



# The Inner Circle

February 2017

First United Methodist Church of Downers Grove

## Focus on Women, Children & Youth

From its beginning, United Methodist Women has focused on ministries with women, children, and youth.

Sarah Circle 7:00pm <u>Room 213</u>	Mary Elizabeth Circle-1:00pm <u>Chapel Hall</u>	Rachel Circle 9:00am <u>Room 213</u>	Ruth Circle 12:45pm <u>Chapel Hall</u>	Joanna Circle 11:00 a.m. <u>Chapel Hall</u>
Feb. 02/27	Feb. 02/22	Feb. 02/23	Feb. 02/23	
Mar. 03/20	Mar. 03/22	Mar. 03/23	Mar. 03/23	Apr. 04/09

## PWP Rotation

January—Ruth  
 February—Mary Elizabeth  
 March—Rachel  
 April—Sarah  
 May—Ruth and Mary Elizabeth  
 June—Rachel and Sarah  
 July—need volunteers please!  
 August—need volunteers please!  
 September—Ruth  
 October—Mary Elizabeth  
 November—Rachel  
 December—Sarah

## Prayer to end human trafficking

Oh mighty God, protector of the helpless and oppressed, we come to you and offer our prayer of sorrow for those victims of human trafficking and slavery. May they find comfort in the shelter of your embrace and strength in the power of your name. We pray an end to this sickness of human trafficking and slavery, we pray for a new day that is touched with the radiant and lasting hope of the sun, free from the oppression and pain that we would afflict on one another. Amen

## Stay Connected! Keep in Touch!

Browse the United Methodist Women website - [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)

UMW Mission Resources website: <http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/resources>

DGFUMC website: <http://www.dgfumc.org>

FUMCUMW website: <http://www.dgfumc.org/fellowship/umw>

Aurora District UMW website: <http://auroradistrictumw.wixsite.com/auroradistrictumw>

UMC General Board of Church and Society Faith in Action website:

<http://www.umc-gbcs.org/site/c.frLJK2PKLqF/b.2798475/k.7A8F> Faith in Action.htm

Facebook: group is called [United Methodist Women of DGFUMC](#)—find us and ask to join, then invite your friends to join.

Aurora District Facebook group is called [Aurora District UMW—Illinois](#)—find us and ask to join, then invite your friends to join.

NICUMW Facebook group is [Northern Illinois Conference—United Methodist Women](#)—find it and ask to join.

**Ruth Circle**—women of all ages—childcare provided upon request  
**Meets in Chapel Hall- 4th Thursday 12:45 pm**

Twelve members of Ruth Circle gathered on January 26th and had a lot of catching up to do, both socially and administratively, since weather prevented us from meeting in December. We did sign-ups for 2017 monthly refreshments and sharing of a Response moment. As our Program Coordinator, Verla Boyle, is at Oak Trace for rehab on her hip and shoulder, Jennifer Segrest stepped in to offer the pledge service from the UMW Program Book. Our program for February is yet to be determined.

A long-time Ruth Circle member, Joyce Clark, is soon to turn 100 years old!! Please consider sending her a card. Her address is 250 Village Drive #334, DG IL 60516-3053. All DGFUMC members are also invited to help her celebrate on Saturday, February 11th between 3 and 5 on the ground floor of the building where she lives.

*Circle Coordinator—Julie Stone*



**Mary Elizabeth Circle**— mostly women of grown children—childcare provided upon request  
**Meets in Chapel Hall-4th Wednesday 1:00pm**

Fourteen of us met on January 25th for our Annual Pledge To Mission Program. Jean Bahler also included a program she called “The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly”. The message reminded us to “LIVE SIMPLY SO OTHERS IN YOUR WORLD CAN SIMPLY LIVE”. We had much discussion on giving and how to help everyone around us. God wants us to share with our fellowman. Be it Talent Time Money Love Kindness Respect ; we all have something to give. Things that don’t cost a thing can be life changing to those we meet. A smile, a handshake, a hug, shared laughter, a hello ,any kindness can make someone's day---- And yours.

We then collected for our new Bridge Family. We collected enough for 5 gift cards which Judy purchased from the Purchase with a Purpose table and gave to the Mentors of the program who will pass them on as needed.

