

**The United Methodist Women met in Room 804 and in the Family Life Center at Pleasant View UMC at 6:30 pm on November 2, 2021.** Attending were Melissa Belcher, Angela and Dale Gilbert, Carla and Bryson Jarvis, Becca Jenkins, Freda Pickle, Karen Radnoczi, Katherine Redman, Vickie Scyphers, Cathy Swindall, Marjorie Tester, Jeannene Thompson and Brenda Walch, and Kathy Whisman.

President, Cathy Swindall, **called the meeting to order and welcomed** the group. **Concerns** were shared and prayers were asked for The Green Family, Judy Young, Jane Martin, and Peggy Hughes' Family.

Karen had the **opening prayer** and led the group in reciting the **UMW Purpose**.

**Our Senior Pastor, Dale Gilbert, recognized the United Methodist Women as a Pastor's right arm, and installed the officers for 2022.** They are President-Cathy Swindall, Vice-President-Freda Dye, Secretary-Marjorie Tester, and Treasurer-Brenda Walsh.

Kathy W. continued with the **Prayer Calendar** recognizing the **Mission Focus**, Nestor UMC in the United States, supporting a Homework Club and English Language Learning Center. The **Mission Witness** was Pat Goss, Retired Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner in Mesa, Arizona. She presents Quilts of Valor to veterans. She likened the simple act of kindness of covering a dying veteran with a quilt to covering him with God's grace. God gives each one of us the skills to bless God's people. Kathy reminded us of our quilting members who have also made lap quilts and blankets to give to senior members of our congregation. Cathy added that we have also given quilts and blankets to the Children's Advocacy Center. Four missionaries' **birthdays** were celebrated and have been recognized with a card from our group: Ardell Graner in the Republic of Congo, Sandra Kaye Roasch in Honduras, Richard Navarro and Israel Paint. Kathy offered a prayer of Thanksgiving for the work that all of these missionaries do.

**Minutes** of the October 2021 meeting were distributed. Kathy W. noted that she and Jeannette will be sending 36 Thanksgiving cards to shut-ins, and Carla and Bryson volunteered to help Kathy and Jeannette send cards in the future. Thanks to Kathy and Jeannette for the wonderful job they have been doing with our card ministries and to Carla and Bryson for volunteering to help!

The October **Treasurer's Report** was presented by Cathy S. The opening balance was \$2,169.21 with receipts of \$273.76 and spendings of \$79.40, leaving a balance of \$2,363.57 going forward into November. Cathy noted she anticipates having around \$2,000.00 left after paying Jeannette \$180.00 for birthday gifts for college students and around \$260.00 to the Conference for Pledges.

The **Minutes and Treasurer's Report** for October were accepted as submitted on a motion made by Carla and seconded by Melissa.

**The Program, World Thank Offering**, was presented by Brenda and Vickie. When you have a blessing, thank God and drop a coin in your box. For 130 years, in response to God's grace in a changing world,

United Methodist Women have been saving an offering of coins to improve life for women, children and youth. God's power is at work in us when we give, and it helps us remain connected to Him when we share with others in His name. Whether we do it as a daily ritual or on occasions of special blessings, we were challenged to celebrate God's blessings and to remember to be grateful.

*"I will praise the Lord according to His righteousness, and will sing praises to the name of the Lord most high."* Psalm 7:17 KJV was read, and we were invited to bring our World Thank Offerings for the year forward.

Vickie reminded us to spend a few minutes each day to be thankful and left us with this profound thought: ***What if you wake up tomorrow with only the things you thank God for today? What would you have? We should always keep gratitude at the forefront of our minds and intentionally thank the Lord daily for all the gifts He gives us.***

### **Old Business**

- **Preschool Silent Auction** – Katherine reported on the auction and answered questions about Pleasant View's Preschool program. The auction was a great success! The basket we donated sold for \$250.00, and the total proceeds were \$2,200.00! We learned that the tuition students pay covers only salaries for the teacher and aides. The preschool basically depends upon fundraisers to cover all other needs including craft and educational supplies, programs, and activities such as their Thanksgiving dinner. The Monday/Wednesday/Friday class currently is full with 16 children, and the Tuesday/Thursday class, created to accommodate the wait list from last year, currently has 7 but could take up to 12. Katherine is serving as the Tuesday/Thursday Aide this year, and she expressed gratitude from the Preschool for our support of the auction. Cathy asked her to let us know if there is ever a need we could help meet.
- **Penny Party** – Cathy recalled the fun we had at the last meeting rolling all the pennies in the huge jug donated during a New Hope Outreach breakfast delivery. She has sent a thank you card along with a picture of the toys purchased with the \$85.00 and one of the children praying over them on the altar with Katherine. Brenda has delivered the toys to the Abingdon Police Department to give to children in the midst of crisis situations.

