

United Methodist Women

Chairperson/Leader: Jeanie Park, President
Information Only

PURPOSE

The organized unit of UNITED METHODIST WOMEN shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know GOD and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

As 2008 is my first year as president of North Indiana Conference United Methodist Women, I look forward to the challenges before us. I have served the Conference United Methodist Women in several offices including vice-president, spiritual growth coordinator and Dean of the School of Christian Mission.

United Methodist Women and our predecessor organizations were organized for mission. Our focus has been and continues to be the needs and concerns of women, children and youth. Along with expanding these mission opportunities, it is the belief that women need to educate and develop themselves both spiritually and intellectually. We have a reading program that recommends a diverse range of books with the intention of broadening exposure to a variety of concepts to the women.

In February 2008, Dr. Carolyn Johnson, past Women's Division president and past Conference president, led our Spiritual Retreat, "Redefining What It Means to Belong."

School of Christian Mission, Young People's Mission Camp, and Children's Mission Camp will be held in July with the theme, "Living the Sacred". Studies include "I Believe in Jesus" with Pastor Derek Weber as leader, "Israel/Palestine", and "Giving Our Hearts Away: Native American Survival". This is an opportunity to grow spiritually, intellectually and be a supportive community.

As with each of the educational and spiritual events planned for the North Indiana Conference United Methodist Women, they are encouraged to take the knowledge home and share with their local units as well as the local church and others.

November 3rd, the North and South Conference United Methodist Women gathered together for a joint meeting at St. Luke's UMC in Indianapolis. Although each conference held their separate business meetings, we met as one to be challenged by Marva Usher-Kerr, an executive with Women's Division.

Both North and South Conference United Methodist Women work together to support Lucille Raines Residence, a place that enables the residents to achieve an independent state of life as they recover from various addictions.

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2 I ask for your prayers as we look forward to the challenges before us as we learn and discuss the
3 possibilities of uniting into an Indiana Conference and the challenges this will bring to United
4 Methodist Women.

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6 I want to thank the North Indiana Conference for their continued support of United Methodist
7 Women and especially Bishop Michael Coyner and the Cabinet.

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9 Additional information about United Methodist Women can be found at:

10 www.gbgm-umc.org/nicumw