The Crazy Days of Summer with the Reading Program

by Mary Beth Coudal

We caught up with Reading Program team leader Brenda Thompson between piles of books stacked on her desk in an office overflowing with paperbacks and hardcovers. We asked her a few questions about one of our favorite parts of United Methodist Women, the Reading Program.

UMWNews: Who is on the Reading Program committee?

Brenda Thompson: The books are chosen by the Reading Program committee, which is made up of United Methodist Women directors and Program Advisory Group members, a couple of non-director members and myself. Each year we meet, usually over a February weekend, and we review all of the titles that were read by the Program Book evaluators during the year.

UMWNews: How are the Reading Program books chosen?

BT: We usually review more than 100 titles during the year for content. Each (Please turn to Page 2)

A Brief History of the Reading Program*

The first mention of a Reading Program is cited in the Heathen Woman’s Friend, the magazine of the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a predecessor of United Methodist Women, wherein the editor encouraged every circle to start a missionary reading circle. The year was 1870.

In 1900, the program went ecumenical when the United Brethren adopted the Missionary Society’s Reading Course, a program of 10 interdenominational mission study books selected by a committee for all to read.

In 1907, the Woman’s Missionary Society of the Evangelical Association authorized a Mission Reading Department. One hundred and thirty four missionary libraries sprung up, providing books to 538 local groups.

As the years unfolded, it did not matter how our predecessor organizations splintered or merged, the Reading Program remained intact and lively. At one time and for one group, a single in-depth mission study was promoted, and for another time, a variety of books were included reflecting the categories of Spiritual Life, Christian Social Relations and Missionary Education.

When the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Churches united in 1968, both aspects—the single mission study and the ecumenical reading selections—became a part of the ongoing offerings of United Methodist Women, a lively and intellectual organization founded on tenets of reading, life-long learning and education.

* Historical information was gathered from “Pages from the Past” by Marion Baker, response magazine, December 1979.

From the General Secretary

An Exercise in Seeing

by Harriett Jane Olson

I am an occasional Sudoku player. Working my way through various grids of numbers in the magazine from the seatback pocket on the way home from National Seminar I thought about how the solving techniques were really an exercise in “seeing” what is already in front of us. Solving the puzzle doesn’t require innovation and it doesn’t permit “out of the box” solutions, so it is not a perfect metaphor for our work as United Methodist Women. However, it does require seeing the patterns, knowing what else must be true, and building a logical solution.

National Seminar is a bit like Sudoku in one way. It is an exercise in seeing, and in developing some of the skills to keep seeing. For example, many of us were surprised to learn about the comparatively poor maternal and child health outcomes in the United States overall. Further, we heard about studies showing the impact of race for early delivery and low-birth-rate babies among African-American families compared with white families with similar incomes. It is also not a perfect metaphor majority, it would be easy (consciously or unconsciously) to expect the experience of others to be like our own. Even though all of us know women who have had healthy deliveries, we now know that some of us face elevated risk.

Seeing people’s real experience is crucial for understanding our own as one experience among many. It is also the starting point for the compassionate service and passionate advocacy that are United Methodist Women hallmarks. National Seminar, the Reading Program, United Methodist Women programs and our relationships with each other are all part of what help us to “see” and understand. Praying together about what we see, strategizing together and seeking God’s direction are all part of what strengthens us to keep working for good in the world that God so loves.

Harriett Jane Olson

General Secretary and CEO of United Methodist Women.
2015–16 Reading Program

(Continued from Page 1) title is read three times by three randomly selected members of United Methodist Women. The evaluators read the book and then use an attached form to tell us what the book is about and whether it is appropriate for the program. The evaluators also indicate whether they recommend the book. The readers receive a book from the Reading Program office approximately every other month.

I take all of the recommendations for inclusion to the committee meeting. We then spend the weekend reviewing the reader comments, the books and discuss the merits of each title for program needs, United Methodist Women concerns and foci, issues in our communities and around the world, etc.

