



# Spring Brings New Life

## District President

## Mission Focused

We all know the story of our UMW beginnings that blustery night in Boston at the Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in March of 1869. Our first two missionaries, Dr. Clara Swain and teacher Isabella Thoburn were well ahead of their times; these women were bold and visionary! They were touched by the needs of the people of India! Today, their missionary contributions are indelibly etched!!! The Clara Swain Hospital and the Isabella Thoburn College, both in India, are currently being supported by your UMW mission giving.

Today, just from the Virginia Conference, the UMW raises over \$760,000 toward the \$16 million spent for local, state, national, and international mission work. Beginning with eight women in 1869, today worldwide UMW membership is over 800,000 women supporting missions across the US and in 120 countries around the world.

Some of these international missions include:

- A UMW grant to start the Nyadire School of Midwifery in **Zimbabwe** graduating 100 midwives annually as Primary Care Nurses trained in obstetric and newborn care. The midwives serve as the only health care workers delivering babies in most rural communities. UMCOR sends birthing kits to this program and programs like this around the world;
- We support pro-literacy programs to tribal women and their families in **Niger**;
- We are also educating women in micro-business skill development so they can participate in fair trade markets;
- We fund health programs for pregnant and lactating women living with HIV/AIDS in **Kenya**;
- In **Sierra Leona**, the UMW bring hope to woman and children impacted by the Ebola crisis of 2014 exploring loss, grief, trauma, and the importance of support; as well as a residential facility and community outreach program for orphaned children;
- In **Senegal**, the UMW provides entrepreneurial training of indigenous teens and young women in the manufacture of clothing, as well as vocational training in leadership, business, and agriculture;
- We supply grants to support the Rural Women's Livestock Cooperative Project in **Haiti**;
- In **Vietnam** we give a grant to support the Start of Healing Journey for victims of human trafficking;
- In **Serbia** we support the Roma women's empowerment project to increase literacy among young Roma women;
- We support programs to teach the German language to **Syrian** refugees that are now living in **Germany**;

Dian McNaught

President



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# President's Message Continued...

- In **Russia**, we have outreach programs for families facing substance and domestic abuse as well as support the Susannah Wesley Care Center offering transformative education, counseling, life skills, and spiritual growth opportunities for Russian women living in crisis near United Methodist churches;
- In **Mongolia**, the land of Genghis Khan, twenty-six years ago were NO Christians in the country and today there are over 100,000 believers with Bible studies, prayer groups, and Sunday services in over 800 Christian churches. The UMW supports programs in the smaller of the two major cities;
- In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** the UMW supports eight indigenous missionaries and eight American Couple missionaries in six different locations with programs for crop production for rural women so they have food security, as well as offer nutritional education. They also have peace keeping projects that increases the number of women in peace keeping between the two largest people groups, the Bantou and the indigenous pygmies. The UMW also awards ten full college scholarships to ten young DRC women to attend US universities;
- In **Hong Kong** the UMW is a partner in a migrant worker's shelter for people from third world countries abused by their employers.

Like the original eight women of Boston, the women of the UMW have been visionary and activist:

- The women of **Farmville Virginia** saw a need for over 4,806 children in the Blue Ridge mountains of southwestern Virginia, a formidable barrier to education for these mountain children. Because of strong leadership, executive abilities, and vision, these Methodist women built a mission high school for boys and girls that today is Ferrum College. A much needed branch school system emerged and six private elementary feeder schools were also built for the underserved elementary school children;
- In **Greensboro, North Carolina** the local UMW raised money to give every child in an underserved elementary school, eight books to take home and read during the summer months;
- In **Hardin, Montana**, the UMW erected a small birdhouse-like structure holding free books to take or exchange. This "Reach Out and Read" program of twenty years ago has evolved into the Little Free Library and has now branched out to over 32,000 registered Little Libraries around the world;
- Or our own **Wesley Community Center** in Portsmouth, begun in 1937 by the United Methodist Women of Portsmouth with continued support from the Virginia Conference UMW. Serving a community with education, financial, and social issue needs, the center is now in its 77th year of service and ministry;
- Or the **Henry Fork Service Center** of Danville established in 1967 by Charlotte Seegars, sent to Franklin County as a General Board of Global Ministries Church and Community Worker. She worked within the church and began many UMW units. Seeing the many needs in this community: fighting, neglect, unemployment, broken homes, abuse, truancy, low incomes illegitimacy, school drop outs, and running moonshine, just to name a few. The center was founded and continues today to make God's love visible by being a positive Christian presence in the community.

