

The Link



*United Methodist Women
Volume LV Issue 4
October 2018*

*St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
327 Marlton Pike West
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002*

*From Connie DiRocco
President*

Welcome back from what I hope was a relaxing and restful summer. Our UMW has hit the ground running with our new fall mum fundraiser and plans for two mission events: our September Salad Luncheon on the 24th and an October 28th event that will take place right after the Sunday Service. Thank you to all the ladies who have organized and chaired these events.

It is hard to believe that 2019 is just a few months away and that planning will start for the New Year. The nominating committee will meet to compile a slate of officers for 2019. If you are interested, please contact Sandy Weaver or Nina Kemps for more information on becoming part of the executive committee. We will also review finances in order to create a 2019 budget.

Our UMW is funded through your pledges and fundraising. In the past, the Bazaar has been our biggest fundraiser and has allowed us to make substantial donations to local and international missions, but it takes many hands and hours to put together a successful Bazaar. Are we able to hold another Bazaar? What would that look like? Who would chair? Other fundraising ideas? Suggestions/thoughts? Please consider and pray on these questions. You may email me any comments.

The Greater New Jersey United Methodist Women's Fall Annual Meeting will touch on the 2019 priority issue: Criminalization of Communities of Color/Mass Incarceration. It will be held on October 20th, 9 am – 2 pm, at the Mission Resource Center, in Neptune. The cost is \$10.00 with babysitting available on request. I am planning on attending this event. If you would like to join me, please let me know by October 8th. Please see the flyer in the LINK for more program information.





Purpose of United Methodist Women

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the Global Ministries of the Church.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Oct. 13 GNJ Gateway South District
Annual Fall Mtg.
Haddonfield UMC
9 am – 12 noon
- Oct. 20 GNJ UMW Annual Fall Mtg.
Mission Resource Center
Neptune, NJ
9 am – 2 pm
- Oct. 22 UMW Executive Committee Mtg
7 pm in the church lounge
- Oct. 28 Light Lunch/Mission Event
Foster Care: How We Can Help
Speaker: Kerry Murphy
11:45 am in Wesley Hall
- Nov. 17 UMW Officer Training
9 am – 1 pm Bridgewater

PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER:

*“Pledge to Missions: Sacred Places
with God and Neighbors”, p. 137.*

MISSIONS POSSIBLE

Please share your time and resources to be a blessing to others.

Continue to donate to Little Hands Little Feet, especially underwear, socks, PJs and baby blankets.

Bring used ink cartridges to church.

Continue with circle projects.

CHANGES TO THE 2018 UMW MEMBERSHIP BOOKLET:

New address and email for Amy McCausland:

3902B Fenwick Lane
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054
amyjoy0123@gmail.com

Add to Elizabeth Circle:

Maryann Carol
1239 Folkestone Way
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
609-314-1577
maryann.carol@gmail.com

Valerie Jorgensen
517 Woodland Avenue
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
609-828-5531
vjorgensen@verizon.net

Welcome to Elizabeth Circle, Maryann and Valerie!

