

**United Methodist Women**

**February 13th, 2018 - Executive Board Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Mere Ponijiasi with updates on our shut-ins and others. We all read the Purpose of UMW and Lucinda Brashares opened with a prayer.

**Members present:** Mere Ponijiasi, Mere Nabou, Diane Jackson, Su Rood Cox, Claudia Ward, Dian Jorgensen, Judy Finley, Nancy Messinger, Carol Lindstadt, Barbara Wofford, Jane Hollar, Lucinda Brashares, and Charlene Simons.

**Minutes of December meeting:** Jane moved & Diane seconded and the December Minutes were approved.

**Note: There were no Minutes of the January 9th, 2018, Board Meeting** due to the Secretary, Charlene, being absent and no one being assigned to take minutes. Nancy as Vice President led the January Board Meeting and reports that all the items on the January Agenda were covered including the formation of a Spring Fling Committee to plan that event.

**Communications:** Mere P. shared thank you notes from Doris Evans for her special recognition, and from Ceres Community Project and VOICES for the monetary donations from Ruth Circle. Mere P. also shared the Council on Aging Sonoma Seniors Today newsletter and the postcard from National UMW advertising the UMW Day of Giving campaign. Mere P. also had the February *Roseleaf* magazines for the Circle leaders.

**Treasurer's Report:** Peg had prepared copies of the financial report for January 2018 and had these for Charlene to hand out. Charlene reviewed the updates shown in the report according to notes left by Peg.

- The Member Pledges Income of \$1,520.00 included pledges from Nov. & Dec. 2017 that were received in January 2018.
- The Miscel. Mission Income of \$70.00 was from Ruth Circle for their monthly special project.
- The Snowflake Bazaar Income of \$38.00 was from I.O.U.s paid in January.
- The Miscel. Mission Expense of \$70.00 went to Ruth Circle's special project of the Ceres Community Project.
- The Snowflake Bazaar Expense of \$249.70 went to reimburse for the lunch expenses.
- The Sunshine & Gifts Expense of \$55.00 went to pay for postage stamps to mail cards.
- **The Total Assets** at the end of January were \$9,719.68. This includes the \$1,900 that is set aside for Assembly.
- Peg left the question of when to designate the annual \$500 toward Assembly in our Budget. Shall we designate the 2018 budgeted \$500 to go toward the 2018 Assembly or the 2022 Assembly? We will discuss this below under "National Assembly."

**Old Business :**

- **Officers Installation & Presentation of Special Memberships** - January 21 - Took place at all services. Our two Special Membership recipients were: Doris Evans and Jacob Wilbur.
- **National Assembly - Columbus, Ohio, May 18-20, 2018** - As of today Mere Nabou and Barbara Wofford are registered to attend, as well as 6 other women from the Fijian Language Ministry. Tokasa is not able to go. We had much discussion regarding how to divvy up the money that we have budgeted over the past 4 years to be spent on sending 2 “delegates” to the Assembly in 2018. We acknowledged Mere Nabou’s successful marketing of this event to the women in the FLM such that so many plan to go! Mere N. and Barbara were part of this discussion and both agreed with the decision to share the money; see below.
  - Diane moved to use the 2018 budgeted \$500 toward the 2018 Assembly, not the 2022 Assembly. Jane seconded. The Board approved.
  - Diane moved to divide the \$2,400 designated Assembly money equally between the women that go to Assembly 2018. Dian seconded. The Board approved.
  - Mere N. reported that she has already booked hotel rooms for all 8 women. Airplane tickets still to be determined.
  - We will schedule a “Getting to Know Assembly” event/potluck where Mere N., Barbara, and any of the other women can share about their experience at the 2018 Assembly. Date TBD.

- **UMW Membership Book/Directory Update** - Diane Jackson reported that the new Directory was completed in January and has been distributed to most of the UMW women already. There were some extras printed. Contact your circle leader if you need one.

- **Pledge Service for Circles in January** - So far Anna & Naomi Circles have held their Pledge Services and have already turned in their pledge cards to Peg. As other circles hold their Pledge Services, please turn in the pledge cards to Peg.