It is no wonder that God has called United Methodist Women to this Christ-centered mission of attending to the needs and concerns of women, children, youth and those pushed to the margins of society; the vulnerable, the "lest of these" who occupy a special place in God's heart.

**We must open our eyes to injustice.** We must stand with those who are vulnerable and marginalized, even in the face of the aggressor, we need to stand!

**We must pay attention and be bold enough to not just accept the status quo.** Jesus' example teaches his followers to observe what's going on around them and act. As Christians, we are challenged to remember our own times of vulnerability and then listen to the strangers among us. Hebrews 13:2 says "Don't neglect to show hospitality, for by doing this some have welcomed angels as guests without knowing it." Welcoming the sojourner is so vital to the expression of Christian faith that to engage in this form of hospitality is to participate in our own salvation.

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# President's Message Continued...

**The poor and marginalized can teach us a lot.** The widow in the Scriptures who gave her all in the offering even though the “system” may have abused her. She took her tithing seriously. There are still abuses in high places today that put the most vulnerable among us in even more precarious conditions. The widows, orphans, migrants, and outcasts still have a special place in the heart of God, and throughout the scriptures God still commands care and protection for them.

**And last, God is watching.** United Methodist sisters. God sees what you do. God is mindful of your second mile giving. What you have to give may not be money. It may be time. God is mindful of the hours you put in to planning and hosting the many funeral dinners, soup sales, bake sales, craft sales, flea markets, to raise funds that make the UMW mission outreach possible in your community, in your county, throughout Virginia, in the United States, and around the world.

God is mindful of your prayer circles, craft groups, book clubs, visitation teams, no matter how big or small, that reach out to those who are facing illness or who just need a boost of spirit. God sees when you take a stand and speak up for justice for women, children, youth, migrants, and others in vulnerable situations and communities that the powerful regularly ignore. As Paul explained in Romans 12:1, that is our “spiritual worship”. Sometimes we forget this and believe worship is confined to church buildings, But it’s not. And with service and making mission possible comes a joy that only doers of the Gospel can experience. So, United Methodist Women, **feel the Joy!** Go forth! God is with us! God knows all! and God loves us! Know that God of Glory is looking upon us today. We all want our God to look at us and say, “See? That’s my child there!”

**Who are We?** We are United Methodist Women, a Christian membership organization where women grow spiritually, develop as leaders, and serve and work to create a world in which ALL women, children and youth thrive. We are women on a mission

**What is mission?** Mission is presence, relationship, witness, and sharing. Mission is refusing to turn away when the tears of God are being shed over the violence and injustice and suffering of God’s wayward creation.

As written in Micah 6:1-7, God is telling the people of Israel all that He had done for them and in verse 8, the questions is “*What now does God require of you?*” The answer...”*But to act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God!*”



## Let us pray...

O Lord hear our prayer! We gather knowing that your presence is in our midst, and we ask you to embrace us together in unity, with one heart and one mind. You have honored us by sending your Son, Jesus, to teach and lead us, to set us free from our sinful lives. You have called and we now answer, “Hear we are Lord!”

Lord, guide us, direct us, and use us. Help us to care for the earth and those who live upon it, to pursue justice and peace, to love kindness and compassion. Help us to teach this to our children throughout the passage of the day, as we travel on our journey of faith. May our actions be faithful to the words of our mouths, and may the mediations of our hearts be pleasing to you, our God, and our redeemer.

