitely keep the same. We are trying to compile a list of all we did this year so if we do it again we won't have to reinvent our efforts. If you have time at your meeting you could give the suggestions to your chairperson and she can pass them on or email them to me or the church office.

Be sure to attend our Spring Meeting on May 14, 10:00a.m.- 1:00p.m. This will be the last time we meet as a group until the fall, and I look forward to gathering with all of you.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to everyone. We can all celebrate the day as a daughter, mother or grandmother. I hope you will share the day with your own special memories and perhaps helping to make new ones. I hope you like the poem by Nicholas Gordon.

A Mother's Love Determines How

A mother's love determines how
We love ourselves and others.
There is no sky we'll ever see
Not lit by that first love.
Stripped of love, the universe
Would drive us mad with pain;
But we are born into a world
That greets our cries with joy.

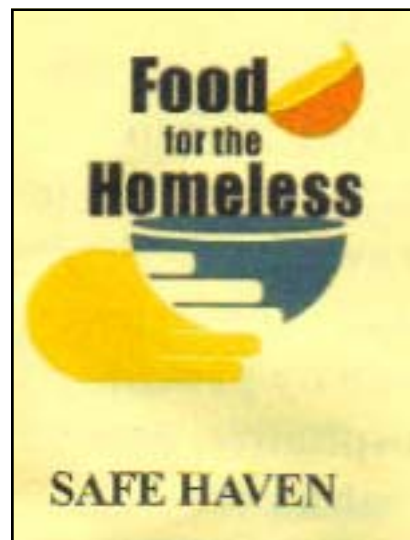
How much I owe you for the kiss
That told me who I was!
The greatest gift - a love of life -
Lay laughing in your eyes.

Because of you my world still has
The soft grace of your smile;
And every wind of fortune bears
The scent of your caress.

Message from Ruth Mulkey

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Featured at our May 14 Spring meeting will be SAFE HAVEN, the drop in day shelter for the homeless and hungry at our neighbor church, First Christian Church, 6165 Leesburg Pike. Rob Paxton, the director, will be bringing us the message concerning this outreach program in the Seven Corners community. Volunteer opportunities will be highlighted, and donations of kitchen staples, spices, and non-perishable food products will be gratefully accepted. Also needed at the shelter are men's socks (white with gray athletic toes and heels) and office supplies. Monetary gifts will also be accepted. Since the average cost of a meal is \$1.90, your donation will go a long way to feed and care for those who are less fortunate



District News

From the District

The Spring Prayer Breakfast at Pleasant Valley UMC was a very inspiring experience. Our speaker, Rev. Teresa Smith, spoke of sharing our concerns with others in order to receive help and comfort. At times when we are asked "How are you today?" we politely answer "Fine, thank you" when our hearts are suffering. Her message was aimed at allowing others to give us a supporting hand and to include us in their prayers. Dr. Smith is a trained counselor, and knows the power of listening to others. Let us try to be in prayer for each other and for our UMW fellowship, that we may receive strength from God to live our lives as He would wish them to be lived.

Saturday, June 11, 9:00a.m. - 3:00p.m., Bi District Day Apart, Arlington Temple UMC

Arlington District will be joining with Alexandria District to present a program focusing on the growing problem of childhood obesity in our society. United Methodist Women are called to be aware of issues facing women and children in our society, and this issue has arisen as we consider the health risks to children caused by less physical activity and the present dependence on fast foods and processed foods in

children's diets. Speakers from the Virginia Interfaith Center, Fairfax County, and James Madison University will be featured. Participants will be encouraged to identify volunteer opportunities in which they may serve, and to make contact with a child or children to engage in a regular physical activity. Whitfield Commons after school program, which is an outreach of Wesley Housing, will be the beneficiary of donations received during this event.

Upcoming Events:

Spring Meeting - May 14, 10:00a.m.-1:00p.m.

Bi District Day Apart, Arlington Temple UMC - Saturday, June 11, 9:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Virginia Conference UMW Spiritual Life Retreat, May 13-15, 2011. "Blessed to be a Blessing" VUMAC, 707 Fourth Street, Blackstone, VA. 23824

School of Christian Mission @ VUMAC, July 21-24, 2011 (weekend), July 25-28, 2011 (week)

Coffee Talk, July 3

UMW Sunday, September 25



Upcoming Events