### **New Business**

- **Cookies and Punch for the Green Family** – The Horizons Worship group is providing brunch for the Green family before Stan's Celebration of Life this Saturday morning. We have been asked to provide cookies and punch for the family after the service. Brenda suggested that we provide bottled water and individual soda or tea drinks instead of punch since we will not be serving. Cathy will ask a couple of people to set up and be there to replenish trays. Marjorie volunteered to bring water, and Cathy will bring drinks. Several members volunteered to bring cookies. Please label items "Green Family" and bring them to the kitchen with cookies ready to serve on a well-covered disposable plate, this Friday or no later than 9:00 Saturday morning. Around 50

are expected, and we do not need nearly as many as were received for the Trip to the Holy Lands reception. If you would like to bring cookies, a smaller plate will be fine.

- **Birthday Cards for College Students** – Cathy asked the group if we want to continue giving the \$20 gifts in a birthday card to our college students for the coming year. They are given for the duration of the student’s college career, and Jeannene noted that we have received some very touching responses from them in the past. Kathy W. moved that we continue this tradition. Freda seconded the motion which passed without objection.
- **Response Magazine Article**– Each month we hear stories from this magazine of wonderful things being done by other UMW groups. We have often said, “We do that, too!” or “We should do that!” Sometimes someone wonders out loud why we don’t send in some of the good things we do. Last month when Brenda suggested we send the story of our jug of pennies, Karen agreed to write about it. She read the article titled “Pennies from Heaven,” and will submit it for publication along with a couple of pictures illustrating the story. We hope to be reading our story in print soon!
- **Cookbooks** – We have an estimated 150 cookbooks left, some already wrapped for gift-giving. Cathy asked for suggestions for Christmas sales. It will be announced and placed on the power point. Jeannene suggested that Kathy Trask could use the information she used for last year’s promotion for the power point and newsletter or bulletin. Marjorie volunteered to set up a display downstairs. She took 7 gift wrapped cookbooks and will be responsible for collecting money for any sales. Carla took 12 gift wrapped books to offer for sale at work. The books are available on our UMW tab church website, but if anyone is familiar with other modes of internet sales or has other ideas, please let Cathy know!
- **RADA** – Cathy has a few pieces available, and you may still find the link for shopping on our church webpage.
- **Call to Prayer and Self-Denial** – Since this meeting was held on ZOOM this year, and we were not there to make our traditional offering; Cathy asked if we would like to send a donation to the Conference now. A motion to send \$100 for this offering was made by Brenda and seconded by Marjorie. It was approved without objection.
- **Disbursement of Remaining Funds**- Cathy asked that we be in prayer about how to distribute the estimated \$2,000 we should have left at the end of this year. We did not give money to the elementary schools last year as we have done in the past because of the large amounts of money they were receiving through COVID relief measures. Allyson says they have not received COVID money this year and would appreciate any gifts. Do we want to distribute some money among the schools? Kathy moved that we make a donation to KARM in memory of Stan Green. Dale shared that Regina had agreed to accept some donations from the church family to be used at her discretion for funeral expenses or other needs, as well as for their foundation supporting KARM which they have already designated for memorials. Please be in prayer about those two items, and be prepared to make those decisions next month.
- **December Meeting** – Vickie has graciously volunteered to host us at her home for a brief meeting and Christmas gathering. The date is to be announced. Be thinking of a finger food you

would like to bring for the table. Gather the pennies you have collected for our annual Penny and a Prayer mission donation, and bring them along to that meeting.

**Prayer and Closing** –Kathy W. encouraged everyone to go online and watch Stan’s last sermon and Dale’s sermon for the Horizons service last Sunday. She promises we will be touched. Cathy closed with prayer and a blessing for items brought for the Cancer Centers. She reminded us that Abingdon needs sweets, but no savory snacks; and Bristol wants sweets but doesn’t need savory or salty things. Please keep bringing both, as well as small canned drinks when you can. Her closing joke provided laughter and smiles to end the evening, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Radnoczi, Secretary