



The Bay View Connection

Bay View District United Methodist Women
California-Nevada Conference UMW

March 2009 Issue

<http://www.cnumw.org>

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Resident Bishop Ex-Officio Member

Rev. Renae Extrum-Fernandez
District Superintendent

Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr.
Bishop, California-Nevada Conference

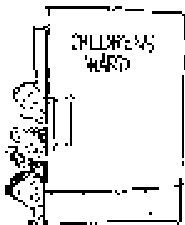
UMW Sisters So! How are the Children? Where are we in our mission journeys in the name of Christ for the children of our communities and the world?

It was a joy for me to meet, greet, and work with many of you at our Leadership Training event in January. We heard about and supported youth programs that are on the cutting edge of engaging and ministering to youth at risk. In our small group gatherings, you shared your UMW successes and also your questions and concerns. This networking, sharing with each other is so valuable. We need to stay in communication and connected. This remains one of my personal goals as your president this year. Let me hear from you ... those successes, those frustrations, those concerns. If you ask for information and I don't have that information immediately at hand to help you, I will seek out answers from the Conference level.

Thank you to those units who brought mission, fundraiser, fellowship items and ideas to display and share with other units. I hope if we do this again that more units take advantage of this opportunity to share. I know that Bay View units are actively out there in mission and we need to share in what capacities. We all need new ideas!!!

Congratulations again to those units who received recognition for *Five Star Giving* and *Mission Today* participation. Keep up the good work. Let's try to double the number of recognized units for this year. If you need guidance on how to do this, please contact your cluster contact (listed in the 2009 directory) or send me an email or call! Congratulations also to those named for participation in the *Reading Program*. We have several churches that definitely make this a priority and their numbers are impressive. Other units lets start reading!

There are several events coming up that offer us the opportunities to broaden our Social Action agenda, enhance our personal Spiritual Growth, gather in Fellowship and engage us in continued Education on a
(See President on page 2)



(from page 1, President)

variety of topics. Specifically ...

BVD Spiritual Growth Retreat – March 28th, Faith United UMC, San Leandro, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Legislative Event – April 20th, Sacramento First UMC, 9 a.m. – 12 noon
UMW Breakfast at Annual Conference – 7 a.m., Theme – “Where in the World is UMW?”

Mission Education Event(s) – Merced UMC, Aug. 1st (one day); Korean UMC of Santa Clara Valley (in San Jose), Aug. 1st (one day); Reno, July 24-26th; Santa Nella, Sept. 18th – 20th

There is detailed information on each of these events within this newsletter. Please become informed on each of these. If these events are ones that you haven't participated in the past, *step out of the box* and commit to one or more this year. I have been reminded that the only time we grow is when we are uncomfortable; moving out beyond our comfort zone. Yes, this can be scary, at times frustrating, and most often causing us moments of doubt and uneasiness but, the rewards are change and growth, both on a personal level as well as for UMW as a united body. UMW needs to be active and visible if we are to engage others to join us.

God grant each of us the strength and wisdom to continue to be on the move to put our gifts and graces to work for you Lord and for women and children wherever we see their need. God bless each of us as we talk, meet and work together throughout this year.

Grace & peace,
Marlene

BVD President

LENTEN GREETINGS VICE PRESIDENTS

Here it is almost March and we are already close to our second District event, which is Spiritual Growth. Our wonderful leader will be Rev. Donna DeCamp, who is a retired, ordained Deacon and most recently served as pastor of Tice Valley UMC in Walnut Creek. She has a program planned that is sure to engage us spiritually.

Have you made and kept or perhaps discarded any New Years resolutions? I have often gone through the motions of making a fantastic list, only to quickly feel I have fallen short of my own expectations. So, the past few years I have instead, made only one or two realistic and simple declarations for myself. As this has certainly been more effective, this year I decided to make two very intentional and realistic changes for Lent. One will be a material "forfeit", and one will be a spiritual addition. Whenever we ...or at least for me this is true....make extraordinary promises, it frequently backfires. God does not want us to fail, and while it is important to have goals that extend beyond our comfort zone, it is better to be real about it. If you have personal plans for Lent, be optimistic and enthusiastic and think outside-the-box, but, do be honest with yourself as to what will actually be attainable. The difference between a vision and a goal. Then if you do not meet all your own criteria, just make adjustments next-time! God forgives us even when we do not do that for ourselves.