**In Jesus name we pray, Amen.**

Information compiled from UnitedMethodistWomen.org, the response magazine, and the 2016 Prayer Calendar.

\*\*You are encouraged to use this information in your local UMW programs!

## FAREWELL BLACKSTONE

By the time that you read this article, **our beloved Blackstone Conference and Retreat Center (formerly VUMAC) will have permanently closed.** On March 11, 2016, the VUMAC Board made this decision and it was publicly announced on March 24. This difficult and prayerful decision was based on the continued decline in attendance over the past decade.

Besides declining attendance, the February 17th fire destroyed the new \$1.1 million dollar boiler and the building where it was housed. During the first year of use, the new boiler system saved over \$100,000 in heating costs.



Blackstone holds a very dear place in my heart and I am sure that it does for many of you. At our Annual UMW meeting this past October, we celebrated, with much hilarity, 40 years of Dime and Dollars for Blackstone, the conference UMW funds that assisted with operational maintenance and refurbishing of the rooms in BCRC. Over the 40 years, UMW was the second largest contributor to Blackstone. On October 24, 2015, the remodeled Wicker Room was dedicated, in memory of Ethel Born, as the United Methodist Women's Room. The late Ethel Born, an active Virginia United Methodist Woman, had served as Vice President of the United Methodist Committee on Relief and visited missions both international and in the States.



My times at Blackstone were always spiritually uplifting, a place 'to be apart', informative about UMW and being a Christian Woman and gave me an opportunity to meet women of faith and friendship. I hope that you, too, will reflect on all that Blackstone has meant to you. Please keep in your prayers the Blackstone staff who served us so well and for whom this loss is significant!

## WESTVIEW ON THE JAMES CAMP AND RETREAT

### Charleene Fraizer

*Vice President and  
Charlottesville  
District UMW  
Representative to  
the Westview Board*

Westview on the James, in Goochland County, is the beautiful, inviting and 'go to' place to experience outdoor ministries for the United Methodist Districts of Charlottesville, Fredericksburg and Richmond. Have you been there? If not, you should consider a day trip with your unit to learn about and explore this amazing facility. You will fall in love with this beautiful camp!! Not only a camp for kids but also a fantastic retreat center.

When you learn to love Westview, you will want to consider providing a campership for a youth of your church for a week of camp, send a grandchild to a Westview summer camp, support the Care and Connect program that offers a camp experience for deserving children whose families cannot afford this life changing experience or encourage youth of your church to attend a week at Westview. You may also want to become a "Friend of Westview", make a contribution to help defray the cost of a Wish List" item or have your UMW Westview Rep, Charleene Frazier, (434-589-8432 or email [crfscirm@embarqmail.com](mailto:crfscirm@embarqmail.com)) speak to your unit about Westview.

Please contact Charleene if you need summer camp brochures for your church or grandchildren.

To arrange a visit to or to volunteer at Westview on the James, contact the camp at 804-457-4210 or email at [1231westview@hughes.net](mailto:1231westview@hughes.net). You will find God in this place and your life will be changed!!



**U.M. Camp & Retreat Center  
Goochland, Virginia**

The United Methodist Women's Pledge to Mission funds support projects and organizations around the world. Internationally, Mission Giving supports 121 programs carried out by 107 organizations in more than 110 countries. Projects address issues such as income generation, education and leadership training, peace, rights advocacy, health education, migrant and refugee rights, and so much more....

Another little known UMW program, Bible Woman, has a long history. The Bible Women program was initiated in 1869 by the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. Two early missionaries, educator Isabella Thoburn and Dr. Clara Swain, began to train women, initially in India, to become church lay workers whose mission was to bring the gospel's Good News to the poor, sick, and hungry of their day. By 1879 the Society was supporting 200 Bible Women and native teachers in India, China, Japan, Italy, South America, and Mexico. These indigenous Bible Women lived among the people she served, usually already spoke their language, and learned the particular culture of their assigned community. She would translate songs, hymns, and Bible passages into their language in order to talk about Jesus. With the Bible as their main resource, these early missionaries taught marginalized, illiterate women without many rights, to read, write, to know that they are the children of God, and to also become Bible Women.