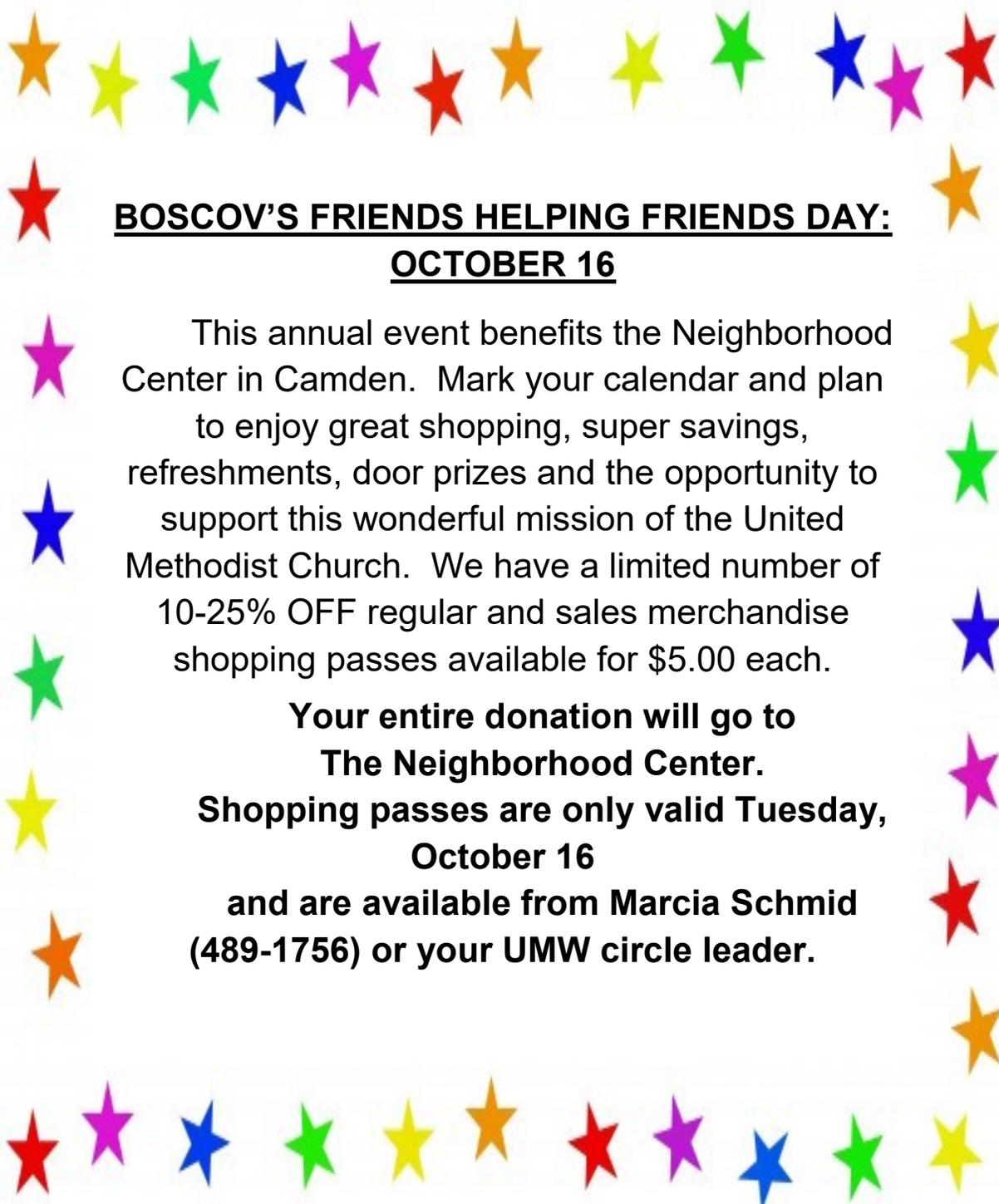


CALLING ALL METHODIST COOKS!

On Fridays, the **Neighborhood Center** in Camden distributes frozen casseroles to their families that are suffering from food insecurity as their SNAP funds (formerly food stamps) dwindle.

Let's support project Casserole Friday to help alleviate Weekend Childhood Hunger. Pick up an aluminum pan or two from the narthex (pans and lids will be available beginning Sunday, September 23); cook a favorite dish, write down the recipe name and ingredients on the paper lid, freeze it, and, bring the frozen

casserole(s) on Sundays. If you deliver it during weekday church hours, please take it to the church office. Any questions? Contact Marcia Schmid at 489-1756. We can help make a difference!



BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS DAY:
OCTOBER 16

This annual event benefits the Neighborhood Center in Camden. Mark your calendar and plan to enjoy great shopping, super savings, refreshments, door prizes and the opportunity to support this wonderful mission of the United Methodist Church. We have a limited number of 10-25% OFF regular and sales merchandise shopping passes available for \$5.00 each.

**Your entire donation will go to
The Neighborhood Center.
Shopping passes are only valid Tuesday,
October 16
and are available from Marcia Schmid
(489-1756) or your UMW circle leader.**



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

*You are cordially invited to attend the
St. Andrew's United Methodist Women's*

October Light Lunch/Mission Event

Sunday, October 28, 2018

Light Lunch – after the Sunday Service ~11:45 a.m.

Program – ~ 12:35 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Wesley Hall

FOSTER CARE: PROVIDER, SIBLINGS, AND HOW WE CAN HELP

Our own, Kerry Murphy will share some of her experiences as a foster parent ; introduce us to Camp to Belong where siblings that have been placed in different foster homes are reunited for a week. Kerry will suggest ways we can assist those involved with the foster care of children.

