

The Beat Goes On – Program Topics will include:

1. In the beginning was the BEAT (150th Birthday party, the beginning of UMW)
2. The heart BEAT of UMW (UMW today, who are we, what's the purpose, the essence?)
3. Staying up BEAT (time for music, staying involved)
4. The global BEAT (islands, natives, world focus)
5. The BEAT goes on (the future of UMW, making a commitment, taking the BEAT home with us)



Other fun things to do: Friday afternoon there will be a belly dancing class (optional). Friday evening we will have a 150th Birthday Celebration for UMW. Saturday morning we will greet the day with yoga and in the afternoon, we will have time to soak in the hot pools, nap, do crafts or puzzles, or visit with other United Methodist Women. Rock painting will be offered but bring your own smooth flat rocks! Saturday evening we will have a luau and movie to watch. Feel free to bring Hawaiian clothes and hats for the luau.

Women's Event Speaker Estella “Stell” Wallace

“It's been such fun to know and work with Stell. She is dynamic, dedicated and delightful. Stell has traveled and presented extensively for UMW. I am so grateful she'll be with us, and hope every United Methodist Woman will come to receive the great gifts she offers.” Tish Herries



Estella “Stell” Wallace, a retired educator brings a wealth of experience to United Methodist Women, starting with 40 years as a teacher. With multiple degrees—special education, elementary education, working with at-risk youth and curriculum development—her career spanned from teaching kindergarteners to high schoolers. Her main focus, she says, was a challenge not for the faint of heart: Middle School Humanities.

“I loved it,” she says of her career. “You are in the trenches in influencing young lives.”

Like all working parents, Wallace had to learn how to balance her profession and a busy family life. She and her husband of 44 years, now a retired firefighter, raised two children who have followed in their parents' footsteps. Her son is a firefighter; her daughter is a school principal.

Church has always been a priority for Wallace. She likes to say she was literally born into the denomination, as she made her entrance into the world at the Methodist hospital in Dallas, Texas. As a longtime member of Ellensburg First United Methodist Church in Ellensburg, Washington, she is a past director of Ellensburg Community Clothing Center Ministries, a former board member of Tacoma Community House (a United Methodist Women national institution) and a volunteer for Cold Weather Shelter, a multi-church local program that provides sleeping quarters to the homeless when temperatures dip too low.

Her work with United Methodist Women took off after her kids graduated from high school, including a stint with the jurisdiction leadership team and serving as a member of the committee nominations. Now she steps to a big role in her new position with United Methodist Women's finance committee, covering the organization's budget, property and endowment administration.

Others may be daunted by the responsibilities of the job. For all the Mission Giving generated by United Methodist Women, Wallace and committee will oversee how the board approves giving for mission, including national mission institutions, international mission projects and scholarships. The committee also oversees the investments and use of the Legacy Fund and other endowments given by our foremothers.

"We've been around 150 years. We've proven that we're efficient, good with the dollar and we have staying power," Wallace says. "Yes, our assets and our budget may seem staggering, but I'm always humbled by what good stewards of money we've been historically. There are so many organizations today vying for your dollar, so we have to continue to show that we are a responsible, viable group that will make a meaningful impact with your donation."

"I'm a lifelong learner and lifelong teacher. That didn't stop with retirement," she says. "So many people say they wish they could do something, but it stops there. You have to take that next step and be intentional about it. I'm lucky to have found an organization where I can have a voice and I can make a difference."

