

Volume 16 Issue 1

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United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

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Annual Day Flyer

# Susquehanna Conference United Methodist Women News

## President's Letter Sue Reisinger

Greetings to all Sisters in Christ!

Last year, I began our first newsletter of 2020, with “This is a new year with new challenges.”

That is definitely true every year. When I wrote that last year, I had no idea what challenges lay ahead. I believe God used this year to bring me closer to Him. I didn't have as many distractions and obligations. The Zoom meetings made our UMW meetings much shorter and much easier without travel.

It was a year of flexibility. I had opportunities to worship with my church on Facebook, attend worship with past congregations I had not seen for years and also listen to new preachers I had not heard before. I began listening to Adam Hamilton live streaming Bible studies on Tuesday nights. I tried many groups. I did two Bible studies online and partial in person during the first wave of COVID-19 with my own church.

I was amazed at the variety of experiences that were available without leaving my house. Our family held Zoom meetings for various occasions so we could experience things together, and we “Zoomed” as United Methodist Women. In 2020, we only had our first executive committee meeting in person. It was so nice to “see” and hear each other live.

We will continue to Zoom to be safe, but I hope to meet in person soon. Vaccines are becoming available. My son, daughter and husband are in the health field and my son and my daughter both received their first dose. They had different vaccines. We will see what the future holds. My husband is still waiting for his. The vaccine does not stop us from getting or spreading COVID, but it may make it less serious.

We have decided that our first executive committee meeting will be on Zoom on Feb. 13 beginning at 10:30. Mission u plans to have a Zoom meeting before us. We have also decided to cancel the Women's Retreat for 2020. Our speaker was not comfortable with a virtual alternative. We may reschedule it in 2023. Assembly 2022 will be in Florida next year, Lord willing. Some Districts may

*(President's Letter – continued)*

have some Spiritual Enrichment options. We will be discussing what we can do as a conference.

I hope and pray we will continue to connect and learn together in any format necessary. If you have a talent for technology, I could use help with our Facebook page. I checked out the United Methodist Women's site for the Church of the Resurrection (Adam Hamilton's church) in Kansas City. Certainly, it is a very large congregation, and they have several circles. I think their website is amazing! You may want to check it out and others too.

Thank you to all of you for your dedication and commitment to UMW. Be encouraged. God is using you through your unit. It was a difficult year for fund raising. Please share any new ways you discovered. You may have your gatherings on hold, but do not let that stop you from writing cards and letters, calling on the phone, texting, emailing, Facebook live or Zoom. We need each other now more than ever!

I will end my letter with the same sentences as last year.

"Please remember that whatever may happen this year, that love is your focus. God is love!"

Blessings from your  
Susquehanna Conference UMW President,

*Sue Reisinger*

## **Mission Today Coordinator** **Glenda Shepherd**

The Mission Today reports for 2020 are due to me by June 30, 2021. This year the form has been modified by the Conference officers in order to more fully represent the realities of the past year. A revised form has been included with this newsletter. The local UMW groups should send their reports to their District Education and Interpretation Coordinator, or to whomever the District President designates if there is no coordinator.

The districts should send the reports to me at the following address:

Glenda Shepherd  
8 E. Belmont Ave.  
Dallas, Pa. 18612

*(Mission Today – continued)*

It would be helpful to include the address of the church on the form in case of more than one church of the same name in the district.

If you have questions, my email is [gcshepherd@hotmail.com](mailto:gcshepherd@hotmail.com), and my phone number is 205-299-6313.

Mission Today Coordinator

*Glenda Shepherd*

## **Representative on the Conference Board Of Global Ministries** *Phyllis Terwilliger*

I have completed my role as a Be Just. Be Green Jurisdictional Guide. In the new quadrennium, UMW will continue to focus its advocacy on Climate Justice through our Just Energy for All campaign. The work of the 13 steps for sustainability will be absorbed into the role of the Vice Presidents and/or those responsible for meeting planning at their UMWs.

Thank you also for allowing me to serve as the Climate Justice Appointee for the last four years. Please continue to contact me if you have any questions regarding Climate Justice and/or the Just Energy for All Campaign.

I am serving God and UMW in a new role as a Program Advisory Group (PAG) member. I have been assigned to the “Eliminating Institutional Racism” team. The first meeting of the Conference Board of Global Ministries is January 28. I will keep you posted on the work and am so grateful to be on this journey with you!

*Phyllis Terwilliger*

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## Treasurer's Report Toni Oplinger

We fell short of our \$130,000 Pledge for 2020. However, during these challenging times I feel we have done well with our Pledge totaling \$126,047.02. I commend all of you on your faithfulness to continuing the legacy of United Methodist Women.

Our 2021 Pledge remains at \$130,000. I challenge each District to increase their 2020 giving by \$565.00. This request has been sent to your District treasurers to share with each local unit. If your District has 30 units, and each unit gives an extra \$19.00 over their 2020 giving, then our Conference would make our Pledge this year.

State College was the only District to meet and exceed their Pledge for 2020. Congratulations ladies.

*Toni Oplinger*

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