

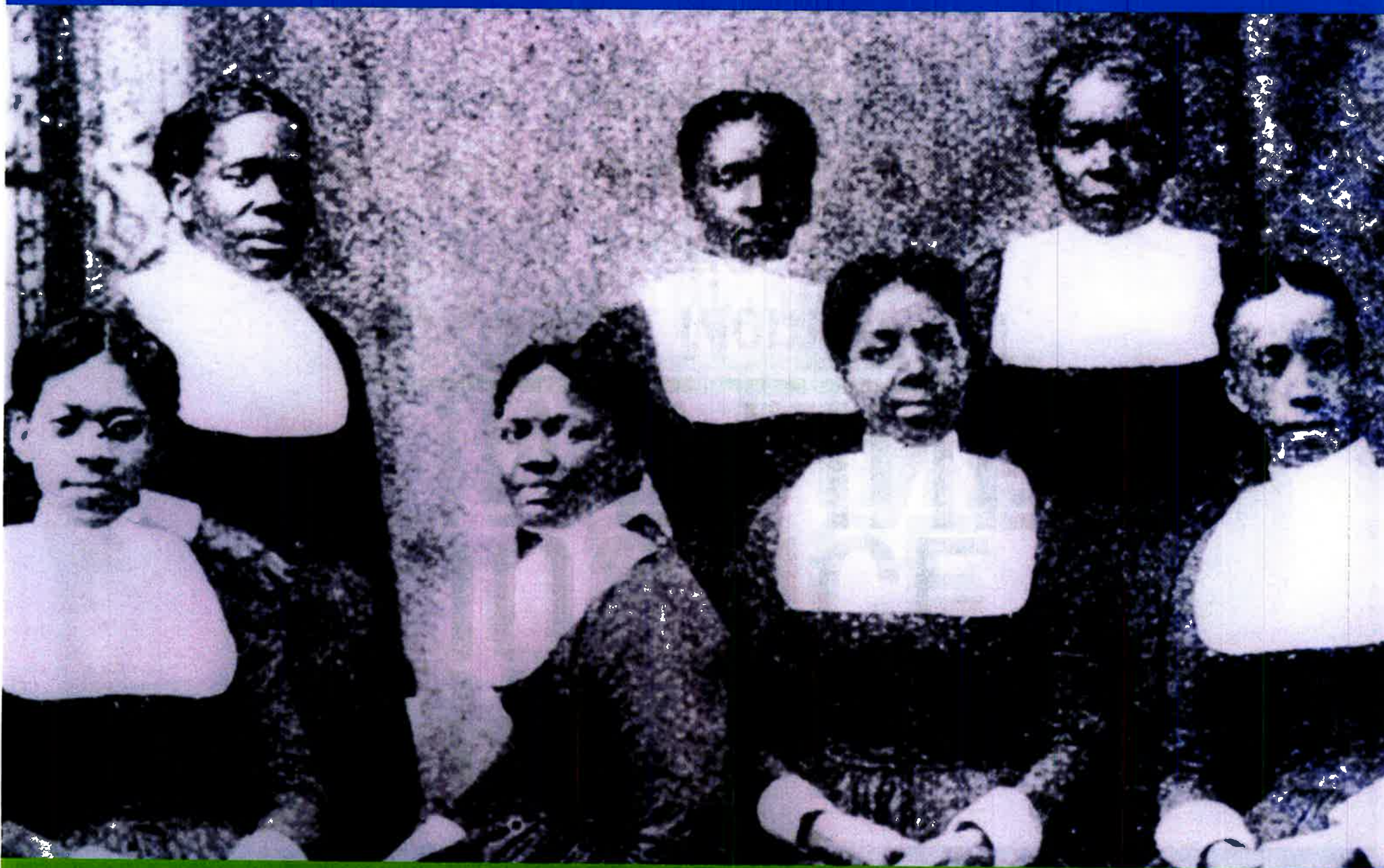
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RACIAL JUSTICE TIME LINE

Important Moments of
Racial Justice History
in the United States and
United Methodist Women

1945 1950 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010 2015 2020

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RACIAL JUSTICE TIME LINE

**Important Moments of
Racial Justice History
in the United States and
United Methodist Women**



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

United Methodist Women Racial Justice Time Line

Human rights for all people is one of the historic principles of United Methodist Women. God is the creator of all people of all races, and we are all God's children. Therefore, opportunities for fellowship and service, personal growth and freedom in every aspect of life are inherent rights of everyone.

