

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

We are beginning our UMW year with new officers and a new program book. A new beginning! My main vision for this year is to accommodate through meetings and correspondence those women who are unable to attend our weekday gatherings. It is such a blessing to be a part of this group, but we do need the women of this congregation to join us in our worship, our fellowship and our giving to mission. We can make a change!

Our God is a community-making God and our mission together as UMW is creating beloved communities with women, children and youth. Our new program book, "Let's Get Together" calls each of us to be more authentic in this effort. Topics to be studied this year will be immigration and human trafficking, along with the Holy Days celebrations. This will be an exciting year for all of our members. Our God is an awesome God and our calling is an awesome calling! Please join us!

PEACE! - Susan Baker

HAPPENING THIS MONTH:

Unit Meeting February 2, 10 AM
 Program: Installation of new officers
 Lunch: Potluck
 Please plan to attend even if you cannot bring a dish to share

Fellowship Circle: Wed. February 10, 11:30 AM
 Program: Planning for 2010
 Lunch: Brown bag

Hope Circle: Mon. February 15, 10 AM
 Program: Planning for 2010
 Lunch: Brown bag

Executive Meeting February 23, 10 AM

HAPPENING NEXT MONTH:

Unit Meeting March 2, 10 AM

OUR PURPOSE

Our 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.

WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The Women's Spiritual Formation group meets on **Tuesday, February 2** at 5:30 PM in the Lee Room. We will be discussing miraculous births in both the Old and New Testament. We will go out to dinner after our discussion.

The Women's Spiritual Formation group meets the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30

PM in the Lee Room for devotionals and fellowship. All women are welcome to attend! If you have questions, please speak with Georgi Donavin, 801-531-1183, or email to gdonavin@yahoo.com.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

All men are invited to our next meeting on **Saturday, February 20, 12:00 Noon**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, please call Fasi Halaeua, 801-330-2253.



FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16 6:00 PM

The day before Ash Wednesday is Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday"). Make plans to celebrate here at FUMC!

It's your last chance to party before Lent!

THE CHOIR'S CORNER

Chancel Choir member Dorothy Anderson



Dorothy Anderson is most recognized for her tireless efforts to make the world a better place. She was the 2008 Honoree for the Consociates Auxiliary of Assistance League, Salt Lake City. As an employee at American Express for 32 years, she managed their Philanthropic Program for Salt Lake City and the State of Utah, as well as two other volunteer programs. She has received many awards for her efforts, including the Rosa Parks NAACP Award, National Conference for Community and Justice Humanitarian Award, Utah Philanthropy's Corporate, Women of Distinction-Consociates Auxiliary-Assistance League Award, United Methodist Women's Missions Award, Community Builders Award, and American Express Corporate Affairs and Communications in-house Award. Dorothy continues to sit on various boards and volunteers her time. She is the proud mother of one son and two grandchildren. Her interests are working with low-income families, gardening, performing and visual arts, singing with the FUMC choir, and sports. Dorothy expressed her thanks for the opportunity to tell about her faith journey and her life here at First Church in Salt Lake City.

I am one of eight children raised by loving, kind, and caring parents. My father was a Methodist minister, and with my loving and devoted mother made quite the team. Growing up in a pastor's home presented many challenges for the spouse and children. When I was growing up, the preacher's wife and children were expected to participate in every part of the ministries of the church. That meant we did it all: taught Sunday School, sung in the choir (many times we were the choir and congregation as well), and participated in Methodist Youth Fellowship, special programs, fundraising ... you name it, we did it. When I was a senior in high school and almost out of the parsonage, I told my father, "When I grow up, I'm never going to church again." In my father's wisdom, he said, "Baby, I hope that will not be the case." I think he knew in his wisdom that he, my mother, and the long line of Methodist relatives had sown god seeds, and they would not fall on poor soil.

I moved to New York, and for about a year I didn't go to church. I began experiencing loneliness and feeling that something was missing in my life. After looking for a Methodist church I found St. Mark's UMC in Harlem and became an active member there. I believe that was when I realized I was no longer going to church to please my parents, but that God was calling me to answer my faith call for myself. I have been a devoted member of the United Methodist Church on a local and district level all of my life.

In 1982 I relocated to Salt Lake City with American Express, joined Centenary UMC and enjoyed the fellowship and wonderful people there. One Sunday one of my sisters was visiting and suggested that we go to First Church. When I walked in, I immediately felt at home. Rev. Bill McCreary's first son was born that week, and Mehnaz Akhtar was christened that Sunday. I met many people who have been special in my life. When I joined the choir I met Doug and Ginger Smith, Alan Smith, Sue Goodrich, Martha Martin and was welcomed. I have served on committees here at FUMC and have seen and heard a lot. I think that one of the reasons I told my father I would never go to church once I left home was because we as Christian people do not always act like Christian people. I have come to know that, in spite of our actions, God calls us to be loving, caring, sharing and forgiving people.

I am very thankful to belong to a family where we care for each other, seek God's will for our lives, and respect each other as God's chosen people. We are truly blessed to be here at this time in our lives. I pray that we will become the servants that God has called us to be. Let us join hands, and with honest and open hearts serve God, our sisters and brothers, and our community as Christian people of First United Methodist Church.

Dorothy and the FUMC choir invite everyone to come sing with the choir Wednesdays at 7:00 PM and Sundays at 9:45 AM!