Early Bible Women were trained in a six-month period of time and then went on to serve at a local community assigned to them by the church. It was an indigenous laywoman's avenue for service in the church. Later, two to three year courses of study evolved to train these women. In some locations, courses of study toward becoming a deaconess replaced the Bible Women study and work around the time of World War II. How many of these original Bible Women remain alive today is unclear, but there were at least twelve remaining in the Philippines as recently as 2000.



Mary Jeffries,

Education and Interpretation Coordinator

The Bible Women Program, an initiative of the United Methodist Women, draws on the historical design and concept of bringing leadership training and development to today's marginalized in remote and urban areas. Today's Bible Women trainers set a course of study in areas that focus on: Bible study, Literacy, Health/Nutrition, Economic Development and Human and Women's Rights. All courses are very basic in design and provide the beginning steps in moving away from being marginalized. The differences from the original Bible Women outreach inspiration continues to come from the creativity and dedication of the early missionaries and Bible Women of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, who brought the good news of Jesus to the poor, the sick, and the hungry.

Compiled from [unitedmethodistwomen.org/wherethe\\$goes/InternationalProjects/Bible Women](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/wherethe$goes/InternationalProjects/Bible%20Women)

## Are You Being Called?

Your District team is looking for a **Nominations Committee Chairperson**. This is a two year term with an option for another two year term. She would be responsible for finding candidates for the District board as openings come up. We are also looking for **four representatives** from each of the four clusters that will assist the chairperson with those searches.

We are also looking for a Membership, Nurture, and Outreach chairperson. Because this is such a large responsibility, we would like to recruit one person as the chairperson that will oversee the other two areas. She may select which of the tree she would like to be responsible for and then we will need to others to take the other two areas. One person for Membership, one for Nurture, and one for Outreach with one of the three women being the chair....

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact: Dian McNaught 434.277.8579\_E-mail [DCKGlobal@Yahoo.com](mailto:DCKGlobal@Yahoo.com)



**C**lose to half of the children in the United States are now living in low income families. Having just provided food for a family of six today through our ministry, Feed My Sheep. I know our rich country is not taking enough care of its best asset: its children. We are thankful for the food programs that do exist, but our churches and government need to be doing more. Research is clear that poverty is the single greatest threat to children's well being. Most parents are working, but the minimum wage of \$7.25/hour has not kept up with the cost of living and that living wage should be \$11.36/hour. These are issues we must confront our policy makers with through phone calls, e-mails and letters.

Another issue facing Methodists is the issue of smart gun laws. More than 70% of Americans in a recent poll mistakenly believe the United States has a system of registration of firearms or firearm owners. A limited system was created in 1934 to impose an excise tax on a narrow category including machine guns, short-barreled shotguns or rifles and silencers. Only Hawaii and the District of Columbia require the registration of all firearms. The rest of the states have a hodge-podge system. Canadians were visiting us last week and said all guns are registered in Canada, and they couldn't understand why we were hesitating. There are so many violent deaths in the US from the mishandling of guns. Pediatricians are prevented by law to discuss gun safety to their little patients when they know children can be in danger. Something has to be done about it.

Also, please be aware of climate change, and the fact that we have politicians in this country who still don't believe the facts. Streets in Coral Gables and Miami, Florida are flooding at high tide on the coast, yet their Governor refuses to acknowledge their mayoral who pleads to him to help them.

And finally, does it surprise you that the first serious candidate for a woman President of the United States is a United Methodist Woman? Hillary Clinton fondly remembers attending meetings from the time she was a small girl with her mother. She has fought her whole political life for women and children.

