



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# Trinity Women



## Spring Blossoms into a Day of Service Projects

*Women Responding and  
Serving in Christ's Name*

**Tuesday, April 9**

10:00 am in Trinity Hall

Gathering & Sending Prayer: Rev. Judy Oguich

### Inviting these Donations:

- **UMFS Plant Sale 5/8 & 9 (9am -3pm):** Clear glass containers for succulent terrariums or colorful ceramic ones for dish gardens, 10-12 inch terra cotta pots, lined floral baskets
- **Go Bananas for Sherbourne Food Pantry:** Fresh or canned fruits for Sherbourne Food Pantry. Fruit is always in short supply and the food pantry aspires to include fruit every Wednesday for about 40 to 60 bags handed out each week.
- **Items for UMFS Birthday Bags:** deck of cards, pocket calculator, pen, pencils, erasers, tissues, highlighters, small games, note pads 5' X 8' & small puzzles

Thank you for your generosity. Please drop these donations in the designated areas or boxes in Mission Central on or before Tuesday, April 9, or in Trinity Hall on April 9 at 10:15 am.

### Service Day Projects and Leaders:

- Friendly visit to Pinnacle Living to visit residents who do not often receive visitors (Marble Jones & Nancy Miller)
- Deliver fresh or canned fruits to Sherbourne (Karen Adams & friends)
- Assemble 10 Baby Needs Bags for the Mom Support Group in PERC, Parenting Education Resource Center (Debbie Schmitt & Circle 1)
- Write Easter cards for UMW members and friends on the Sunshine List (Beth Davis & Stacy Campbell)
- Prepare candleholders for 2019 Advent Candlelight Service (Rev. Judy Oguich & friends)
- Assemble 20 Health Bags for annual Mattaponi Clinic visit (Wendy Floyd & Circle 4)
- Wrap muffins for 180 UMFS staff (Louise Girvin & Circle 5)
- Assemble Cookie bags with notes of encouragement for AA members who meet weekly in Trinity (Jo Lewis & Circle 6)
- Bring donations for UMFS plant sale or items for UMFS birthday gift bags and Sherbourne (Shari Adams & Circle 7)
- Assemble treat bags for 23 confirmands with John Wesley sentiment (Sharon Wenger & Circle 10)
- Polish bereavement committee silver (Sharon Wenger & Circle 10)
- Assemble 10 school kits for UMCOR (Gail Clelland, Sheila Norfleet & Circle 11)
- Sew Christmas stockings and tote bags (Janet Hill, Sandy Cain, Jean Craig Circle, & Trinity Stitches)

## From the President

Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote that “some old-fashioned things like fresh air and sunshine are hard to beat.” Isn’t that the truth? Spring brings the promise of renewal and warmer, sunnier days which for most of us is restorative and highly motivating. In April, we will have our Spring Service Day with projects to work on at church as well as visits to some of the local agencies we serve. It is a fun and productive day and I look forward to seeing you!

Looking ahead to May, I hope everyone has our May 14th Luncheon on their calendars. We will celebrate the 150th birthday of the United Methodist Women. There will be great stories, good food and cake! You won’t want to miss it.

- Stacy Campbell, Trinity UMW President

## Help Wanted!

Contact Stacy Campbell with questions or to volunteer at [sbcampbell@gmail.com](mailto:sbcampbell@gmail.com) or 762-8922

**Newsletter Editor** - Gathers articles by email and organizes them into a monthly newsletter.

**Publicity Chair** - Creates a flyer to promote the monthly program and submits it to the church office for use in the various media sources. Also works with the program committee to generate any additional printed materials needed.

**Mission Representative** (the official UMW title is Social Action Coordinator) - This position is somewhat of my own creation (when you volunteer to be President, you can do that!), and can be tailored to suit whomever agrees to help. It would be helpful to know what our agencies are collecting as donated items. Our UMW unit is very generous and enjoys donating to our program speakers, and to the agencies we serve regularly. This information can be easily gathered via the agency website, newsletter or by talking with those who serve as volunteers.