In MARK 4, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to sowing seeds and how they
(See Vice Pres on Page 3)

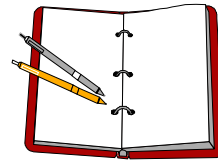
(from page 2, Vice Pres)

begin to sprout and turn into an edible crop. The smallest deeds we perform are like that as well. The greater part of our lives are lived through simple small acts at no particular season or for no predetermined reason. I am always so surprised when I receive an elated response for some very small thing I have done; yet I too have benefited from favors by others, and try to be more consistent in acknowledging my thankfulness. We all have been givers and recipients. Eugene Peterson, in "The Message", tells us: generosity begets generosity. So, lets keep on sowing those little seeds while realizing that in fact, we often will not know if it was fully appreciated, even when it was. And, that is okay.

*****EVERYONE:Speaking of small acts, last week when my husband and I took some of our coats and blankets to the North Concord Shelter, they asked me to pass on their particular need for clothing, especially pants/tops/bras, for larger women, mostly size 42 and up. If you or anyone in your congregation can contribute any such items either new or used, please bring them to our March 28th gathering and I will see that they are delivered.

Have a beautiful Easter and Spring, and I hope to greet each of you in San Leandro.

With Joy in Jesus,
Judi Day



Secretary!! What does it all mean? It seems as though it was just a few short years ago I began to

serve you as Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth. Time has flown by so quickly.

Well, now I am serving as the Bay View District UMW Secretary, **Historian, Keeper of the records and all that it really means.**

I once heard that if you really want to know what happened, ask the "Secretary". It's in the minutes. If you want to know who voted for what; ask the "Secretary". Well, I plan to try to be just that kind of Secretary.

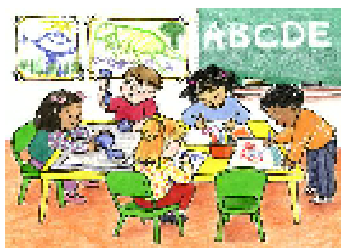
I sincerely appreciated your help by providing information to complete our directory for the Leadership Training Event. It was a great time for meeting new women and sharing new ideas. There is always more than one way to get the job done and some of us are good at what we do.

During our training, we explored what the position requires and how to be more effective in our local units.

I look forward to seeing each of you again during our Spiritual Growth Retreat. I urge you to please register as soon as you can as a group in order that I may have time to sort and bundle your name tags for you.

Thank you for your support by electing me to serve as Secretary. I shall truly try to do my very best.

Arinel Greene
Secretary



Sisters in Christ,

So, how are the children in your church, family and community?

It was wonderful to be with you in a new capacity at Leadership training in January! I pray that each of you who will be taking on new offices will remember to take time for yourself. How can you empower, support and encourage others if you have run out of steam? I know that this can be challenging, especially during these times, but Isaiah 40:31 says: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings as eagles; They shall run and not be weary and they shall walk and not faint". Isn't it true that when we give God our challenges and wait on Him that it always works itself out for the good? Remember this when you are faced with those challenges.

I look forward to serving the Bay View District as the MC for Spiritual Growth. It is so important to the life of the church! Please keep me in prayer as I take on this new role and hope to inspire others.

Shalom,

Marie Wilson- MC Spiritual Growth

From the District Nomination Committee Chairperson



Greetings,

Time passes by so quickly that we need to start now to get nominations for the District Officers. We need help from the local units in recruiting our nominees. Without Officers, the District will not be able to function. If you are interested, or know of anyone who is interested in serving our District, please let me know.

My Contact information is:

Kum Hee Lewis
Kumhee@att.net
510-593-9847

I look forward to hearing from you. See me at our Spiritual Growth Retreat.

God Bless,

Kum Hee Lewis
Nomination Chairperson



Prayer



Communications Coordinator

I regret that I could not meet each local unit who attended the Leadership Training last January 24, 2009. That was the day my mom passed away and we received the call just after we left our house.

Thank you to all our District team members who kept me in their prayers. And also to those who came to our Church during the memorial service of my Mom.

I am available to anyone who has questions on communications and please feel free to call upon me. I hope to meet you all at the Spiritual Growth Retreat.

Happy Easter and God Bless,

Miraflor B Spingola
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707-553-2645

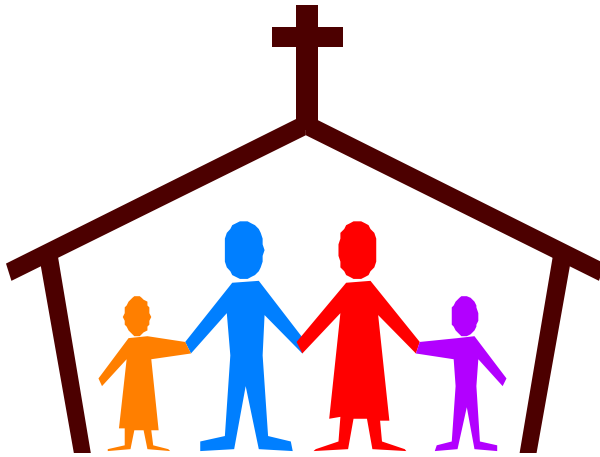
Additional Information on the Conference UMW website

You might want to give special attention to:

<http://www.cnumw.org/links.2.16.09-2.1.09..htm>. Note Legislative Links to lawmakers.

