



A Moment of Reflection:

The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely, or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone with the heavens, nature, and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles. - **Anne Frank**

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I: What's New

ISO An Artsy-Craftsy Type With Leadership Skills

Not necessarily an oxymoron. We need a volunteer to head up the Craft Day event, Saturday July 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Potential activities include making Raggedy Ann dolls, creating jewelry, beading and turning old vinyl albums into bowls – no joke – or getting creative with the cool covers. Circle 10 will provide finger food.

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The Ask: Pledge to Mission

UMW members are asked to contribute financially to the work of the organization by making an annual contribution, aka Pledge to Mission. This money supports the District UMW as well as the local and international projects our unit has chosen. Denomination-wide, UMW contributes more mission funds than any other part of the United Methodist Church—nearly \$20 million a year. And these pledges are separate from any you may have made to Metropolitan. Think of this not as a burden, but as an opportunity to make a difference. **OK, let's cut to the chase: The Metropolitan UMW unit has about 150 members. In calendar year 2010, no more than 30 members have pledged.** On average, UMW members who do pledge, give \$100 per year; but you're asked only to give what you're able. If our unit aims to fulfill its commitments, we need pledges from every member. We're open to lump-sum payments and installment plans, whatever works for you. Mail your Pledge-to-Mission to: Carol Tippett, Treasurer, 4817 Sangamore Rd., Bethesda, Maryland or put it in the UMW box at the church.

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May AARP Meeting

Monday, May 17 in the Vestry. Alice Thompson from the DC Office of Aging/Aging, Disability Resource Center will talk with us about long term care and what resources and services are available to us. In addition, we will hear about various types of lottery fraud and other scams.

Social time is at 12:30 p.m., and the meeting starts at 1:00. Refreshments will be served.

Circles, In Search of a Missionary to Support?

Potential missionaries can be found on the GBGM website. Financial gifts will be given to the missionaries from the new Circle 9.

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Applause, Applause Thanks to the Wonderful, Fantastic, Terrific Volunteers at UMW's Great Day of Service

What a great day it was on March 20 for this UMW event. This year we had volunteers of all ages—kids, youth and the full age range of adults—helping in the kitchen, Sunday School rooms and sanctuary. Specifically, here's what we accomplished and who we should acknowledge:

Bobby Turnbull and the women of Circles 4 and 5 (now 9) for providing food and beverages; **Leigh Rollins** and **Misook Ahn** for organizing the snack-bag brigade, filling 150 snack bags for the clients of Friendship Place; **Tony and Kim Brown (and girls)** for buying sandwich supplies and delivering nearly 500 sandwiches to Martha's Table. **Jeannie and Olivia Mah and Pyper and Charlie Imperial** for the spreading of lots of peanut butter and jelly; **Anita Seline** for overseeing the cleaning and restocking of the Sunday School rooms; **Anne Brown**, for leading the letter-writing team that produced nearly 75 letters on behalf of Amnesty International; **Kris Oberdick and Susan Roach** for organizing a care-card-writing table with more than 30 notes going out to members of the congregation; **Carol Tippett and Ann Michel** for making the health-kit assembly line possible—the fast moving crew created 150 UMCOR health kits; **Suzanne Vieth** for the kid-pleasing flower-arranging and card-making station for Visitor Corps; **Chef Kent Weaver** for directing a kitchen crew that prepared four meals for Metropolitan House; **Jimmy Sherrod, Ann Michel** and the youth for their great job running the food drive and organizing the donations for Bread for the City.

Together, we made a positive impact on the church and people in need in our community. And we had some fun. Take a bow.

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UMW Book Sale 2010 The final Chapter

Actually, the final numbers aren't in yet, but it's safe to say our book sale brought in more than \$1000—all of which will go toward projects benefitting women and children locally, nationally and worldwide. MANY thanks to all who helped make the sale a great success. We had a generous selection of books, a cheerful and *very* efficient set-up crew, welcoming greeters and workers on Saturday and Sunday, and a dedicated clean-up group that made short work of clearing the Vestry on Sunday. Special thanks to: **Rafael Reyes** for all his help; **Phyllis Kokus** for introducing us to Ken Sanford, who is selling some of our "better" items on amazon.com, to **Bobby Turnbull** for turning us on to Wonder Book, which takes all (all!) used books and pays \$2 a box for them; and finally, thanks to **Anita Seline** for putt-putting her way up to Wonder Book in Gaithersburg, in the church van, loaded to the gills with 95 boxes of leftover books.