**Harvest Day Committee** - Be a Friend of Harvest Day! Note, I didn’t say Chairperson. The Committee will be facilitated by myself (Stacy Campbell) and Jo Lewis. We would like a group who wants to help organize our treasured service held in November. Minimal meetings, once in the Spring to get started and then a couple of times in the Fall if needed.

## Treasurer’s Tidbits

An offering of \$887 was received during the Call to Prayer service that was held on March 12. If you



were unable to attend the service but want to donate to the offering, please forward your donation to me ASAP. 100% of the money collected will go to this year's assigned mission focus of **Building a Thriving Generation of Children and Youth Worldwide**. The funds will go directly to partners engaged in programs and advocacy to support well-being and equal opportunities for children and youth in need.

- Shari Adams, Trinity UMW Treasurer

## Gift in Memory

A gift to the UMW National Mission Institutions was given in memory of Lila Bradford (Circles 2 & 9).



Her family received a card notifying them of this donation.

## Thank You Note

Dear Trinity United Methodist Women,

On behalf of my dear sweet Aunt Margaret (Mrs. Lechner), I want to thank you for the gift made in memory of a life well-lived. The cards and newsletters offered comfort as she dealt with advanced aging. In the end, Mrs. Lechner slipped quietly and graciously away to join her husband, Bob, and sisters.

Thank you for your kindness and sympathy at a time when it was deeply appreciated.

Kindest regards,  
Barbara V. Goodman (niece)



### Circle 1

On Tuesday, April 16, we will be going on our annual spring field trip and lunch outing. We also will be participating in UMW spring service day projects and directly supporting a project to support new moms through

PERC (Parenting Education Resource Center).

### Circles 2 & 9

At our last meeting we discussed the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program, the upcoming 150th birthday celebration for the UMW, and the Trinity UMW Legacy Fund.

### Circle 5

On Tuesday, April 16, we will take a field trip to Montpelier, the home of James Madison, and have lunch at Yoder's.

### Circle 6

We will meet on Tuesday, April 2, at 10:30 am in room 319. We will put our kits together and talk about Spring Service Day and our May Luncheon celebrating 150 years of UMW.

### Circle 10

At the March meeting, Circle 10 heard a speaker from Feed More and collected \$225 for the organization. We will meet on Thursday, April 4, at 7 pm at the home of Martie Parch. Kathy Barksdale from Crossover Ministries will be our guest speaker.

## The Hermitage

As you begin your Spring cleaning remember to pass on items you no longer need to Hidden Treasures at Hermitage-Richmond. Your donations can be sold and help to enrich lives of residents of the home. These can be taken to the area off from the balcony. Tax receipts are available in the church office. Remember the sale is always held on the fourth Friday of the month from 10:30 am-2:00 pm.

Questions? Call Nancy Miller (740-3772)

### *Sewing and Sharing Holiday Cheer!*

Last December, the Trinity Stitches created Christmas stockings that were filled with items by Nancy Miller and Marble Jones (our Hermitage-Pinnacle Living representatives) and given to 25 residents at the home. Many hands working together spreading joy and happiness during the season.



## 150 Years of UMW

As we prepare to celebrate 150 years of United Methodist Women, take time to reflect on the following questions: (from *Response* magazine March/April 2019)

- How and why do we need a women's mission organization in the 21st century?
- Do you have a favorite woman from the Bible or United Methodist Women's history? Why is she your favorite: If not, spend some time with you Bible and get to know some of our foremothers.
- What commitment will you make to accompany Jesus?

As our Trinity UMW prepares for our 150 Year Celebration of Christian Women uniting together to learn, pray and share on May 14, take time to record your thoughts:

- what led you to join UMW? What year?
- what does it mean to you to be a member of this group?
- projects embraced in past years you enjoyed
- what new opportunities our UMW should embrace?
- topics or speakers you would like to hear in future unit or circle programs?

# Bishops Marjorie Matthews and Leontine Kelly: The Bishop is a Woman!

Last month we discussed the significance of 1972. It was a key date for the United Methodist Women and for the Equal Rights Amendment. In the years that followed, women made major strides professionally and politically. This month I want to highlight two women who are examples of this progress in the United Methodist Church. In 1980 Marjorie Matthews was the first female elected bishop of any Christian denomination. In 1984 Leontine Kelly was the first African American woman elected to serve as a United Methodist bishop.