We select five titles in each category for the new list, plus Spanish and Korean language versions, and titles for children and youth in these five categories:

• Education for Mission
• Nurturing for Community
• Social Action
• Spiritual Growth
• Leadership Development

UMWNews: How long have you been staff for the Reading Program?

BT: I started my work with United Methodist Women as the program assistant for the Reading Program in 1999. In 2003 I was promoted to Reading Program Specialist and have enjoyed moving the program forward and keeping United Methodist Women members ahead of and informed on the issues.

A review of a book from the United Methodist Women Reading Program invokes frank discussions on programs addressing sexual assault and the organization’s response. United Methodist Women at St. Luke “Community” United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, invited nearly 50 United Methodist Women members from other churches to learn about the subject of rape. The women were encouraged to read the book The Round House by Louise Erdrich. The author is known for her novels on Yoknapatawpha, a fictional North Dakota Indian reservation and its surrounding towns. “We had a fabulous time,” said St. Luke United Methodist Women member Kristi Grant Coleman. “It was great to have so many special guests from Owenwood UMC, Agape UMC, The Dallas Indian UMC, Tyler Street UMC and Highland Hills UMC! It was truly a blessed gathering and a lively discussion…led by our own facilitator extraordinaire, Phyllis Edelen.”

The Round House is set in 1988, as recently as 2009 Amnesty International reported that one in three Native women will be raped in her lifetime. Indeed, Ms. Edelen reported that, “Eighty-six percent of rapes and sexual assaults upon Native women are perpetrated by non-Native men; few are prosecuted. The battle to restore sovereign justice and ensure safety for Native women continues.”

Native American tribes represented on the day of the discussion were Choctaw, Ponca, Kiowa and Northern Cheyenne from Lame Deer, Montana. “Our different cultures, the book’s characters or United Methodist Women didn’t take away from the discussion,” said Sandra Blackbear Ramirez, a member of the Kiowa tribe and a descendant of the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma. “Like me, the other United Methodist Women were interested in how each of the characters was affected by not only their tribal culture, but their gender differences, lack of culture or lack of psycho-social limits.

“It was an interesting look into dreams and visions through a 13-year-old’s eyes. Oftentimes, we overlook our children in crisis…”

Read more about the discussion of The Round House among the United Methodist Women at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram.

Ms. Stovall is a member of St. Luke “Community” United Methodist Women in Dallas, Texas.
A Small Circle Does Big Things

by Gwen Ritchey

Plank Chapel United Methodist Church in Kittrell, North Carolina, is a small, 200-year-old country church, and its number of current United Methodist Women is 11, one of whom resides in a nursing home. But age and size do not deter this group from its mission.

Through the years, Plank Chapel’s United Methodist Women members have done the usual and expected things: hosted World Day of Prayer, participated in programs at other churches and given financial aid, food and clothing to local families in need.

For many years the members have managed an ongoing program of support reading program by the beginning and end meetings are spirited, but age and size do not deter this group from its mission.

The women have also supported Zeb Vance’s reading program by providing new or gently used books for students to take home during the summer months, in order to maintain their reading skills while on vacation. Every year, at major holidays and at the beginning and end of each school term, Plank Chapel’s United Methodist Women members present Zeb Vance teachers with over 80 goodie bags filled with treats and useful items.

Plank Chapel’s United Methodist Women’s circle, like many, conducts a yearly commemorative service for deceased members, a welcoming service for new babies and presents recognition awards to members who have demonstrated outstanding service to Plank Chapel. The women also have created several beautiful seasonal arrangements of silk flowers for use in the sanctuary, to be used when the person responsible for Sunday’s fresh flowers forgets or is otherwise unable to provide them.

