

**Long Island East District**

**United**

**Methodist**

**Women**

**NEXUS**

**April 2019**

## Greetings from the President

Dear Sisters in Christ and all others who might be reading this, As many of us are in the midst of a Lenten Bible Study I was struck by a phrase in my study which pointed out to my group that Jesus was preparing his disciples for how to go out and serve. He was preparing them for the time he would not be physically with them. But that they would be expected to continue his mission and would be empowered to do so. This reminded me of several occasions which had occurred this week.

We have an afterschool homework help program in our church as have had some other churches in my community. I often hear people expressing concern about what the schools are doing or are not doing. Everyone recognizes the need for community involvement in all kinds of after school programs. Yet, many of the groups and or individuals who try to fill in the gap of what is needed, struggle to find volunteers to serve (assist). The question/statement frequently asked of me is, "What can I do?"

As I said earlier, three times this week I heard pleas from different sources expressing a need for someone to volunteer to serve. The first one I heard was someone suggesting that the person find an afterschool program of any kind and of any age. It was as if God was sending out a message from my church.

I remembered the story of the man who had brought his son to the disciples for healing. In my words, the disciples questioned, "What can we do?" In that instance, they did not see that as disciples they had been given the power to heal the son, if only their faith had been at least as large as a mustard seed. I see some of our present-day disciples do not see that they have the power to serve in many different ways and make a difference not only with the children but with all of their brothers and sisters in these turbulent times everywhere.

So, as we move thru this Lenten season preparing ourselves for the time of Resurrection when Christ will come again, let us see ourselves as the resurrection for our neighborhoods, our schools, our children, our world. Remember we are disciples who have been empowered by The Holy Spirit to do the miracles here on earth while we wait for Resurrection Sunday to come again.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Hicksville UMC for our Spring meeting on April 27, 2019 as we celebrate 150 years as United Methodist Women. Please note some important deadlines for events coming this summer.

Yours in Christ,  
Grace H. Bryant  
LIE UMW President  
516-334-4166(h) 516-805-0831(c)  
Glhb2003@yahoo.com

**Long Island East District TEAM MEMBERS  
DISTRICT OFFICERS and COORDINATORS - 2019**

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**OFFICERS:**

***President***

**Grace Bryant**

728 Franklin Street  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516 / 334-4166 (H)  
516 / 805-0831 (C)  
glhb2003@yahoo.com

***Vice President***

**Susan Dewey-Hammer**  
8 Inlet Place  
Huntington, NY 11743  
516 / 631-424-5128 (H)  
sdeweyham@aol.com

***Acting Secretary***

**Mary Munkenbeck**

93 Brook Street  
West Sayville, NY 11796  
631 / 567-4939 (H)  
mhmunk@yahoo.com

***Treasurer***

**Chris Mefford**

2 Meadowfield Lane  
Glen Cove, NY 11542  
516 / 671-2990 (H)  
917 / 480-1268 (C)  
Cmefford614@yahoo.com

***MISSION***

**COORDINATORS:**

***Spiritual Growth***

**Garydiane Morrison**

150 West Columbia Street  
Apt. 4F  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
516 / 486-0157 (H)  
516 / 477-4630 (C)

[Garydianem@msn.com](mailto:Garydianem@msn.com)

***Spiritual Growth***

**Tani Sylvester**  
249 Asbury Avenue East  
Westbury, NY 11590  
718 / 496-7570 (C)  
tani.sylvester@yahoo.com

***Education and  
Interpretation***

**Mable Jo Robinson**

711 Jefferson St.  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516 / 334-6512 (H)  
516 / 279-5655 (C)  
ablejo@optonline.net

***Social Action***

**Serena Richardson**

400 Rose Avenue  
W. Hempstead, NY 11552  
516 / 536-3862 (H)  
516 / 606-8249 (C)  
cheroke700@gmail.com

***Membership, Nurture &  
Outreach***

**Harriet Jonquiere**

1778 Horatio Ave.  
Merrick, NY 11566  
516 / 623-5108  
Hgiz98@optonline.net

***Program Resources***

**Gladys Louie**

1809 Nostrand Avenue  
East Meadow, NY 11554  
516 / 794-1248 (H)  
516 / 303-6606 (C)

***Communications***

**Kira Bryant**

728 Franklin Street  
Westbury, NY 11590  
516 / 805-1429 (C)  
Kirabryant2006@yahoo.com

**NOMINATIONS:**

**Dorothy Kim, Chair**

26 Slocum Avenue  
Port Washington, NY  
11050  
516 / 570-0935 (H)  
917 / 892-7375 (C)  
dorothyskim@yahoo.com

**Barbara Becker**

14 Hallock Road  
Patchogue, NY 11772  
631 / 475-1792 (H)  
631 / 649-5448 (C)  
BJbeck1@optonline.net

**IMMEDIATE PAST  
OFFICERS**

Revised 4-1-2019 – GHB

**Potential Team Members**

Rev. Liz Williams  
104 William St.  
Hempstead, NY 11550  
[Ewilliams104@optonline.net](mailto:Ewilliams104@optonline.net)

Audrey Williams  
Freeport UMW

## a sisterhood of grace

As a community of women organized for mission, it is important that we be the creative, supportive fellowship espoused in our PURPOSE. In that spirit, we offer these guidelines, often referred to as “ground rules,” to provide us a framework to ensure dialogue and participation is open, respectful and brave as we share, pray, learn and listen together.

