Sending good news about God’s work in action across the seas from Hawaii, Guam and Saipan

**Upcoming Events**

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT KARA MARK

The year has been moving quickly, and we have done a lot! We measure our year by annual markers along the way, beginning with our Annual Celebration in September, held in 2018 at Christ UMC, where National Director Estella Wallace was our keynote speaker. We elected and installed new officers for the Hawaii District and in our local organizations, as well. We trained our officers in January at the Local Leadership Training Event, which was held this year at Wahiawa UMC with beloved Past Conference and District President Lory Neser as our speaker. The Conference MidWinter Event was held in February at Susannah Wesley Community Center and focused on climate change and emergency preparedness. This dovetailed with our Spiritual Life Retreat in April at Trinity UMC. Several articles about the event can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Our theme for the year has been BE THE LIGHT! We have been faithful to our call to bring light to dark places and have found ways in our local organizations to be FAITH, HOPE and LOVE IN ACTION. We have uplifted 120 years of service in mission by Susannah Wesley Community Center, our UMW National Mission Institution in Hawaii. We have celebrated our sisterhood of grace and history of women in mission for 150 years by contributing to the Legacy Fund. We support the work of the Methodist Hospital of Southern California by contributing to its state-of-the-art Rehab Unit in Arcadia, CA.

And the year goes on! We give thanks for all that has been accomplished and look forward to events filling our calendar pages for the rest of the year. Some of you may be at the CalPac Annual Conference in June in Redlands, CA. Look for the UMW booth on the quad, and plan to attend the UMW Luncheon on Saturday, June 15. It’s always an upbeat gathering of enthusiastic and faithful United Methodist Women! Then in July, about 300 women gather for Mission u, a time for fellowship, devotions, great music and speakers, meditation opportunities, interest groups, focused study sessions, and lots of innovative fun! We will be at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, CA. Registration is still open online!

The year ends with the Annual Celebration, this year on September 21 at Kilohana UMC. It will be a true celebration, with special preparations in the works. Watch for ways your local organization will be involved! . . . . But the year won’t really end there. Your District Leadership Team has been working on plans for an overnight Mission Study Retreat on November 15-16. We will be in the wonderful environment of St. Anthony Retreat Center in Kalihi, and will include components from the experience at Mission u in Azusa, led by women who will be attending the event.

So the rest of the year holds hope and promise for sustained energy and fulfillment. What a year this has been. What great things we can still look forward to! We will BE THE LIGHT! to bring to life our PURPOSE for mission education, spiritual growth, social action, personal reading and study, membership growth and nurture, relationship building and communication – as whole persons in Jesus Christ in a creative, supportive community of women. There is no greater bond that holds our hearts and hands and minds and spirits together than in United Methodist Women! See you soon!
Aloha From Your Vice Present Laurie Fifita

What a Great Event on April 6th, 2019 at Trinity.

Key Factors on what was shared with us all:

1) How important that “Our Light Shines”

2) Human Trafficking and how it affects us all

Each day as we live our lives, we need to remember how lucky we are and to continue to Bless others as you all did through Prayer and the making of emergency bags for our Seniors.

Each of you is so very special to the UMW family and that is why we have made it 150 Years and look forward to 150 More.

Let’s Celebrate together at our next event

September 21, 2019 at Kilohana Church

See you There!

Mahalo and God Bless,

Laurie Fifita

UMW Websites:

www.calpacumc.org/umw/ - our Cal-Pac website
www.unitedmethodistwomen.org—our national website
www.facebook.com/UMWomen—UMW Facebook website
www.twitter.com/UMWomen—UMW Twitter website
www.youtube.com/UMWomen—videos for presentations
www.flickr.com/photos/UMWomen—photos for newsletters or PowerPoint
www.umwmissionresources.org/products/subscribe-to-response-magazine
www.umcmission.org/Find-Resources/New-World-Outlook
Aloha! Time flies and it’s already May. By now, hope you were able to finish reading at least one or two books. If you are a busy person and have not been an avid reader like me, you can begin reading a large print or a short book. I would like to share two books I read.

