



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# Trinity Women

## WOMEN RISING UP FOR HUMAN DIGNITY AND RIGHTS



Guest Speaker: Denise Purgold  
Lead Therapist for UMFS

### Circle 1

We will meet on Tuesday, October 16, at 9:30 am in the Mastin Room. Our meeting will include updates on ongoing projects and a Floral Workshop led by Vanessa Capocelli.

### Circle 5

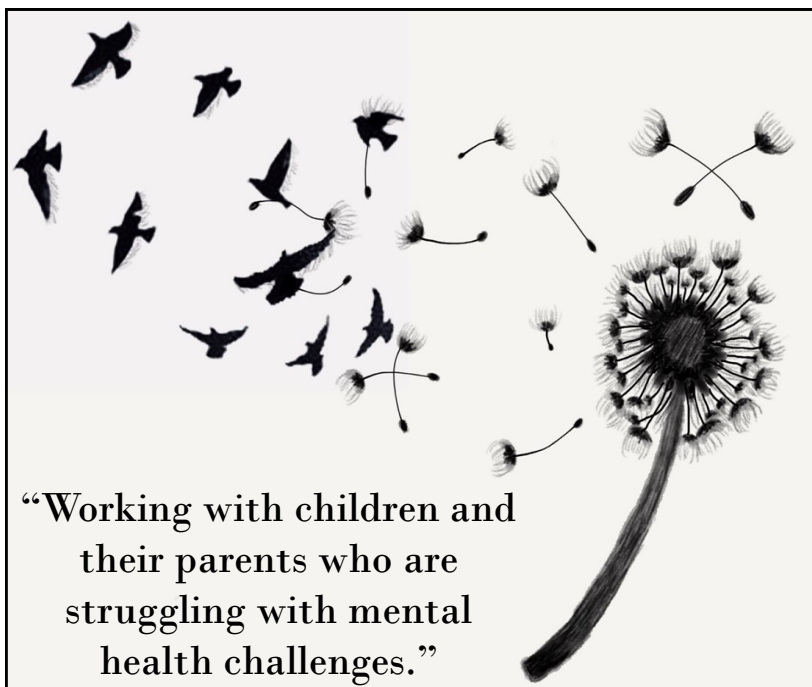
On Tuesday, October 16, we will take a field trip to St. Luke's Church and have lunch at Smithfield Inn Restaurant.

### Circle 6

We will meet on October 2 at Trinity in a first floor room TBD, at 10:30 am. We will receive pledges from those who were not there in September and submit our circle's total pledge to Shari Adams. Our program will be presented by Janet Sommerville on the Mattaponi Healing Eagle Clinic and we will lunch together afterward at Mosaic restaurant.

### Circle 10

We will get together October 4 at Jan Booker's to hear and share ideas with Stacy Campbell, UMW President. On November 1, we meet at the home of Ridley Eunice when Anna Muller will impart information on Westview on the James.



“Working with children and their parents who are struggling with mental health challenges.”

## Pledge Service for 2019

**Tuesday, October 9**

9:00 AM Board Meeting, Mastin Room

10:15 AM Unit Meeting, Trinity Hall

## President's Letter

After the visit from Hurricane Florence in September, hopefully October will bring all of our favorite things, cooler temperatures, fall foliage and all things pumpkin. Our UMW Unit meeting is on October 9th and will feature Denise Purgold from UMFS speaking about helping children with mental illness. It is an issue that is very difficult to discuss and understand, but is crucial to helping our children, youth and young adults thrive in this difficult world. We will also have a Pledge Service which is a new thing to the Trinity UMW. There will be Pledge forms available to make your commitment for 2019 and if you can't be with us and would like to participate, contact me, Janet Hill, Jo Lewis or Janet Sommerville, and we will assist you.

