Greetings Sisters;

I hope this finds each of you doing well physically as well as, spiritually. I hope you weathered the heat wave that hit most of our Conference. As I write this, I felt a rumble underneath my seat and wondered for a minute could this be an earthquake. It could not be since we live on the east coast. However, after checking the news and found out that it was indeed an earthquake. The question of the day became “where were you and what were you doing at the time of the earthquake. Like many of us, it was hard to believe that an earthquake had hit us in New Jersey. But, we are grateful to know that there were no injuries and only some minor damage to some structures. A shocking reminder that God is in control and his wonders we declare.

We begin a new season of United Methodist Work this month. A Spiritual Growth Retreat starts our year on September 16-17 at the Pinelands Center at Mt. Misery. One will have the opportunity to come on Friday evening and spend the night or you can come on Saturday for the day. A wonderful program, Glorious Vessels, is planned by Darlene Eason, a professional potter (see the flyer inside).

The Fall Annual Meeting will be held on October 22nd at St. John’s UMC in Hazlet. The time will be from 9:00 – 12:30. Bishop Violet Fisher will be the keynote speaker. If you have not heard her, you are in for a real treat when you attend the Fall meeting. Others activities by the Conference UMW include District Leadership Training Event (D’Lte pronounced delight) for District officers on Saturday, November 12 at the Williamstown UMC, Williamstown. All district officers, new and returning, are urged to attend this event.

The UMW Northeast Jurisdiction Quadrennial meeting will be held, June 14-16, 2012 at Hershey Park, PA. Start planning to attend this important meeting. Many opportunities for carrying out mission in addition to the business of the Jurisdiction are planned. Registration forms and information has been made available at Annual Conference, both Schools of Mission. NEJ committee has indicated that registration on line will be available in the fall. Check with your district president or UMW officers if you have not already received information about this event.

As you have probably already heard, the UMW Women’s Division has proposed some structural changes with regard to the organization. Their board has proposed to separate from the Global Board of General Ministries. Women’s Division will separate structurally, but stay connected through missions. How this impact conference and district structures and officers, this information will be forthcoming. One thing will remain the same throughout the organization. That is that we are organized for mission as well work together in God’s mission with women, children, and youth. As we look toward the future, there are many possibilities.

I look forward to seeing you at one or all of the events that are planned for this new season in the life of United Methodist Women

Be Blessed; Be a Blessing,

Your Sister, Millie Grey
From the Editor- Jazelis Adorno

Women’s Division Restructure: Proposed Changes, What’s Staying the Same and the Proposed Advantages

Proposed Changes:
The Women’s Division will structurally separate from the General Board of Global Ministries.
The title “Women’s Division” will become “United Methodist Women.”
The board of directors will reduce its size from 50 to 25 members, with the task of fiduciary management.
A program advisory group, composed of 70–80 members, will recommend programmatic policies to the board of directors.
The term “unit” will be replaced with “local organization of United Methodist Women.”
Fewer officers will be required.

What’s Staying the Same
The PURPOSE.
The focus of United Methodist Women for women, children and youth.
The priority of social justice and advocacy work.
The streams and processes of funding United Methodist Women mission.

Advantages
The main advantage: More flexibility.
The proposed reorganizing of the Women’s Division Board of Directors and United Methodist Women leadership teams independently from Global Ministries means more flexibility to grow in mission with women, children and youth around the world.

More flexibility:
Enables mission teams at all levels to organize how they best see fit to fulfill the PURPOSE and do the work according to the needs of their community, church and members.
Enables your mission team to remain the same if your organizational structure is working for you.
Enables the Women’s Division to advocate more strategically on behalf of women, children and youth within The United Methodist Church by moving from a division to an agency.
Enables the Women’s Division to broaden its priorities across the church by working directly with other agencies through the General Secretaries’ Table.
Enables United Methodist Women members from every annual conference representation on the board of directors and program advisory group and thus fuller participation in the organization.

Keep in mind, these are proposals to be brought to General Conference in 2012, and we do not know what will result from the voting. Any changes will not be implemented officially until January 2013; however, the Women’s Division will prepare for implementation following General Conference.

You can get more information at the www.gbgm-umc.org/umw/

Come to the Party
Northeast Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting
June 14 - 16, 2012 at
Hershey Lodge, Hershey, PA
Walk, Talk, and Dream
More info. www.gbgm-umc.org/nejumw
Annual Fall Meeting - 2011
October 22, 2011, at St. John UMC, Hazlet

Speaker: Bishop Violet Fisher

Tell me; What do you have?
2 Kings 4: 1-7

**TIME: 9am-12:30pm. Registration at 9:00 a.m., Continental breakfast will be provided, no lunch; you can bring your own and eat it before you leave. Beverages will be provided
***We are asking for a free will offering for CUMAC/ECHO
****Ingathering: We will be accepting Health Kits, Flood Buckets and any other kits that you want to provide. They will be delivered to Mission Central

Registration form and directions on the back.
Child care and translation will be provided upon request
Send your registration to Carole E. Nelson, 101 Oak Lane, Hightstown, NJ 08520, by October 10, 2011

Name:_______________________________________________________________
Address:________________________________________________________________
Telephone:________________________________________________________________
E mail:__________________________________________________________________
Child care:________________________________________________________________
Translation:________________________________________________________________

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Directions to St. John’s United Methodist Church
2000 Florence Avenue, Hazlet, NJ 07730   Phone: 732-264-1236

St. John’s United Methodist Church is conveniently located at 2000 Florence Ave in Hazlet, between Routes 35 and 36 and just off exit 117 on the Garden State Parkway.

From Garden State Parkway
Exit 117 to Route 36. Make the first right at Main St. Make a left onto Florence Ave.

From Matawan and points north on Route 35
Take Rt 35 south, merge onto Rt 36. Make the first right at Main St. Make a left onto Florence Ave.

From Keyport
Take Broad St. towards Route 36. Cross Rt 36 and proceed to Florence Ave., Make a left on Florence Ave.

From Union Beach and points east on Route 36
Take Route 36 west towards Garden State Parkway. After Broad St. (Keyport), make U-turn and take Broad St across Route 36. Continue to Florence Ave., and make a left on Florence Ave.

From Hazlet and points south on Route 35
Take Route 35 north towards Garden State Parkway. Make right at Main St./Holmdel Rd. Turn right onto Florence Ave.

From Holmdel
Take Holmdel Rd towards Route 35. Cross Route 35, Holmdel Rd. becomes Main St. Make right at Florence Ave.

Response is the official magazine of United Methodist Women. Its goals are to educate for mission, to interpret the Purpose of United Methodist Women and to o strengthen the organization.

Pray and read, read and pray; for little from God is better than a great deal from men.
Cooperative School of Christian Mission 2011 - Report

The 2011 Cooperative School of Christian Mission have come to very successful conclusions at both sites. This years Dean, Janet Blohm, and the CSOCM School Mission Team planned for and executed a school at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, and one at Caldwell College in Caldwell. About 190 students attended at Lakewood, and 145 at Calwell, and studied about “Haiti”, “Grace”, “Joy to the World”, or “Change the World” for the weekend, while renewing friendships and creating new ones. Those folks who couldn’t commit a full weekend were offered a one day, “Fast Track” option, which offered either a 5 hour mini study on “Grace” or on “Haiti”.

Well known Christian entertainer, Sue Duffield, was at both schools, and she provided words of inspiration, music and comedy throughout the weekend.

The offering from the schools has been sent to UMCOR, earmarked for Haiti relief efforts.

At Lakewood, 19 youths and young adults (new for 2011, too) spent the weekend studying “Grace; Forgiveness and Reconciliation”, fellowshipped and performed a mission project.

Both schools offered a program for children on Saturday, and they studied about “Hugging the World: Faith, Hope, Love in Action”.

Why not start planning now for the 2012 edition, which will again be offered at Georgian Court University on July 6-8, and Caldwell College on July 20-22, 2011. The studies will be “Living Sacramentally and Walking Justly”, “Haiti”, and “Poverty”. Make this a family retreat by enrolling the whole family! Watch the “Conference Digest”, The Relay, and UMW and CSOCM publicity early in 2012 for details as they become available.
WHERE ARE YOU ALL??
ALL YOU WONDERFUL WOMEN!! THERE IS A CHAIR AT OUR UMW SPONSORED FALL SPIRITUAL RETREAT WITH YOUR NAME ON IT! COME AND HEAR A POTTER TELL HER STORY WITH WORD, SCRIPTURE AND TALENT. THE LORD HAS BLESSED US WITH A WONDERFUL WOMAN IN DARLENE. SHE IS TALENTED IN HER CREATIVITY AND HAS A WONDERFUL MESSAGE IN HER STORY. YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED!! THERE IS STILL ROOM AND WE HAVE EXTENDED THE DEADLINE. SO BRING YOUR FRIENDS, GET THOSE REGISTRATIONS IN AND PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A DAY OF BLESSINGS!! CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST AND REGISTRATION WILL BE AT 8:30 AND THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 9. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AND THE DAY WILL END AROUND 3:30. WHERE ELSE CAN YOU BE SPIRITUALLY AND PHYSICALLY FED AND FELLOWSHIP WITH SISTERS IN CHRIST FOR $15.00?! SEE YOU THEN.

Programs or Service at your church or Unit

SEPTEMBER 11th: A Day of Remembrance and Peacemaking

Children Sabbath, which is October 9, this year. Consider joining thousands of Houses of Worship by holding a service at your church, engaging your congregation to care, protect, and advocate for all children. The Children’s Defense League has planning materials available at www.childrensdefense.org.

Women in Mission

There are so many kits that we can put together and made a BIG difference

Kit information for: Bedding Birthing
Cleaning/Flood Bucket Health
Layette School Bulk Materials
Sewing

Please go and check at the website for the update information at:
http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/getconnected/supplies/
Upcomming Events

2011
- September 17– Spiritual Fall Retreat
- October 22– Annual Fall Meeting -Hazlet
- November 5– Hispanic Network Annual Meeting
- November 12– Mission Team overnight meeting
- November 13– District Leadership Training Event, First UMC at Williamstown
- April 21- Conference Spring Meeting

2012
- April 21– Spring Meeting
- June 14-16– Northeast Jurisdiction, Hershey, PA

Church Women United
Saturday, October 1
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

“Everybody makes mistakes: Is there help in prison and out?”
Is the theme of the Fall Assembly of New Jersey Church Women United on Saturday, October 1, 2011 at Osceola Presbyterian Church, 1669 Raritan Road, Clark, New Jersey.

Church Women of all faiths are invited to this program, which will feature a panel presentation by the Rev. Kathleen Roney from “Bridges” in Morristown. Christopher Viello, Executive Director of “Prodigal Sons and Daughters” and Marcell Del Corpo, Director of “Redeem Her.”

We will begin with continental breakfast, then worship and program.

Bring a sandwich for lunch; dessert and beverages provided.

Registration fee of $2.00 at door plus non-perishable food for local pantry.

Jacqueline Haaf, CWU-NJ

Skylands District
All welcome, on October 2, 2011 Trinity United Methodist Women will offer a “Lunch and Learn” 12:15 to 2:15 PM in Trinity House next to Trinity UMC at 213 Main Street, Hackettstown. Speaker Christina Mileski, the topic “Human Trafficking” more info. contact Vicki Hoffman at 908-852-7533 or Edna Barrier at 973-426-9420.

Fall Annual Meeting/Communion Brunch will be held Saturday, October 8 at Stillwater/Harmony Hill UMC, from 9 a.m. to Noon.

Northern Shore District
Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at St. Andrew UMC in Toms River, Registration: 5:30 Dinner: 6:00 Guest Speaker: Litsa Binder “Love and Justice - the Stepping Stones to Peace”; more info. Donna Nilson at email: djnilson@verizon.net

Cape Atlantic
Annual Meeting an Communion Breakfast Saturday, September 17 at St. Peter’s UMC Registration at 10:00 a.m. Speaker: Mona Mauro More info. Kate Burch (609) 927-8140

Thanksgiving
PURPOSE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

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.