

Report

United Methodist Women

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4 The United Methodist Women continue to fight for the rights of women, children and youth. We practice Faith,
5 Hope and Love in action. This includes our support for social actions causes. We continue to help women who
6 are victims of domestic violence, and those forced into human trafficking. We fight for the rights of women and
7 children being held in our immigration detention centers and the need for legal representation to keep families
8 together.

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10 We continue to acknowledge racial justice issues. Many of us traveled to Blackstone, VA , where nine
11 conferences attended a Charter for Racial Justice seminar. We discussed issues concerning the United Methodist
12 Women. Our delegates for General Conference and our Bishop received information expressing our concerns for
13 racial justice. A committee was created to become involved with our state legislators to work with the United
14 Methodist Women and its social action issues.

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16 The United Methodist Women have concerns about those affected by mass incarceration and provide support
17 for those victims who are returning back into society. We also are fighting for providing equal pay for women
18 and supporting the working poor. This includes petitioning major food chains and restaurants to practice fair
19 labor laws for migrant workers and their families.

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21 A campaign was launched with The League of Women’s Voters to register our youth, and seniors in assisted
22 living facilities. It is important to document addresses changes for absentee ballots and provide the opportunity
23 to vote during the upcoming presidential elections.

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25 Environmental justices are another form of support to save our environment with its climate changes. This is
26 one of the studies being presented this year at Mission “u.” Our 2015 UMW spring meetings addressed some of
27 these issues. We had a program on “Going Green” and “ Living after Super Storm Sandy.” We learned how to
28 prepare our own natural cleaning products such as all-purpose cleaner, furniture polish and laundry soap. Then
29 we discussed how NJ disposed of the trash accumulated from the homes destroyed by Sandy. This included
30 cleaning up the debris from beaches and the back bays from the flooding. Our other environmental event
31 included “Saving the Bees.” Our bees are being destroyed by the use of GMO’s. This is the use of genetically
32 altered seeds which affect the bees and destroy their hives. Bees are an important part of our food chain in
33 pollinating our crops and fruit trees.

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35 2015 brought awareness to our sisters of different cultures and race. Our Korean and Hispanic language
36 coordinator and Conference presidents gathered in Nashville, TN for” VOICES,” a seminar presented by UMW
37 National. We discussed topics on how to be more inclusive with our Korean and Hispanic sisters. Also we
38 discussed choosing your delegates for General Conference and to keep the decisions in prayer.

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40 Mission “U”/ Cooperative School of Christian Mission theme for 2015 was “In Christ a new creation!” 2
41 Corinthians 5:17b. This again included three- day weekend studies at Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ.
42 Saturday included a one- day school experience. The study themes were Created for Happiness, Latin America:
43 People and Faith, The Church and People with Disabilities. The Conference study session was The Church,
44 Policing and The New Jim Crow. Classes were provided in Korean and Spanish for our Korean and Hispanic
45 United Methodist Women. We also included programs for our children and youth. This year our worship services
46 were held in Korean and Spanish with translation in English. This was a new experience and was well received.
47 Our love offering supported The Amistad After School Program. Our ingathering included collecting can goods
48 for the Food Bank of New Jersey.

Reports to the 2016 Annual Conference

1 Our fall meeting involved speakers Deaconess Molly Vickery and Rev. Vanessa Wilson who brought us
2 information and biblical support in Maternal Child Health issues. Music was provided by Grace Pugh -Hubbard.
3 Our ingathering collected 124 layette kits and extra supplies with funding for shipping and handling were sent to
4 The Northfield Hub for UMCOR distribution.

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6 The Greater New Jersey United Methodist Women sent representatives to United Nations Seminar supporting
7 twenty years of addressing women's issues around the world. Our ladies spent time discussing racial justice
8 issues. Also they addressed the abuse of women and promoting improving self -esteem and education for
9 women with our global missionaries.

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11 Several of our women also attended the United Methodist Women National Seminar in Chicago, IL. The theme
12 was Interrupting Indifference: Jesus Justice and Joy. The National Seminar equipped and empowered its
13 participants to engage leaders for social justice by practicing skills and tools to respond to current social issues.

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15 Through the participation in the global ministries for the church the United Methodist Women continue to
16 practice Faith, Hope and Love in Action.

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18 Blessings,

19 Marilyn Powell

20 GNJUMC, President

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