This Light Lunch/Mission Event is open to the entire congregation.

Please plan to attend this event!

Hosted by: Martha & Elizabeth Circles

~ Babysitting will be available ~

NEWS FROM OUR CIRCLES

Anna Circle

Leader: Marilyn Ivers

Meets the first Tuesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in the lounge

September 2018: Anna Circle met on Tuesday, September 4, 2018. Eleven members were present. Sara Joslin provided tasty snacks and Sandy Ferguson did the program on the problem of food deprivation in this country.

Prayer concerns included Kay Coyle who can not have surgery until she gets stronger, Meredith Blanchard who is having heart problems, Barb Rothmel who has cancer but wants no treatment, and Lee Manns who has prepared for surgery four times and had it cancelled each time. Prayers and condolences to Carol Miller upon Jim's death. Prayers for circle friends Martha and Darryl and Katie Holberg as she begins work as our new Youth Director. Prayers for Claudia's friend Lorraine as she adjusts to being in an assisted living facility and a neighbor of Lois who recently lost a sister. Praises for a new baby, Adele Soleeig, and the upcoming birth in February of a boy to Susan Stawicki.

A number of St. Andrew's women attended services for Irene Hubbard. After over thirty years of weekly phone conversations between Annie Saunders and Irene, Irene made sure she called Annie the night before she went into hospice and died shortly after...a special friendship.

The hug focused on the value of having a youthful attitude and thinking young. The devotion focused on the importance of a quality education for children and how the UMW supports and is active in trying to attain that goal here in our state.

FYI There will be the Boscov's Friends helping Friends annual event on October 16. An envelope was passed around with coupons to purchase for that event. UMW Salad Lunch is on Monday, September 24. Our circle has clean up duty. The speaker will discuss women's health support programs in Cherry Hill. UMW mum flower sale orders must be handed in by Wednesday, September 19. Pickup is on September 29 or September 30. The Golf Outing is Friday, September 28. Contributions towards sponsoring a hole were collected. After church on October 28, there will be a lunch and Kerry Murphy will speak on foster care programs in Camden County.

FYI St. Paul's in Mt. Holly has invited us to lunch on Saturday, September 22 at 12:30PM. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board located on the door to the UMW closet in the lounge. Haddonfield UMC will have its rummage sale on September 27, 28, and 29. On Tuesday, September 25 from 9-12 AM, you may donate items for it. No shoes or magazines, please. The Gateway South District meeting will be held at Haddonfield UMC on October 13 from 9-12. The speaker will be Native American Cynthia Kent. The Neighborhood Center will be holding a fundraising event on October 13 at Tavistock. It supports programs for teens. Contact Mike Landis for more information.

There is a new opportunity to help feed the people of Camden called Friday casseroles. The Neighborhood Center plans on handing out this food on Fridays so children have food on the weekend when they are not in school. You can get pans and lids in the narthex to use.

Make the dish, freeze it and then bring it to church. Any questions, ask Marcia Schmid.

Unfortunately, Image and Attitude has lost its funding and is no longer operating.

The program focused on the importance of food and meals. We discussed stories from the Bible where meals were shared. We looked at important things in our personal lives that have occurred at mealtimes. We discussed the causes and effects of not getting enough to eat. We looked at active ways that we are already involved and other options for future involvement to help with this problem.

Sandy Ferguson, Reporter



Elizabeth Circle
Leader: Lydia Work
Meets the first Sunday of every month at 9:00 am in the lounge

September 2018: We met on Sunday, September 9 since the first Sunday was on Labor Day weekend. Present were: Leader Lydia Work, UMW President Connie DiRocco, Amy McCausland, Ester Falcone, Sandi Rosenberg, Sue Malec, Diann Wilson, Jill Spangler, Sandy Weaver, Nina Wilmore, Aquilla McNeal and Pat Manley.

Lydia opened our meeting with prayer and discussed upcoming UMW activities. We will be taking orders for mums in September as a UMW fundraiser. Lydia passed out order forms to everyone. The mums will be available to be picked up at our church on Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30 right after the church service.