Regular monthly meetings are spirited affairs, with much animated conversation. Programs are generally interesting and might range in subject from a prayer labyrinth to the plight of the American honeybee to a biography of George Washington. Much discussion centers on those in need who have fallen upon unfortunate circumstances, and how United Methodist Women can help them.

That’s because the women of this church care about their little country church and its people. And they care about each other. They are truly striving to be a community of women who know God, and have developed a creative and supportive fellowship in order to expand concepts of mission.

Gwen Ritchey is the communications coordinator for Plank United Methodist Church in Kittrell, North Carolina.

Lighthouse Library Loves the Reading Program

by Vera Trout Moore

What a blessing that one of the church’s volunteer librarians is also the program resources coordinator for United Methodist Women.

Betsy Holland constantly keeps the Reading Program before, not simply the United Methodist Women members, but all of the visitors to the relatively small room used as the Lighthouse Library in Christ United Methodist Church in Mobile, Alabama. The shelves for United Methodist Women have more than 100 books from the 2011–2015 Reading Program, marked with colorful dots indicating the categories and a regularly renewed display.

The current UMW Reading Program Showcase features books related to the mission study, The Church and People with Disabilities, and a poster, United Methodist Women is AWESOME. How exciting to feel in community, to appreciate the history of our beginnings and to realize what we can make happen today—here and now! We are proud to be a part of United Methodist Women—its heritage, its mission and its future.

We respond to Ms. Holland’s promotions because in her enthusiasm she is constantly presenting the program in new and challenging ways. In 2014, she used a serving cart to take selected books from the Reading Program to each of the circles meetings at the church. One circle, which does not have an in-person meeting, has a monthly virtual meeting at www.mailcircle.net/ with the October meeting dedicated to the Reading Program.

Recently, I was thrilled to discuss books and authors with a non-United Methodist Woman relative. She suggested I read An Invisible Thread. I was able to say, “Oh, yes, I read that, it was one of our United Methodist Women Reading Program books!”

I give thanks to the people who evaluate the books, the staff who administers the program, the people like Betsy Holland who promote the Reading Program and to members who read, discuss and take action for this valuable enabler of our Faith, Hope and Love in Action.

Vera Trout Moore enjoys retirement and helping more active United Methodist Women with all she can do on her computer.
Mission u Prompts Reflection

by Sandra Blackbear-Galindo-Ramirez

My name is Sandra Blackbear-Galindo-Ramirez. Blackbear is my family name. Galindo is my legal name and also my stage name in the business world. Ramirez is my husband’s name. I am a member of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. I attended Mission u in Tempe, Arizona, with my Comanche, Mississippi Choctaw, Oklahoma Choctaw, Creek and Kiowa sisters. I was a member of Rosangela Oliveira’s class on Latin America.

The study was exciting. I have never been to South America or any of the Latin-American countries. As I began my journey to Latin America, I kept comparing our faith journey as Native Americans as an indigenous people of North America to the indigenous people of Latin America. The study opened my heart, our hearts, to Latin America through scripture. I would flash back to my grandmother’s stories, hear her voice and once again hear the same losses that my Latin-American brothers and sisters are experiencing—a loss of land, a loss of culture, even a loss of religion. The stories of how the early missionaries built their churches on top of sacred places of worship, not taking the time to learn if we shared the same God, reminded me of my great-grandmother’s stories. I remembered how through the forced removal of the people, there is a loss of children and grandchildren, grandfathers and grandmothers. Without our grandfathers and grandmothers, who will tell the children about their faith journeys? Who told us about our faith journeys? Our elders are an important part of our journeys.

I also wondered what will I do beyond the classroom? How will I—how will we—support our brothers and sisters of Latin America? How will we fight for justice on our faith journey, globally, and here at home?

Sandra Blackbear-Galindo-Ramirez is a member of the Kiowa Tribe and also a descendant of the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma. She is a member of United Methodist Women.

