

**NEVADA/SIERRA DISTRICT**  
NEWSLETTER "SPIRIT"

**August 2008**

Please print and share this Newsletter

**Challenge – Challenge – Challenge**

With a windfall of donations of upholstery and drapery material, Grass Valley UMW will be able to make at least 60 school kit bags for UMCOR this year. They have gathered for one cutting party, using rotary cutters, and will soon meet again for more cutting and the sewing of the bags. Meanwhile, Joan Heinsohn, their Social Action Coordinator, has taken some of the budgeted monies to buy the school supplies at sale prices. You can find out the exact measurements and types of school supplies needed by going on line at UMCOR school kits.

Last year, the local UMVIM group, who went to Biloxi on a building project, delivered the Grass Valley kits to UMCOR supply depot and saved the group a lot of postage costs. Grass Valley is looking for another group this year. GV UMW would gladly pay the extra gasoline costs to make a side trip to the depot in Baldwin, LA. Please call the Grass Valley Church, 530-272-1946, if you know anyone traveling that way.

**All right.** They have put out the **CHALLENGE**. They would love it if any group can send more than 60!!!! We who have so much, Jesus asks that we share our abundance. Let's do our part as United Methodist Women in Mission and help get our children around the world some education. You know the story of the starfish. Each bag will make a difference in some child's life.

**Submitted by Mary Liebke, Grass Valley, District VP**

**District Retreat 7/11 – 7/13/08**

Our yearly spiritual retreat took place at the Mercy Center in Auburn. Once settled in, we began our study of *Resurrection Women*, which took us from women who were there for Jesus in his last days, including his crucifixion and resurrection, to women of today who want to be strong in faith and works. We learned, discussed, and sang some wonderful songs. Joan Pell (seminary student) and Susan Kopp were co-leaders for the study, and Fran Rahn (guitar) and Janet Wills (piano) kept us singing. Non-study activities included exploring the lovely grounds, following the stations of the cross, and walking a portable labyrinth. The last evening was spent making and explaining collages that were representative of ourselves. Surveys at the end of the retreat gave high marks to the program and to the Mercy Center as a retreat location.

**Joyce Spence Program Resources for NV/Sierra District**

(The retreat site was so well thought of that reservations were made for 2009)

**Mark Your Calendars!!!!!!!!!!**

**Nevada/Sierra's UMW FALL "GIVEAWAY" CELEBRATION  
Saturday, September 27, 2008, 8 AM – 2:30 PM  
Grace UMC, Lovelock, NV**

With a bit of Native American Culture weaving through the day, we will celebrate women and children through skits, much music, gift making, drumming (bring a drum or a bucket), 5-Star bead bracelets, Mission Today, Reading Program Certificates, Elections, School kit challenge, good food, wonderful worship and more, much more. Come, learn about the Sierra Service Project (Let's "catch their dreams and help them come true"), about our Methodist Churches' Native American ministries ("Go, My Child"), about Sindyanna Olive Oil (the perfect "giveaway").

I challenge you all to make up at least one car poll from each of your units. Your District Executive committee will be there to welcome you and to thank God for your presence. We thank the women of Lovelock UMC and Winnemucca UMW for welcoming us all. (Flyer at the back of the Newsletter)

Call me for further information. (530) 273-3678 or [mliebke@yahoo.com](mailto:mliebke@yahoo.com)

**Mary Liebke, Vice President**

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## **From our District Treasurer**

### **Sherrill Sweeney**

The District DOLTE (or LITE, as it's now called) otherwise known as a training event was held in January and featured performers were some of the local church's children. We wanted to make a donation in their honor, to thank them, and it seemed very appropriate to support the Children's Defense Fund. The thank you note (recreation) I received is below and this is a perfect way to share it with all of you.

July 18, 2008

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your contribution of \$50.00 to the Children's Defense Fund. This gift will help provide America's children with a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start*, and a *Moral Start* in life and a successful passage to adulthood.

Deepest thanks for your commitment to children and to our work. Your caring and sharing mean so much.

Sincerely yours,

Marian Wright Edelman

President

## A resolution for the New (School) Year

A number of years ago, a friend and I commented that although we both really enjoyed going to the movies, we seldom made time in our schedules for this activity. This happened late in December, so we made a joint New Year's resolution – once a month we would go to see a movie together. This has evolved into a movie and a snack or meal after, when we have a chance to visit and catch one another up on all that has been going on in our lives. It is one of the happiest things we do for ourselves, and unlike so many New Year's resolutions, we have continued to keep it.

