



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

## Trinity United Methodist Women

### Newsletter

May-June 2020



### Cancel — Postpone — ZOOM

These seem to be the “words of the day” these days

Along with stay home, shelter in place, wear face covering. I’m sure you can think of several more, but I believe the most important is “Stay in Touch”

That is what we are trying to do with this newsletter even though there isn’t much news happening to pass along, we United Methodist Women try to stay in touch by e-mail, phone calls, prayers, mailed notes and ZOOM meetings.

The UMW Leadership Team held a ZOOM meeting May 6. It was obvious that the May 17 bake sale would be cancelled. We hope to still be able to have the November 18 and December 6 bake sales. We have enough money in the treasury to fulfill our obligations such as our pledge to missions for this year, however we are postponing some of the extra projects that we had hoped to support.

The annual June picnic meeting was also cancelled. It remains to be seen whether we will try to schedule something later in the summer. Deborah Circle cancelled April and May meetings. UMW Reads e-mailed book reports to each other in April and may try a ZOOM meeting in late May. They have submitted some book reports to be included in this issue since there isn’t much news to report.

Two members of the Leadership Team will be moving away soon. [Sandra Sunseri](#) will move to Boise this summer to be near her family. She has been sending “Gift to Mission” baby cards (provided by UMW) to the families of babies that are baptized at Trinity. [Beth Campbell](#) will move to Frasier Meadows in Boulder after the first of the year. She has been doing a great job as treasurer keeping track of our money. Both will be greatly missed. **We now need someone to take over each of these jobs.** If you would like to be part of the Leadership Team and/or would be willing to be treasurer or send baby cards, please contact one of the current Leadership Team. They are Vivian Barfoot, Beth Campbell, Nan Chizmar, Lois Cochran, Nita DiPierro, Peggy Steen, Sandra Sunseri.

### Speaking (writing) of Staying in Touch

Years ago, I saved a “Rose is Rose” comic strip that says it all with only one word: It is only 2 panels, In the first panel, Rose is looking out the window at a gloomy scene - no leaves on the tree and a dark cloudy sky and Rose has a gloomy expression on her face. In the second panel, a telephone on the table shows “Ring ~ ♡” and suddenly the scene out the window changes to sunny with flowers blooming and birds singing and Rose has a big smile on her face.

**So — go put a smile on someone’s face !!**



# Happy Mother's Day

*Remember your mother, grandmother, mother-in-law, and yourself if you've had children, pets, nieces, nephews or other children that you love.*

For the story of the origin of Mother's Day

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/methodist-history-the-founding-mothers-of-mothers-day>

Because there is very little news to report, several members of UMW Reads Circle have provided reports on books that they have read.

## **Mariam Slejko** read

### Home of the Brave by Donna Bryson

This is the story of Montrose, a small town struggling, like many communities, with the question of how to remain vital and vibrant in the 21st century, took on another problem altogether: that of the difficult homecoming of Iraq, Afghanistan and other war veterans. It is also the story of Melanie Kline, Montrose resident, who knows a little boy who tenses when his family goes to the airport. He's sure his father is headed for another deployment in Afghanistan. The child's father is dearer to him and his world a little less safe, since his country went to war on terror. No one in Kline's own family has been caught up in the fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, but she has come to see that it affects her entire community. And she has rallied her small town to respond. Kline founded the Welcome Home Montrose project to offer mental health support, job and housing advice and other aid for returning warriors who are burdened by memories of war and uncertain of what their homecoming will mean. What she did not count on was how much the men and women who had served their country still had to give. Home of the Brave is about community and military service, and the possibilities born of creativity and commitment.

Donna Bryson is an award-winning author and freelance journalist who has written for The Wall Street Journal, Al Jazeera and VICE. Her previous book, It's a Black-White Thing, won first place in the nonfiction book category in the National Federation of Press Women's Communications Contest in 2015. Bryson lives in Colorado, USA.

