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July 5, 2017

To: District Presidents  
Texas Conference United Methodist Women

Dear Sisters In Christ,

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.” – Pro 3:5-6

I greet you this summer day and pray:

***THE SUMMERTIME***

*Thank you Lord for the golden sun  
That warms the earth from sky of blue  
The rays that brightens the summer's day  
Speaks of the love that flows from you*

*The summertime of heat filled days  
We thank you for the cooling breeze  
And the shade that cools us down  
Under the shadow of leaf topped trees...*

*For in the heart redeemed by you  
Your Saviour Son brings a better clime  
Your rays of love; the sunshine of grace  
And for our souls it is always summertime  
Colin Moffett*

The last time we met was during the 2017 Texas Annual Conference of the UMC. Bishop Scott Jones during his opening address asked the question “Who are you?” He went on to challenge us to reach out to the children on our doorsteps because ... “We love all the children”. His question and statements reminds United Methodist Women of our own heritage and purpose. We are a community of women who are grateful to God for each opportunity; turning faith, hope and love into action for women, children and youth for 150 years.

The other highlight was our Annual UMW Luncheon, thanks to Endrika West, Vice President and her committee members who organized the event. We had a wonderful Guest Speaker, Rebecca Lovelace Bradley, who shared an



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inspiring message through personal stories experienced as she works each day representing school districts in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area and serving public education students through the provision of legal services.

I would like to thank the Conference Team members for choosing me to be the recipient of the Hazel Decker Award. Hazel Decker was a Texas Conference United Methodist Woman who served in many capacities in the organization. As a member of the Women's Division, she was instrumental in raising concerns for world peace, poverty and injustice issues affecting women. In our own conference she fought for integration of the Church and School of Christian Mission (now Mission u). I am humbled and grateful for the privilege to accept this award, which honors the work and celebrate the life of Hazel Decker.

- **Mission u** - July 20-22, 2017 Lakeview Methodist Conference Center, Palestine, Texas. The planning committee is busy at work, the Study Leaders are prepared. As district leaders you should have begun your preparation for arrival to Mission u 2017! I trust you have extended an invitation to ever member of your local units to join us for an exciting time of fellowship and study which will strengthen through Spiritual Growth, expand our relationships through Geographic Study and broaden our awareness through Climate Justice Issues. I am looking forward to seeing you all at Lakeview.
- **United Methodist Women Legacy Fund Campaign** - From 2015 to 2019, all United Methodist Women members are invited to participate in an organization-wide campaign to grow the Legacy Fund, an endowed fund that already exists at the national office. When the campaign is finished, interest generated by the Legacy Fund will permanently support the work of United Methodist Women. The three components of the Legacy Fund campaign are (1) an every-member annual challenge, (2) estate planning opportunities and (3) major gift opportunities. Various options exist for any woman who wants to create a thoughtful financial plan that distributes her assets the way she wants and leaves a legacy of love and caring for her family and for United Methodist Women.

Our Conference is actively involved in celebrating our heritage. We are encouraging all members and friends to get on board the Legacy Train, a Texas Conference UMW fund raising project for the Legacy Fund. Each UMW member is being asked to participate and prayerfully consider making a pledge of \$18.69 (five cents per day) or any amount. Our records show we have 6,700 members and growing, if each member gave "five cents per day" in one year the Legacy Fund will increase by \$125,223.00. I invite you to get on board, spread the joy of UMW mission ministry, and share your UMW story as we journey together though another 150 years. Please continue to encourage your local units to participate in this campaign to ensure the legacy continues for future generations. (See attached pledge information flyer and UMW National Announcement).

***I have been working in the capacity of Conference Legacy Fund Liaison and now looking for a replacement for this office. Training is available. Please contact me if you can recommend someone for this office.***

- **Assembly 2018** - United Methodist Women Assembly May 18-20, 2018, Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH. **Registration will open September 1, 2017.** Price 330.00. Early Registration \$295.00. The early registration fee for the 2018 Assembly is \$295 with a November 30, 2017, deadline.



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After that date, regular registration fee is \$330. This fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees. United Methodist Women Assembly 2018 is a time for fellowship; it is also an opportunity to empower faithful women to be stronger discipleship leaders in their communities. Through moving worship, inspiring speakers, immersion experience exhibits, riveting workshops and town hall-style meetings, members will leave Assembly with the knowledge, courage and determination to change the world as part of a daring and compassionate 150 year-old movement.