### **New Business :**

- **Getting To Know You Potluck** - New date! Saturday, **March 17th**, 12:00 - 2:00 pm, McMullin Room - This is our relaxed potluck lunch with no program. Note that this is the same day as the memorial service for Wilma Thompson. Since Diane will be helping to set up for the memorial service she will not be able to set up for the potluck. Both Meres said that they will get women to set up the McMullin Room for the potluck lunch.

- **Prayer Workshop with Pastor Blake** - Saturday, Feb. 24th, 2 - 3:30 pm, McMullin Room - It was reported that Peg will make the coffee; Nancy, Diane, and Dian will bring cookies.

- **World Day of Prayer** - Friday, March 2nd, 2 - 4 pm. The Sebastopol Community Church is hosting. Diane has been in contact with Chris Jenzen (spelling?) from SC Church. Diane and Chris each have sent out ~ 20 flyers to east county & west county churches respectively. Su has already submitted information about this event for the next *Roseleaf*. This year’s program was written by women in Suriname and the theme is “All God’s Creation Is Very Good!”. Diane will be turning in receipts for expenses to Peg. We plan to car-pool from FUMC Montgomery to Sebastopol for this event by meeting *before* 1:30 pm on that Friday. The SC Church is at 1000 Gravenstein Hwy (116) North. Mere P. will send out an email if cookies are needed.

- **Spring Fling** - Saturday, April 28th, 11:30 - 2:00 pm - Diane gave the report from the committee: Please see her notes on the backside of today’s meeting Agenda. In summary:

- Like last year, the Children's Commission and the UMW are holding this jointly. The UMW will do the lunch and keep the proceeds from that and the Children's Commission will do the silent auction and keep the proceeds from that.

- The theme will be: "The Wonder of Childhood."

- Lunch tickets cost \$15 each. Ruth Circle will provide the lunch. The Children's Commission will discuss if they want to provide appetizers or not.

- The Children's Commission is soliciting items & experiences for the silent auction. If you have anything to offer please contact Elizabeth Walton. Diane added that Wilma Thompson's family has already contacted them about possible items.

- The program for the afternoon is in progress and may contain small vignettes about local programs & services, by and for children in our community. Diane gave a few examples.

- Diane reviewed the plans so far regarding table set-up & service, decorations, publicity & ticket sales, & clean-up.

- The next planning meeting will be March 6th at 2:00 pm. Room TBD.

- If you want to give input, contact a committee member: Elizabeth, Sonda Anderson, Diane, Nancy, Jane, Claudia, Judy, Barbara, or Cynthia DiBenedetto.

• **Wilma Thompson Memorial Service** - Saturday, March 17th, at 3:30 pm - Wilma's family is providing a dinner reception following the service and the UMW is providing the dessert. Since Wilma was so involved with the Annual Women's Retreat and helped to raise money for the retreat through monthly coffee cake sales, Diane would like the dessert to be cupcake coffee cakes. Diane passed around a sign-up sheet for baking these cupcake desserts and for helping with set-up & clean-up of the reception.

### **Officer Reports**

• **President** - Mere Ponijasi - No additional report.

• **Vice President/Program Chair** - Nancy Messinger - No additional report.

• **Treasurer** - Peg Ferrel - Absent/No additional report.

• **Membership, Nurture, Sunshine & Outreach** - Diane Jackson - Diane reports that she has updated the UMW brochure that goes out on the outreach table & into the "welcome bags." She passed these out to us. She has the Sunshine list and will send out the cards.

• **Program Resources** - Judy Finley - Judy reports that she has 3 new books to put into the library. One is about Sally Ride, the astronaut. Judy also has tea towels ready for embroidering. She noted that last year we sold out of the tea towels at \$10 each. Tell women to contact Judy if they are interested in embroidering and Judy has thread.