The title of first book I read is “Extraordinary Grace” by Gary Chapman and Chris Fabry. It’s in one of the 2017 Spiritual Growth list. This book is wonderful and encouraging. It’s a large print, quick and easy to read. This book can easily be finished in a few sittings. In the book Extraordinary Grace, we learn that grace is not only for the good, but it is also for the ones who are not so good. This book is divided into nine chapters, each chapter focusing on a certain person: Abram, Abraham, Rahab, Tamar, David, Bathsheba, Solomon, Joseph, and Jesus. No matter what your background, your choices, or your struggles, God’s extraordinary grace is available. Grace is for everyone. God chose imperfect people to showcase his grace. When you understand this truth and embrace it, you’ll be able to give that kind of grace. God is ready to forgive, restore and give an abundant life. Grace is such an important issue in the Christian life. Without grace we are nothing. Without grace we are lost.

The title of second book I read is “Launch Your Encore” by Hans Finzel and Rick Hicks. It’s in one of the 2017 Nurturing for Community list. This is a great book to help those thinking about retirement. This book is divided into twenty chapters. In Launch Your Encore, Finzel and Hicks believe that just because a person ages does not mean that their usefulness diminishes. In fact, they would suggest that a “second career” should take place. They show that maturity is greatly needed today and that such people should take the initiative to find adventure and to live with purpose in the later stages of life. What I liked about this book is that getting older is not something to fear but rather be enjoyed and then shared with the next generation. Would more seasoned people take this approach I believe our society would greatly benefit. It is a great tool to help in the planning what can be a very wonderful and productive life as we all enter our “elderlescence” years. This book reinforces and encourages those in their “60-80 window” to find what is fulfilling, worthwhile, and meaningful.

There are so many wonderful books in the list of books from 2014 (acceptable till 12/31/19) through 2019. There are 63 books in Hawaii libraries according to the list of books provided by Barbara Fernandez of First UMC. If you need the list of books, please contact me. I will send it to you by email or by mail. Please send me a book review that can be included in the August newsletter to share with others. Join us read this summer and enjoy!

Grace and Blessings, Angela Lim, alimits.lim@gmail.com, 808-280-8326
**Spiritual Growth Coordinator**

I was very pleased with the attendance at the Spiritual Life retreat I hope you all were blessed as I was. Lent is over and we now anticipating graduations. Let’s pray for all the graduates and their families and safety for each of the graduates as they attend the various parties and activities planned.

My life has been drastically changed since a fall on April 26th in which I broke my right humerus bone and have been homebound since. It’s amazing how much I’ve depended on doing things which I now cannot do especially since I can’t use my right hand at all. Many have come forth with help and most especially with prayers for which I’m forever grateful. I hope in the next month for complete healing from the top of my head to the soles of my feet. Blessings to all of you and have a wonderful summer. See you at the annual celebration in Sept.

Beverly Aiwohi Hawaii District Officer

Mrsaiwohi@gmail.com

808 235 4364

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**District Treasurer Officer**

Aloha and Malo e lelei my Sisters in Christ!

Our Hawaii district pledge for 2019 is $25,000.00. As of May 14, 2019, we have sent to conference $2,760.00 which is only 19%. Local treasurers, please send over your remittance as you receive funds, and not wait until the end of the year.

Last year our pledge was $25,000.00, we sent a total to conference $33,319.71, which is 133%! Thank you all for your commitment and hard work. A special shout out to Ta’u Papu’a for your generosity and giving of your talent! Our concert which was held at Aiea-Korean was amazing!

Keep an eye out for our Candle of Commitment for this year, your donation of that amount will burn the candle for one minute at Cal-Pac Annual Celebration. If you submit your form by the deadline your name will be placed in the booklet as well.

Legacy funds should be sent directly to our National office.

Blessing, Seneti Falemaka
Hawaii District Treasurer
Email: ssfalemaka@gmail.com  Phone: (808) 723-4340

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**Susie Sunday**

Susannah Wesley Community Center

Ideas Include

- A guest speaker from SWCC
- A Mission Moment
- Take a Special Offering
- Remember that there is a Matching Fund from First UMC... every dollar raised from Hawaii District UMCS will be doubled!
- Distribute fliers or information about SWCC
- Share what you learned about Human Trafficking
- Schedule a workshop with SWCC resources
- Collect canned goods for the Food Bank
- Explore volunteer opportunities at SWCC

For more information or to schedule a speaker, please contact Joni at 440-5818 or jchun@susannahwesley.org.
UBUNTU Project

Ubuntu at Spiritual Life Retreat: Be Prepared!