National Seminar Interrupts Indifference

About 170 of United Methodist Women members and friends from across the United States came together in Chicago, Illinois, from July 29 to August 2 to attend National Seminar, a gathering held every four years to celebrate the United Methodist Women community and to take action on social justice issues. This year the theme was Interrupting Indifference: Jesus, Justice and Joy. The emphases were on:

• Climate Justice
• Maternal and Child Health
• Criminalization and Racial Justice
• Gender and Economic Justice

Reflecting the organization’s diversity, participants of all ages, backgrounds and races came together and were empowered to engage as leaders. Their call was to:

• explore Jesus’ life as an example of concrete social action
• build skills to respond to the social justice challenges
• visit local United Methodist Women–related centers to learn from grassroots leaders
• build community
• engage in dynamic dialogue and worship

“It was an amazing honor to be in the presence of so many dynamic and amazing women committed to improving the world. They are the true embodiment of Faith, Hope, and Love in action,” said Alana Walls, distance learning coordinator and new staff with United Methodist Women.

The gathering was held at the University of Illinois in Chicago. The women celebrated the extraordinary work that God is accomplishing through the witness of United Methodist Women in ministries of justice.

Susie Johnson, Washington office for Public Policy for United Methodist Women, holding sign, leads a group to Gallery 400, an exhibit at the University of Illinois in Chicago, exploring the intersection between social justice and the arts during National Seminar.
Legacy of Giving Supports Recovery in Nepal

by Mary Beth Coudal and Carol Van Gorp

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oxens of years after her death, a gift of $100,000 was given in her name. The gift, to the United Mission in Nepal through an endowment with United Methodist Women, was an example of faithful planned giving. In her will, Miss Ciella Stuﬀt, a school teacher and school administrator who lived from 1887 to 1981 in Nebraska and Michigan, endowed “medical workers or nurses” at the United Mission of Nepal through United Methodist Women.

Ms. Stuﬀt’s gift to Nepal was given to honor Dr. Bethel Fleming, a doctor who began the ﬁrst Protestant medical clinic in the Kathmandu Valley. The endowment also supports present-day medical workers at Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, India. Ms. Stuﬀt negotiated another endowment, one that supports scholarships for girls and women at Lucie F. Harrison School and Kinnaird College in Lahore, Pakistan.

One hundred percent of this endowment to the United Mission in Nepal will go directly to alleviate the suffering and rebuild lives in Nepal in the wake of the spring 7.8 magnitude earthquake in which at least seven thousand people perished. All lives in Nepal were touched by this tragedy.

United Methodist Women has had a long-term commitment to Nepal, which has struggled with child malnourishment in rural areas due to a lingering caste system, arid topography and seasonal agricultural insecurity.

For nearly ﬁve decades, United Methodist Women has supported women, children and youth in Nepal through many grassroots partners, such as Nepal YWCA, the Milijuli Samaj Nepal and:
• The National Student Christian Movement of Nepal, a part of the Asia Paciﬁc region of the World Student Christian Federation, which beneﬁts from an annual grant toward leadership development and mission education sent by United Methodist Women;
• A Bible Women Training in the rural areas led by Regional Missionary Emma Cantor who collaborates with Protestant women from a mission initiative and the Nepal YWCA; and
• Through the International Ministries ofﬁce, United Methodist Women links to the United Mission to Nepal, supporting 11 districts to address the rural poverty of women and children through non-formal workshops, literacy training, economic development, health education, hygiene, food production and child protection. The efforts include anti-early marriage and anti-traﬃcking trainings.

Ms. Stuﬀt’s endowment for long-term medical recovery efforts include the training of medical workers to assist in the mental health and counseling care of people traumatized by the disaster.

International Ministries Executive Carol Van Gorp has connected United Methodist Women-supported work with the UMCOR International Disaster Response team. UMCOR staff has expressed appreciation to United Methodist Women for the connection with mission partners who serve women, children and youth throughout the region.