Our next meeting is February 22nd 2017

*Circle Coordinator—Joan Van Order*



**Rachel Circle**—mostly mother’s of young children—childcare always provided  
**Meets in Rm. 213 - 4th Thursday 9:00 am**

The Rachel Circle met in January and participated in a program led by Cindi Roselieb. She walked us through an personal review/inventory process for 2016 and helped us shift our focus to goals for 2017. Gwen Kinney Benson reviewed our pledge process and Angela Loveless provided hospitality for the group.

*Circle Coordinator - Maggie Roth*

**Sarah Circle**—mostly working women—no childcare available  
**Meets in the Room 213—4th Monday 7:00pm**

Sarah circle will meet Monday, February 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in room 213.

Circle Coordinator– Gretchen Shearer

**Joanna Circle**—young ladies in 6th through 12th grades  
**Meets in Chapel Hall - 3rd Sunday 11:00 am**

We will try once more April 9, 2017 after the Chapel Choir returns from tour.

Co-Circle Coordinators– Shelly Davenport and Julie Stone



Please send Shelly Davenport the names of our UMW sisters we lost this past year, 2/2016—4/2017.

At the spiritual growth event April 27th in Minooka, we will remember them and light a candle in their honor. Thank you for your help.

## **How Dare They!**

By Carolyn Payne

There is a particular type of woman; a rare and diverse breed,  
 a woman who will dare to test boundaries, a woman who will dare to succeed.  
 Unfettered by convoluted circumstance, undaunted by the size of the fight  
 She's a headstrong force to be dealt with, conscientious, full of gumption, blessed with insight.  
 How dare she depart from the usual path to take the road few travel.  
 How dare she follow her own conviction -- her own destiny to unravel.  
 The first woman elected bishop, the first woman ordained to preach,  
 the first woman to demand the vote, and simple freedom of speech.  
 The first Superintendent, the first to pen a hymn, the first to challenge what's not allowed,  
 the first to stand up, the first to stand out, the first to plough furrows never ploughed!  
 The first of her race, the first of her gender, the first to spread her wings and fly!  
 The first to look at the world around her and say if they can do it, so can I!  
 They dared to unshackle the heavy burden of being born a mere female!  
 They dared to be the first to do it, they dared to blaze their own trail.  
 It's easy to jump on the bandwagon once the hay has been comfortably softened;  
 so...., dare to pick up the pitchfork yourself, and dare to do it more often!  
 It's no accident you're here at this time and in this place,  
 true....most of us won't make history, but all can be in the race.  
 So gird up your loins girls, and remember this battle cry...  
 "I may not be the first one to dare it, but I won't be the last one to try!"

## Purchase With a Purpose

Along with our pledges the Purchase With a Purpose gift card program is our major fundraiser to support the work of United Methodist Women making a difference in the lives of women and children everywhere. The gift cards are supplied by a company called The Manna Group and they are continuously improving the program to help us raise money. Many of us buy from the cards available at the table in the Parlor on Sundays and place an order once a month. If you are willing to set up an account with Manna you will have online access to many more gift cards which can be delivered to you via email. For instance, a friend invites you to go out for lunch and you choose one of the many restaurants where you can pay with a gift card printed from your email. Amazon, Best Buy, Express, hotels.com and TJ Maxx are some of the retailers you can use as and when you need them. Check out the full listing and contact Ina (630-308-8418 or [inamairi@mac.com](mailto:inamairi@mac.com)) to get set up with an account:

<http://www.mannagroup.net/assets/escrip-orderform.pdf>

The other alternative to buying plastic cards is the Benefit Mobile APP for your smart phone. Download the APP, register with First United Methodist Downers Grove, Purchase With A Purpose and set up your bank account for direct debit or a credit card. Most of the cards are delivered to your phone and can be used directly at the store checkout.

Every Sunday we have Amazon, Home Depot, iTunes, Jewel, Kohl's, Meijer, Panera Bread, Speedway Gas, Starbuck's, Target, Ultra Foods, Walgreens, and Downers Grove Downtown Dollars ready to pick up at the table in the Parlor. Orders are placed on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month through June then the 2nd and 4th Sundays through November.