At our Spiritual Life Retreat for our Ubuntu we made nearly 200 "To Go" Emergency bags that were distributed to seniors in Waikiki as well as to the women that attended the retreat. The bags were filled with items that you would need in case you had to leave your home in an emergency.

The service project was an opportunity to continue to raise awareness about emergency preparedness in Hawaii. I want to thank Denise Pierson from Kapiolani Community College and Merle O’Neill from the Waikiki Community Center for being our awesome community partners on this project. They brought the emergency bags as well as items needed to fill them with.

A big thank you to the UMW units that made monetary donations so that we could purchase additional needed items so that the bags were full and ready for distribution. It was also fun as attendees were busy filling bags and catching up with one another. The women enjoyed the making of the bags as it was well laid out for them to easily pack and they got to take a bag home to continue to fill for their families. This Ubuntu project is a reminder that we all need to be vigilant and prepare ourselves and our neighbors for any event that might occur.

We encourage everyone to ready a Personal emergency kit or bag with these items: *water bottle *ziploc bag, *flashlight (batteries), *bandages, *Medical tape, *blanket, other recommended items include *Hygiene and health supplies, *clothes, *food, *cash and important documents in a ziploc bag, *phone and charger, *Medications, *scissors.

Make your kit for the family and always be ready! Stay Safe!

submitted by Atina Pascua
Spiritual Life Retreat: Were you there?

Our Spiritual Life Retreat this year was held on April 6 at Trinity UMC in Pearl City. Were you one of the 82 women who were there? Spiritual Leader for the event was the Rev. Amy Wake, who provided a historical and cultural perspective to lamps and light. She provided interactive opportunities to contemplate ways that we light our lamps and hindrances to letting light shine in the darkness. This expertly led to a video clip produced by Susannah Wesley Community Center that showed the unexpected reality of human trafficking in our own local communities. Dr. Shantae Williams and Veronica Lamb, who lead the program initiative on human trafficking at SWCC, provided a clear and down-to-earth overview of the situation and their work in rescuing and assisting victims, male and female, young and old. They fielded questions, and the ensuing conversations were compelling because of their front-line experiences.

Shantae has become a familiar partner with UMW in providing updates on the issue. About 6 years ago when human trafficking was part of a study at Mission U, Shantae gave an overview as a follow up at our Mission Festival. She again addressed our group a few years ago as the keynote speaker at the Mid-Winter Event that focused on the same topic. SWCC is now a lead partner on a comprehensive grant for human trafficking and coordinates services for rescued victims across the State. They are our hands and hearts in mission.

“Susie Sunday,” a day set aside to highlight the work of Susannah Wesley Community Center, was initiated several years ago, but has waned for lack of enthusiastic cheerleaders. To revive the focus on SWCC, we shared some ideas to draw awareness and support once again for this National Mission Institution, which is OURS! Included is the matching grant from First UMC for contributions to SWCC made by United Methodist individuals, organizations and churches. Consider picking up a megaphone & pompons to lead the charge at your church and in your local UMW organization!

Our on-going celebration of 150 years of women in mission, our Legacy, tied into our prayer stations. We each prayed for a real-life rescued victim, and those names were taken to letter banner “U-M-W,” which will be displayed at our Annual Celebration. Please continue to pray for those who have been in these threatening situations!

An UBUNTU project, which was a follow-up from the Mid-Winter Event, was the assembling of emergency “Go” backpacks for senior citizens in Waikiki high rise condos and residential complexes. In cooperation with Kapiolani Community College and the Waikiki Community Center, we were able to assemble 187 bags, in addition to putting together the start of a personal bag for each attendee. Consider the head start to safety for the elderly residents in Waikiki that was provided that day!

It was a full day of listening, learning and emotion as some of us were startled by the unexpected realities of human trafficking here in our own neighborhoods, and perhaps in families we know. As we were challenged to BE THE LIGHT!, It was a day for reflection, reality checks and action. We hope you were there!
Support for Susie=Support for Mission! What a deal!

Let’s talk about Susannah Wesley Community Center, our very own National Mission Institution—our mission project—here in Hawaii. It began its work in 1899 with a lone missionary who went door to door in Waipahu inviting young girls to learn English and how to sew. Through its 120 year history, Susie has been

♦ an orphanage for Japanese and Korean girls;
♦ an afterschool drop-in center;
♦ a second chance program for a high school diploma;
♦ a late night basketball option to hanging out on the streets;
♦ a bilingual mental health provider for immigrants;
♦ an emergency food distribution center;
♦ and is currently a major statewide partner as a safety net on the front line for victims and survivors of human trafficking.