United Methodist Women members hold in their hearts, through giving and prayer, all of the international organizations and legacies that care for women, children and youth in Nepal and around the world.

Learn the beneﬁts of planned giving to United Methodist Women at http://umwgift.org/

This article is an update from an earlier web article by Mary Beth Coudal, interim managing editor of response magazine and Carol Van Gorp, the International Ministries executive for United Methodist Women.

Days for Girls . . . Sewn with Love

by Linda Mitchell, RN, M Ed.

The United Methodist Women of Epworth United Methodist Church in Durham, North Carolina, joined Days for Girls, an international project that believes the poverty cycle can be broken when girls stay in school. It is estimated that a girl can miss up to two months of school a year due to a lack of quality sustainable feminine hygiene supplies. Girls who stay in school are less likely to marry early or to die in childbirth; they are more likely to train or educate their families.

Every girl in the world deserves an education, safety and dignity. Days for Girls furthers this goal by helping girls who would otherwise go without access to quality sustainable feminine hygiene and awareness. What if a girl, without access to sanitary supplies, would not go to school or work, and would go days without leaving the house? The mission of this local United Methodist Women project is to create a more digniﬁed, free and educated world through access to feminine hygiene products.

To accomplish this we meet every two weeks to sew kits that contain high-quality shields that are effective and useful for girls. Every washable feminine hygiene kit gives back up to six months of digniﬁed living in three years of use based on ﬁve lost school days a month. That is 180 days of education, health safety and dignity. These kits change a girl’s life in so many ways.

Time goes into making every kit and quality matters! If they are not made well they will not work well nor last. We love that these kits are made by hand by other women. You can feel and see that they are made with love, each different, each beautiful.

When completed in February 2016, we will have at least 50 kits for distribution in the rural mountain villages of Delatte, Fond Doux, and Planton, Haiti. This adds up to life-changing days for girls and women.

Directions for the kits can be found at www.daysforgirls.org/

Linda Mitchell is a nurse, educator and United Methodist Women education and interpretation coordinator, Epworth United Methodist Church, Durham, North Carolina.
Ubuntu Memories: Journey to Cambodia

by Janet Reep Morgan

On March 4, 2015, nine women from six different states traveled to Cambodia for a 10-day mission trip representing United Methodist Women. Cambodia is nestled between Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and the Sea of Thailand.

Most people don’t think of Cambodia as a destination of choice, but for me, it became a destination of calling. I answered the call as a member of the United Methodist Women Ubuntu Journey team to Cambodia. Close to the equator, this small country in Southeast Asia has two seasons: rainy and dry.

We met with several women who received livelihood project funds from United Methodist Women. These women sewed intricate purses made of cord, krama fabric and recycled material such as feed and cement bags. Our orientation concluded with a tour of the royal palace and the Silver Pagoda.

Overflowing with cultural history, the days quickly filled with Bible studies with women at local villages, and story time and songs with children. Our missionaries and translators worked closely with us to translate our English into Khmer, the national language of Cambodia, and we watched for signs of understanding. During Sunday worship, we sang the English words that we knew to the age-old hymns that our Cambodian brothers and sisters sang in Khmer. Sunday service was followed by lunch of traditional Cambodian stews and rice, which we ate while seated on the floor, barefoot.

Each time we entered a school, church or home, we removed our shoes as a sign of respect. We immersed ourselves in the culture of the country as a starting point to relationship-building. Learning about culture and history are essential to allowing yourself to be open and present in the moment so that a relationship or friendship can flourish.

As Sophany and another young translator named Thida taught us traditional Cambodian dances, we laughed at our attempts to be graceful and feel the music.

As we rode a bus at the end of the journey, one of my teammates asked, “We saw so much. How do I fix it?” I responded, “You don’t fix it. It fixes you. It’s like this, you were broken just enough to allow God to work through you. Think of it as a mosaic of beautiful broken glass; when you hold it to the sun’s light, new patterns of light shine through to you. And now, you share.”