• **Publicity** - Su Rood Cox - Su reports that she has been busy doing the bulletin boards at Montgomery and Stony Point campuses. She is up on getting things into the March *Roseleaf* and will be including information throughout the year about the 150th Anniversary of the birth of the UMW, which falls on March 23, 2019. Su asks for us UMW women to share our stories & memories with her so she can include these in the *Roseleafs* throughout the year. Send your stories plus to her at: [SCX2@earthlink.net](mailto:SCX2@earthlink.net)

• **Spiritual Growth** - Mere Nabou - Mere reports that she setting up a prayer chain. If you have a prayer request, contact Mere N. and she will start the prayer chain by notifying the circle lead-

ers. The circle leaders then call the first name on the list in the directory, then that woman calls the next, and the next calls the next, on down the list.

- **Social Action/Concerns** - Barbara Wofford - Barbara reported on the many opportunities in our community to learn more and get involved. One opportunity is the *Together at the Table* program at the Sonoma County Libraries. On April 18th, 6 pm, at the Rincon Valley branch, the topic will be Women's Rights. Another opportunity is the monthly film series advertised in our Sunday church bulletins: *Social Action Goes to the Movies*, co-sponsored by our Outreach and Service Commission. The next film will be "The Bail Trap" on February 24th, 7 pm, at Congregation Shomrei Torah.

- **Mission Education/Interpretation** - Lucinda Brashares - Lucinda shared from the February *Response* magazine and read the letter by the President of the UMW Board of Directors, Shannon Priddy, and shared the maps which show the where & what of the UMW outreach programs. Lucinda also shared the article about Israel & Palestine. She also reminded us about missionary Janet Lahr-Lewis speaking tonight at Christ Church United Methodist (at 7:30 pm) about her faith journey and work in the Holy Land. And for more perspective, Lucinda recommended the book Blood Brothers: The dramatic story of a Palestinian Christian working for peace in Israel, by Elias Chacour with David Hazard.

- **Nomination Committee** - Diane Jackson - No additional report.

- **Snowflake Bazaar** - Peg & Diane - No additional report.

### **Circle Chairpersons:**

- **Anna** - Jane Hollar - In February they will have their Service of Prayer & Self Denial. They meet in the McMullin Room now.

- **Mary's Friendship** - Carol Lindstadt - In February they will meet and visit Lena Rhodes who is about 98 years old now.

- **Naomi** - Dian Jorgensen - On February 21st they will meet at FUMC at 8:30 am to car-pool over to the Redwood Empire Food Band for a tour & to do a project there. All are welcome! Otherwise, they are meeting at a new time & place: at 9:30 am in the McMullin Room, still on Wednesdays.

- **Ruth** - Claudia Ward - They met last night at Sharon Peterson's home where they learned about Sonoma County's Book Mobile. The Book Mobile gives away the books!

- **Fijian Language Ministry** - Laijipa Leqa (formerly Ratumuri) - Mere N. reported that there are 65 women now in attendance! She said that the 9 Fijian congregations will celebrate the World Day of Prayer together on Saturday, March 3rd, at Trinity UMC in Mountain View. The FLM held an educational meeting about finances and they are planning the next one to be on family values. Milika Solituraga is the new Secretary of the FLM.

### **Other Business:**

- February 24th is the District UMW event "A Bridge for Tomorrow" to be held in Richmond with Pastor Lindsey Kerr speaking. Contact Mere N. if you are interested in going.

- April 18th is a Conference social action event in Sacramento. More information to come. Mere N. will work with Su on advertising this.

- Please note the **new address for Lois Clazie**: Lois Clazie, Primrose Retirement Community, 823 S. Range Road, Apt. 224, Stillwater, OK 74074. This address is newer than the one listed in the 2018 UMW Directory.

• **It is time for a new photo FUMC Directory!** Su Rood Cox & Linda Morrissey are the co-chairs of the new Church Directory. Spread the word that photographs of everyone at FUMC will be taken April 10 - 21, 2018, at the Montgomery campus. Su & Linda will need several volunteers to sit at tables during this time to check names & addresses & emails & phone numbers while the photos are taken. Contact them to volunteer.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am with a devotion and a prayer by Mere N.

Next board meeting: March 13th, 2018, at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Simons, Secretary