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II: What's Not So New, But Worth Remembering*:

***fuller accounts printed in previous newsletters**

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And God Saw That It Was Good.

A four part Christian education course accompanying the PBS series “The National Parks: America’s Best Idea,” a Joint Project of Earth Ministry and WETA.

April 25, May 2, 9 & 16, the Great Hall

Beth Norcross, an adjunct faculty member teaching eco-theology at Wesley Theological Seminary, developed this study guide for the Ken Burns series. Remaining session topics are as follows: **May 2:** “God in Nature”; **May 9:** “Made in the Image of God”; **May 16:** “A Covenant with Every Living Thing.” Each session will include an opening meditation, introduction to the topic, a film clip, teaching and discussion and a closing prayer.

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Greater Washington District’s Annual Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, May 15, 2010,

Good Hope Union UMC, 14680 Good Hope Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20905. Breakfast served at 9:30 a.m., Program begins at 10:15 a.m. The fee is \$10.00 (Hot Breakfast). Registrations should be mailed to Sandra Chambers, Treasurer, 8312 Rambler Drive, Adelphi, MD 20783. Registration deadline: May 7, 2010.

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The New Books for the 2010 Reading Program are Here

They’re located on the UWM shelf in the Library. Consider reading one book from each of the four categories and qualifying for District recognition in the fall. You should have received a reading list in the January mailing. If you did not, contact Bobby Turnbull, (301) 320-4154 or bobbyturnbull@comcast.net.

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UMW International Assembly

St Louis, MO

April 30* – May 2, 2010

The bus is leaving. There will be a van of Metropolitan women driving on Thursday, April 29 and returning Sunday evening May 2. A space may still be available. Our unit will cover the cost of registration; participants pay for their own food, hotel and other travel expenses. For more information, contact Caralee Adams.

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ALPHA is here!

The class meets for nine more weeks on Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, in the 3rd floor youth rooms. Metropolitan’s Graham Covington who was trained in the ALPHA course in the London, is leading our course. Alpha is an opportunity to explore the meaning of life in a relaxed, friendly setting. Enjoy great food, laughter and learning in a fun atmosphere where no question about life or God is seen as too simple or too hostile. Questions like: Is there a God? Why am I here? Where did I come from? Where am I going? Non-church members are welcome, as are people from all backgrounds, religions, and viewpoints. For more information on ALPHA go to www.AlphaUSA.org. To register for this class, contact Helen Simon at helenmsimon@gmail.com or at the MMUMC Church office; 202 363 4900. Let Helen know if you’re interested in helping out with the course. You can reach Graham at graham@advocacyonline.net

Still No Room at the Bazaar

Hang onto your bazaar donations for now. If your stuff just *has* to go, don’t pitch anything. Contact Barbara Gaskill (202-244-3512 or Barbara@bgaskill.com). Together you might find another place to store your items.



III: Joys & Concerns

Congratulations to Laura Huff (Circle 10) on the birth of her first child, Michael James Huff, March 31, 8 lbs, 4 oz.

Sympathy to former MMUMC pastor Faith Lewis on the death of her mother. Notes can be sent to: Rev. Faith Lewis, Olivet UMC, 13575 Olivet Road, Lusby, Maryland..20657



IV: UMW Circle Meetings

Circle 2. Meet Wednesday, May 12th at 10 at the home of Suzanne Clewell for our annual “book club” get together. Contacts: Charlotte Carter (char.carter@cox.net) and Jane Cunningham (JTC3rd@aol.com)

Circle 3: Contact: Anne Bechdolt, abechdolt@msn.com or 317-331-6813.

Circles 4 + 5 = Circle 9. The two groups have merged. The “New Nines” will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30. Bobby Turnbull is chair. (details for this month’s event is below)

Circle 6 Contacts: Ann Michel, annmichel@wesleyseminary.edu; Mary Jo Marchant, mjmarchant@verizon.net.

Circle 8: Meet Sunday, May 2nd, 12:30 in the church lobby and carpool to Brookside Gardens to enjoy the afternoon. Bring a snack. Contact Bonnie Edwards, 202-686-9087, by May 1 if you’re coming.

Circle 9: Meet Wed, May 5 at 10:30 am in the Choir Room. The program has not yet been set. Please contact Bobby Turnbull, (301) 320-4154.

Circle 10: Meet Friday, May 14 at 12:30 at Hillwood Estate Museum and Gardens for a tour and tea <http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/>. Contact: Caralee Adams, Caralee.adams@verizon.net



Next UMW Executive Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 6:45