

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
2013

United Methodist Women is a community of women who nurture and encourage one another in their spiritual growth, personal leadership and transformation. Our stated purpose is:

*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.*

This lofty statement gives three “assignments”: to encourage the women of our church through opportunities to enrich their personal walk with God; to provide the opportunity to gather as a community of Christian women to share experiences, pray, serve, and strengthen us in our journey; and to be the loving arms, hands and feet of Christ in this world that has so many needs.

This is the challenge that faces the Mission Team (officers) of Christ United Methodist Church’s United Methodist Women. We try to accomplish all of these goals as we plan our year. We began our year with United Methodist Women’s Sunday with the women of the church leading worship and Pastor Tabler installing our officers for this year. It was followed by a time of fellowship with a bag lunch (and too many announcements!) for all the women of the church. Our program topic for the year included immigration, an issue of relevance in New Jersey and which cries out for the compassion of Christ. We also looked at the Power of Sisterhood – what we can accomplish through our community as United Methodist Women. During the summer we sponsored a movie night (and a book discussion (“Cross Roads” by Wm. Paul Young). As United Methodist Women, we make a monetary pledge which goes to United Methodist Women district, conference, jurisdiction and national organization. This supports programming and mission work in New Jersey, the United States, and around the world. We also support many local missions such as FISH, FISH Hospitality, CUMAC/ECHO, Aldersgate/Pinelands Center and Camden Neighborhood Center (a UMW project.)

Our major fundraising event which we accomplish with the assistance of our congregation is the annual bazaar held the first Saturday in November. In addition to our rooms of Attic Treasures, used clothing, toys, etc. we have a Craft Show in the Fellowship Hall. It is a great opportunity to do some holiday shopping while picking up some hidden treasures in the clothing, toys, etc. and have lunch while you are here. We always welcome people (men and women) who would like to staff a room for a two-hour shift or give breaks to other workers so they can eat lunch. Help is always needed setting up during the week before and returning the Sunday School rooms to class-ready condition that afternoon. Good work + good company = a good time.

- We are anticipating the quadrennial national Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky in April, 2014. This gathering offers music, worship, workshops, speakers, and fellowship to feed our souls to continue to do the Lord’s work through United Methodist Women. Come join us in Louisville!

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Conklin, co-president