Let call if I can give a program to your unit. 434-249-6892



**Barbara "Willow" Drinkwater**

*Social Action Coordinator*

## GET CONNECTED, STAY CONNECTED

### **Legacy Fund - Celebrating 150 years 1869-2019**

A permanent endowment to ensure the work of the United Methodist Women for the next 150 years. Please consider giving \$18.69 a year for years 2014-2019.

### **Looking for program suggestions???**

Visit [UnitedMethodistWomen.org](http://UnitedMethodistWomen.org). Click on **What We Do** or **For Members and Leaders** at the top, or click on one of the ten **Advocacy** subjects at the bottom of the page for information and resources. Call your District board members for Climate Change 101 or Human Trafficking Barbara Drinkwater; Charleene Frazier for Camp Westview information; Dian McNaught UMW 101 Climate Change, Reading program Eileen Wolfe, Mission programs Mary Jeffries.

“The Prayer Calendar is a resource each of us can use daily to seek God, experience the work of missions and receive God’s blessings.” This quote is in the Forward section of the Prayer Calendar. It is written by Harriett Jane Olson, General Secretary and CEO, UMW, and Thomas Kemper, General Secretary, General Board of Global Ministries.

I wondered how our District UMW units used the Prayer Calendar, so I asked, and here are several examples:

### **Mt Pleasant UMW:**

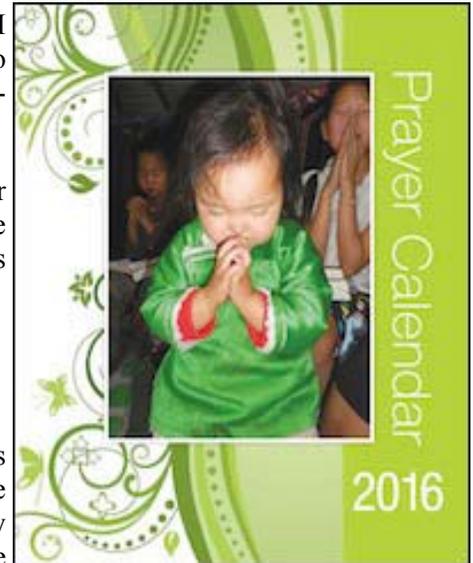
At the beginning of each meeting the prayer focus for that day is mentioned. I Google it ahead of time so I can present more information about the mission to our group. It seems to add more meaning than to just read the name of the mission.

Each meeting we send cards to two of the missionaries listed in the Prayer Calendar. Several of our members enjoy making homemade cards so we pass the cards around during the meeting so each person can add their unique message as they sign their name.

We lift in prayer each of the missionaries and the mission focus.

### **Rock Springs UMW:**

We use the Prayer Calendar at the beginning of every meeting. The scripture is read as well as the description of the Mission Focus for the day. We read the names of the missionaries or staff members who have a birthday on the same day of our meeting. Using the information from the directory in the back of the calendar, birthday greetings are sent to those people.



### **Louisa UMW:**

At our circle meetings and unit meetings, we share the names of personnel whose birthday is on the day of the meeting. We also mention the mission focus projects, share the quotes from that week and include all in our joys and concerns. A few times, each member at the meeting has been given the name and address of a missionary to send a note or card to tell them we are thinking and prayer for them and we thank them for their service for the Lord.

One unit has their members find a missionary, deaconess, or home missionary with the same birthday to get to know, send cards, emails of encouragement, and pray for. Mission Personnel and Places of Service are all listed in the back of the Prayer Calendar. Every week there is a page dedicated to a missions somewhere in the world. Articles written by missionaries about their particular mission, plus a daily focus on a specific mission as well as birthdays that week of those who serve. You want to know where your mission dollars are working? The Prayer Calendar will show you....

If your unit or circle does not use the Prayer Calendar, I hope these examples will help you see how it can be used in your meetings.



**Eileen Wolfe**

*Program Resources*

The calendars are available from [www.missionresources.org](http://www.missionresources.org) or 800 305-9857. The price is \$14. These are not just for UMW members. Order in bulk and sell for \$1 more to church members as a fund raiser for missions.