United Methodist Women from its beginnings has tried to build a community and social order without racial barriers, as this timeline shows. Racial justice is an ongoing focus of the United Methodist Women mission as members work to promote racial justice in the United States and around the world.

1857–1939

The United States ends slavery but it also moves to entrench racism and white privilege through wars, economic expansion and immigration policies.

1857–1939

Women of the United Methodist tradition reach out across the United States and the world.

The United States 1857-1873

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1857-1873



1857: The Supreme Court decision *Dred Scott v. Sandford* denies any possibility of citizenship for African Americans.

1857

1860-61: Eleven pro-slavery states secede from the Union and form the Confederacy, triggering the Civil War.

1860

1862: The Homestead Act allows 311 million acres of western Native American lands to be sold to European homesteaders, land-grant colleges and railroad companies.

1863: The Emancipation Proclamation frees the slaves.

1864: Congress makes it illegal for Native Americans to be taught in their native languages and sends children to boarding schools.



1870: Clara Swain (top) and Isabella Thoburn (far right) are sent to India as the first English female missionaries by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

1870



1873: Bennett College for African-American women in Greensboro, N.C., is founded in the basement of Warrentonville United Methodist Church.

1873



1865: Central Pacific Railroad recruits Chinese workers to construct the transcontinental railroad.

Reconstruction: African Americans gain citizenship rights and mobilize for public education and elected offices. White supremacists embark on a campaign of terror.

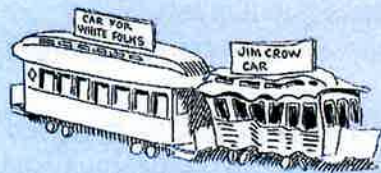
1866: The Ku Klux Klan is founded to maintain white supremacy through intimidation and violence.

The United States 1874–1899

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1874–1899

1882: The Chinese Exclusionary Act bars Chinese contract laborers and immigrants from entering the United States for ten years.

1883: In a series of five cases known as the Civil Rights Cases, the U.S. Supreme Court declared the Civil Rights Act of 1875 unconstitutional, opening the way for Jim Crow laws and lynchings.



1896: In *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the U.S. Supreme Court establishes the “separate but equal” rule, upholding segregation.

1898: The United States annexes Puerto Rico, Guam, the Philippines, Cuba and Hawaii.

1880

1880: Methodist women mission leaders in the United States organize the Woman’s Home Missionary Society to help free black people in the South and later teach Mexicans in New Mexico, minister to Mormon women under polygamy, and address the injustices experienced by Native Americans.

Dr. Shi Meiyu, also known as Mary Stone, is the first female medical missionary in Central China.



1885: Mary Fletcher Scranton of the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society founds the first school for girls in the history of Korea, which later becomes Ewha Girls’ High School.

1890

1888: The Woman’s Home Missionary Society, Methodist Episcopal Church, establishes an immigrant girls’ home in New York City.



1890: Education for Hispanic children is offered at the Harwood School in Albuquerque, N.M.; the Frances De Pauw Industrial School in Los Angeles; and later, at the George O. Robinson School in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

1899

1899: Kim Seji becomes the first Bible Woman in Korea.

Late 19th and early 20th centuries: The Woman’s Home Missionary Society begins creating National Mission Institutions like Gum Moon Women’s Residence in San Francisco to serve urban immigrant women seeking work and shelter.

The United States 1899-1919

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1899-1919



1900: 14 million immigrants arrive between 1900 and 1920, primarily from Northern Europe. The Chinese Exclusion Act, which was extended ten more years in 1892, becomes permanent in 1912.

1903: 7,000 Korean workers arrive in Hawaii as strikebreakers against Japanese workers.

1907: The Gentlemen's Agreement forbids immigration of Japanese and Korean laborers to the United States.

1909: The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is created.