*The Texas Conference UMW will award two scholarships in the amount of \$300.00 each to eligible first time attendees to the event.*

*For more information please contact:*

*Theresa Graham, Texas Conference Assembly Liaison (CAL)*

*10603 Southdown Trace Trail #219*

*Houston, TX 77034*

*C: 713-408-3787*

*Email: thrgram@yahoo.com*

- **Team Meeting** - Our next team meeting is scheduled to be held at Lakeview Methodist Conference Palestine, Texas, during the Fall Festival Event September 15-16, 2017. First meeting is scheduled for Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM.

I invite you to be in attendance also, requesting that all team members' reports be submitted in writing and send to: Carolyn Parker, Secretary by email: [cpumw@att.net](mailto:cpumw@att.net) on or before September 8, 2017. Please plan ahead and come prepared to share your visions and goals for us as a conference. We have a lot to accomplish in a short time and your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

- **South Central Jurisdiction United Methodist Women** New Logo at [www.umwscj.org](http://www.umwscj.org)



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**CALLING u  
TO SOUTH CENTRAL  
JURISDICTION 2020**

Planning site for the March 26-29, 2020 Quadrennial Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, where 12 conferences come together every four years to carry out the mission of United Methodist Women. More information to come! Hope to see you there.

• **DATES TO REMEMBER**

July 20-22	Mission u	Lakeview Methodist Conference Center Palestine, Texas.
September 15-16	Fall Annual Meeting	Lakeview Methodist Conference Center Palestine, Texas.
May 18-20, 2018	UMW Assembly 2018	Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, OH.
March 26-29, 2020	SCJ Quadrennial Meeting	Little Rock, Arkansas

It is a privilege to serve you as your conference president, and thank you for your dedicated service. Please contact me with questions or if I can assist you in anyway. May God Bless you in all that you do as you serve in His mission ministry.

Serving in His Name,

*Paulette*

Paulette Moore-Hall, President  
Texas Conference United Methodist Women



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# CONFERENCE AWARDS 2017

- **Conference SMR -** This year the conference SMR honoree is Reverend J. Clayton Whitaker.

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## REMINDERS

### Mission u: 2017

July 20-22, 2017  
Lakeview Methodist Conference Center  
Palestine, Texas

*Theme: Learning Together for Transformation of the World*

The Texas Conference United Methodist Women will offer a scholarship in the amount of \$150.00 to assist with the cost of housing and registration for one first time attendee from each district.

### 2017 Mission Studies

**Living as a Covenant Community** –*Spiritual Growth Study*  
**Missionary Conferences of the UMC in the United States**–*Geographic Study*  
**Climate Justice** –*General Issue Study*

Order books from [www.missionresourcecenter.com](http://www.missionresourcecenter.com)

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## Minute for Mission: 2017

Based on United Methodist Women members giving and the approved budget for 2016,\* the following calculations have been made to interpret the cost of mission for a specific time period. Use this information as you explain the value of United Methodist Women's mission work with women, children and youth in the United States and in countries around the world.

In reality, the true cost of mission is higher, when we consider inflation; however, these figures reflect the cost based on mission pledges and member's financial support.

### IN 2017 IT WILL COST:

**0.41 for one second**

**24.38 for one minute**

**121.88 for five minutes**

**1,462.56 for one hour**

**35,101.45 for one day**

**12,812,028.00 for one year**

*\*Note: These figures do not include the designated gifts received, including Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offerings.*

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

IN MEMORY

DONOR

AMOUNT


IN HONOR

DONOR

AMOUNT

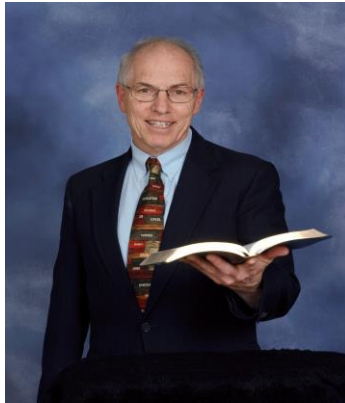

*Please return form and check to your District Treasurer*



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**Texas Conference United Methodist Women  
2017 Special Mission Recognition  
Honoring  
Reverend J. Clayton Whitaker**



Clay was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota where he lived until he was ten years of age. Then his family moved to Springfield, Illinois and later to Columbia, Tennessee. He graduated from Columbia High School. After several years of wondering, he found Christ in July of 1972. He started his college career at Columbia State Community College. In pursuit of a possible call to the ministry he enrolled in Asbury College, where he obtained a BA in Bible in 1980. He then graduated from Asbury Seminary in May of 1983 with a Masters of Divinity.

