



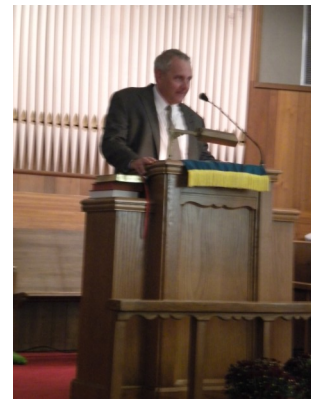
## THANK YOU VILLA GROVE , CAMARGO & NEWMAN/MURDOCK

With a lovely fall setting 95 United Methodist Women and 5 guests attended the district's fall meeting at Villa Grove UMC on September 24, 2011. The speaker for this event was Rev. Jame Hahs from Alton Main Street UMC who led us in "Music in Action", including his rendition of the UMW purpose song to the tune of "YMCA". We also heard from Sally Smith, IGR UMW President, Marlon Livingston from Cunningham Children's Home and Bill Kreeb from Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House. Our hands-on project produced 168 pounds of school supplies taken to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center for shipment to Haiti and Liberia. Thank you so much for all those school supplies! Four ladies were chosen as Women of the Year: Alice Albert (Danville St. James), Bernie Chamberlain (Champaign First), Helen Mingee (Danville St. James) and Hyllis Rhoades (Sullivan). Each of these ladies exemplified our theme of Faith, Hope and Love in Action by their remarkable accomplishments and servant's hearts. Congratulations ladies!



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# President's Perspectives

## Bring Hope to Others

The general theme of United Methodist Women over the past year has been Faith-Hope-Love in Action. We have especially emphasized "Love in Action" because without action how do we express our faith?

Our district is rich with acts of "love in action" with all the hands-on projects we commit to each district meeting, and with all the gifts we bring for Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House and Cunningham Children's Home. And, that's on top of what we do as individual units to help others with our time, money and resources! Thank you, Lord God, for such dedicated, committed women!

**Hope.** What does that mean to you? Maybe something personal like "my hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness" as the good old gospel song states? But what do you "hope" - love, a warm home, a job, a good retirement income? Most of us have all that and more. But what about those in our community and country that do not have that "hope?"

At the 2012 School of Christian Mission we will be studying about poverty in our country and in the world. Did you know that 1 in 6 in the United States live be-

low the poverty line? Did you know that 15% of the people in Illinois get food stamps? According to the January 2010 National Alliance to End Homelessness report, an estimated 14,055 people experience homelessness each night in Illinois; 84% were living in shelters and transitional housing, while 16% were unsheltered.

How can we give "hope" to those in our community, in our District, in our Conference, in our state, in our country, and in the world? What a great article in the November Current magazine about what's being done in Champaign to feed and clothe the homeless—and UMC in Savoy is a major partner in the "Canteen Run". (If you don't receive "The Current" in the mail, go online to [www.igrc.org](http://www.igrc.org)).

In the booklet "Why Should I Get Involved in Social Issues?" the introduction states: "For more than 100 years, women organized for mission have been involved in social action...in the call for social justice. They have worked in the name of Jesus to change legislation, systems, structures and practices considered unjust and oppressive to others—homelessness, hunger, poverty, racism, illiteracy, economic justice, war and peace, health care for children, international conflicts."

In future newsletters, I will share with you from this booklet how UMW can get involved in social issues to build a just world and to "proclaim the year of the Lord's favor". Our "Faith" is what binds all this together—Hope and Love in Action.

There are many ways we can share our hope with others who do not have hope. During this Advent season, amidst the busyness of Christmas shopping and activities, my prayer is that we all take time to ponder on what we, as United Methodist Women, can do to bring hope to women, children and youth in need who are facing a future without hope. Hope brings transformation and change. Love God—Love Others! The peace and love of this Holy Season be with you. Share that peace and love with others, not just during this holiday but all the time.

Shalom!