- Listen actively—with head and heart.
- Speak from your own experience.
- Be aware of body language.
- Respect confidentiality.
- Respect personal space.
- Own your intentions and your impact.
- Practice sustainability.
- Expect unfinished business—both discomfort and joy.



United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

## **SOCIAL ACTION**

*“The earth lies defiled under its inhabitants; for they have transgressed the laws; violated the statutes; broken the everlasting covenant.....Isaiah 24:5”*

Greeting my sisters, as we enter a new season of birth and renewal, I pray that you all are taking the time to admire and enjoy the flowering trees, shrubs and flowers on this beautiful planet our Heavenly Father has blessed us with. Unfortunately, this natural God given beauty has never been more at risk in the world we live in today all due to the fact that we have not been good stewards of the earth, and those of us that are or have been, are standing idly by watching while we allow careless and or intentional individuals and corporations rape and destroy our God given planet of its natural resources, poison our air, our water, wildlife, food source and our ever so fragile ecosystem.

Progress; change; evolution; has always been part of the human condition, some for the better and some for the worse. As humans we are always looking for ways to make our lives easier, and ways to accomplish everyday tasks more efficiently and at record speeds with no slowing down in site and in today's world, technology provides the way, but with all this highly evolved lifestyle we so anxiously covet, we seldomly think about; if at all, how these modern convenience's may come at a high price, which; according to many environmental sources, the cost may be and is the ruination of planet earth and its inhabitants.

As United Methodist Women and United Methodist's, we are constrained to care for our planet in a loving way not only because we are its's inhabitants, but because it is God's creation; (UM BK. Of Resolutions 2016, Energy, Protection of Water, Environmental Health, Climate Change ;pg43-81 & The Natural World; chapter 160.1). The sustainability of a healthy planet is vital to ALL human existence and it is incumbent among us all to do our part to be good stewards of God's loving creation and gift to us. What can we do? Climate Justice is a priority for the UMW and we are encouraged to engage in effective ways in our personal lives as well as in our churches, and in the

social and political arena. A current UMW campaign for climate justice is a letter devised and addressed to the CEO of the Chevron Corporation; who is the second largest emitter of carbon dioxide and Toxic leaks in the world, demanding that he takes sincere steps in repairing their leaks and invest in renewable energy and ceasing new natural gas endeavors. To add your name to this letter, kindly go to the, [unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org) website and click on climate justice, this link will also provide you with all pertinent information pertaining to the ways in which the UMW is currently advocating for the sustainability of a healthy planet, and steps you can take to join in the fight. A healthy planet is a win, win, for all, but a unhealthy one; more so adversely affects those who are the most vulnerable such as the poor, people of color, women, children, unemployed, under employed, and those of us that do not have a voice or have the power fight against mega corporations and industries like Chevron and many others.

We must all come together as United Methodist Women and as stewards of this earth to preserve what is good, what is righteous, what is just and what is fair, God is depending on us!

In Sisterhood,

Serena Richardson, Social Action Coordinator

Additional Resources:

[News.nationalgeographic.com](http://News.nationalgeographic.com) "A running list of How President Trump is changing Environmental policy"

[CNN.com](http://CNN.com): "5 Major changes to US environmental policy in 2017"

## General Treasurer's Notes for Newsletter

Please take the time now to review your unit's financial status. Although your yearly pledge may be received later in the year, if your unit wants to be recognized as a Five Star Unit for 2019, **all qualifying money must be received no later than September 15**. To qualify as a Five Star Unit, the local unit needs to send a remittance for each of the following categories:

**Pledge to Mission:** Each unit is urged to notify the District Treasurer of a pledge that it wishes to make to Mission. It is a portion of each unit's budget that is set as a goal to submit to the Women's Division through the District Treasurer.

**Special Mission Recognition:** An individual or your local unit honors a special person. Gifts can be in the following amounts: \$40, \$60, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1000 or \$2000. The recipient receives a lapel pin and a certificate. Details are in the UMW handbook. The pin and certificate are ordered through the District Treasurer. Delivery has been enhanced due to improvements in the on-line ordering system, but adequate time should be allowed for processing. Any Special Mission Recognition may be ordered with a certificate only for recipients who have several pins.