His first assignment in the Texas Conference was in June 1983 to the Bremond/Calvert Charge (then the Beaumont District). He has served several churches in our Conference and is now at Friendship UMC in Porter (Central North District).

Clay has always had a love for missions! In 1996, he was nominated to be the Chairperson of UMCOR – Texas Conference Committee (TACCOR), a position that he held for eleven years. During that time period, he was asked to be the Texas Conference Disaster Response Consultant. When Rita, Katrina & Ike hit the Gulf Coast areas, he was involved in all kinds of relief efforts. He worked closely with Kathie Mann to train teams for relief work. Clay was instrumental in obtaining seven trailers (two districts already had one) and equipping each trailer with tools and supplies so that each district would have a trailer for response work. He was also the District Mission Secretary for the Beaumont District for a number of years.

He has taken multiple teams to UMCOR at Sager Brown in Baldwin, Louisiana and has another one planned for this year. He also works with an organization known as Hands and Feet Ministries out of Adairsville, Ga., taking groups to Mexico to work on orphanages and schools in the Piedres Negres/Nava area. Other areas that he has led mission trips to include: El Salvador, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, and Chili.

Another one of his passions is music. For approximately 20 years, he led the music at different levels for church camp at Lakeview. While at Airline UMC, he led teams, four to five times a year, to different prison units around east Texas preaching, playing concerts, and praying. One time he actually led a group to Padre Island at spring break, where they set up on the beach and played Christian music and preached. Currently, he plays in the band and sings in the choir at Friendship UMC. That was the band that played this last Fall Festival on Friday evening.

Clay has also had a heavy involvement in the Emmaus community as a spiritual leader, particularly in the Lufkin/Nacogdoches area). He has probably worked 20-25 walks. From 1992 to 2007, he was on the Conference Staff for Emmaus. For four years, he was also the District Representative for the United Methodist Children's Home in Waco for the Nacogdoches District.

Clay has been responsible for getting the truck to Lakeview every fall for our Fall Festival since 2000.

He has been married to Heather for almost 41 years. They have four boys, three daughters-in-law, one granddaughter and another grandchild due in June.

You may give to this Special Mission Recognition award throughout the year. Please send your mission dollars to your District Treasurer at any time. The Special Mission Recognition Award will be presented to Clay at the Fall Festival in September 2017.

# THE LEGACY FUND

**Celebrate United Methodist Women! 150 Years and Counting...**



*Please retain for your records*

## **United Methodist Women My Legacy Fund gift:**

**Every member is encouraged to make a gift to The Legacy Fund of at least \$18.69 per year, over and above her Pledge to Mission, for five years (2015-2019).**

- ☐ \$1,869   ☐ \$500   ☐ \$300   ☐ \$200   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$18.69   ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ monthly   ☐ annually   ☐ beginning \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_ (month/year)

*Turning Faith, Hope and Love into Action since 1869.*

*All donations tax-deductible. Give your Legacy Fund commitment form and your gift to your local United Methodist Women treasurer.*

----- Cut along dotted line / Keep top portion -----

**Yes! I want to celebrate United Methodist Women's 150th anniversary and help ensure we continue to put faith, hope and love into action for another 150 years.**

## **United Methodist Women My Legacy Fund gift:**

- ☐ \$1,869   ☐ \$500   ☐ \$300   ☐ \$200   ☐ \$50   ☐ \$18.69   ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ enclosed   ☐ monthly   ☐ annually   ☐ beginning \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_

☐ In honor / memory of \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please contact me about including United Methodist Women in my **estate planning**.

☐ Please contact me about the **major gift program**.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

*Give your Legacy Fund commitment form and your gift to your local United Methodist Women treasurer.*

United Methodist Women has a rich legacy as a mission movement since 1869, and we are building for the next 150 years of service in God's mission on behalf of women, children and youth in communities down the street and around the world.

**Make your Legacy Fund gift today!**



# Frequently Asked Questions about The Legacy Fund / 150th Anniversary Celebration:



## **Our Every Member Legacy Fund Goal:**

That every member of  
United Methodist Women  
make a gift to  
The Legacy Fund  
**of at least  
\$18.69 per year,**  
over and above  
her Pledge to Mission,  
for five years  
(2015-2019).