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# From the Fox Den



John 3:21

“But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been in God.”

As Vice-Presidents, we are on the lookout for ideas for programs to use. After reading the program book for 2012, “Walk With Wholeness” I found two programs I would like to share with you. This book can be ordered from Barb Rascher, Secretary of Program Resources in our Iroquois River District or you may order it on your own. Take time to check out the CD, too.

“Upside Down Christmas” for December 2011 is a different kind of Christmas program. It deals with Jesus’ birth in an alien world. “You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 22:21) Migrants and immigrants have many challenges today. This program raises a new understanding about immigration.

Another program, “Peace in Action”, (page 99) looks at what we can do become peacemakers in our homes, in the neighborhood and in the world. It looks at the meaning of peace in a positive way in everyday life using “peace” as an action word. I hope you will sing “The Battle Hymn of the Republic” by Julia Ward Howe as part of your program. This lesson is very good for a Mother’s Day program, too.

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center in Chatham, Illinois will be our focus for the program at our Spring Meeting at Wesley United Methodist Church in Urbana on March 31, 2012. We will be learning more about the WHAT? HOW? WHY?. The shelves are bare now waiting for more cleaning bucket supplies, school kit supplies, and health kit items. In September they shipped 24,236 health kits and 1,831 children’s school bags to Haiti. MMDC sent 10, 287 health kits to the Dominican Republic. Also, they need volunteers at

MMDC as they continue to grow in their work. Plan now to be a part of our day and give supplies to the MMDC. This is a caring ministry of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference.

Take time out of the busy season ahead, Thanksgiving and Christmas, to check these out. I hope and pray some of you will take advantage of these opportunities. Please contact me if I can help.

“Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. Righteous will go before God and will make a path of God’s steps.” (Psalm 85:11, 13).

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## The Secretary’s Pen

Ladies!

2011 is drawing to a close. Soon it will be Christmas and I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. However, I’m still going to need several unit lists. I’d like to thank all of you who have already graciously sent me your officer lists. When you receive this newsletter if you have already mailed the list to me, please disregard this request. I’m going to start on the directory as soon after 2012 arrives as possible. Remember, PLEASE PRINT! I really

appreciate those of you who have sent me your printed lists. Here are the units I have not received officer lists from:

- Broadlands
- Camargo
- Champaign Mt. Vernon
- Collison
- Danville First
- Gilman
- Newman/Murdock
- Oakwood
- Paxton
- Rantoul First

Urbana Wesley  
Weldon

If I do not receive your list by January 1 I will use the previous year’s list of officers. I’d like to have 100% by January 15, 2012. Thank you for all your help in making this an up-to-date directory.

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# Spiritual Growth

On October 22 about 30 women came to Urbana Grace for our District Spiritual Growth Retreat and Officer Update Day. Thanks to Donna Snider, our Conference Social Action Coordinator for her help. The theme was Joy in Mission Giving. One of the activities in the morning was to share ideas of how our UMW's can put into action the thoughts summarized in the Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation. Many good ideas and words of wisdom were shared. The participants asked to have these included in the newsletter. While some great comments were church specific, here is a summary of those ideas all UMW's could consider embracing or expanding:

## Extravagant Generosity

- units pay above the UMW pledge
- 5 star mission giving
- support Midwest Mission Distribution Center
- garage sales (multiple benefits to those who donate, buyers, UMW's)
- support Imagine No Malaria campaign
- begin outreach ministry to meet a need in your community (church providing seed money)
- follow through with welcome gifts/calls to visitors
- through the year save \$ for Thank Offering
- welcome ALL people in our churches
- prayer shawl ministry
- soup for ill members or community aid organizations
- blanket Sunday