1910: The Mexican Revolution sends peasants to the border seeking safety and jobs. The Great Migration: More than one million African Americans migrate from the South to the North.



1917: The United States enters WWI.

1900

1905

1910

1915

1919

1899: Leaders of the Women's Missionary Council work with Sallie Hill Sawyer of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church to create Bethlehem Center, another National Mission Institution in Nashville, Tenn., to serve ethnic minorities and disadvantaged neighborhoods.



1906: Anna Hall and Martha Ann Drummer are the first African-American female missionaries sent to Africa by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, beginning a 50-year practice of sending African-American women to Africa only.

1907: Sandy Chalakee, a Native American woman, affirms the importance of preserving traditional language, practicing traditional crafts and conducting local unit meetings in her traditional language.

The Rev. Lois G. Neal is born. She is the first Native American woman named as a district superintendent in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. Neal mentored other native women on the importance of women answering God's call: "Women [should] accept their call because as women, we have a personal call," she said. "I tell women, 'You have your own calling to fulfill.'"

1912: Women of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church begin conversations concerning race relations.

1914-1930: The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society works to organize women's groups for Spanish-speaking women in Texas, New Mexico, California, Puerto Rico and Cuba.

The United States 1919-1926

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1919-1926

1919: The U.S. Department of Justice rounds up and deports “aliens” from southern Europe and Latin America during the Palmer Raids. Thousands are arrested, and many immigrant activists are deported.



1920: Women are granted the right to vote in the United States, though not all women have this right.

1921-1930: Thousands of Mexican workers, including U.S. citizens, are deported.

1921: The Emergency Quota Act favors immigration from Europe.

1922: The Cable Act declares any female U.S. citizen who marries an alien ineligible to citizenship will lose her citizenship.

1923: The U.S. Supreme Court rules that while South Asians might be “Caucasian,” they are not white and are ineligible for citizenship.



1924: The Indian Citizen Act grants indigenous people the right to citizenship.

Asian immigration is banned, including for wives and children of Chinese Americans.

1919

1926

1919: Thelma Stevens, the first head of the Woman’s Division’s Department of Christian Social Relations, is born. She will use the power of invitation to work for social change and invite people to work and be in fellowship across racial lines. Her invitations will change the lives of many of her friends and coworkers.



1920: Carrie Parks Johnson, a Southern white woman of the Women’s Missionary Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is named to chair its Commission on Race Relationships, which develops ways for black and white women to work together.



1926: A joint venture of the Woman’s Home Missionary Society and the Board of Education of the Methodist Episcopal Church results in the reorganization of Bennett College into a four-year liberal arts college for women in Greensboro, N.C., serving young African-American women.



The United States 1924–1939

10

1924: The Ku Klux Klan is influential in the passage of the National Origins Act, making racism part of the official U.S. immigration policy until 1965.

The U.S. Border Patrol is created, introducing a distinction between “legal” and “illegal” immigrants for the first time.

1929: The stock market crash triggers the Great Depression.

The National Origins Act limits annual immigration to 150,000 Europeans.



1933: President Franklin D. Roosevelt launches the New Deal. Most African Americans are excluded from benefits, as domestic workers, railway porters and agricultural workers are excluded.

1934: The United States grants independence to the Philippines and limits Filipino immigration. Filipinos in the United States are reclassified as “aliens.”



1938–1940: WWII begins. Labor shortages mean a change in immigration policy and a new influx of Mexican and Chinese workers.

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1924–1939

1930: Mrs. B.W. Lipscomb, staff member of the Women’s Missionary Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, helps organize conference women’s missionary societies in the Western Mexican and Texas Mexican conferences.



1931: Jessie Daniel Ames, an active Methodist woman, is executive director of the Association of Southern Women for the Prevention of Lynching.

1933: The Women’s Organization for the Rio Grande Conference is first organized by Hispanic women in the Southwest. Minerva Garza was one of the early leaders of the organization. She served in a variety of leadership positions from 1944 until 1970 and was dedicated to the conference’s preservation for future generations.

