

Message from the UMW President

This past year was very important as it was the 150th Anniversary of United Methodist Women. In October we celebrated at United Methodist Women Sunday, conducting the worship service followed by a reception. That was also Undies Sunday where we collected undies for Heart and Hand. During the year we had informative and entertaining unit meetings. We had work days at the clothes closet and Christmas bell ringing at Heart and Hand. We, along with the Friday Night Ministry group, had a very successful Souper Bowl Sunday and raised over \$3,200.00 for our Friday Night Ministries.

In addition, we had two fund raisers, a spaghetti dinner and the sale of Terri Lynn nuts. Through our Ministry One project we collected items for the Covenant House food pantry and for Heart and Hand. The Giving Tree collected hats, gloves, scarves and socks for Friday Night Ministries. In December we were able to contribute a total of \$1,180.00 to KVC Foster Care Agency, the Children's Therapy Clinic, Heart and Hand, Gabriel Project and Covenant House along with purchasing blankets and socks for Friday Night Ministries. We also provided \$500.00 toward Madeline Johnson's Mission of Peace Trip. We want to thank all those who have participated and contributed toward our success and hope that you will continue to do so.

United Methodist Women meets quarterly, immediately after worship for our unit meetings. This year's meetings are March 15, June 14, September 13 and December 20. They include an informative program, fellowship, information sharing and of course wonderful food. Topics of study this year are social justice and climate justice. We will have work days at the Heart and Hand clothes closet. Our Ministry One Project will collect cereal for Covenant House food pantry in January, in May breakfast items for children for Heart and Hand and the Giving Tree in December items for Friday Night Ministries.

United Methodist Women provides you opportunities outside Saint Marks by participating in both District and State meetings. These provide wonderful learning experiences, nourishes our spiritual growth and provides excellent opportunities to meet and expand friendships with other United Methodist Women. There is a Spring District Meeting March 29 and Fall District Meeting September 19 and the Annual State Meeting will be October 23-24 at Alpine Lake. Two outstanding learning experiences are the Spiritual Growth Retreat April 17-18 and Mission u. June 25-27 both at Cedar Lakes. Watch the Bulletin and bulletin board for times and locations.

We look forward to 2020 and want it to be another successful year. I want to thank my Leadership Team, without them I could not do this job. I also want to thank everyone who has pledged, participated and supported our efforts and encourage those that have not to get involved. **Saint Marks United Methodist Women are the best, come join us.**

Margaret Waybright
President