### **What is The Legacy Fund?**

- A key element of the 150th Anniversary celebration in 2019.
- A designated fund (endowment) of the national office of United Methodist Women. (Only interest can be expended.)

### **What is the purpose of The Legacy Fund?**

- To assure the continuation of ministries with women, children and youth, worldwide, into the next 150 years.
- To enable United Methodist Women to respond more adequately to new and emerging needs.
- To minimize the risk of severe budget fluctuation in years of recession, regional financial crisis, or change in giving by the membership.

### **How will the funds be used?**

- The total program of United Methodist Women is mission. Interest from The Legacy Fund will be added to Mission Giving funds to formulate the national budget of United Methodist Women. (Mission Giving is the largest source of that budget which includes grants to National Mission Institutions such as the Bethlehem Centers in Charlotte and Winston-Salem, international programs and projects, program resource production, training, and more.)

### **Why should I give to The Legacy Fund?**

- The Legacy Fund is OUR special anniversary gift to future United Methodist Women members and ministries.
- To “pass on” the legacy we have inherited. “To stake out our legacy for future generations.” (January 2015 response, page 3). Isabella Thoburn College, Lucknow, India, is an outgrowth of the work of the first missionary of our organization. The College motto is: “We Receive to Give.”
- Because we believe in the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women and want our daughters, granddaughters, nieces and friends to share our sense of meaningful “sisterhood.”
- To be part of the joyous celebration in 2019 culminating 150 years of ministry.

### **How does the money get to the National Office?**

- Gifts are given to the local treasurer who sends the Legacy Fund money and commitment cards to the District treasurer following regular procedures. There is a line on the local treasurer Remittance form for The Legacy Fund.

### **Does a Legacy Fund gift count for the individual or Unit Pledge to Mission Giving?**

- No. This is a special additional gift to celebrate the 150th anniversary. In fact, it is critical that we sustain and even increase our Pledge to Mission Giving during this five year campaign; the needs have never been greater.

### **How do we give? Annually? All at once? What about non-cash gifts?**

- Each person can determine her schedule of giving; any schedule is appropriate.
- Non-cash gifts of stock, property, life insurance, etc., can be given through the United Methodist Women National Office. Contact the Treasurer’s office at 212-870-3740.



### **How do I get a Legacy 150 pin?**

- When you turn in a Commitment Card, you will receive a pin at your district annual meeting.

**For more information visit:**

United Methodist Women National Office - [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150)

## LEGACY FUND

### United Methodist Women Announces Legacy Fund Campaign Goal of \$60 Million



With great excitement, United Methodist Women is pleased to announce the Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign goal of \$60 million. [The Legacy Fund](#) will undergird the capacity of future generations of United Methodist Women members to carry forward our mission of service and advocacy with women, children and youth in the United States and around the world for the next 150 years

Achieving this ambitious and forward-looking goal will culminate United Methodist Women's five-year 150th anniversary celebration. We are already off to a great start, having secured \$17.4 million for the fund — nearly a third of the campaign's \$60 million goal!

"The Legacy Fund will provide a firm foundation that both builds on the generosity and commitment of women before us and enables future generations of women to engage in mission that makes a difference in the world by improving life for women, children and youth," said Shannon Priddy, president of United Methodist Women's board of directors.

United Methodist Women General Secretary Harriett Jane Olson applauded the organization's elected leaders for setting a goal that "inspires" and rallies the participation of every member.

"In setting this goal, the elected leaders of United Methodist Women have, again, demonstrated the character of our movement," Ms. Olson said. "They have focused on what will be needed, committed themselves to the work of raising it and to ensuring that every member of our organization has a chance to participate. This energizes and inspires us all. Together we will continue to find ways to make more mission possible."

The Legacy Fund is a permanent endowment with generated income that will enable United Methodist Women to distribute grants and scholarships, coordinate work with mission personnel and make needed upgrades to technological and communication systems and more. The Legacy Fund will ensure a regular source of support for these core expenses of being in mission. It will enable United Methodist Women to enhance programming and launch new initiatives to address emerging needs of women, children and youth.

At this special commemorative moment in United Methodist Women history, we are laying the groundwork for our next 150 years in mission through the Legacy Fund. We look forward to working with you to achieve the goal of the Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign.