



United Methodist Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# Trinity Women

## Women Speaking Truth From the Ground Up



### **Speaker: Rev. Dr. Rodney Hunter**

*Co-Director of the VA Interfaith Center for Public Policy and pastor of Wesley Memorial UMC, Richmond, VA*



#### **Circle 1**

Our first meeting of the new year will be held on Tuesday, January 15, at 9:30 am in the Mastin Room.

#### **Circle 5**

We will meet on Tuesday, January 15, at 7 pm in the Mastin Room.

#### **Circle 6**

We will not meet at our regular time but will attend the Unit meeting on January 8 at 10 am.

#### **Circle 10**

There were 23 members at Circle 10's Christmas party held at the home of Bana Caskey. For Service Day, 30 Christmas cards/advent books were sent to Trinity's homebound. 80 candy Christmas poppers were made for the Sherbourne Ministry. On January 3, we will meet at the home of Jan Reynold's at 7pm to assemble 48 health kits for UMCOR.

### **Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

- 9:00 AM UMW Board Meeting in Mastin Room
- 10:15 AM Unit Meeting in Mastin Room

## United Methodist Day at the General Assembly



Ever wanted to know more about real issues facing our legislature? United Methodist Day at the General Assembly on Thursday, January 31, is for you!

We will meet at Bon Air UMC at 7 am for breakfast. Then we will board buses to go down to the Capitol, where we will have a guide. We will learn about the bills coming before the Assembly, attend conferences, and speak to our representatives. Then the buses will pick us up and return to Bon Air where our lunches will be waiting. After lunch we will have several excellent speakers to clarify the issues for us. Our day will end at 3:30 pm, when the bus will bring us back to Trinity. If you cannot attend the whole day please join us at Bon Air at 1:30 pm in the sanctuary.

Early registration ends December 28 (\$30) and registration closes on January 11 (\$40). Register now: <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/umday2019> or call Mary Kate Cochran at 804-521-1100, ext. 155.

## Treasurer's Tidbits

A big thank you to each woman who made a pledge to Trinity's UMW this year. We raised \$5,870 in pledges, with \$705 of that total being earmarked for 2019.



These funds allowed us to contribute to many special organizations that are dedicated to serving women, children and youth. Our Harvest Day offering total was \$2,696. The first \$1,000 will be given to Trinity UMC to be used on building projects as Bill Pike best sees fit. The remaining \$1,696 will be split between Housing Families First and GraceInside, our two external Harvest Day mission recipients. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each of you. I hope 2019 is a great year for us all!

- Shari Adams, TUMW Treasurer

## Central Kids Club & Teen Group Meals

Please sign up to provide a hot meal to the children who attend Kids Club and Teen Group at Central United Methodist Church. The church is located at 1211 Porter St, Richmond, VA 23224.

Please consider helping out with a very important mission project that TUMC participates in with a Methodist Church in the Manchester area of Richmond. Great things are happening in our Trinity in Richmond outreach! Many of you have graciously served before and we thank you! Please use the link to sign up and find out the details: <https://goo.gl/iusL7J>

- Hilary Coakley and Sarah Shutt

**TRINITY IN  
RICHMOND**



## The Hermitage

Hidden Treasures ended the year with a profit of \$28,320.71. This is a wonderful amount that can be used by the home to enhance living for our seniors there. Many thanks go to all those who have donated items over the year which can be sold in the store, donated to Boots for Suits, Samaritan Thrift and United Methodist Family Services. We continue to appreciate the support of the Trinity family. The next opening of Hidden Treasures is January 25, at 10:30 am.

Twenty-five stockings made by Trinity Stitchers were delivered to Hermitage-Richmond on Tuesday, December 11. They were filled with fruit, a Christmas cupcake, tissues, socks, toothpaste and toothbrushes, an Advent Booklet, Chex Mix, and a small poinsettia. These were distributed to Trinity members and others in special care facilities.

- Nancy Miller and Marble Jones

# The Future is Female:

## Ladies Organizations in the Early Twentieth Century

To better understand the present-day United Methodist Women, I think it important to note how these Methodist women's organizations relate to women's history in the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century. For this month's newsletter, I want to give a broad overview of the organizations that are operating concurrently in the early twentieth century that later make up the UMW. Then I will explain how this relates to a broader history of women's organizations and the "early feminist" movement.