As a new school year approaches, is there a resolution you can make? Not one of those hard to do, "good" resolutions, like eating a healthier diet and getting more exercise – not one of those resolutions that you'll STOP doing after a few weeks and then spend the next eight months feeling guilty about because you aren't doing it. No – not one of THOSE resolutions.

But a resolution to do something FUN – something that gives you pleasure – A resolution that will be easy to keep –

Suggestions – a spa day – a day to pamper yourself with a pedicure, facial, long soak in the tub

A day of reading – no interruptions allowed – grab a book, turn off the phone, and READ.

View fall colors (or other beauties of nature) – take yourself out into God's beautiful world and ENJOY.

A day at the museum (or art gallery) – NO RUSH...take your time and really LOOK.

Take a class – something FUN that you've wanted to take for a long time but haven't quite gotten to.

Go dancing – or jogging, bicycling, or walking – for FUN.

These activities can be done alone or with others – make a list of your own RIGHT NOW – and then put it on your calendar and treat it as you do your "serious" appointments – the ones you wouldn't even consider canceling or postponing.

HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR !!!!

**Barbara Welch District Spiritual Growth**

### **From Education and Interpretation – Melody Headley**

Melody wishes to thank all the people that she called to find out what units would be receiving their Mission Today and Five Star Certificates. She hopes to see you all at the **Fall Celebration, September 27, 2008 at Lovelock UMC, Lovelock, NV.** You will receive your certificates at that time. Thanks for the hard work.

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### **Dates to Remember**

September 5-6 UMC "Vital Signs" Retreat – St. Paul's UMC, Reno. (NV/Sierra Presidents workshop Cancelled)  
September 27 NV/Sierra Fall Celebration – Lovelock UMC, Lovelock, NV  
October 25 UMW CA/NV Annual Celebration – Napa 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Napa, CA  
November 1 NV/Sierra Leadership In Training Event (LITE) Susanville, CA  
2009  
April 17 UMW CA Legislative Event  
June 16-20 Annual UMC Conference, Sacramento  
July 10 – 12 NV/Sierra District Retreat, Mercy Center, Auburn, CA  
July 31 – Aug.2 Mission Education Event, Reno, NV (note the change)  
September 18-20 Mission Education Event, Santa Nella, CA  
September 26 NV/Sierra District Fall Celebration Sparks, NV  
October 31 UMW CA/NV Annual Celebration (TBA)  
November 7 NV/Sierra LITE, Portola, CA

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### **From the President NV/Sierra District – Susan Kopp**

This newsletter is such a wonderful gift and link to all of us, helping us to understand who we are as United Methodist Women, serving in our very special and diverse NV/Sierra District. I want to invite you to copy and share these words with many others.

We are entering into a time of transition for our greater church with the appointment of the new Bishops. Please hold all those in leadership in our prayers. There is nothing greater, and easier to give than the power of prayer. Angel Blessing to each of you, Susan

Our retreat at The Mercy Center in Auburn was co-lead by Joan Pell and myself. Joan has blessed us with her reflections.

We are *Resurrection Women*, and I was inspired at the District Retreat by all the different ways that you are participating in God's mission and justice work. I especially enjoyed getting to know each of

you better through the icons that we made to illustrate the qualities of resurrection women in mission. The Mercy Center in Auburn is a beautiful serene setting, and we were blessed that the smoke dispersed on Saturday so that we could enjoy the grounds. It was an inspirational time experiencing God's presence in old and new ways, reflecting on our lives and faith journey, and being empowered to witness God's love even more powerfully in the world. There was plenty of fun and laughter as the Holy Spirit moved among us. I pray that the discernment you received from the retreat will bless your ministries in the days and months ahead.

Thank you for the privilege of co-leading your retreat; the experience will be valuable as I continue my studies in September with a field education placement working and learning alongside Maggie McNaught and Jackie Kortright at Loomis First UMC in Delta District.

