

United Methodist Women's News

by

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ATTENTION LADIES! The UMW's Unit Meeting is after church on Sunday, December 16th at 12:15 p.m. in the church dining room. The meal will be catered by Olive Garden, we will have the pledge service for 2019, installation of officers, and a Christmas story. Please plan to attend. **Spouses are welcome.**

Please be aware that the GIVING TREE is up in the Narthex. I hope you will help to cover it with new caps, toboggans, scarves, gloves, mitten, and socks (lots of socks) for all ages. Items will be distributed to our neighbors who come to the Friday Night Ministries or to any other person who is in need of some warm article of clothing. I trust you were aware of all your blessings as you celebrated Thanksgiving. Now, with the purchase of an article for the **GIVING TREE** you can pass on a "blessing" to someone else.

The Leadership Team (L Team) of United Methodist Women has set up a schedule for 2019 and one item you will note is our **Ministry One** projects: **January:** Food Pantry; **May:** Heart and Hand; **November and December:** Giving Tree. Hopefully you will put these on your calendars and support **Ministry One.**

At our St. Marks UMW Retreat in October, the officers looked back over the year to see what St. Marks' Women had accomplished. The Spaghetti dinner was a success. We had two work sessions at Heart and Hand. We have been flexible and rescheduled meetings when necessary. We supported one of our youth to the Mission of Peace. Many of us have attended the District meeting, the spiritual growth retreat, and the spring district meeting in order to be better informed about what other UMW are doing in the Midland South District and around the conference. I am looking forward to 2019 as our UMW moves forward in mission.

Several members of St. Marks UMW attended the 45th Annual Meeting of WV Conference UMW held at Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church in Mineral Wells in October. The theme was "The Power of Belonging." The guest leader was The Reverend Dr. William Wilson who did an excellent job of helping us remember that we belong to God. "What does it mean to be chosen by God, to

be Holy?" This is what I remember: To be Holy means that you belong to God, to be filled by God , to be loved by God, to serve God. Beautiful, isn't it?

Church Women United and I want to thank you for saving your pennies for **The Fellowship of the Least Coin,**" which began as a global ecumenical women's prayer movement.

To Think About: "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence." Helen Keller

A Little Humor: "A little girl was helping her mother unpack the family's Nativity scene and set it up. As she unpacked each of the pieces, she said, 'Here are Mary and Joseph; here are the shepherds, here are the animals.' When she got to the figure of Jesus in the manger, she said, 'and here is the Baby Jesus in his car seat.' " --*Devotions to Leave you Smiling.*

Scripture: And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger. (Luke 2:7)