Boscov's will be having their annual "Friends Helping Friends" day on Tuesday, October 16. Each circle leader has tickets or they may be purchased from Marcia Schmid. Each ticket costs \$5 and the entire proceeds go to the Neighborhood Center. The ticket entitles you to 10% to 25% off regular and sales merchandise on October 16.

The Salad Luncheon will be held on Monday, September 24 and the speakers will be from Jefferson Hospital in Cherry Hill. They will discuss women's health issues and the new hospital in Cherry Hill.

We began our new study, "Anxious for Nothing". Session 1 was entitled, "Rejoice in the Lord Always". We talked about how hectic and stressful life can be and how it is important to trust in the Lord and turn our worries over to Him. Sometimes this is not easy if we are going through a very difficult time. We also discussed how many times we worry about things that never even happen. Lydia asked us to each write down something that we are worried about. We will look at what we wrote down in several months and discuss it.

Our program was the World Thank Offering, "The Sacred Space of Sharing Food". We discussed how we can help people who do not have enough food and how we can help people who work in the fields harvesting fruits and vegetables. What are their lives and working conditions like? We passed out envelopes for our donations to the World Thank Offering.

Pat Manley, Reporter



Esther Circle
Co-Leaders: Yvonne Moore and Claire Beaverson
Meets the first Thursday of every month at 11:15 am at a local eatery
and then the Graf Room

September 2018: Present were Gloria Wilcock, Claire Beaverson, Yvonne Moore, Mary Vona, Lois Hill, Anne Thompson, Ann Bossard, Mary Lou Johnson, Nina Kemps, Karen Owens, and Jean Augustine. Our Circle Friend, Esther Byers, was unable to be with us due to a leg problem. We hope she can join us next month.

Our prayer concerns continue to be many and varied, covering family members, friends and neighbors. Ann Bossard's daughter is experiencing diabetic retinopathy and is having laser treatments. Jean's brother is still unable to walk due to an auto-immune problem; Dot Lauer is presently in the hospital. We hope all will be on the road to recovery very soon. We are glad to see Mary Lou Johnson and Ann Bossard back with us. Please continue to send cards to our shut-ins and phone calls and visits when possible. Also please pray for our entire country.

Lois Hill led us in devotions with a story about a woman who was attending relaxation classes and was "introduced" to a biofeedback device in the form of a tiny black dot that responds to skin temperatures by changing colors. She was told it is very important to have some "blue-dot" time every day. During the day the dot changed from black to green, to turquoise, but never blue. Before retiring she paused to pray. She thanked God for his blessings and "handed" Him her burdens. Upon opening her eyes she noticed the bio dot was still on her hand and for the first time all day it was blue!! If you are like me you'll need some "blue dot" time today. Don't worry. Just bow your head. God will take care of the rest.

The Salad Luncheon has been rescheduled to September 24th.at noon. Our Circle is a hostess and is responsible for setting up. Every member of our Circle is urged to help with this task by arriving at 10:30 a.m. The speaker will be a representative of Jefferson-Cherry Hill Hospital.

The envelopes for Boscov's Friends Helping Friends Day were given out along with the order forms for the "Mum Sale" which is underway.

We also discussed the very unfortunate incident recently where the vegetable gardens at the Neighborhood Center were completely vandalized, causing complete devastation. We hope the people responsible are caught and made to understand the seriousness of their deed.

Our regular meeting date is being changed to the first Thursday of the month. Please mark your calendars accordingly for the balance of the year.

Yvonne brought up the letter we all received from the Bishop regarding women's role in the church. A discussion followed and opinions were voiced.

Nina presented us with a pamphlet received from our Missionaries David and Cynthia Cembalos in Panama entitled "Santiago Panama Mission Adventures." Over the years relationships have been cultivated among the indigenous populations of Veraguas, Panama.

Esther Circle (continued)

SPMA provides logistical and cultural support for short-term mission teams wishing to engage the communities they serve.

Jean Augustin presented the annual World Thank Offering program entitled “The Sacred Space of Sharing Food.” Envelopes were distributed to the group for their annual “giving” to this very important cause.

Our next gathering will be on October 4th. By popular demand we will meet at Kaminski’s Restaurant on Brace Road.

Claire Beaverson, Co-Leader



Martha Circle
Leader: Lauren Mallow
Meets the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the lounge

September 2018: Martha circle had its first meeting on Monday, September 24 in the lounge. We are thankful to have Chloe as a new babysitter for our children in room 304. As a group of working mothers, babysitting is crucial to the existence of our circle. We are grateful that the UMW provides this service to us. Without it, we would not have such high attendance each month. We had 8 members attend the first meeting and are excited to see who else the Lord brings to our circle this year.