Joan Pell

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## **A word about the Annual UMW Conference Celebration**

### **SO! HOW ARE THE CHILDREN?**

**Saturday, October 25, 2008**

**Napa 1<sup>st</sup> UMC, Napa, CA**

**Each District is asked to bring 15 backpacks. Five each: pre-school size to third grade; Grade school (third –fifth); and Youth (sixth – high school) Why you ask????????? MISSION GIVING for the Conference is A GIFT of school supplies for children at the Schurz Indian Reservation School, NV and the Round Valley UMC, Covelo, CA. SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED: Pencils..crayons..erasers..pocket folders..water colors..rulers (see through)..notebooks..highlighter pens..protractors/compass..glue sticks..white glue..template for geometric shapes..pencil box..homework assignment books..ballpoint pens..**

#### **Admission ticket to Lunch:**

Bring a warm scarf, gloves/mittens or hat to be given to the school children and children of Gum Moon, San Francisco, CA

Cost: \$14.00

**Celebration:** Our celebration will feature a panel of Young Adults who saw a need and took action to become contributing members of their community. We will also hear and see the stories of children at the Schurz School – realizing hopes and dreams. Always with anticipation and joy, we will welcome Gloria Tan, Director of Gum Moon (Asian Resource Center), and children who will become our teachers for the day – as Christ said, "become as little children."

**Please bring to the NV/Sierra Fall Celebration: ( to be delivered to Conference)**

**Auburn, Downieville, Grass Valley, Nevada City - ONE Pre-School- third grade Backpack Sparks**

**Carson City, Ely, Kings Beach, Reno 1st – ONE Grade School – (third - fifth grade) Susanville**

**Carson Valley, Fallon, Meadow Vista, Sierra Pines – ONE Youth - sixth grade – high school Winnemucca**

**NV/Sierra's UMW FALL "GIVEAWAY" CELEBRATION**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2008, 8 AM – 2:30 PM**

**GRACE UMC, LOVELOCK, NV - Pastor Rollison**

**8<sup>th</sup> & Cornell Ave, (775) 273-7720**

**Hosted by the Winnemucca UMW at Lovelock, NV**

- **Please join us in a day of information about the Sierra Service Project**
- **Skits, music, gift making**
- **Drumming (bring a drum or bucket)**
- **5 Star, Mission Today, Reading Certificates**
- **Elections**
- **Sindyanna Olive Oil (the perfect "giveaway")**
- **Dress comfortably**

**Cost: \$14.00 Please send to Sherrill Sweeney, 12557 Highland Dr. Auburn, CA 95603 530 886 8719 [frashe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:frashe@sbcglobal.net)**

**Reservation Deadline – September 15, 2008**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address \_\_\_\_\_**

**e-mail \_\_\_\_\_**

**Church \_\_\_\_\_**

**Email to request child care [mliebke@yahoo.com](mailto:mliebke@yahoo.com)**

**Directions to Lovelock, NV:**

**Highway 80 east out of Reno, to exit 106 toward Downtown Lovelock. Turn Left onto Main St. .02 miles, turn left onto business 80/US 40- Cornell Ave/ NV 396. End at 8<sup>th</sup> st and Cornell Ave Lovelock, NV 89419**

## **TWO WOLVES**

One evening an old Cherokee told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, "My son, the battle is between two 'wolves' inside us all.

One is Evil. – It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is Good. – It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith."

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: "Which wolf wins?"

The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed."

## **Format**

Indeed, this newsletter "Spirit" is a very plain format. It is to facilitate older computer programs that can't accept fancy graphics or pictures. This information is so important to get out to all units that we took a step backwards. The good news is now we can e mail the entire newsletter. Sandie Hartman District Communications

**Leadership In Training Event  
NV/Sierra District LITE  
November 1, 2008 8 AM – 2:30 PM  
Susanville UMC  
70 south Lassen St.  
Susanville, CA 96130 530 257-5893  
Hosted by the UMW of Susanville**

- We will "LITE" the way to a better understanding of UMW.
  - Reverend Elizabeth Brick will be sharing about Working Together effectively.
  - Officer workshops will answer any and all questions.
  - Enjoy a day of fun and worship with the Susanville UMW
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Cost: \$14.00 Please send to Sherrill Sweeney, 12557 Highland Dr. Auburn, CA 95603 530 886 8719 Reservation Deadline October 15, 2008

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E mail \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

E mail to request child care [mliebke@yahoo.com](mailto:mliebke@yahoo.com)

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Directions to Susanville UMC:

Travel North on 395 from the junction of 80 and 395.

Entering Susanville 395 becomes Main St. Turn left on Lassen St and the church is on your left. 70 South Lassen St.