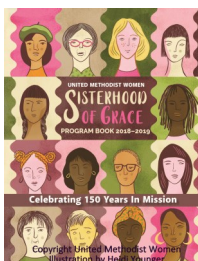
The directories are printed and have been distributed to the Circle leaders. Thank you to Sharon Wenger for updating our information, to Amy Barefoot for her tech support and to Judy Oguich for mastering the copy machine and getting these booklets printed.

Looking ahead now to November, Harvest Day is just around the corner. Please make your reservation using the brochures found in the Welcome Center. We will also have plenty at the October Unit meeting. Harvest Day is such a joyful and meaningful service. Consider inviting a friend to share this special day.

Peace and blessings,  
Stacy Campbell

### Thank You!

Thank you for the donation in memory of Ed.  
Thank you for the cards and prayers. I am doing well and hope to get to the meetings this year.  
- Blessings to all, Dee Clements



### Trinity United Methodist Women

For more information about the UMW, contact UMW President Stacy Campbell at 762-8922 or [stacybcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:stacybcampbell@gmail.com).  
[www.trinityumc.net/umw](http://www.trinityumc.net/umw)

## Treasurer's Tidbit



So far this year, the members of the UMW Circles at Trinity UMC have donated pledges of \$3,669. These pledges fund the projects that are

important to Trinity's UMW unit (all the Circles combined), and it also allows the unit to make donations to worthy organizations. Each year, a portion of our pledges is "pledged" to the Richmond District UMW. This is similar to the concept of Trinity UMC sending money to the Virginia Conference each year. If you have made a pledge to UMW this year, thank you! If you have not yet done so, it is NOT too late. Please place a check in the UMW Treasurer's mailbox in the church office or mail it to me at 1808 Le-Suer Road, Henrico, 23229. Thank you! Working together we can do great things!!!

- Shari Adams

## Save that Box Top!

An easy way to help schools address some of their operating needs is by clipping and saving those "Box Top for Education" labels. They can be found on products by General Mills, Yoplait and Kleenex, among others. Did you know that each of these labels is worth 10 cents and each school can earn up to the maximum of \$20,000? So don't throw them away, please remember to save that "Box Top". For 2018, Trinity supports Tuckahoe Middle School. We alternate each year with the UMFS Charterhouse School and Oak Grove Bellmeade School. Please drop them in the Box Top Education labelled plastic shoe box at Mission Central.

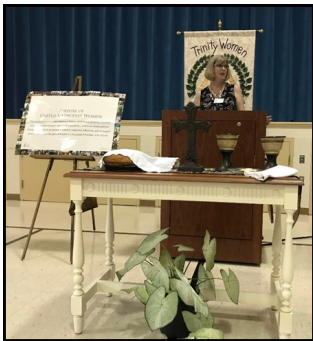
From January to September 2018, we collected 888 box tops church wide or the equivalent of \$88.80 for Tuckahoe Middle School. Thank you everyone. Please keep clipping and saving those box tops.

There is still time to help Tuckahoe Middle School this year. Even just a few box tops from each of us will go a long way.



## Kicking off the New Program Year

Trinity UMW held its first unit meeting on September 11th in Trinity Hall. The new officers were installed by Reverend Judy Oguich, Trinity's Minister of Adult Ministries. Stacy Campbell will serve as the UMW President and spoke to the ladies after her installation. Janet Hill, Jo Lewis, and Janet Sommerville were installed as Co Vice Presidents. Susan Burger and Shari Adams will continue as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. We were pleased to have Reverend Bill Bare with us to assist Judy with Communion. Our new UMW President, Stacy Campbell, presented to the group, "The Power of Why?". The question of 'why?' is spoken every day, millions of times, pertaining to an array of subjects, but in the UMW, why are we here? Why do you participate? Why is this special to you? Stacy stated that UMW brings together unique talents from women to help others, so would we make our founding women proud? This year UMW celebrates its 150th Anniversary. Have we answered their questions, and can we answer our own? As the new season begins, we must take time to thank those that came before us and thank the women that surround us. Through each other UMW can accomplish all we set out to do in our churches and communities. Christ's love is always present and resonates in the work we do for others. If no other answers come to mind, we know the mission of spreading God's love is always a powerful why.



*Stacy Campbell  
UMW President*



*Reverend Bill Bare  
during Communion.*



*Installation: Stacy Campbell, Jo Lewis, Janet Hill,  
Janet Sommerville, and Susan Burger  
(Not Pictured - Shari Adams)*

## Hermitage Holiday Bazaar

Mark your calendar for the Hermitage-Richmond Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale on Friday, October 26, from 10:30 am - 2:30 pm and on Saturday, October 27, from 9:30 - noon. We hope you will want to support this by baking items to be sold that can be brought to the front counter of the church office and placed in marked boxes for the sale. These will be picked up for delivery on Thursday, October 25, by 10 am. Christmas decorations you wish to donate or any other household items are most welcome. These should be taken to the donation area outside the balcony anytime from now until mid October. Thank you for your generous support and remember to come to this fun event.

Nancy Miller (740-3772) and  
Marble Jones (740-8002)

## Weinstein-Rosenthal Forum

The 32nd Annual Weinstein-Rosenthal Forum on Faith, Ethics, and Global Society will be October 8, from 7:00-8:30 pm at the Modlin Center for the Arts, Alice Jepson Theatre. The title is "What We Need Is Here: Hope, Hard Times, and the Human Possibility." Join Parker J. Palmer, Carrie Newcomer, and Gary Walters in a dynamic interweaving of music, poetry, prose, personal story, and audience participation. "What We Need Is Here" addresses our individual and collective yearning for a human scale way of understanding and responding to challenges of the hard times we are living in, moving beyond powerlessness about a world that appears overwhelming and invincible by activating the powers of the human heart and the human community. This event is free and open to the public. No reservations are required.

# “Carrying the Light and Life of the Gospel”

## Isabella Thoburn and Dr. Clara Swain Serving in India

Last month we discussed the foundation of the Women’s Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS), led by Clementina Butler and Lois Parker. The prerogative of the society was to serve women and children in India, who did not have immediate access to education and medical care. Isabella Thoburn and Clara Swain were the first two missionaries sent to India by the WFMS. Not only were these women dedicated to missionary work, they were seen as leaders in their profession in a time when few women had careers and women were still fifty years from winning the right to vote. Let us take a closer look at their accomplishments.



MISS ISABELLA THOBURN.

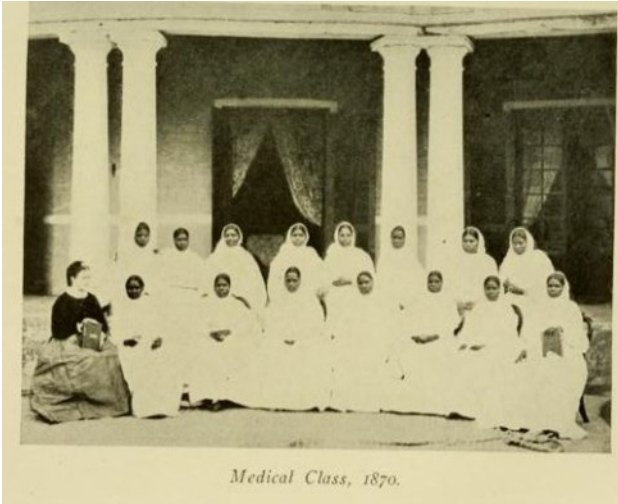
Isabella Thoburn (1840-1901) was born in Ohio, and she was educated at Wheeling Female Seminary in Wheeling, [West] Virginia. Her brother, James Mills Thoburn, was also a missionary serving in India. He invited her in 1866 to teach, but she put off going to India until the WFMS sponsored her in 1869. In India she was a highly respected educator. Clara Swain admired Thoburn’s tenacity and wrote in 1872, saying “she is one of the choice spirits.”

Thoburn’s work in India culminated with the foundation of a woman’s college in Lucknow in 1870. This college continues to operate today as Isabella Thoburn College. He also oversaw the creation of Methodist High School in Kanpur. Both of these schools are significant because they served a population formerly without access to education. In the late nineteenth century, Thoburn returned to the United States to train another generation of educators. She later returned to India, where she died in 1901. Her brother wrote a full length biography of his sister’s life, because he felt her service should be recognized. As a dedication in the biography, Bishop David H. Moore captures her character well in saying that, “she made godliness plain to the aged and attractive to the young. ... Her life glorified the missionary work; her death enshrines it in the Church’s heart forever.”

Clara Swain (1834-1910) was born and raised in New York. She joined the Methodist church at a young age and aspired to serve God in her profession. She developed an interest in medicine and began her training at the Castille Sanatorium under the direction of Dr. Cordelia A. Greene, a well-known physician and suffragist. Swain later attended the Women’s Medical College of Pennsylvania (now a part of Drexel University), graduating in 1869.

In 1869, Mrs. Thomas, the director of the girls’ orphanage of the Methodist Mission in Bairelly, asked for a female physician to be sent to India. The WFMS sponsored Dr. Clara Swain. Swain, unlike Isabella Thoburn, kept copious letters of her travels and experiences in India. These were later published as *A Glimpse of India*. She describes her home in India and the many people she met and cared for. She describes the extraordinary and the scenes of everyday life to her sister. For example, she writes that “elephants are used considerably for riding and camels for carrying burdens. We see them passing every day.”





Dr. Clara Swain cemented her legacy in India by training many young women to practice medicine. She also oversaw the construction of a women's hospital in Bareilly, which remains in operation. It is known today as Clara Swain Hospital. Swain is remarkable as a physician, but what comes through in nearly all her letters is her Methodist faith. After spending five years in India, Swain writes in 1875 that, "God has said that His word shall not return unto Him void... These people come to us with the utmost confidence believing that our medicine will cure their ailments whatever they may be or how long standing, and while we endeavor to heal their bodies we are trying just as earnestly to minister to their souls."

Swain spent most of her adult life in India. One of my curiosities was, did she enjoy living in India? After all, it had to have been challenging with limited communication home, language barriers with the natives, and cultural differences. Swain says it best when she writes to her sister that, "I can never tell anyone how good it seems to me to get back here; I feel now that I can never leave India again. I have such a home feeling, and such a love for the people fills my soul that I cannot refrain from saying, this is my country, the land to which my Father has called me...."

Both Isabella Thoburn and Clara Swain demonstrate the profound impact women in ministry can have on those in need. Isabella Thoburn's work in India was a catalyst for educational mission, which remains a pillar of the UMW. Clara Swain continues to be an inspiration to female medical professionals and to the United Methodist Women as a pioneer in medicine and in missionary work.

Our story thus far has been focused abroad; however, it did not take long for the Methodist Women to get involved closer to home. Next month, we will look at the Women's Home Missionary Society which was founded in 1880.

Emily Campbell

For images and more information on Isabella Thoburn, see:

Thoburn, Bishop J.M. *Life of Isabella Thoburn*. Cincinnati: Jennings and Graham, 1903.

"Thoburn, Isabella (1840-1901): American Methodist Missionary and educator in India." Online. Boston University School of Theology, History of Missiology, <https://www.bu.edu/missiology/missionary-biography/t-u-v/thoburn-isabella-1840-1901/>.

For images and more information on Dr. Clara Swain, see:

Swain, Dr. Clara A. *A Glimpse of India: Being a Collection of Extracts from the Letters of Dr. Clara A. Swain First Medical Missionary to India of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America*. New York: James Pott & Company, 1909.

Nalini, Dr. Mrs. Marthal. "Pioneer Woman Physician as Medical Missionary to the Women of the Orient: Clara A. Swain, M.D. (1834-1910)." *International Journal of Innovation, Management and Technology* 1:2 (June 2010).