The agency has weathered financial challenges that have hit all nonprofits and relies on the generosity of people who know its legacy of good works and understand the importance of increasing consistent sources of funding. **We are so grateful for the vision of First UMC in Honolulu that recognized Susie as a natural mission opportunity for all of our churches to support. . . Easy.** There’s nothing we have to do besides make a contribution to its ongoing work to know that our dollars and our prayers are working to improve lives in our community. **The church foundation made a gift of $25,000 to Susie. In addition, it has offered a match of up to $25,000 for all contributions from United Methodists: individuals, churches and organizations.** Now that’s a big WOW!

We all support a multitude of agencies in mission. **Here’s a unique opportunity to turn a modest contribution into a magnificent one for a community service center that belongs to us.** What a great way to express a message of thanks and pride for all of the work it has done for people in the community on our behalf. I can’t say it enough: **Susannah Wesley Community Center belongs to us!** This is our mission. Help us keep Susie as a beacon of light and hope for all of the people it serves.

Please make a contribution payable to SWCC with a note on the memo line that indicates First UMC Matching Fund. Designate a Susie Sunday! Take a look at the flyer that lists some suggestions for what you can do. Susannah Wesley Community Center is ours! Please join us in mission with Susie!
POWER OF Limitless

IN CELEBRATION WITH OUR UMW 150TH BIRTHDAY!

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

Rev. Allison Mark

FUN ACTIVITIES, WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP!
FREE EVENT WITH LUNCH PROVIDED!

UBUNTU PROJECT FOR
DAVID & MARGARET YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES
ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES!

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2019
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
FOR AGES 12-45

AZUSA PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
801 E. ALOSTA AVENUE, AZUSA, 91702

TO REGISTER, PLEASE CLICK HERE
HTTPS://CALPACUCIIC.FORMSTACK.COM/FORMS/MISaniel710
Let’s Celebrate

Years of Women in Mission

2019!
THE LEGACY FUND
Celebrate United Methodist Women! 150 Years and Counting...

United Methodist Women has a rich legacy as a mission movement since 1869, and we are building for the next 150 years of service in God’s mission on behalf of women, children and youth in communities down the street and around the world.

Make your Legacy Fund gift today!

Please retain for your records
Western North Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women
My/Our Legacy Fund gift:

Every member is encouraged to make a gift to The Legacy Fund of at least $18.69 per year, over and above her Pledge to Mission, for five years. And, every local unit is challenged to make a gift to The Legacy Fund of $186.90 per year, for five years, in addition to individual member gifts.

☐ $1,869 ☐ $500 ☐ $300 ☐ $200 ☐ $186.90 ☐ $50 ☐ $18.69 ☐ Other________
☐ monthly ☐ annually ☐ beginning ___________20__ (month/year)

Turning Faith, Hope and Love into Action since 1869.
All donations tax-deductible. Give your Legacy Fund commitment form and your gift to your local United Methodist Women treasurer.

---

Yes! I want to celebrate United Methodist Women’s 150th anniversary and help ensure we continue to put faith, hope and love into action for another 150 years.

Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Women
My/Our Legacy Fund gift:

☐ $1,869 ☐ $500 ☐ $300 ☐ $200 ☐ $186.90 ☐ $50 ☐ $18.69 ☐ Other________
☐ enclosed ☐ monthly ☐ annually ☐ beginning ___________20__

☐ In honor / memory of _____________________________________________

☐ Please contact me about including United Methodist Women in my estate planning.

☐ Please contact me about the major gift program.

Name: __________________________ Local Church Name/City: __________________________
E-mail: __________________________ Phone: __________________________
Street Address: __________________________
City, State, ZIP: __________________________
Conference: Western North Carolina Conference District: __________________________

Give your Legacy Fund commitment form and your gift to your local United Methodist Women treasurer.
Cal-Pac Conference United Methodist Women

2019 MISSION TODAY CRITERA

To become a Mission Today Local Organization, the Local Organization (LO will be used instead of Local Organization below) must meet EIGHT (8) of the following criteria, including a minimum of FOUR (4) of those marked with an Asterisk (*).

Return To Your District Mission Education Coordinator
Mission Ed. Coord. Name, Address, E-mail ________________________________

Local Organization Name, Contact Name, E-mail / Phone: __________________________

☐ * Use the Prayer Calendar at EACH general meeting of the LO to pray for persons in mission & for our mission work with women, children, & youth.