1938–1940: The Woman’s Missionary Society is organized in the Indian Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

1939: The Methodist Church’s Woman’s Society of Christian Service, Wesleyan Service Guild and the Woman’s Division of Christian Service are formed. The merger of three Methodist denominations creates a segregated jurisdiction—the Central Jurisdiction—for African Americans.

1860 1865 1870 1875 1880 1885 1890 1895 1900 1905 1910 1915 1920 1925 1930 1935 1940

1940–1962

The Cold War and decolonization change ideas and realities in the United States.

1940–1962

Women of the United Methodist tradition expand study and advocacy for racial justice.

The United States 1940-1947

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1940-1947

12

1940: The Alien Registration Act (the Smith Act) requires registration and fingerprinting of immigrants over age 14. This coincides with FBI information-gathering on “enemy aliens” — primarily targeting Japanese Americans and not those of German or Italian descent.

1942: President Roosevelt authorizes internment of 110,000 Japanese Americans living in California, including U.S. citizens.

Filipinos are reclassified as U.S. citizens, making it possible for them to register for the military.



1945: Germany surrenders. The United States drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan surrenders. The United Nations is founded.



1947: Jackie Robinson breaks baseball's color line.



1940

1945

1947

1940: The Woman's Division of Christian Service embarks on a renewed campaign to end racial discrimination.

The women of Central Jurisdiction organize their Woman's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Service Guild. For the next 28 years, African-American women maintain their commitment to a fully integrated organization by welcoming women of all races to attend their events.

1941: The Woman's Division of Christian Service adopts a policy of “holding its meetings only in places where all members of its group can be entertained without any form of racial discrimination.”

Lillian Warrick becomes the first African-American woman elected to the Woman's Division staff.

1942: The Woman's Division of the Methodist Church speaks out against the internment of Japanese Americans. The first National Assembly of Methodist women is moved from St. Louis, Mo., to Columbus, Ohio, because St. Louis hotels would not accommodate African-American women.

1944: Éliida García de Falcón, a Spanish-speaking woman, begins translating the Program Book into Spanish. (It costs 60 cents!) She and her daughter, Clothilde F. Nuñez, will continue the translation for 26 years.

1947: The National Seminar sparks the Woman's Division to create the Special Committee on Racial Practices. They propose writing a charter and a survey of racial practices in institutions of the Home and Foreign Mission Departments. The Woman's Division endorses a U.S. Senate bill to fund public education for all people regardless of race, creed or residence.

The United States 1948–1954

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1948–1954

13

1948

1948: President Harry S. Truman ends segregation in the U.S. military.

The policy of apartheid, a legal separation of Africans, whites, Indians and “coloreds” under white minority rule, is imposed in South Africa

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights is adopted.

1952: The McCarran Walter Act eliminates racial barriers to citizenship, tightens quotas for immigrants, and allows deportation of immigrants for “subversive activities,” an element of Cold War McCarthyism.

1953: A second wave of Korean immigrants enters the United States upon conclusion of the Korean War. Thousands are Korean women married to U.S. GIs.



1954: “Operation Wetback” expels more than 2 million Mexicans. *Brown v. Board of Education* declares segregated schools inherently unequal.

1954

1948: The Woman’s Division and Central Jurisdiction support legislation for the improvement of living standards for farmworkers and domestic servants who had been excluded from New Deal benefits.

1949: Ellen Barrett becomes the first African-American woman to be sent as a missionary to an area other than Africa. She was sent to India.

Dorothy Rogers Tilly, a Southern white woman and member of the Woman’s Society of Christian Service, serves on President Truman’s Commission on Civil Rights and as Southeastern Jurisdiction Secretary of Christian Social Relations.

1950: Nisei (first generation Japanese-American) women of the Methodist Pacific Japanese Provisional Conference organize a Woman’s Society of Christian Service.

1951: African American Pauli Murray’s book, *State’s Laws on Race and Color*, commissioned by the Woman’s Division, is published. The book becomes a key source for the U.S. Supreme Court in its deliberations on *Brown v. Board of Education*.



1952: The Woman’s Division adopts the Charter of Racial Policies for the Woman’s Division of Christian Service. All recommendations were directed to the division, its directors, staff, mission personnel and projects. One major focus was legal segregation.