Last year we discussed the foundational organizations of the United Methodists Women which were the Women's Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS) and the Women's Home Missionary Society (WHMS). The WFMS and the WHMS continue to thrive separately until they join together in 1910 to become the Women's Missionary Council. To make matters more confusing, there was still some local and regional chapters of the WFMS and WHMS after this merger. The name changed, but their mission remained the same. They sent missionaries abroad and into poor and/or rural areas of the United States.

Now let us move into the twentieth century. In 1904, the Ladies Aid Society is recognized by the Methodist Episcopal Church. Some Ladies Aid Societies were formed in response to the Civil War. Their main prerogative was to support the men returning from war and their families. When the organization was recognized in the twentieth century, the mission had slightly changed. It seems the Ladies Aid Society supported the more miscellaneous needs of the church. If supper was needed for a program, the Ladies Aid Society would sponsor it. If the church needed a new organ, the Ladies would fundraise.

The final major organization that makes up the present day United Methodist Women was the Wesleyan Service Guild. This was founded in 1921, and it was intended for women who worked outside the home. They formed circles for women to join in fellowship and Bible study. In a Wesleyan Service Guild annual report from the Duke Memorial Methodist Church, the President laments how difficult it is to keep members in the 1940s. This is due to the fact that women would transition to the Women's Missionary Council or Women's Society once they married and had children. From this report, it would seem that the Wesleyan Service Guild was doomed to fail, but it was actually the last organization to be incorporated in 1972 to form the United Methodist Women. (It joined with the Women's Society of Christian Service, which was basically a rebranding of the Women's Missionary Council.) More than likely, the Guild gained momentum as it became more common for women to have careers.

In addition to the growth of Methodist women's associations, it is necessary to point out that during this time women were trying to become more involved professionally within the church. In 1880 Anna Howard Shaw and Anna Oliver were refused ordination rights. However, women increasingly showed interest in leadership positions in the church. By 1888, a deaconess program was available to women, but it was not until 1920 that the Methodist Episcopal church first allowed women to be ordained. (The United Brethren and Methodist Protestant Church had allowed it just a couple years prior.) It should come as no surprise that this date is in conjunction with the women's right to vote.

This leads me to my final point, connecting Methodist women's organizations with the broader women's history of the late-nineteenth and early-

twentieth century. It is important to realize that the foundation of ladies organizations was not unique to the Church. There was an increasing number of women's organizations founded in the late nineteenth century, culminating with an unprecedented numbers in the early to mid-twentieth century.

Here are a few examples to put everything in perspective. Women were leading the charge in Presidential and state historical preservation with the Mount Vernon Ladies Association (founded 1853), the Daughters of the American Revolution (founded 1890), the National Society of Colonial Dames in America (founded 1891), and the United Daughters of the Confederacy (founded 1894). Women also founded organizations dedicated to public health and well-being, including the Red Cross (founded 1881) and the Women's Christian Temperance Union (early 20th century). Additionally, women's social and educational societies were popping up locally, regionally, and nationally. Examples of these societies include the Women's Club of Richmond (founded 1894) and the Garden Club of Virginia (founded 1920).

It is not a coincidence that the founding of these organizations coincide with the Women's Suffrage Movement. The Suffrage movement began in 1848 at the convention held in Seneca Falls. It gained momentum in the late nineteenth century, and it culminated with the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920. Women were slowly feeling more empowered. They saw that their voice had impact, and these organizations gave ladies a platform for public involvement. It was a job, when careers for women were limited.

This empowerment was not reserved for politics and social justice. With the right to vote paving the way for women to share their opinion more openly, the Methodist women's organizations had transitioned as well. These organizations were no longer just women serving women. They were seen as an integral part of the Church, imperative for fundraising, activism, and mission.

In this discussion of gender equality, some of you may have wondered about racial equality within Methodist Women's organizations. Next month, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to turn our attention to the African American women in our story. In the late-nineteenth and twentieth century, these women were forging a similar path but they had the added challenge of racial stereotypes and suppression.

- Emily Campbell

**There were a number of organizations mentioned this month.**

For clarification, there is a helpful timeline at

[www.umc.org/who-we-are/timeline-of-women-in-methodism](http://www.umc.org/who-we-are/timeline-of-women-in-methodism)

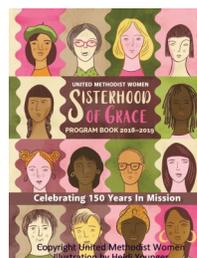
## Thank You Note

Trinity UMW,

Thank you for the donation to the mission work of the United Methodist Church in memory of our mother, Charlene Moore. Your kindness and sympathy was deeply appreciated.

Peace,  
Dorothy and Diane

## 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)