**Gift to Mission:** A gift of \$5 or more for mission is sent in honor of any person. A card may be sent by the donor (an individual or the local unit) to the honoree. These cards may be ordered from the District Treasurer. There are several card themes: For a New Baby, Congratulations, Peace, In the Service of Christ, A Special Day, Thank You, Thinking of You and Happy Birthday.

**Gift in Memory:** A gift (minimum of \$5) is made in memory of a member of the unit or a friend. Gift acknowledgement cards are available from the District Treasurer. They may also be ordered in packages of 10 from the Mission Resource Center. When a Gift in Memory is made, the Local Treasurer send the money, along with the "tear off portion" of the card to the District Treasurer and sends the card to the family of the deceased.

**World Thank Offering:** Individuals or families collect additional gifts in special boxes or containers (see Mission Resource Center catalog for appropriate resources). Gifts are brought together once a year, usually with a special service of thanksgiving. A service is printed each year in the Program Book.

Please be sure to observe the September 15 deadline. Contact me with any questions about unit contributions to date. Thank you.

Chris Mefford Treasurer

# COMING ATTRACTIONS

## 2019 Mission u Studies

### **Spiritual Growth Study: Mark and Radical Discipleship**

**By Janet Wolf**

In the 2019 Spiritual Growth Study, *“Mark and Radical Discipleship,”* author Janet Wolf explores what it means to live a life of radical discipleship today using the Gospel of Mark as the foundation. Wolf explores the timeless issues of poverty, gender, justice, liberation, equality, and others using Mark as a guide. The stories of the women in Mark are a particular focus in this study and how, although often unnamed, they are prominent among Jesus’ followers and in Mark’s recounting of the gospel story.

### **Geographic Study: United for Change**

#### **United Methodist Women in Mission: 150 Years and Beyond**

**By Ellen Blue**

*United for Change* by Ellen Blue is the first in a two-year study commemorating United Methodist Women’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It will provide a historical survey of United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations and amplify the voices that shaped the work through an overarching story of United Methodist Women changing the fact of mission.

### **Adult Issue Study: What About Our Money? A Faith Response (2<sup>nd</sup> yr.)**

**By Susan K. Taylor**

*What About Our Money? A Faith Response* explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith. Through this connection between our faith and our money, readers discover how to live closer to God and God’s people, even in our North American culture that is so deeply defined by money.

### **Youth Study: Who do you say that I am? Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark**

**By Carolyn Poling**

In *Who do you say that I am? Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark*, Carolyn Poling guides youth through the Gospel of Mark, helping them to define who Jesus is to them, who he says he is in scripture, and how this impacts how we live our lives.

### **Children’s Study: A Mission Journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark**

**By Rita Hays**

In *Marked: A Mission Journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark*, Rita Hays invites children to join Jesus on an exciting lifelong pilgrimage of discipleship and mission.



Mission u Click below to register  
<https://www.nyac.com/eventdetail/12782850?month=7&year=2019&day=1&display=m>

**New York Annual Conference Mission u**  
**Josephine Gibson Memorial Scholarship 2019 Application Form**  
**Mission u (formerly CSOCM) Dates – July 26-28, 2019**  
Scholarship Application Deadline: May 1st, 2019

**APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

Eligibility for this scholarship is limited to those persons who are members of the New York Conference, ATTENDING Mission u for the FIRST TIME, adult females, youth ages 12-17, or adult males who are chaperoning male youth.

**(All youth must have a chaperone)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Unit \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Female Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Are you an officer in your local or district United Methodist Women? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what office do you hold in UMW? \_\_\_\_\_

Female Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Age 12 - 13 - 14 - 15 - 16 - 17 (please circle age)

Male Youth \_\_\_\_\_ Age 12 - 13 - 14 - 15 - 16 - 17 (please circle age)

Male Adult \_\_\_\_\_ chaperoning Male Youth; please write in their name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

In the space below (and on the back if needed) please tell us (1) why you want to attend Mission u, (2) why you should be considered for scholarship assistance, and (3) how you will use what you learn at Mission u in your Local Unit, District United Methodist Women and/or your Local Church.