J. Ernest Wilkins, recording secretary, is the first African American elected as an officer of the Woman’s Division.

The United States 1955–1962

14



1955: Rosa Parks, secretary of the Montgomery, Ala., chapter of the NAACP, refuses to surrender her seat when ordered by a local bus driver, leading to the Montgomery bus boycott and eventual desegregation of the city's bus system.

1960: The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is founded at Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C.

Lunch counter sit-in protests against segregation take place in Greensboro, N.C.

1961: The Native American population has grown to 800,000. Half are on reservations. Five hundred tribal and urban Native American leaders meet in Chicago to form the National Indian Youth Council.

Freedom Rides across the South begin to challenge noncompliance with federal laws against segregation in interstate travel facilities. More than 1,000 volunteers, black and white, participate.



1962: Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta organize the National Farm Workers Association, which becomes the United Farm Workers Union in 1966.

Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga become the first Japanese Americans elected to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1955–1962

1955

1954: The Woman's Division asks conferences and jurisdictions to ratify the Charter of Racial Policies and to commit to its implementation.

The Woman's Division issues a statement against segregation in public education as an infringement against the 14th Amendment.

1955: The Women's Council of the Evangelical United Brethren Church votes to work toward "lessening racial tensions" and aiding in desegregating public schools as decreed by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Brown v. Board of Education*.

1958: The first Spanish-language School of Christian Mission is organized by Minerva Nanez Garza in the Rio Grande Conference.

1960: On February 1, four students from Bennett College, a historically African-American Methodist college, are refused service at Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, N.C., leading to further sit-ins and followed by the Woman's Division's moral and financial support for those in the civil rights struggle.



1962

1962: A new Charter for Racial Policies is adopted by the Woman's Division. This is later adopted by the General Conference upon the Woman's Division petition. To challenge racial segregation, after 1964, Jurisdiction Schools of Christian Mission would become Regional Schools, organized on a cross-jurisdiction basis.

1963–1975

Civil Rights, the antiwar movement, the War on Poverty and expanding immigration change the face of the United States.

1963–1975

The new organization of United Methodist Women (1972) seeks to increase diversity of membership, leadership and participation.

The United States 1963-1966

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1963-1966

1963

1963: NAACP leader Medgar Evers is murdered. One month later, 250,000 people gather in Washington, D.C., in the nation's largest ever protest demonstration to urge support for civil rights legislation.

President John F. Kennedy is assassinated.



1963: The Women's Division supports ecumenical groups participating in plans for a march on Washington for jobs and equality.

1964: Woman's Division staff join a demonstration calling for the abolition of the segregated Central Jurisdiction at General Conference in Pittsburgh. Peggy Billings, a Southern white woman, is named first Secretary for Racial Justice of the Woman's Division. The Charter for Racial Policies expands the division's racial justice efforts and envisions a churchwide effort to eliminate segregated structures in church and society.



1964: There is a massive effort to register African-American voters in Freedom Summer. Black Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party delegates attend the Democratic National Convention to try to claim seats on the all-white Mississippi delegation.

The Civil Rights Act passes and the 24th Amendment abolishes the poll tax.



1965: Woman's Division, with other units of Board of Missions, Board of Christian Social Concerns and Methodist Student movement, joins the march for voting rights from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.



James Chaney, an African American, and Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman, both white, are working to register black voters in Mississippi and are murdered by the Ku Klux Klan.

President Lyndon B. Johnson initiates a War on Poverty, which helps reveal the racial aspect of poverty in the United States.



1966

1966: First consultation with African-American women makes recommendations to Woman's Division regarding leadership roles for African-American women in an inclusive church.

The United States 1965–1970



1965: The Selma to Montgomery march is dubbed “Bloody Sunday” when police attack and more than 50 are hospitalized.

The Voting Rights Act passes.

The term “affirmative action” is coined to describe new policies for redressing discrimination in education and employment.

By 1968, 60 percent of African Americans are registered to vote.

Triggered by the Civil Rights Movement, the Immigration Act eliminates race, creed and nationality quotas as basis for admission to the United States.

Urban civil unrest is in the African-American neighborhood of Watts in Los Angeles.