Mission Education (always updating)
<http://www.cnumw.org/mission.ed.2.1.09.htm>.

There are contact links on the home page, conference officers' page, and district presidents' pages. Send a message and it will be forwarded.



**The League of Women Voters of West Contra Costa and the city of El Cerrito's
Environmental Quality Committee present:**

"Thirst"

**A documentary Film by Berkeley filmmakers
Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman**

Plus: A public discussion led by the filmmakers delving into a range of environmental issues, including: How is the new Obama administration doing in addressing our pressing environmental concerns?

Is the world's water a commodity, to be bought and sold and controlled by multinational corporations? Or is it a human right?

In "Thirst," their 2004, hour-long, award-winning documentary, Snitow and Kaufman showing how activists in Stockton, Cochabamba and India are all thinking globally but acting locally by fighting against the corporate takeover of their local water systems.

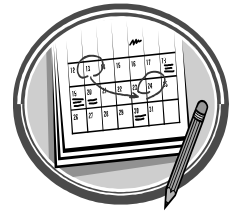
Over a billion people lack access to safe drinking water. Each year, millions of children die of diseases caused by unsafe water. The numbers are increasing.

But the film is about much more than water. It asks the questions: Who should control the earth's resources and what are these resources for? Maximum profit? Or for the benefit of all? Behind these questions is another: Can the earth survive if the profit motive is all?

"After seeing 'Thirst,' it will be hard to ever take water for granted," the San Francisco Chronicle wrote in a rave review that had the paper's Little Man critic leaping out of his seat!

2 p.m. Sunday March 1 at El Cerrito's historic Art Deco jewel, the Cerrito Theater, 10070 San Pablo Ave, two blocks from El Cerrito Plaza BART. Admission is free! Soft drinks, beer, wine, pizza, salads and more are available!

For more information call 510-524-8961
Or go to <http://www.thirstthemovie.org/about.html>



Bay View District & CA-NV Conference UMW 2009 Calendar

Friday, Jan. 16th, 5:00 p.m. – Saturday, Jan. 17th, 7:00 p.m. -- Conference team retreat

Sunday, Jan. 18th, 9:30 a.m. – Monday, Jan. 19th, 2:00 p.m.
Committee meetings; Mtgs with District counterparts (MNO and SA);
Exec. Comm. Mtg.

Saturday, Jan. 24th – Bay View District Leadership Training Event – Asbury UMC, Livermore

Saturday, Jan. 31st – Bay View District Team Leadership Meeting

Saturday, Mar. 28th – Bay View District Spiritual Growth Event- Faith UMC, San Leandro

Saturday, Apr. 18th, 9:00 a.m. – Sunday, Apr. 19th, 2:00 p.m.
Committee meetings; Mtgs with District counterparts (Treas., E&I);
Exec. Comm. Mtg.

Monday, Apr. 20th, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. -- Legislative Event

June 16th – 20th -- ACS, Sacramento, CA

Saturday, June 27th – Bay View District Team Leadership Meeting (Location TBA)

June 25th – 28th -- Regional Schools, Powell, Wyoming

Saturday, July 11th, 9:00 a.m. – Sunday, July 12th, 2:00 p.m.
Committee meetings; Mtgs with District counterparts (MNO, Treas, SA);
Exec. Comm. Mtg

Friday, July 24th – Sunday, July 26th -- Mission Event, Reno, NV

Friday, Sept. 18th – Sunday, Sept. 20th -- Mission Event, Santa Nella, CA

Saturday, Sept. 26th – Bay View District Annual Meeting (Location TBA)

***Saturday, Sept. 26th – Sunday, Sept. 27th – Bay View District Team Leadership Planning Retreat
(Tentative – Location TBA Old & New Officers????)***

Friday, Oct. 30th, 3:00 p.m. -- District Leadership Training Event (D-LTE)

Saturday, Oct. 31st -- Conference UMW Annual Celebration

2010 Calendar

April 29th – May 3rd, Assembly

**Miraflor B. Spingola
Communication Coordinator
787 La Canyada Drive
Vallejo, CA 94591**

Bay View District United Methodist Women

SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2009

8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Faith United Methodist Church
788 Lewelling Blvd., San Leandro
(510) 357-3121**

Led by Rev. Donna DeCamp

Her text is based on Matthew 1-6, 16-21