

JANUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Looking back, I think we can all agree that the past couple of years have been challenging. I, along with your district leadership team, am looking forward for 2022 to be a more “normal” year ... whatever that is.

As you may know, effective January 1, 2022, the Tennessee and Memphis Conferences of the United Methodist Church are merging to become the Tennessee-Western Kentucky (TWK) Conference. United Methodist Women representatives from both conferences have been meeting throughout 2021 to develop standing rules, the event schedule, and the slate of officers for the new conference. The officers were elected and the standing rules were adopted at the annual meetings of both the Tennessee and Memphis Conferences. The new TWK Conference is made up of nine districts; five from the former Tennessee Conference and four from the former Memphis Conference. The 2022 conference officers and calendar of events will be included in the 2022 Harpeth River District Directory, which will be sent to unit presidents in January.

The first event on our district calendar is our Local Unit Officer Training and Faith Lift on Saturday, February 5 at Nolensville First UMC. The Officer Training session will begin at 1:00 PM. This will be an opportunity for local unit officers to engage with their district counterparts. The Faith Lift will begin at 2:00 PM. The United Methodist Women theme for 2022 is *Healing and Joy on Our Journey to God*; this is the Faith Lift theme, as well. Joy Lewter, former district president and former vice president of the Southeast Jurisdiction of UMW, will be our speaker. We hope unit officers district-wide will participate in the Officer Training session. In addition, we look forward to meeting UMW members from across the district at the Faith Lift.

Please mark your calendar now to attend the district Partners in Mission event at Columbia First UMC on Thursday, April 21 beginning at 6:00 PM. On Saturday, June 25 at the St. Andrew Memorial UMC in Pulaski, the Local Unit President’s Roundtable will begin at 10:00 AM. Details about these events will be in future reminders and newsletters.

I am looking forward to working with each of you during 2022. May God bless you with good health, happiness, hope and joy in the New Year.

Peggy Owen