To read the full story and to view more photos from this Ubuntu journey to Cambodia, visit the website at: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/ubuntu.

Janet Reep Morgan is a member of Messiah United Methodist Women, Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Ubuntu Journeys: 2016

Texas and Mexico: A Walk in the Light — Journey with Us on the Border May 4–12, 2016

Serve with the women of Mexico and women living along the U.S. side of the border near McAllen, Texas. Learn about the current-day issues impacting both sides of the border between Mexico and the United States. Through one-on-one conversations, share hopes and dreams for our families, communities and churches. Savor our cultures through local foods and customs as we cross not only cultural but ecumenical lines. Learn about and open our hearts to God’s mission in this area.

• Contact team leader Becky Hanell at bhinscj@yahoo.com or 830-643-9717.


Join the journey to Ecuador—a wonderful land of incredible people and beauty. Meet with our Methodist sisters in the Sierra District’s Pijal Church, the Costa District and the Tsáchila Community. Learn of their holistic relationship with the earth, their daily life. Share cultural experiences, learn of their handicrafts and Aniceto farming. Develop new friendships, visit cultural sites and be prepared to laugh a lot and build networks among women of Christian faith.

• Contact team leader Christie Leininger at christie@leiningers.com or 814-730-0007.

Japan: Listening with Love and Hope September 29–October 9, 2016

Travel to Tokyo and Sendai, and connect with incredible Christian women involved with many mission-oriented groups along the eastern coast of Japan. Help prepare lunch at the Emmaus Center; visit with women who survived the 2011 tsunami and listen to their unbelievable journeys to recovery; visit a shelter for women where Global Justice Volunteers serve; and fellowship with women from the United Church of Christ in Japan. An opportunity will be offered for those who wish to visit historic Kyoto.

• Contact team leader Jeanie Blankenbaker at jbumvimny@aol.com or 843-342-7092.

For additional information about Ubuntu Journeys, e-mail Ubuntu@unitedmethodistwomen.org.
What Is the Program Book?

by Judith Pierre-Okerson

As insiders, we know the Program Book is one of the many resources used by United Methodist Women in setting programs for their circles, subgroups and/or unit meetings. But if a new member or non-United Methodist Women member asks, “What is the Program Book?” how would you answer?

The United Methodist Women Program Book, better known among the members as the Program Book, is intended to help members focus on mission and live the vision of the organization as they fulfill their PURPOSE.

The format of the Program Book has changed throughout the years. You may have noticed that the Program Book has changed from the length of a calendar year, January to December, to a program year, September to August. The new Program Book contains a total of 14 programs, 12 monthly and two special programs, as opposed to three or four special days and fewer monthly programs. However, the essential purpose of the resource remains the same. To help members center spiritually, the scripture reading is followed by a litany, devotion or meditation and hymn singing, all integral parts of programs. Organized around one central theme, this year, Growing in Blessedness, each program is designed to expand the concepts of mission by lifting up issues that affect children, women and youth in their local communities and around the world.

The programs challenge members to participate in the global mission of the church through their follow-up actions and commitment to advocate for a just world where all God’s people will experience freedom as whole persons. The programs also equip members to experience that freedom within themselves and be supportive of one another. Each program has an educational component allowing members to understand how their mission giving supports projects, internationally and nationally.

How Often Do Members Use the Program Book?

Some groups use the programs at all monthly meetings except for special events, while others use only the special programs. For example, one local group that meets four times a year reported using the Call to Prayer and Self Denial, the Pledge Service and the World Thank Offering programs as the main focus of three of their meetings. For the fourth meeting, they use book reviews at their monthly circle meetings. Other groups with a similar pattern of meetings use the special services at their general meetings and smaller circles used the monthly programs. Yet other groups pick and choose certain programs to use during certain times of the year, whether in a circle or a general meeting.

How Do Members Use the Programs?