We opened in a quiet moment of prayer followed by an activity involving toilet paper. Yes. You heard that right! Each woman was asked to take as much toilet paper as she wanted. After the roll was passed, each lady was asked to name a positive quality about herself for as many squares of TP she took. After much laughter, sincerity, tears, and honesty, we focused on our self-worth. This activity is a reminder of Psalm 139:14, "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Martha circle is excited to have one of our members, Kerry Murphy, present the October UMW program about Camp Belong and foster care. We are so proud of her! There will be a luncheon following church on Sunday, October 28 before the program begins. Thank you to the Elizabeth circle for preparing the luncheon as well. We look forward to a meaningful time of fellowship.

Lauren Mallow, Leader



September is Hunger Action month, a time in the fall harvest to provide healthy and nourishing foods for those in need. Everyone feels better and is more at the top of their game when they eat healthy. What you eat is individual to you. It's personal choices, body chemistry including factors such as allergies, diabetes, immune system or digestive issues; life stage and growth including pregnancy, recovery from illness, or aging well. Some individuals and families also must factor in access to healthy food. Barriers to healthy eating may include transportation, cost, time, and familiarity with cooking different foods or inability to navigate shopping or cooking tasks.

The United Nations 2018 State Food Security and Nutrition: Building Climate Resilience reports that 1 in 9 people worldwide are undernourished. After more than a decade of progress, world hunger has increased for the past 3 years. Disruption due to war/conflict remains the largest reason for food insecurity, however, the number of people who are hungry because of the impact of climate change and weather-related events is growing.

In New Jersey, 1 in 8 people (including 1 in 4 children) live in food insecure households. The link between poverty and obesity in the US impacts maternal health, infant and child development and health, as well as likelihood to have/develop a chronic health condition.

Reducing Maternal/ Infant Mortality: September is Infant Mortality Awareness month.

The focus of Camden Healthy Start is to reduce infant mortality and the racial disparity in infant mortality in Camden. This year the CHS Community Action Network is reaching out to families, churches, and community partners to promote awareness of the importance of healthy eating on maternal health and wellness as well as the health and wellbeing of infants, children and families. The Center for Family Services is increasing awareness of health food choices by mapping the 50 (of 123 total) corner stores in Camden partnered with The Food Trust in The Healthy Corner Store Initiative so individuals and families can obtain quality fruits, produce, salads, etc. in their local neighborhoods.

Church Women United/ Gateway South District UMW

Saturday October 13, 2018 is a busy day! – The Gateway South District will host their fall breakfast meeting at the Haddonfield UMC from 9 am to noon featuring Cindi Kent speaking on “Indigenous from a Global Perspective”. On the opposite side of the state, Church Women United in NJ will have their fall meeting “Interrupting the Cycle of Poverty” with April Foster from the Salvation Army speaking at Faith Community UMC in Bayville from 9:30 am to 2 pm.

Church Women United World Community Day 2018 theme is “Reaching Out Towards Wholeness in Harmony with God's People”. World Community Day brings people from diverse viewpoints, backgrounds, cultures, and traditions to be together in community and to seek peace with justice.

The Northeast Regional Meeting of Church Women United will be held November 16-17 in New York City.

Submitted by Sara Joslin

The Immigrant
By Patricia Byrne, Sojourners Magazine, February 2017

I see you, but you do not see me
I am made invisible by your special powers
Not mine, I have no power.
Your shiny car passes me
It does not have a speck of dirt
But I am filthy
Only my sweat shines at the bus stop
As it did today in the fields
I smell like dirt
I know you are not hungry
Because I see you in your red car
Driving to a fancy restaurant
You do not know I am hungry
Because you cannot see me
I had no lunch today
My belly hurts
But you cannot hear my emptiness
You only hear the music in your car
I see you, but you do not see me
Perhaps all of me was left
In the woods where I slept last night
Or maybe the mosquitoes sucked my life away
One by one as they found me on the ground
Because I had no blanket to cover me
So I itch. They saw me though you do not.
I dream of home. My mother and my sisters
Hungry, waiting for the money I will send for food.
"America...you will make lots of money
Our stomachs will be full
And your sisters will have shoes"
I hope my boss pays me this week
I look at my boots
These boots took me 15 days through the desert
Now they will bring me through the fields
And I wonder . . .
Is it the car that makes me invisible
Because I see you, but
You do not see me.

