



*The Voice of the
Harpeth River District UMW Newsletter*

“Knitted Together for God’s Good Work”

Calendar of Events

June 26 (Sat.)	10:00 am	District Local President’s Roundtable (Plans are being made to safely have this event.)	Thompson’s Station UMC
	1:00 pm	District Leadership Team Meeting	
July 22-24 (Thur.-Sat.)		Conference Mission u (Plans are being made to have this virtual.)	
Aug. 7 (Sat.)	9:30 am	Conference Executive Team Meeting	Crossville First UMC
Aug. 21 (Sat.)	9:30 am	District Mission Study Brown Bag Lunch	Waynesboro First UMC
	2:00 pm	District Leadership Team Meeting	
Sept. 10-12 (Fri.-Sun.)		Spiritual Life Retreat	Beersheba Springs
Sept. 25 (Sat.)	9:00 am	District Annual Meeting Registration @ 8:30 am	Franklin First UMC
Oct. 2 (Sat.)	9:30 am	Conference Annual Meeting Registration @ 8:30 am	Crossville First UMC

Our Vision of UMW

Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Submitted by Beth Stockwell, District Social Action Coordinator

Anti-Human Trafficking Partnership Launched by Gov. Bill Lee

Welcomes Tim Tebow, Partners to Capitol

Thursday, May 13, 2021 | 11:20am

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Today, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee announced a new series of partnerships to fight human trafficking in Tennessee.

According to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, human trafficking is a demand-driven crime that involves exploiting a person for labor, services or commercial sex and particularly impacts women and children. It is one of the fastest growing criminal enterprises in the country, and cases have been reported in every county in the state.

“I’m excited to invest in and partner with these remarkable organizations that are at the forefront of this important fight,” said Gov. Lee. “Human trafficking has no place in our state, and I’m proud to support our law enforcement and non-profit partners.”

The Tennessee FY21-22 budget included over \$5 million in funding for key groups fighting human trafficking and supporting victims including:

- \$3.5M to [End Slavery Tennessee](#)
- \$1.2M to [Her Song, a Ministry of the Tim Tebow Foundation](#)
- \$600K to [Tennessee Anti- Slavery Alliance](#)
- \$100K to [Thistle Farms](#)

Today, Gov. Lee welcomed partners to the State Capitol including the following organizations:

“The unprecedented investment in community-based services will increase critical housing opportunities at the local level across Tennessee and intensify evidence-based and trauma-responsive programming for human trafficking survivors,” said **Margie Quin, Chief Executive Officer of End Slavery Tennessee.**

“Gov. Lee’s dedicated support to the fight against human trafficking is an embodiment of values all Tennesseans hold dear- a willingness to face a challenge head on, to offer help rather than hide from a problem. We are immensely grateful for the governor’s volunteer spirit and the ability to continue to serve the most vulnerable of our Tennessee communities,” said **Natalie Ivey, Executive Director of Grow Free Tennessee.**

“Tennessee is already one of the most proactive states in the country when it comes to fighting human trafficking. Today’s historic announcement pushes our state, and its response, to an entirely new level of responsiveness when it comes to preventing traffickers from doing even more harm,

protecting victims needing a way out, and promoting healing for hundreds of survivors ready for a second chance at life,” said **Hal Cato, Chief Executive Officer of Thistle Farms.**

“Tennessee stays at the forefront of counter-trafficking work - continually leveraging public and private partnerships to create and refine an efficient and impactful model for victim care and system change. Those of us in this work know rescue does not equal freedom, but healing does. The funding announced today is a catalyst ensuring opportunities for healing through comprehensive and collaborative service delivery across our state,” said **Rachel Sumner Haaga, Founder & Executive Director of Restore Corps.**

“Thank you to Gov. Lee and the many organizations in Tennessee that have been working so hard to reach some of the most vulnerable people in our country. Right now, there are only enough safe beds to serve 10 percent of trafficking victims here in the US – we can no longer let this be the case. Not on our watch. My foundation and I are committed to increasing holistic survivor care across the country and around the world through our ministry, Her Song, and look forward to serving alongside the great State of Tennessee to continue pushing back this darkness,” said **Tim Tebow, Founder and Chairman of the Tim Tebow Foundation**

If you suspect someone you know is involved in human trafficking, you can call the Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-855-558-6484.

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(931) 422-2314



Update from Christ UMW:

Thanks to our wonderful church family, we have collected almost 4,000 diapers and over 30 packs of wipes for donations to GraceWorks Ministries and Mercy Community Healthcare! They were delivered the middle of May. Thank you Christ United Methodist Church!!!



Our Purpose

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



Mission u

There's Far More Here

THAN MEETS THE EYE

So we're not giving up. How could we! Even though on the outside it often looks like things are falling apart on us, on the inside, where God is making new life, not a day goes by without [God's] unfolding grace. [...] There's far more here than meets the eye. The things we see now are here today, gone tomorrow. But the things we can't see now will last forever.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18
The Message (MSG)

We have known and felt what it is like when “things are falling apart on us.” We have experienced a great unraveling that has shifted, quite literally, everything.

Could there be, as 2 Corinthians put it, “far more here than meets the eye”?

Mission u, like many activities in our lives, has moved online. While virtual, we are still creating spaces for spiritual community, lifelong friendships, lessons that change us and our communities, and spiritual practices that arrive when we need them most. In a time when it looks like things are falling apart on us, God's grace is still unfolding and life is being made new.

Indeed: There's far more here than meets the eye. Will you join us?

At our upcoming **Mission u**, we will examine anxiety, the culture of violence that impacts children in and out of schools, and how we as God's people can deepen our moral witness and respond faithfully.

Our 2021 **Mission u** will offer the following studies:

- *Finding Peace in an Anxious World*, edited by Erin James-Brown
- *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* by Monique Morris
- *Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living Into the Church's Moral Witness Through Radical Discipleship* by Darryl W. Stephens
- *Becoming Peacemakers in a Culture of Violence: A Curriculum for Youth Leaders*
by Jay Godfrey
- *Responding to Violence: A Curriculum for Children's Facilitators* by Sue Raymond

Join the Tennessee Conference Mission u on July 22-24, 2021

RSVP: <https://forms.gle/kERCatFMwwiU3Vj59>