### **Reading Program Update:**

I recently received information from Linda Porter (Virginia Conference Secretary of Program Resources) announcing that the consignment process for Reading Program titles will eventually be phased out and replaced with a reading list of titles that members will have the option to purchase either electronically or in paper, but not from UMW Mission Resources. As I receive more information, I will keep you informed.

### Little Girl Dresses Delivered to Haiti

Dr. Dave Reynolds, a member of **Aldersgate UMC**, just recently returned from his 15th Medical Mission trip to Cap Haitian, Haiti. On this particular trip he took along 120 little girls' dresses for the young girls in the Robert Ford Haitian Orphanage. All the dresses were handmade by more than 20 women at Aldersgate, who used their sewing skills to construct each dress with love and care. Each dress also bore a cross on the front hem to let the girls know they were part of an extended Christian family. Not to be left out, over 30 pairs of soccer shorts were also delivered to the boys in the orphanage. Thanks be to God for this ministry to those little children that we and Jesus love. For more information on the orphanage visit [www.fordhaitianorphanage.org](http://www.fordhaitianorphanage.org) Information of the Haiti Mission see [www.thehaitimission.org](http://www.thehaitimission.org)

Tuesday's Table of Greene is a mission program, created in 2006, hosted by **Stanardsville UMC**. The program is designed to provide one healthy meal to any hungry and needy person in Greene County every Tuesday of the year. Every Tuesday between 200 and 250 healthy meals are prepared and served, for either takeout or for delivery, to residents of Greene county who might otherwise go hungry.

In addition, a time of Christian devotion is provided to those who have come for a takeout meal. This devotion is typically led by whichever church or group is providing the meal that day. This devotional time is voluntary and is not required for someone to receive their meal.

We have identified three levels of partnership for churches or mission minded groups interested in coming along side us in this important mission effort. They are:

1. Full Meal Partner
2. Financial Only Partner
3. Volunteer Only Partner

Full Meal Partners plan a menu, purchase and prepare the food for 200 to 250 meals. (A more specific quantity will be determined in the week prior to the assigned Tuesday.) Meals can be prepared in the Stanardsville UMC kitchen or prepared off site and brought to the church. Full Meal Partners are responsible for providing the necessary team members to plate the meals, distribute the meals for takeout at the church, and provide kitchen and fellowship hall cleanup. It is suggested that 8 to 10 team members be provided. **Stanardsville UMC** provides all necessary paper products.

An important part of the process is for Full Meal Partners to provide team members who will engage our neighbors in friendly Christian conversation designed to build healthy relationships and let them know they are cared about. Meal partners will also be responsible for providing a 15 to 20 minute time of Christian devotion in the sanctuary before meals are served.

Financial Only Partners provide financial assistance that can be used to purchase necessary food for the preparation of meals. Typically providing 200 to 250 meals will cost approximately \$700.00. However, financial assistance in any amount is greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to **Stanardsville UMC** – Tuesday's Table of Greene.

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The Charlottesville District UMW Executive Team joyfully welcomes our newest member, **Margaret Alderman**. Margaret joins our team as our Spiritual Growth Coordinator.

Margaret was raised in Los Angeles with a large extended family and is a life-long Methodist. She has fond early memories of her mother's participation in the Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS). Over time she was in Sunday school, confirmed, part of the MYF and the choir (even acting as choir director for awhile). Music was a big part of her family life.

She attended local schools, and went to the University of Southern California (on scholarship) for both a BS in Business and an MBA in Marketing. Those were early days for women in business; there were only four women in the MBA program. While at USC, her primary social and religious base was centered in the Wesley Foundation.

She met her husband, Bill, in grad school and they married after she graduated. They both worked in the Los Angeles area for several years, during which they were active in a UM young couples group and Margaret in the choir. Two sons, Ray and Michael, were born while in the Los Angeles area.

