

*St. Andrew's UMW*

# January

## *Notes*



### **New Year's Greetings**

St. Andrew's UMW is creating a compilation of "Well Wishes for the New Year" from all our members.

**What you need to do** - - Simply video a message. Keep your message short and sweet, less than 15 seconds long. If you are using your phone to record, it's very important to hold your phone LANDSCAPE while recording.

After you record your message, email the clip to Maryann Smith at [maryann.carol@gmail.com](mailto:maryann.carol@gmail.com)

**What to say** - - New Year's greetings, uplifting messages, messages of hope for 2021.

**Who should be in the video clip** - - the more the merrier - you, your family including your children, and friends.

**Deadline to submit your video clip by** - - January 8<sup>th</sup>.  
Maryann will compile all the received clips into one video.


**Who will get to see our video** - - the finished video will be emailed to our members, posted on the UMW Facebook page and posted on the church's UMW website page. Feel free to pass the messages of Hope and Good Cheer to family and friends!

A BIG thank you to Maryann for volunteering to put this together for us!

Monthly "Notes" will be posted on the St. Andrew's website, [www.saumcnj.org](http://www.saumcnj.org).  
Go to the United Methodist Women's page found under the "Ministries" tab.  
~Circle reporters, please send your articles to Maryann Smith. ~

## St. Andrew's UMW Membership Booklets

The 2021 booklets are complete and are being mailed out to each member and associate member. Event dates in the booklet are tentative and subject to change. All meetings will be held virtually through Zoom until further notice.



*In Your time,  
in Your time.  
You make all things  
beautiful in Your time.  
Lord, my life to You I bring.  
May each song  
I have to sing  
be to You  
a lovely thing  
in Your time.*

*E2013 Tracy DeSena*

In memory of Martha Seaney, Maryann Edgerton, Evelyn Hoover and Doris Soden.  
Gone, but not forgotten.

### **Advent Blessings from Emily Jones, the Office of Racial Justice, United Methodist Women**

We wish you and your family peace, healing and hope. View a digital card at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xfOYxnzn9E&feature=youtu.be>

And from:  
**Carol Barton, UMW Executive for Community Action**

In the midst of it we anticipate Jesus' birth, "**God With Us.**"  
[Matthew 1:23]

- We have seen God With Us this year as United Methodist Women members mobilized skills and resources to respond to needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We have seen God With Us as people took to the streets to challenge police killing of Black people.
- We have seen God With Us as you contacted elected officials urging them to not cut off life-saving energy utilities for lack of payment in the midst of a pandemic.
- We have seen God With Us when in November, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2,258 people in New Jersey were released from prison with an anticipated reduction of 35% of NJ's prison population in the next five months.
- We have seen God With Us as you mobilized for Paid Family and Medical Leave for all.
- We have seen God With Us in the exercise in democracy in the November elections with historic numbers of voters and thousands of volunteers.

We enter into Christmas and a New Year having learned how to build community across distance and how to continue the work of justice even from our homes. We enter into this season with concern about rising rates of COVID-19 across the country and world, and with uncertainty about how to move forward within a polarized nation. Yet, we count on the One who came to bring Good News to continue to guide us. And, we count on each other to act. The baby we celebrate later said his ministry was "to bring good news to the poor... to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18-19). His "good news" is for the poor, the excluded, those in prison, those needing healthcare. He announces God's reign, where all are included and there is enough for all.

### Resources

Our 2021-2024 Quadrennial Priorities on Climate Justice and Ending Mass Incarceration are also economic justice issues. Look for ways that poverty exacerbates mass incarceration and environmental racism, and together seek responses that address race, class and gender. To explore those linkages, see a new resource, [Economic Justice Is Part of All that United Methodist Women Does](#)

- *Living Wage for All* resources will continue to be on the website at [unitedmethodistwomen.org/living-wages](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/living-wages)
- Don't miss the *Abundant Life for All* series, particularly addressing economic, racial and climate justice in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. [unitedmethodistwomen.org/abundant-life-for-all](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/abundant-life-for-all)

**Gratitude for United Methodist Women!**

As we wind down the year, I want to take a personal moment to bid farewell. After 15 years I am retiring from the national staff of United Methodist Women. Your faithfulness, commitment and passion for justice have inspired me and will continue to do so. It has been an incredible journey of learning, friendships, opportunities and joys.



I have been nurtured by you. My mother, grandmother and mother-in-law were all active United Methodist Women members (WSCS!) and taught me about faith-inspired action. UMW embraced me when I headed to Peru with Global Ministries, just out of college, with letters of support and opportunities to itinerate. I joined the Seminar Program in the early 1980s and

later worked as a UMW consultant on economic justice issues while in graduate school. As part of economic justice staff at Church Women United, I continued to work with UMW members. My work in UN advocacy has been supported by UMW's presence at the Church Center for the United Nations (where I also got married!). And since 2004, I have had the opportunity to work with you on racial justice, peace, immigrant rights and economic justice concerns. Thank you for helping me to become who I am!

May we welcome Emmanuel, *God With Us*, with hope-filled hearts. May we be sustained by our sisterhood of grace by those who have nurtured us and those who challenge us to carry the work forward. **Christmas and New Year blessings!**



### St. Andrew's UMW Pledges

Please don't forget to submit your 2021 pledge card to your Circle Treasurer. Need a pledge card? Email Connie at [conniedirocco@verizon.net](mailto:conniedirocco@verizon.net) to request one.

Friendly reminder: You may mail in your UMW pledge directly to Carol Allen, at 7 Privet Court, Marlton, NJ 08053 or if you have a Venmo account and would like to use this method, please use Amy McCausland's Venmo account at **@Amy-McCausland-1**. Please make a note that this is a "UMW pledge".

# United Methodist Women of Greater New Jersey

Invite all leaders to



## TRAINING

On Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, 10am-noon

(Come at 9:30 for introductory Zoom training)



Link to follow from Carol Bloch -

Please RSVP to her at [carol@theblochfamily.com](mailto:carol@theblochfamily.com)