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**SPONSOR:** I am a (local) (District) (Conference) UMW officer. I support this application for a Jo Gibson Scholarship. You may contact me for additional information at:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone Number of Sponsor) \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Sponsor)

**Submission of the application DOES NOT guarantee that you will receive a scholarship.**  
**Completed application MUST be postmarked by May 01, 2019**

Mail to: Joann McClam 112-25 167<sup>th</sup> Street Apt 4D, Jamaica, NY 11433  
Email: jmclclam@aol.com, Contact Number: 718-480-8850

**JOSEPHINE LEE GIBSON**  
1910-1976  
**WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF  
CHRISTIAN SERVICE**  
*The Methodist Church*



**J**o Gibson was a "light" of Trinity Methodist Church, White Plains, New York, for more than forty-five years. As a

choir member, chair of the Council on Ministries and much more, her life clearly exemplified that of leader, friend, and steward. Community involvement included the NAACP, Urban League of Westchester County, the Interfaith Council of White Plains, which she served as the first black president, and the Student Aid Society, which she served as president for over twenty-five years. A scholarship that helps deserving youngsters achieve a college education is awarded annually by the Student Aid Society in Jo Gibson's memory. Her love of the Methodist women's organization was evidenced through her activity and leadership in the Women's Society of Christian Service in both the Delaware and New York Conferences. She was the first black dean of the New York Conference School of Christian Mission. In recognition of her tireless and faithful service, the New York Conference established the Jo Gibson Scholarship, which annually gives financial assistance to women attending the School of Christian Mission. Truly it can be said of Jo Gibson, "She was a saint who in her modest and unostentatious way led the world in thought and usefulness. She is among the great of the earth."



## NEXUS LIE Dates for 2019

All UMW LIE Local Unit Officers are welcome to attend any of our District Team Meetings. We meet on Wednesday mornings, 10AM-12AM, on the dates scheduled below. We meet at the home of President, Grace Bryant. RSVP; See Directory Other UMW Meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. Dates and locations are listed below or will be listed in future newsletters.

Although the Census due date is passed we are so close that I encourage you to go on the UMW website and enter your information. It takes only a few seconds. BE COUNTED

**April 17, 2019** LIE District Team Meeting

**April 21, 2019** HAPPY EASTER

**April 27, 2019** NYC UMW LIE Spring Meeting, Hicksville UMC (See flyer)

**May 1, 2019** Jo Gibson Scholarship Deadline (see flyer or website)

May 22, 2019 LIE District Team Meeting

**May 31, Legacy Fund Gala (Christ Church UMC 7:00PM-11PM)**

June 6-9, 201h NYAC Annual Meeting Hofstra University

**June 19, 2019** LIE District Team Meeting

July 26-28, 2019 Mission u, Stamford Hilton Hotel, Stamford, CT

(Registration ends July 1,2019)

**October 5, 2019** NYC UMW LIE Fall Meeting (site TBA)

*The District Team is available and wishes to visit churches within the LIE District which do not have a local UMW unit or one which is currently inactive. Please contact Grace Bryant, LIE President to make arrangements.*

[Glhb2003@yahoo.com](mailto:Glhb2003@yahoo.com), 516-334-6166 or 516-805-0831

### World Day of Prayer 2019

As has been the tradition as long as I can remember, for at least fifteen to twenty years, the Westbury Unit of the United Methodist Women has celebrated World Day of Prayer. As I remember initially, the Westbury Unit and other United Methodist Churches in the cluster would rotate the celebration which always is celebrated on the first Friday in March. They held a worship service which had been written by the chosen country of that particular year, followed by a luncheon with dishes native to that particular country. This year the country was Slovenia. The Westbury Women did a wonderful job in replicating some of the Slovenian cuisine.

Although in recent years we have not rotated the celebration location, we have invited other UMW units from our area and churches from many different denominations from our area. The theme of the celebration was, "Come -Everything Is Ready". Indeed, our guests came! Some of our guests were from the Hempstead UMW Unit, the Port Washington UMW Unit, and our Long Island East newest chartered Unit from Simpson UMC, Amityville. Other guests were from Baptist, Pentecostal, Episcopal, and Catholic churches and persons not affiliated with any particular church.

We had a wonderful dialogue and fellowship around the theme, as you may note on the faces of the pictures we took, after and during the celebration.

Thank you to all who helped in the celebration and those who came to share with us on this special day.

Mary Campbell and Marjorie Moon  
Westbury UMW





Spring into Revival Praise Concert Sponsored by the WUMC Youth Ministry





United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# **LONG ISLAND EAST**

**2019 Spring District Meeting  
April 27, 2019**

**Hicksville United Methodist Church  
130 West Old Country Road  
Hicksville, New York 11801  
516-931-2626**

**Rev. Marjorie E. Nunes, Pastor**

**Women United for Change:**

# 150 Years in Mission

Registration/Breakfast  
Program/Meeting

8:30 – 9:30 AM  
9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

We will again be collecting new clothing items (ladies underwear size 8, socks size 9-11, XL sweatshirts and XL sweatpants with drawstrings) for the SAFER Project, which provides services for victims of rape, sexual assault and/or domestic violence.

We will also be collecting paper goods for Far Rockaway Mission.

We will also collect box tops for Education for the Red Bird Mission.

Directions:

[www.nyac.com](http://www.nyac.com)