☐ * The LO will lead their members in the UMW purpose EACH meeting.

☐ * The LO will make and meet its pledge to mission.

☐ * The LO will add at least TWO members to its roll.

☐ * The LO will have at least TWO members subscribing to response magazine. (Order from the Mission Resource Center)

☐ * The LO will use TWO programs from the Program Book for UMW each year.

☐ * The LO, circle, or subgroup will conduct at least ONE Mission Study a year. (Contact your Dist. or Conf. to learn what the studies and textbooks are for each year).

☐ * The LO will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least TWO ways during the year. Suggested plans of action:
  1. ENCOURAGING a joint Vacation Bible School.
  2. ENCOURAGING pulpit exchanges.
  3. SHARING joint worship services on special occasions.
  4. ENCOURAGING support for equal employment practices in the church & community.
  5. CONTACT your Conference Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies for further action plans.

☐ The LO will ADD or ENCOURAGE their LO’s Young Women’s or Youth Circle.

☐ The LO will ADD or ENCOURAGE their LO’s Language Group Circle.

☐ HOLD a joint LO meeting with a LO of a different racial/ethnic background, using programs from the Program Book.

☐ DEVELOP a bi-racial/cultural or multi-racial/cultural Koinonia group.

☐ At least ONE member of the LO other than a Conf. or Dist. officer will attend the Conference or District School of Christian Mission.
☐ At least TWO members of the LO other than a Conf. or Dist. officer will attend the District or Conference Annual Celebration.

☐ At least TWO members of the LO will attend any Young Women’s Event in the Cal-Pac Conference.

☐ At least FIVE members of the LO will attend any event with emphasis on UMW 101 or any Language event in the Cal-Pac Conference.

☐ The LO will have at least ONE person join the United Methodist Women’s Action Network to receive & respond to legislative information. (To join, call the Women's Division Washington Office at (202) 488-5660 or write to UMW Action Network, 100 Maryland Ave. NE, Suite 530, Washington, D.C. 20002).

☐ Members shall write to FIVE persons listed in the Prayer Calendar at least twice a year.

☐ The LO will participate in the Campaign for Children in at least TWO ways.

   Possibilities for action:

   1. HELP sponsor a church or community program related to children and youth needs.

   2. SPONSER a Children's Sabbath, promoted by the Children's Defense Fund.

   3. GET INVOLVED with children in mentoring, tutoring, and "big sisters" programs.

   4. WRITE letters, e-mail, or call Congressional representatives and/or others in government regarding children's issues.

   5. LEARN how our schools are funded.

☐ The LO will BE a Five Star LO, contributing to ALL FIVE channels of Mission Giving.

☐ Each LO, circle, or subgroup will INCLUDE a mission moment where an article from response or New World Outlook magazines will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.

☐ Have at least TWO persons from the LO, circle, or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on at least ONE of the books read.

☐ The LO will invite a Dist. or Conf. officer, other than a member of the LO, to ONE of the LO meetings during the year.

☐ Make a PLEDGE to care for God’s creation and become a “Green” UMW LO (How to Become a Green LO at umwonline.org/environment or contact Women’s Division Office of Community Action).

☐ HOLD a Mini – Spiritual Growth Retreat (For addition information contact the Women’s Division Office of Spiritual Formation and Mission Theology).

☐ The LO will have at least TWO persons visit one of the national mission sites within the Cal-Pac Conference.

Other Mission Work:

________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________

Page 2
Gifts & Graces Inventory - Hawaii District UMW
Potential Leaders Information Form
(to be completed by potential leader)

Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Name: _____________________________ Date: ________________

Address: ____________________________________________

Telephone: (hm) __________ (wk) __________ Email: ________________

Member of Local Church: ____________________________ District: ________________

Age: 20’s ___ 30’s ___ 40’s ___ 50’s ___ 60’s ___ 70’s ___ 80’s ___

Languages Spoken: ____________________________ Racial/Ethnic Group: ________________

Employed: No _______ Part Time _______ Full Time _______

Professional skills, job experience: __________________________

Additional experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Methodist Women), or in the community: __________________________

How will your spiritual journey strengthen your commitment to serve on the District Leadership Team?

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Revised: 08/2018
Sisterhood of Grace 150 Years!