## Risk Taking Mission and Service

- collect and distribute clothing/food at Christmas
- collect reading material for youth and adults to be sent to missionaries
- adopt a child from World Vision
- food for shut-ins (at Christmas and other times of the year)
- tutoring program for children
- group helps with repairs to homes
- Kids Club and Puppet Group (for all children in the community)
- make gift items for nursing homes (ornaments, Easter eggs)
- food pantry at the church
- regular blood drives at the church
- emergency help for families due to a disaster or severe illness

## Intentional Faith Development

- various Bible studies (noontime, young women, seasonal)
- form young women's group (circle), projects serve mothers in need, provide babysitting, MOPS groups (Mothers of Preschoolers)
- free meal once a month for the community
- PASS (Providing After School Safety for K-6th grade) for play, homework help, Bible study, snacks
- leadership building instruction

## Passionate Worship

- teach unfamiliar songs as well as including old favorites, and contemporary service songs
- encourage openness to various styles and worship experiences

- be willing to try new ideas
- local spiritual retreats
- involve all ages in worship service leadership
- make use of projection systems
- adult Sunday School classes
- extensive Bible Studies (such as the Disciple series)
- provide variety in the services
- include quiet times

## Radical hospitality

- find out interests of younger women to encourage their involvement
- special team to keep contact with shut-ins by visits and cards
- host various events of the community in our churches
- directly invite other women to be a part of our projects, circles, activities
- allow non-members to use the church for weddings
- special group for high school girls for service, Bible study, activities (e.g. Girls for God, H.S. girls UMW circle)
- grief sharing group open to the community
- circles in assisted living facilities with programs and light refreshments done by various church UMW units
- make effort to speak to someone you do not know at every coffee hour fellowship time

**Don't forget to make your reservation for the 2012 IGRC Spiritual Growth Retreat, Feb. 24 & 25, 2012. See the form with registration blank elsewhere in this newsletter.**

(continued on page 5)

# Spiritual Growth (continued)

**I NEED** - names and home churches of women who have died in 2011 and beginning of 2012 for the Memorial Service at the District Spring Meeting. Please send these to:

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Iroquois River District Spiritual Growth  
Coordinator  
3204 Ridge Park Rd  
Urbana, IL 61802  
217-344-2075  
pat@bnpdavis.com

## Wrong Coat Taken at October 22 Spiritual Renewal Day

Attention: When you left the Day of Spiritual Renewal at Urbana Grace, did you find your black coat now has two pockets on each side and had a navy hat and gloves in them as well as a different label??? Dottie Nickell would love to have her coat back. The black coat left behind is XL with a Relativity label. If you find you did take Dottie's coat by mistake, please call Pat Davis at 217-344-2075 to make arrangements

for the coat exchange. Thank you!



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# Lessie Bates Davis Neighborhood House

## Sesame Street comes to the Neighborhood House!

In October the children and staff at the Neighborhood House day care were among the first in their area to meet a new Sesame Street character! In cooperation with the St. Louis Area Food Bank, the Neighborhood House site hosted a preview of the Sesame Street episode introducing Lily. Lily is from a poor family that frequents the food pantry. She is being introduced to help children talk about the problem

of hunger in our society today. After they watched the video, the children took part in an activity to find healthy food.

The Neighborhood House Bunkum Road Food Pantry is now housed in the Continuum of Life building and run by Americorp workers. It serves over 4700 people each month, dispensing 150,000 pounds of food per year. However, as is the case with many food banks around the country, while the numbers of people needing food

assistance is rising, the food pantry's supplies are being cut. This is just one area of where Neighborhood House is making a difference for the people of the East St. Louis area.

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# Cunningham Children's Home

At the recent Board Appreciation Day and Annual Meeting at Cunningham Children's Home what I heard made me so happy to be a part of the Cunningham family and it should make you proud to share in the work that Cunningham does to bring healing and hope to some of the most abused and needy youth.

Ray Riley, a P.E. teacher at the Gerber School has just competed in the Iron Man Triathlon in Hawaii, where he swam 2 miles, biked 100 miles and then ran a 26 mile marathon all in one day. He did it to show his students that you can accomplish what you set out to do. He is a role model for his students and will be featured on an NBC broadcast about the Iron Man Triathlon. Watch for it!