Submitted by Sara Joslin

ZERO TOLERANCE VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

On September 15, 2018, I had the opportunity to attend a workshop on the Zero Tolerance Violations of International Human Rights at Rutgers. This is a topic that is important for many because at the university there are many Dreamers, young people who are affected by the policies of this administration. During the past 24 months, there has been a push to change policy to not allow people to enter or stay in the contiguous United States simply because it is felt that people coming to the United States without meeting the quotas and rules set forth by this administration should not be here.

When things become untenable, you must try for the good and sanity of your family to try to make it possible to find a safe haven for yourself and your family. That has been a norm for many years, maybe a full century. Give me your tired and your poor has been a cry for many who have fled to the United States to see refuge and we have as a country made every effort to help, sometimes willingly and sometimes not so willingly, yet we have as a country tried.

We, the United States of America, signed on to this as far back as 1948 (Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 9*). Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries due process in assessment of their legal status, entry and stay – asylum from persecution to cross international borders.

In the past year, there has been a concerted effort by the government to separate families as they cross the border between the United States and Mexico. Children as young as a few months to the late teens have been placed in large cages which look like the cages you see in the zoo with benches which to me seemed to be inhuman. Can a child who can just barely walk be a threat to you or to the country? The family is a natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection. There are laws in this country which ensure that a child shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will. This is not the case at this time.

At this time, there does not seem to be any solution to the situation that we find ourselves in, except to insist that our government write new immigration rules and change our ways of doing things when people seek asylum in the contiguous United States. What does it take to make people see that what we are doing is against the moral fabric of our country?

Submitted by Barbara Brown

United Methodist Women MOBILIZE to Support Immigrant Families

Ways to Make a Difference:

- Pray for the children and their parents who are suffering due to the current immigration policy.
- Support the UMW mission organizations that help children on the border: [The Holding Institute Community Center](#) in Laredo, TX and [Tacoma Community House](#) in Tacoma, WA.
- Sign petitions calling on Attorney General Jeff Sessions to end the “Zero-Tolerance” policy, reunite families and end family detention.
- Volunteer with and support local organizations that help, such as [Justice for Our Neighbors](#)
- Write and call your elected officials and your local newspapers to speak up for those seeking asylum.
- Contact your Senators and Representatives through social media.
- Go to the [Families Belong Together](#) and the [UnitedMethodistWomen.org](#) websites for more information.



Greater New Jersey Gateway South District

Proudly Present

2018 Annual Fall Meeting

Theme: Indigenous from a Global Perspective

Matthew 22:39 "Love Your Neighbors as Yourself"



Saturday, October 13, 2018

Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 12:00 pm

Guest Speaker: Cyndi Kent

Greater New Jersey CoNAM

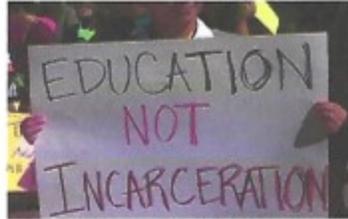
Haddonfield United Methodist Church

29 Warwick Road

Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

**Ingathering: School Supplies and gently used children books
up to 6th grade**

Greater New Jersey United Methodist Women
proudly present the
2018 Fall Annual Meeting



Mass Incarceration of People of Color
"Visit In Prison"

"When I was in prison, you visited me." Matthew 25:36

October 20, 2018 9 am – 2 pm
Mission Resource Center

205 Jumping Brook Rd., Neptune, NJ

Cost \$10 RSVP to Susan Miller at slm5055@yahoo.com
by October 10, 2018. Babysitting available on request.
Ingathering: stationery and stamps for First Friends

Panel: Breaking the School to Prison Pipeline

Rev. Heidi S. Kugler, Chaplaincy Admin. for the Federal Bureau of Prisons
Sherri Shumate, Christian Education Director, Summit UMC
Rev. Rupert Hall, Esq., Turning Point UMC, Trenton
Michael Landis, Director of the Camden Neighborhood Center
Madelaine Garcia, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor



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