The membership uses this resource in a variety of ways. Each group of women adds their own creativity to the programs. Some local groups as well as district groups use the program simply as a guide. Others use the Program Book as a theme upon which to base all of their special events: retreats, Women Sunday or Annual Meetings.

Some local groups, whether in a circle or in a general meeting, will have one person in charge of the entire program who will designate readers to participate. Some United Methodist Women groups use the program from start to finish, while others use the general idea and customize it to the needs of their audience and their community. The Program Book provides options to choose from, depending on the group’s availability of time and resources. New features include “Ways to Promote the Program,” and “Shorter Version” of the programs. My local United Methodist Women group at Miramar United Methodist Church uses the programs at all of our monthly gatherings except in October and December. My group loves to sing so often we include additional hymns and/or choruses to the ones proposed for a program. We never deviate from the opening and closing prayers/itanies in the programs. For the most part, the leader assigns different parts of a program to different members. She asks them to role play, lead discussions, link programs with current events in their lives, the church or the community or propose action items for the rest of the group.

For example, in February 2015, following the program “Welcoming Women of All Stages of Life,” we discussed what it means to be a welcoming and hospitable church. At the request of one of our members, the group agreed to replace the scheduled Mission Study on “How Is it With Your Soul” with the study on the “Church and People with Disability.” As a result of that change, the entire congregation is now onboard to make physical changes in our sanctuary for people with different abilities to feel more welcomed in our church.

How have you used the United Methodist Women Program Book to grow spiritually and increase your mission engagement with God’s world?

Judith Pierre-Okerson is chair of governance of United Methodist Women national organization.

The Program Book provides an opportunity for United Methodist Women to contextually engage issues of faith, hope and love in action. The voices of women are still underrepresented in The United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women ensures that the voice of women have a place at the table.

—Darlene DiDomineck, deaconess who serves the ministry Grace Café at Arch Street United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She also serves as the district resource assistant for the Central District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Annual Conference. She is the author of “A Call to Prayer and Self Denial 2016: Women at Work: Economic Justice and Empowerment” in the Program Book 2015–2016

United Methodist Women always provides a well-researched, fair, reasonable and theologically based approach to issues and concerns affecting our world. I really appreciate the timeliness of information in the Program Book, which enables a clearer understanding of issues and situations often before others have decided they are “hot topics.”


Mission Resources

United Methodist Women Program Book 2015–2016

$10

English (M3251)
Spanish (M3252)
Korean (M3253)

Journey through the Beatitudes together in this program year. Explore what it means to not only live in blessedness, but also to practice and work towards extending blessedness to all. In each program you will have the opportunity to determine how you can best reach out to meet all kinds of needs within your church, community and world.

Program Date Book 2016

$1.50 (M3254)

This calendar booklet printed annually helps you keep track of relevant dates for United Methodist Women month by month. Program Book and mission study titles are listed. Also included are charts for recording meetings, events and contact details.

Prayer Calendar 2016

$14 (M3255)

Within this calendar you will find daily lectionary readings, holidays and special days, daily lists to focus your prayers on mission projects, advocacy issues and birthdays of people in mission as well as children’s art, stories, meditations and testimonies of global partners to inspire you. Use this as a daily resource for meditation, planning and for sharing insight and information about the mission work of the church.

Annual Sampler 2016

Order next year’s sampler and receive these essential resources:

• 2015 geographic study on Climate Justice, $10
• 2015 spiritual growth study on The Bible and Human Sexuality, $10
• 2016–2017 Program Book, $10
• 2017 Prayer Calendar, $14
• 2017 Date Book, $1.50

Total value: $45.50

SAMPLER PRICE: $40
(a savings of $5.50)

Sign up once and receive the resources as they become available! Studies ship December 2017, and Prayer Calendar, Program Book and Date Book ship August 2015. Free shipping!

(Sampler subscription must be renewed each year.)