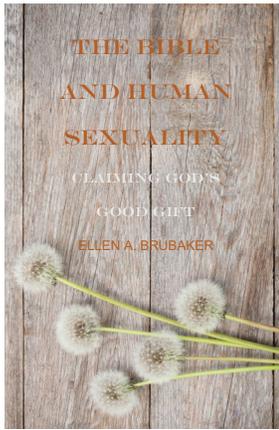
## **Carolyn Johnson** read

### Faith and Struggle on Smokey Mountain, Hope for a Planet in Peril. By Benigno P Beltran.

Smokey Mountain was a huge garbage dump in the City of Manila, Philippines. This dump provided 25,000 people jobs as scavengers, that is how they made their living. They would use big wicker baskets slung by a strap to their forehead or shoulders. They would follow bulldozers, garbage trucks. Some, especially, children would get run over. They would pick up recyclables and sell to junk dealers

The author is priest who lived with them for 30 years. When he first came to the dump he had a difficult time not throwing-up because of the smell.

The first part of this book tells about life in the dump. The second part of the book talks about the psychology of people and the effort to get rid of the dump and relocating the people of Smokey Mountain. I am glad I read the book even though some parts were pretty disturbing.



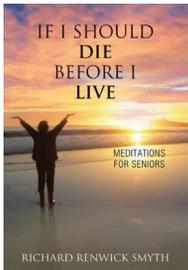
**Carolyn Johnson read**

The Bible and Human Sexuality by Ellen Brubaker, who is a retired pastor. It is on the 2016 Spiritual Growth list.

The book tells about the status of women beginning from Genesis to today. They were subordinate to men with a few heroic female exceptions.

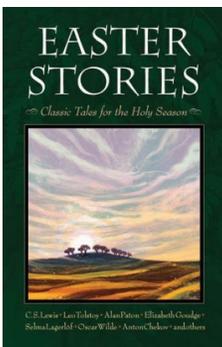
The author discussed the immoral behavior even in the Bible. Also how Augustine's teaching was controversial but his influence remains today. He believed that sex equates with sin and shame concerning our bodies and our God created sexuality.

She goes on to talk about the questions today about LGBTQ saying we need to study scriptures to see what it really says.



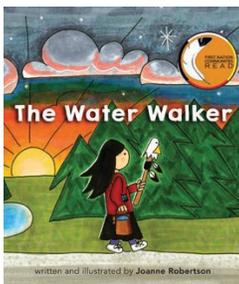
**Lois Cochran read**

If I Should Die Before I Live - Meditations for Seniors by Richard Renwick Smyth. I was using the meditations for Lenten readings. The 36 scripture based (mostly from The Message) and frequently hymn based meditations and 4 introductions to sections worked well for that although they could be used any time of year.



Easter Stories compiled by Miriam LeBlanc is also on our Reading Program List. It is a collection of classic tales for the Holy Season by such authors as C.S. Lewis, Leo Tolstoy, Oscar Wilde and more - in all 27 different stories. Some were quite short and some fairly long, but all interesting.

One of my favorite stories was "A Dust Rag for Easter Eggs" by Claire Huchet Bishop. It is about four children (age 10-12) in Paris right after the war who wanted to obtain some eggs for the 5 year old sister of one of them who was ill because of poor nutrition all her life. The story tells of their efforts as they tried to turn an old sweater that was now used as a dust rag into something they could trade for some eggs.



**Betsy Shepardson read**

NIBI EMOSAAWDANG or THE WATER WALKER is a bilingual Ojibwa and English children's picture book about an Ojibwa grandmother. She learns from a wise chief that "the day will come when an ounce of water costs more than an ounce of gold." It awakens in her how badly people are treating water which we need to sustain life. She has a dream that she needs to protect water and go on long walks to do so. This children's book is based on the true story of Nokomis Josephine-ba Mandamin who in 2003 began her first walk for water. She realized how vital water was to indigenous peoples and the world. It is certainly an interesting topic in the midst of COVID 19 when we can so easily wash our hands with soap and water compared to places in the world where they can't do that. The book tells about the long walks from the ocean and around the Great Lakes that Nokomis (no-kuh-miss or Ojibwa for grandmother) goes on with her fellow water walkers protectors of water. In 2015 alone she walked 4,500,000 steps, praying and singing for water far from her home. The Ojibwa is challenging, but children are more facile with languages and may find it easier. The text is shown in both English and Ojibwa next to each other. The grandmother has now passed away but you can write to her family in Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada and let them know what you are doing to protect water.