Marjorie Matthews was born in Onawa, Michigan on July 11, 1916. Following World War II, she and her husband divorced. With a young child to support, she took an administrative position at an auto parts manufacturer.

What is remarkable about Matthews is that she did not settle. She decided to pursue a Bachelor's degree, graduating in 1967 from Central Michigan at the age of 51. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Divinity from Colgate Rochester Divinity School in 1970 and a Master's Degree in Religion and a Doctorate in Humanities from Florida State University in 1976. As many of us know, it takes a strong, dedicated person to make a mid-life career change.

Matthews had congregations in Michigan, New York, and Florida. She was selected for the position of District Superintendent (she was the second woman in the denomination to attain that role.) Then in 1980 her election as bishop was endorsed by three annual conferences. This was a historic moment. Newspapers across the country had headlines saying "The Bishop is a Woman!"

Female clergy of the United Methodist Church continue to remember her service and character. In 2000 Matthews' friend, Rev. Kathy Sage, said that she was "personable, historic, feisty." Matthews has been recognized for her tremendous faith and her unwavering support of women in the church. She once said that "There are no models for me; I'll have to make my own." She recognized the significance of her election, and she saw it as her responsibility to set the standard. During her time as Bishop, she worked to improve the public opinion of female clergy in the United Methodist Church hoping that this would pave the way for women in the future. Matthews said that she tried "to accustom people to the idea that either a man or a woman can be a bishop", but she was at times surprised by the resistance saying "they would tell people in my church they were going to hell for having a woman minister."

Matthews served as a bishop until 1984 when she retired. She died of cancer on June 30, 1986. In her obituary Bishop James M. Ault of Pittsburgh said "her election as bishop was an important event not only in our tradition but for other

***Fun Fact: Marjorie Matthews was 4 feet, 11 inches tall. When she was consecrated as bishop, her stole was so long that it continued on to the floor as it had been designed for a six foot tall man.***

Protestant communions as well. ....She distinguished herself as a pastor and also as a teacher in her ministry as a bishop.”

Marjorie Matthews was a friend and mentor to Leontine Kelly. Matthews may have lead the way for women in leadership positions in the United Methodist Church, but Kelly was also a pioneer in her own right. She was only the second elected female bishop (along with Judith Craig in 1984) and the first African American woman.

Leontine Kelly was born on March 5, 1920 in Washington D.C. She came from a family of Methodist ministers. Her father, David D. Turpeau Sr., was a prominent Methodist minister and her mother, Ila Marshall Turpeau, was an outspoken advocate for women and African Americans. Leontine’s second husband, Dr. James David Kelly, was a United Methodist minister. When he died, she felt “the call” to lead a church. She, like Matthews, made a late career change. She graduated with a Bachelor’s degree from Virginia Union University in 1960. She then completed graduate work in economics, history, and humanities at North Texas State University, the University of Cincinnati, and the College of William and Mary. She completed the course of study for Ordained Ministers by attending summer school at Wesley Theological Seminary in 1970 and 1971. She then went on to earn her Master’s of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in 1976.



*“We must recognize the kind of culture in which Jesus and his disciples live. It was a very male-dominated culture. However, Jesus did violate the customs of the culture in that he talked with women, shared with women. Women were part of the entourage of Jesus Christ. God calls whomever God would call.”*

*- Rev. Leontine Kelly*

As you may expect, she was highly respected for her intellect. It is no surprise that she was elected as bishop in 1984. She had a reputation as an excellent administrator and dynamic preacher. She retired in 1988 and went on to focus on teaching. She worked as a visiting and adjunct professor throughout the United States and the world. She was instrumental in the foundation of Africa University, a Methodist-related institution in Zimbabwe.

Embodying the leadership and strength needed to be a female clergy, she also continued the traditions and teachings of the Women’s Foreign Missionary Society and Women’s Home Missionary Society. Her work abroad kept with the mission of the WFMS. She was also a passionate social activist, advocating for many progressive and controversial issues. She supported opening church to gays and lesbians, and she ministered to AIDS victims. The WHMS was founded on the mission of helping those less fortunate and those often forgotten in the eyes of the law or church (i.e. women and minorities). Expanding the WHMS’s practices, she updated their traditions of mission to fit our contemporary world.

