

*Our UMW theme for this year is **Let Your Light Shine – Ignited for Justice**. As we view our world today, we can easily become overwhelmed with the injustices that we see at every turn both here at home and around the world. As individuals we may struggle with what we can do to address these inequalities. The truth is, it is a problem that we must face. As United Methodist Women, we are part of an organization that works diligently at the local, regional, national and international levels to serve “the least of these” who are most impacted by the injustices in our world.*

*During this year, the Harpeth River District and Tennessee Conference United Methodist Women have several events planned. They are geared for UMW sisters to come together in study, fellowship, hands on mission work or other activities to help us live our Purpose and to be in service to women, children and youth through action. I hope you’ll look at the calendar on this website and make plans now to participate in these activities.*

*Our first district event is Saturday, February 1 at Lobelville United Methodist Church. At 1:00 PM, we will have a training hour for **local unit officers**. This is an opportunity to receive and share information with district and local unit officers. At 2:00 PM, we will begin our annual Faith Lift event. The theme for this meeting is **Let Your Light Sign through Faith**. The program will be followed by a time of fellowship and refreshments provided by the Lobelville UMW. A bonus to being with this unit is the opportunity to tour their sewing room which is very impressive.*

*In John 1:3-5, we find these familiar words: “All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the **light** of all people. This **light shines** in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it.”*

*The **light** of Jesus is in all of us. My prayer is that in 2020 we will be able to let our **light shine** as we serve others and grow in faith.*

*Blessings to you and yours.*

*Peggy Owen*