

including the memorial service. These will be viewable in pre-recorded segments. Pretty much business as usual, except for the format. Maybe you can ask a few friends to watch with you or even your whole unit can gather at your church with a sack lunch and view it together. Be sure to follow CDC guidelines! The good news is that it can be paused while you get a drink, walk the dog, diaper the baby – whatever! Amber Hassler, our tech guru, and Cola Hill will make sure you get all the information you need.

Please remember to vote on the items that need approval, either by printing a paper ballot (p. 17) and returning it to Cola or replying by email. IF YOU WANT YOUR VOTE TO COUNT, all ballots must be received by Cola by Saturday, September 5, 2020. Please remember to send in your unit's pledge and offering by then also. Individuals are also encouraged to send in an offering...Cola will see that our treasurer, Ruth Corwin, gets them. All forms and information needs to be received by September 5, 2020! Awards and a program booklet will be sent to all units prior to September 26, 2020.

Please bear with us as we adjust to these changes & know that we are doing our absolute best. United Methodist Women have always responded positively to challenges! Just think, over 150 years! Where would we be if we never changed? If you have any questions about our upcoming Annual Celebration, please reach out to me via phone or email listed below.

Join us September 26, 2020, or whenever possible!

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“Challenges and Learning Experiences!” ...
Things have changed dramatically since I signed

up at last year's Annual Celebration to become Northern Waters District UMW secretary on January 1, 2020. The coronavirus has upset our lives and impacted the way the NWD UMW leadership team operates.

With stay-at-home orders across the state, we had to eliminate traveling to a centrally located place for meetings. Now “ZOOM meetings” on a computer or iPhone (at home) are the “new norm” (with less travel expenses ... good for the budget)!

“A First” ... I met with other team members via ZOOM and recorded minutes during our March meeting. In over 35 years as an office administrator, I never experienced a “first day on the job” challenge quite like that. But with the assistance and support of the team, it was “mission accomplished!”

What other changes will we see in the coming months? Will the pandemic transform forever the way we meet and work in UMW? Changes, challenges, and learning are happening every day. It is exciting!

As people adapt to meeting remotely with ZOOM, and use email more effectively, there will be fewer meetings overall and more efficiency in the whole scheme of things. To that end, we can expect a more responsive way of working and communicating with each other.

Prayer has certainly helped me through these new experiences, and I know that God is always there with His guiding hand. *Isaiah 41:10 Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

Looking forward to our Annual Celebration this Fall!

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