We thank Matthews and Kelly for being pioneers, because there are still denominations that do not recognize the ordination of women. Their work has continued through the next generation as more and

more women feel “the call” to ministry. Let us consider Rev. Marjorie Matthews’ words about being our own models. Matthews and Kelly expanded on the strengths already established by the United Methodist Women. We were already guardians of the poor, sick, and underserved. In their role as clergy and later bishops, they brought a professionalism to these issues. They reinforced the significance of the work of women, especially in organizations like the UMW, by calling attention to the talents of women of the Church.

- Emily Campbell

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## Comfort for Others from Trinity Stitchers

What a busy group of ladies we are! So many items are being created each month during our workdays and all through the month. Some new faces are involved in knitting and crocheting items at home, creating beautiful scarves, hats, shawls and prayer squares – we welcome the addition of their talents.

Janet Hill reported at our February meeting that since January 2019, we have shared 16 lapquilts, 1 child’s lapquilt, 3 prayer shawls, 2 walker bags, plus items for Crossover (baby afghans and hats), items for Doorways (scarves, booties, prayer squares and lapquilts), with many individuals. The numbers are amazing!

Our April workday will be Thursday, April 18 in Room 323 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Please join us for the entire time or any portion of the day. If you are unable to attend our group meetings, we invite you to work on projects at home. If you like to knit or crochet, we have a vast assortment of yarn available for you to use.

Our new brochure is available in the Welcome Center which explains this ministry in more detail.

For additional information please contact: Janet Hill 741-4394 or [Granhill4@aol.com](mailto:Granhill4@aol.com).



*Quilt*



*Scarves, Shawls, Hats*



*Walker Bag*



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## CASTING CALL

Women of all ages needed to portray historical figures at a mid-day event on May 14. For more information, contact Sandy Cain at [scain811@aol.com](mailto:scain811@aol.com) or 804-747-9671.

# Trinity UMW Legacy Fund Established January 2019

## Recognizing Millie Simmons, Genevieve Collier and Mary Hetzel

**Purpose:** “The organized unit of 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 fund was established using memorial and honorary donations received in recognition of Christian women whose strong faith, leadership skills, and dedication to missions made a difference in our UMW.

**Possible financial needs:** assistance for women to attend retreats, programs or educational opportunities; church support; events promoting UMW.

The funds can be used for various needs deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will approve requests as needed. Individuals that receive financial assistance will be asked to make a presentation to the UMW Unit sharing learned experiences to keep the unit engaged in fulfilling needs of the members and local missions.



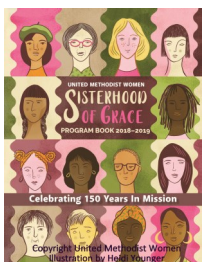
**Mildred Bowley Simmons** (July 11, 1925 - August 14, 2017) was born in Hamblenton, West Virginia; graduated from Capitol City School of Nursing in Washington D.C.; married to Wallace D. Simmons for 63 years; member of Trinity UMC for over 50 years – participated in United Methodist Women Circles, and Mastin Fellowship Class. She was a strong Christian woman, gifted nurse, compassionate caregiver, and a friend to many.



**Genevieve Mann Collier** (February 24, 1921 - February 21, 2018) was the daughter of Reva and Irvin Mann. She was a lifelong member of Trinity UMC, serving as the Church Hostess, involved in Sunday school, and United Methodist Women. A strong Christian woman who loved her family, friends and husband of 75 years, Vernon L. Collier.



**Mary Hetzel** served as President of the Trinity UMW 1999-2000, 2006-2008 and 2012. Her tireless energy and enthusiasm of encouraging women to get involved in church and community activities kept our group moving ahead in an every-changing world. Mary inspired our group to become stronger Christian women; implementing programs/events that always put the needs of others in the forefront. Her great leadership and dedication to UMW reminds us that our purpose is mission for others. She and her husband, Bob, relocated to Chicago in the spring of 2018.



## 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).

You can also visit: [www.trinityumc.net/umw](http://www.trinityumc.net/umw)