They moved to northern California in 1970 where Bill, and later Margaret, worked in technology marketing. While working for 3Com, a networking and telecommunications company, Margaret took a job which meant a move to the Chicago area. They established roots there, in part, by actively participating in a Methodist church. Retirement saw their move to the Charlottesville. Bill was raised in C'ville, attending Lane High School and UVA.

While in California, Margaret & Bill attended a Cursillo retreat and became active in that servant community. Cursillo (an Episcopal version of the Walk to Emmaus) was vital in that area. They participated in the Emmaus community while in Illinois, but haven't found a local group yet.

Living at Lake Monticello, Bill and Margaret joined Wesley Memorial and then Cunningham UMC. She is active in the UMW and the choir (you've probably noticed a music theme). Margaret also is a Master Gardener and participates in the Beautification Committee of Lake Monticello.

Margaret believes strongly in the power of women working and praying together. Further, she believes there is a special connection with Christian "sisters" who share their faith journey.

Please help us welcome Margaret and join us in looking forward to her spiritual messages and devotions.

## UMW LATEST UNIT DISTRICT NEWS

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**Volunteer Only Partners** provide team members in any quantity to help prepare and distribute meals. The number of team members must be scheduled in advance and can either help in the kitchen to prepare and serve meals, and/or they can serve as a delivery team for one of four delivery routes. Each route includes the name, address, phone number, and directions for making delivery. Each route takes approximately 90 minutes to two hours to complete. Delivery teams provide the necessary delivery vehicle, gas, and liability insurance to complete deliveries each Tuesday.

**Tuesday's Table of Greene** invites you to partner with us in helping to eradicate physical and spiritual hunger in our county. Prayerfully consider becoming involved in this worthy mission program. For more information or to schedule a partnership, please contact our director – Doris Swenson at 408-858-5263 or by e-mail at [sprngchckn44@embarqmail.com](mailto:sprngchckn44@embarqmail.com).

UMW contributions can be made on the latest Remittance Form with our new treasurers name at the bottom. Use Advance Specials #5024 for donations.

# 2016 Charlottesville District UMW Calendar

## (Deadlines in bold)

**June 3-4** ∞ UMW Day at Ferrum College (vaumw.com)

**June by the 10th** ∞ **3rd quarter remittance due to District Treasurer**

**June 11, Saturday** ∞ UMW Day at Ferrum College

**June 17-19, Fri - Sun** ∞ Virginia UM Annual Conference, Roanoke

(Main offering: Cambodia Missions to support the rapid Christian growth with funds to be used to train new lay and clergy leadership, purchase property and construct new Methodist churches: Brazil to support The Shade and Fresh Water Project supporting street children, Mozambique to train laity for the hundreds or new United Methodist churches in two conferences, and Virginia for continued tornado support for Farmville, James River and Fredericksburg districts. The goal is to collect \$150,000 for these missions. Please consider sending a UMW unit donation for this conference offering.

**June 18, Saturday** ∞ UMW Breakfast at conference

**July 23, Saturday** ∞ Executive Team Meeting, 9:30 to 12:30

**July 29-31, Fri - Sun** ∞ Mission Encounter, Blackstone

(Randolph Macon College, Ashland, Virginia Early bird registration through June 30th. The registration form can be found on vaumc.com. Mission Studies include: Spiritual Growth: The Bible and Human Sexuality; Issue Study: Climate: Justice: Call to Hope and Action; Geography Study: Latin American - People and Faith. Study books can be ordered in advance both in print and kindle version on vaumw.com/missionencounter)

**September by the 10th** ∞ **4th quarter remittance due to District Treasurer,**

∞ **2016 Deceased Sisters due to MN&O District Coordinator, Alice Bibb**

**September 15, Thurs** ∞ **Reading Program, Living into Our Purpose, 5 and 6 Star Unit, 2017 individual and unit Pledge to Mission pledges due**

**September 16-17, Fri - Sat** ∞ Young Women's Event, Blackstone

Charlottesville District UMW  
18939 Monrovia Road  
Orange, VA 22960

