



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION



Our Bake Sale on May 13th during the Rummage Sale for the Hearts in Motion Mission was a success!!! Thank you to the wonderful bakers who took the time to make and package items for selling. We sold almost everything at the rummage sale and did make just a few sales after the first worship service the following Sunday. We worked hard to

raise the money to buy a sewing machine for the mission in Tanzania Africa and WE DID IT!!! We brought in \$265.70 and this will buy a sewing machine for the women in the Mara District. We enjoyed the opportunity to bake and sell these gifts from our kitchens that we might just do this again! Thanks so much for the people who came in to work the table (Diane Leveille, Diane Wadelin, and Judy Campbell) and to those who baked and packaged items for sale (I don't know all of you—but they include: Audrey Campbell, Olivia Zade, Eleanor Lanzillo, Janet Tonkin, Kay Weeks, Amy Ochoa, Diane Leveille, Diane Wadelin, and Janice Anderson). The rewards of your efforts are sweet! Thanks be to the Lord!

Un-Rummage Sale

The un-rummage sale is going on and as of the time of the last board meeting, we have received \$130.00. More money is still coming in. Check last month's Messenger for a form if you would like to have some suggestions about why we aren't doing our own rummage sale. Suffice to say, that most members are glad not to be setting up a rummage sale this year. To contribute to the un-rummage sale event, please write a check to United Methodist Women (UMW) and turn it into the office or give it directly to our treasurer, Shirley Kidner. The money will go to our pledge to the global mission of the church. This money aids women and children all over the world.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women is the largest denominational faith organization for women with approximately 800,000 members whose mission is fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders and advocating for justice.

The Ridgecrest Reporter

United Methodist Women's History

1869: 6 Members

Today: 800,000 members

UMW inherits the vision and toil of women's missionary societies of eight denominations since 1869. Its 140-year legacy started when the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society first organized in Boston in response to a lack of women's health in India.

Women in the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren traditions organized about the same time in history (1869-1893) when women and children were legally classified as "chattel, legally dead, non-persons." There was little service to women because of prejudice and limitations of cultural attitudes in the church and in society

In 1869, Mrs. William Butler and Mrs. Edwin Parker, wives of missionaries to India, were home on furlough. They spoke to a group of women in Boston. Only six women were present because of an intense storm. Mrs. Butler told about the desperate spiritual and physical needs of women in India. A male doctor could not treat women. Schooling for girls was almost non-existent. Single, trained and dedicated women were needed for medical and educational work.

The six women who were present called another meeting of women, wrote a constitution, and organized the Methodist Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS). By November 1869, the newly formed organization raised funds and sent Isabella Thoburn, an educator, and Dr. Clara Swain, a doctor, to India. Ms. Thoburn began a school with six young girls in Lucknow. This school expanded to include Isabella Thoburn College, the first women's college in Asia. Dr. Swain began her medical work, resulting in the establishment of the first women's hospital in Asia. Both of these institutions are still serving the people of India.

In 1875, Lizzie Hoffman was instrumental in forming the Woman's Missionary Association of the United Brethren Church. After spending one night praying, she was convinced that the women of the church should be organized for special mission work. Sierra Leone, in Africa, was the first country to which missionaries were sent. Strong Woman's Home Missionary Societies were founded in 1880 (Methodist Episcopal Church) and 1890 (Methodist Episcopal Church, South)

In 1879, the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Protestant Church was founded; and in 1884, the Woman's Missionary Society was organized in the Evangelical Association. These groups became powerful, independent women's organizations, sending hundreds of missionaries all over the world and supporting many projects

The Ladies Aid Societies, which had existed for many years, were incorporated into the missionary societies in the 1940s. Through reorganization and denominational mergers, these various groups were brought together. In 1973, United Methodist Women became the women's mission organization of The United Methodist Church.