Thank you for your support of this fundraiser. Purchase With a Purpose is not just for members of UMW, encourage all your friends at church to participate.

<u>Febraury</u>		<u>March</u>	
Kathy Kreps	02/06	Jean Remington	03/12
Jeanne Schmid	02/12	Arlene Mc Coy	03/20
		Julie Stone	03/28





## Fannie Lou Hamer

Hamer is best known for championing black voting rights, especially in her home state of Mississippi, one of many hotbeds for racially motivated voter suppression. She worked with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee to drive black voter registration, despite encountering violence and

threats from white supremacists who often worked to intimidate or violently attack blacks attempting to vote.

Hamer brought the issue to the national spotlight during the 1964 Democratic National Convention, pointedly calling out Mississippi's all-white delegation. Hamer's eventual, televised testimony of the struggle was so powerful that President Lyndon Johnson called an impromptu press conference to get it off the air.



## Shirley Chisholm

Chisholm was the first black woman elected to Congress in 1969 from her district in New York City, and she served for 14 years.

She began her career in education administration, having earned a master's degree in elementary education from Columbia University, and went on to serve as a consultant to the New York City Bureau of Child Welfare. In the years following, her experience led her into political arena, where she served as a state legislator for three years before heading to the U.S. House of Representatives. Chisholm was one of the founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus shortly after her election. After roughly two terms in Congress, Chisholm entered the 1972 presidential race in the Democratic primary, making her the first black candidate to run for a major party nomination.



Ina Osborn is in need of another assistant with the PWP ordering process. There are two who help to place the orders now, but she would like another back-up / fill-in.

If you are interested in occasionally helping Ina out, please contact her— 630-308-8418 or [inamairi@mac.com](mailto:inamairi@mac.com)

## Bridge Family News!!!!

UMW will once again be helping to provide a little help to the Bridge Family. The rotation for the year is below. Please purchase gift cards from the Purchase With A Purpose table.

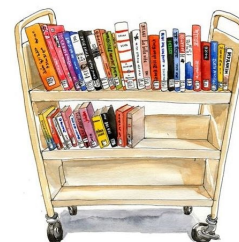
Julie Stone will take your donations to the family.

January—Mary Elizabeth  
February—Ruth  
March—Rachel  
April—Sarah

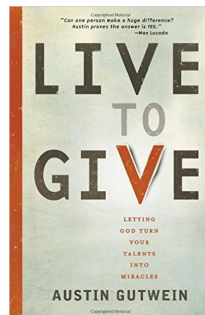
September—Mary Elizabeth  
October—Ruth  
November—Rachel  
December—Sarah

Thank you in advance  
for your generosity!!

**Don't forget  
about the UMW  
book cart!**



### A note from the author:



When you read the story of the feeding of the 5000, the Bible talks about how the crowd became "restless" and began to "stand". Have you ever wondered how many of them grew tired; maybe they were too hungry and went home? I've often wondered if this story couldn't have been the feeding of the 10,000 or even the 100,000. When you're tired, hungry and simply worn out, will you stick with whatever God has called you to? The road may be long, it may be dusty, there may be people on it that make fun of you, bully you, and want to steal what you have. But Jesus promises never to leave us or forsake us. Each of us have a special gift; a special lunch that God is ready to use to change the world. There's a miracle ready to happen. - Austin

*\*there is an audio book at the Downers Grove Public library\**

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER** **(mark your CALENDARS!)**

Mar. 3	World Day of Prayer	
Apr. 22	Aurora District Spiritual growth event Minooka UMC 205 W Church St., Minooka, Il.	8:30 a.m.
Apr. 27	Spring Tea Luncheon provided by Mary Elizabeth and Ruth Circles Chapel Hall	12:00 p.m.
May 4	Leadership Team	9:00 a.m.
May 4	National Day of Prayer	
May 14	World Thank Offering Sunday	
July 22	One Day mission u Downers Grove FUMC	8:30 a.m.

Submit articles to Shelly Davenport at [sdavenportarch@gmail.com](mailto:sdavenportarch@gmail.com) or (630) 512-0370