Greg Irwin, a residential staff member told of how he worked with a young boy who had been so mistreated that he did not trust anyone or anything. It brings

tears to your eyes when you realize how abused these children are when they come to Cunningham and what miracles are accomplished by the staff with God's help. Greg said he had been trying for 2 years to quit and return to study for his masters degree but he loves the job he is doing so much he just can't quit!

These are just two examples of miracles that take place because of the support given through the years by the women of our conference. You should be proud of how Cunningham has progressed through the years to care for some of our most needy young people.

A big THANK YOU!! to all of you for the gifts in kind you brought to the Fall Meeting in Villa Grove. Our district's gifts totaled \$1,182! I am always amazed at the amount of gifts offered.

This is my last year as your Cunningham Rep and I have enjoyed it all. I

was happy to meet so many of you as I met with your units. Although I no longer have an official "job" Cunningham will never be far from my heart. I have been humbled when I saw what some of your smallest units were doing and giving. I would just encourage you to keep Cunningham Children's Home, its children and care providers in your prayers. Betty Knoch will be joining Bobby Walker as your new CCH Rep and I am sure she will be as enthusiastic about it as I was! God bless you all!

Roberta

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# Social Action

Bonjour, Gutentag, Shalom, Aloha, Buenos Dias, Namastay, Pinyong! Greetings from our Sisterhood of Grace around the world as they work in their communities to bring peace and reconciliation and put their faith, hope and love into action.

Muchas Gracias, Merci, Mahalo!

Thanks to Hindsboro, Camargo, Sullivan and Hume UMW units for all their work and the hospitality shown to me as I was invited to share information about our conference priorities: (1) Charter for Racial Justice, (2) Environmental Health-Think Green, (3) Globalization (issues regarding health of women, children and youth). If you missed the district training, I have much information (handouts, websites, phone numbers, addresses) to help your units become involved in Social Action.

All nations of the world belong to God regardless of their race, color, language, finances, social status, or geographic location. All nationalities deserve a place in God's kingdom. Since Christ embraces peoples from all races and sectors of life, rich or poor, to live together in harmony with Him, we must go and do likewise. Human trafficking is the transportation, harboring, selling or employment of a person through the means of force, fraud or coercion for the purpose of forced servitude. In our country Super Bowl Sunday is the biggest day for this repugnant activity!! The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 is the cornerstone of U.S. policies to fight modern-day slavery. It focuses on both the domestic and international dimensions of this heinous crime. The bill expired on September 30 and must be renewed to protect hundreds of thousands of innocent victims. Encourage your legis-

lators to reauthorize this legislation immediately so the U.S.A. can remain a global leader in the fight against human trafficking (Sen. Dick Durbin 202-224-2152, Sen. Mark Kirk 202-224-2854). Ask them to co-sponsor the reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act Senate Bill 1301. Rep. Tim Johnson (202-225-2372) should be asked to co-sponsor the reauthorization of TVPA House Bill 2830. It is so easy and takes less than five minutes. A young mother, Robin Rossmannith, wanting to teach her children about buying fair-trade items, started a website ShopToStopSlavery.com.

Environmental Health—Instead of chemicals, use rubbing alcohol to shine and rid germs on metal faucets and appliances. Distilled white vinegar cleans anything a glass cleaner does. Use vinegar, baking soda, or hydrogen peroxide for most household cleaning jobs using worn or stained washcloths or towels instead of paper towels (save the trees). For gifts, use cloth diapers to wrap baby items, dishtowels for kitchen items, bath towels for bathroom sets. Brown grocery sacks or large yellow envelopes can be decorated with cut up greeting cards or ink stamps. Comic strips from newspapers wrap young people's gifts. Pillowcases wrap wedding gifts of sheets or tablecloths wrap picnic items. All year round you can help Mother Earth by sewing, baking, drawing, painting gift items or assembling baskets, boxes, bags of consumable items (fruit baskets, various mixes such as spices, cocoa, cookies, jellies, bread). Bake loaves of bread or muffins as gifts and wrap in a pretty dishtowel. Cut down on wrapping and tissue paper by giving magazine subscriptions, dining certificates, tickets for sports events, movies or concerts.

