

2011 UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SUNDAY

Women's Division provides ideas and guides for UMW Sunday in your *FINDING PEACE-2011* Program Book pages 69-74. The following are suggestions as you author your special service.

UMW Purpose: Bulletin insert **and/or** use Call to Worship on page 71 of Program Book. We suggest making the latter final response be more inclusive for a congregation by having **the last "All" response** state...May we, the children of God, take this mission...

Songs: FAITH WE SING p. 2172, 2176, 2178, 2184, or 2186
UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL p. 583, 569, 584, 593, or 432

Opening Prayer: UMH- "Prayer of Ignatius of Loyola" p. 570

Celebratory Psalm: Psalm 8 UMH pages 743-744 (could have liturgical dance when read)

Children's Sermon: Possibly...have children tell something good they could share with someone. It is exciting to tell people good news. **or** Ask children if they have ever done something good for someone. What was it? Be sure to listen to the scripture being read this morning.

Scriptures: **Matthew 28:1-10** (Women first to know and tell the Good News of Jesus' resurrection) **or**
Luke 10: 25-37 (Love in action for those in need)

Sermon: The following **Wisconsin Conference UMW facts** might be included in the message:

Some UMW supported special projects:

- Northcott Neighborhood House (50 years)-Milwaukee
- Hmong House of Good News (2 years)- Milwaukee
- Harbor House (homeless shelter/apartments)-Superior
- United Methodist Children's Services (housing, childcare, etc.) (49 years)(1962-Madison, 1970 opened maternal home and 1981 all programs- Milwaukee)
- There are **306 units in Wisconsin**. Through the connectional local units and districts, the Wisconsin Conference UMW pledged \$350,000.00 in 2010 to maintain mission projects, support missionaries, and develop women leaders. With gratitude, \$393,839.40 was collected and \$302,336.64 was sent to Women's Division. Women's Division, always budgeting from pledge money from the previous year, will distribute this money in 2012.

Some mission stories to share:

Darlene Anderson-Medford, WI- Some people say why send our mission money overseas? We should invest in our own communities and keep our money in the United States. The Bible tells us in John 3:16...For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son that any who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. And in Matthew 28:20- we are told...Therefore go and make disciples in all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and then teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you, and be sure of this-that I am with you always, even to the end of the world.

Our foremothers understood that God loves the world and wants disciples in all nations not just in our country of origin or citizenship. Before I was born the Women's Society of Christian Service was active making disciples, supporting educational and medical training for young people in India. The sacrifices those women made established a program that trained a young man who would have otherwise had no opportunity to go to school. He became a medical doctor and moved to the United States. My path crossed with this young man about thirty years ago when he was practicing medicine in a small rural community. He was my doctor and he delivered both of my sons who have not grown into healthy young men.

In my mind this is Mission Money that came full circle. Thank you to each woman that continues to make person sacrifices to support the ministry and missions of UMW and United Methodist Church around the world. Our God is awesome and we never know how our obedience to God will be used to bless future generations.

God loves the whole world and knows no boundaries or boarders.

Choose missions supported by UMW Mission Giving monies found in the RESPONSE magazine. Faith, hope, love in action...praise God for the missions supported. The following are some examples:

- **Opportunity School-** education available to 140 special needs children in Chennai, India. The wonderful story is in RESPONSE- September 2010.
- **FOUS(4-Us)Girls Club-** Evergreen Park, IL- RESPONSE- July/August 2010
- **Casa de Esperanza-** St. Paul, MN- RESPONSE- June 2010
- **Haitian Artisans for Peace International (HAPI) RESPONSE-** August 2010 A great introduction to our School of Christian Mission Haiti study.

BLESSINGS TO ALL FOR YOUR COMMITMENT AND SERVICE TO GOD.