As much as 75% of electricity used for home electronics is used while the products are turned off. In the average American home, this accounts for as much as 10% of electricity use. Most common culprits are televisions, DVD players, coffeemakers, computers and printers. Save energy, use power strips and turn off the switch when the item is not in use or unplug coffee/tea makers, toasters, little ovens. Charleston has a great electronic recycling center on old Route 16 west of the fairgrounds-- Mike Bolen (217-549-5501). He takes most electronics, computer parts, battery operated items, etc. for free!! He will not accept washers, dryers, refrigerators, stoves or dishwashers.

Since all that surrounds us is holy, we cannot justify abuse of the land or pollution of streams, seas and skies. Nor can we account for the oppression of people or justify wars. God calls us to treasure and care for all that He has given us. It's up to us to live as if wherever we are is holy ground, because God is there. The Lord said, "Indeed, the whole earth is mine". Exodus 19:5

Globalization is the interaction among people, companies, and governments from different nations. From our roots and over 100 years of mission giving, our UMW continue to bring "Joy to the World".

United Voices for Children -  
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UNICEF maternal health issues  
[www.unicef.org/maternalhealth/index\\_558.htm](http://www.unicef.org/maternalhealth/index_558.htm)

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## Social Action (continued)

www.umpower.org—information about domestic violence, gambling, clean water, global warming, alcohol and other drugs, HIV/AIDS, health care

General Board of Church and Society, 100 Maryland Ave, N.E., Washington, DC 20002, www.umc-gbcs.org

### Maternal Neonatal Tetanus

MNT is a joint effort of UNICEF and Kiwanis International working together to eliminate this disease. A baby dies every 9 minutes and 129 million moth-

ers and babies are at risk in 40 countries. From open sores on the mother's feet tetanus bacteria enter the body and are transferred to the baby via the umbilical cord. Convulsions, much pain and respiratory paralysis lead to death. Yet \$1.80 for a series of three shots of vaccine can prevent the disease and protect the mother and child. Referred to in the Old Testament as the 7th day death, tetanus continues to kill over 50,000 mothers/babies yearly.

Imagine No Malaria continues to be a

conference initiative. Only \$10 can buy a bed net to protect the most vulnerable children in African countries from this dreaded disease that kills thousands yearly. Our job as UMW is to help Educate, Medicate and Eradicate these preventable, curable diseases so that mothers can see their precious babies grow into healthy children.

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RESOURCES SUPPORTING MISSION

The Secretary of Program Resources is the office in which I serve. There are a lot of words in the title, but it boils down to what can I do for you? How can I help you share your light with those in need?

Each time I place an order I find more neat resources that are available. One of the newest ones is titled "Why Should I Get Involved in Social Issues?" The free resources available to all of us are vast. Next time you go into church and glance at the old, outdated pamphlets in the narthex, please contact me. We'll review the new, attractive, and informative brochures which encourage ladies to check out United Methodist Women!

Switching gears ever so slightly, the reading program marches on. With much to say and my deadline past due I will try to be brief. It won't work but I

will try. My UMW reading began with books from 2006. The 2006 reading program books will be credited through December 31, 2011. Once I have a clear understanding of the new schedule for when reading program books will be credited, I will share with everyone. Since I didn't have one from each category I have read one from the 2007 group which was delightful. "Madam President" is the title and although it is a youth book it is so informative and insightful with an easy to understand format. Plus, it has lots of great pictures. I have three more to read before the end of the year so that my name will accompany many other UMW listed in our district spring meeting program.

My latest idea on how to have more fellowship time and spend less money on books is this: make a list of which reading program books your unit has including the year and category. Share this list with other units around your area. Use each other's units as a library from which you check out the

## Program Resources

books. The special fellowship time is when you visit that nearby unit to exchange books. Have a cup of coffee and a roll while you discuss your favorite books. Think of how the ideas shared in those books might be used for one of your outreach programs. Perhaps you'll make a plan of who might purchase one or two books from the next year's Reading Program. There's no need to spend a great deal of money on books when we can all share with those around us just as we share our faith, hope and love in action. Read fast, ladies! Send your completed Reading Program book reports to me as soon after the end of the year as you can. Thanks for your prompt reporting ladies. I look forward to seeing you all in the spring.

Barb Rascher  
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Tolono, IL 61880-9445 or you can send your information to me via e-mail, (which rocks by the way) My address is: rascher@illinois.edu

# Education & Interpretation

## United Methodist Women, Inc.

**“Our 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.”

1869: Six women, who met in Boston, were the major impetus for the inception of the Methodist Women Foreign Missionary Society becoming the early foundation for the organized activity of our current United Methodist Women. These six women developed a constitution and worked by generating funds to provide a resolution to the growing health care needs of women in India. Through their generation of funds and resulting monetary interventions, a physician and educator provided to India were the beginning initiatives for the missionary momentum of the **UMW**. Thus the birth of our focus on the globe’s most vulnerable, women, children and youth, became the gathering purpose.

1964: “Agreements of 1964”, the oversight of the **UMW’s** national mission institutions, the Deaconess program and other endeavors became the responsibility of another directing body, the **General Board of Global Ministries**. However, the **UMW** were “guaranteed a third of the board seats on the **General Board of Global Ministries**”.

1965: The purpose evolved into a separate, however connected, **Women’s Division**. “The **Women’s Division** is the national policy-making

body of **UMW**, a ‘division’ of the **General Board of Global Ministries** of the United Methodist Church. Its staff manages and oversees the programs and projects of **UMW**.” Responsibilities include: advocate for the oppressed, continuously build a supportive women community; and intervene with activities to foster Christian faith growth, mission education, and Christian inter-relationships.

2011: April 11th “Directors of the **Women’s Division** approved a proposal to structurally separate from the **General Board of Global Ministries**.” The national policy-making body, **Women’s Division**, would become **United Methodist Women, Inc.**, a separate structure and the United Methodist Women’s national arm. The board of directors of the **General Board of Global Ministries** would decrease in number and the **United Methodist Women, Inc.** would be represented with only five seats. Rationale for restructuring and reducing size of **General Board of Global Ministries** is to increase representation from the denomination’s international or “central conferences”.

New **United Methodist Women, Inc.:** 25 member board of directors (previous Women’s Division 50 member board); 20 members elected by jurisdictional organizations of **UMW** and five nominated by a special committee ensuring diversity; meetings twice a year; manage program policies, budget, finances (including investments), property, and supervision of staff.

### Advantages:

1. Ensure continuation and emphasis of the core mission for women, children and youth.
2. Help the Methodist church continue to emphasize methods to empower women to grow spiritually.
3. Strengthen the primary commitment of **UMW** to enhance women to become disciples committed to Christ through compassion and service.
4. Confirm freedom of each individual **UMW’s** organization local, district and conference level to organize activities more specific to each group’s abilities according to the mission of Christ and church objectives and the term unit will no longer be a viable reference; instead, will be simply named the local **UMW**.
5. Continue to provide resources for women to increase knowledge in understanding our responsibility to meet the great challenge of intervening to increase economic autonomy and health for women and thereby affecting wholesome nurturing of children and youth.

**Let Your Light Shine: UMW** “must be vigilant at General Conference to ensure that we retain autonomy and authority to generate and allocate funds for mission”. Legislation will be introduced for vote at General Conference 2012 and thereby affect definition in the Book of Discipline officially January 2013. After incorporation **UMW** will have the structure and autonomy to continue purpose. “Their accomplishments will be clearly and deservingly identified.”

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## Education & Interpretation (continued)

### About General Conference 2012

"General Conference is the top policy-making body of the United Methodist Church. The 1000-member assembly meets once every four years to consider revisions to church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for our church wide programs for the next four years. The 2012 meeting, 'Make Disciples of Jesus Christ to Transform the World', will take place April 24-May 4 at the Tampa Convention Center."

### References:

**UnitedMethodistWomen.org (Home/AboutUMW/Women's Division);** The Women's Division; Purpose; Responsibilities

**UnitedMethodistWomen.org (Home/News & Events/Press Room);** Board Meeting, Spring 2011; Women's Division Proposes Becoming "Structurally

Separate; Missionally Connected" to Global Ministries by Leigh Rogers

**UnitedMethodistWomen.org (Home/News & Events/Press Room);** Board Meeting, Spring 2011; Women's Division Proposes Becoming "Structurally Separate, Missionally Connected" to Global Ministries by Leigh Rogers

**UnitedMethodistChurch.org (Global Ministries);** United Methodist Missin Agency Moves Toward Major Governance and Structure Changes by Elliott Wright.

**United Methodist Women News, Volume 4/Number 2;** Thinking About the Next 100 Years: Deputy General Secretary's Report at Women's Division Spring Board Meeting by Harriet Jane Olson

**Response June 2011;** Change for the Future in Mission by Yvette Moore

**UnitedMethodistWomen.org(Home/About UMW History;;** History 1869: 6 members and today 800,000 members

**United Methodist Handbook;** Map United Methodist Jurisdictions and annual conferences in the United States of America.

**UnitedMethodistChurch.org (Our Church/Connectional Table);** Connectional Table Petitions to the 2012 Conference (Page 33-36); Section VII, Membership Organizations: [The Board of United Methodist Women](#)

**UnitedMethodistChurch.org (Home/Our World/PressCenter);** General Conference 2012 Theme, Logo Selected

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## Treasury Notes From Nina

Hello Ladies,

Thank you for all the remittance forms but please remember to make checks out to **Iroquois River District or IRD**, not to me. I have been working on getting all the totals together and as of the end of October we still needed \$19,423.67 to meet our pledge for the year which is \$65,000.00.

The units that have met their pledge so far are: Broadlands, Danville Bowman Ave., Gilman, Hindsboro, Newman/Murdock, Paxton, Savoy, Tolono, Urbana Grace, Watseka. This does not

include the remittance forms sent in for this month as I'm still totaling those.

I'm hoping to have more totals later this week. If you are close to making your pledge, I'll send you an e-mail or give you a call.

Our offering at the fall meeting was \$476.57. This amount will be applied to our district's pledge.

At our District Spiritual Growth Retreat we had an offering of \$322.00 for the Eastern Illinois Food Bank in Urbana.

I would like to thank everyone for all of your hard work. It is so amazing what we can all do when we work together.

Thank you and God bless you all.

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## Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Location
Fri. February 24 & Sat. February 25	6:30 pm—3:00 pm	IGRC Spiritual Growth Retreat	Springfield
Sat. March 31	9:00 am	District Spring Meeting	Urbana Wesley UMC
Fri. April 20-Sat. April 21	9:00 am-5:00 pm	Festival of Quilts	Cunningham Spiritual Life Center
Fri. Aug 3-Weds. Aug 8		School of Christian Mission	Northfield Inn, Springfield
Sat. September 22	9:00 am	District Fall/Annual Meeting	Danville St. James UMC

### Save the date—Saturday, March 31, 2012

The Iroquois River District Spring Meeting will be March 31, 2012 at Urbana Wesley UMC. Our hands-on project for the day will be donations to the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. More information will be available in the next issue of the Beacon.