1967: Thurgood Marshall is first African American appointed U.S. Supreme Court justice.

Ban on interracial marriages is ruled unconstitutional. Urban rebellions happen in Newark, N.J., and Detroit., Mich.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. expands focus to racial divisions in the North and the war in Vietnam.



1968: The Fair Housing Act is passed. The Bilingual Education Act allows students who are English language learners to participate in bilingual education programs to help meet their academic needs.

Dr. King and Robert F. Kennedy are assassinated.

1966

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1965–1970

17

1968: Theresa Hoover becomes the first African-American Deputy General Secretary of the Woman’s Division, the highest position held by an African-American woman in the church at that time. She served through 1990.

General Conference brings together the Methodist Church and the Evangelical United Brethren Church, creating The United Methodist Church.



1969: The Woman’s Division supports the “Poor People’s Campaign” in partnership with the National Welfare Rights Organization (NWRO), exposing the links between poverty and race.

1970: The Woman’s Division is part of ecumenical support network in the standoff between the American Indian Movement and U.S. officials at Wounded Knee, S.D., supplying observers, medical personnel and equipment, food, and supplies.

The Woman’s Division condemns the bombing of Cambodia and escalation of the Vietnam War as not only a peace issue, but as a racial and economic justice issue.

The Woman’s Division establishes a Hispanic Advisory Group. This later becomes the Hispanic Consultative Group.



1970

The United States 1970-1975

18

1969: U.S. military presence in Vietnam exceeds 500,000 personnel.

Indian occupation of Alcatraz Island in San Francisco grows to some 600 Native Americans from 50 tribes and raises awareness of Native American demands.



1970: Wounded Knee: Some 300 Lakota/Sioux occupy the town of Wounded Knee on Pine Ridge Reservation, S.D., to demand Native American rights. Many are members of the American Indian Movement. Two hundred FBI agents, federal marshals and Bureau of Indian Affairs police surround the town, armed with machine guns and grenades. Native Americans are fired on by ground and helicopter and two die. After 71 days, the siege ends in a negotiated settlement.

1974: The Supreme Court decision in *Milden v. Bradley* rules that schools may not be desegregated across school districts. This allows for legal segregation of students of color in inner-city districts from white students in white suburban districts.

1975: As the Vietnam War ends, more than 130,000 refugees (including Hmong peoples) enter the United States from Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos.



1970

1975

United Methodist Women 1970-1975

1972: The women's organizations in The United Methodist Church combine to form one inclusive organization with the name United Methodist Women, which is administered by the now Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries (formerly Woman's Division of the Board of Missions). This new organization is increasing diversity of membership, leadership and vision.

The first Spanish-language Seminar on International Affairs sponsored by the Women's Division is held at the Church Center for the United Nations in New York City. Led by Cuban-American staff member Consuelo de Urquiza, the event informs the division of the experiences of Hispanic/Latina women. Seminars are approved for Native American, African-American, Asian-American and Hispanic women. Native American women hold the first mission education event in Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

1973: At the urging of Hispanic/Latina women, the first Spanish language Program Book is written by and for Hispanic women rather than translated from English.

1974: The first Asian-American United Methodist Women's consultation is held in Honolulu.

1975: Billie Nowabbi is named the first Native American on Women's Division's staff.



1975–1999

Racial and ethnic economic inequalities grow, fueled by globalization's free market strategies.

1975–1999

Charter for Racial Justice Policies continues and strengthens racial justice witness of United Methodist Women.

The United States 1975–1980

20

1977: Civil rights victories open the way for an African-American middle class, but unemployment, poor housing and poverty intensify for poor urban African Americans.



1978: The U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *California v. Bakke* weakens use of affirmative action in admissions for professional schools.

1980: The Refugee Act passes, wherein a system is developed to handle refugees fleeing persecution as a class separate from other immigrants.

1980–1989: U.S. military interventions in El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Grenada, Lebanon, Libya, Iran and Panama contribute to new streams of immigration to the United States.

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1975–1980

1975

1975: The Native American Women's Caucus is born at a Native American United Methodist Women consultation in Kansas City, Mo. Women's Division directors support Native American allegations against federal officials and tribal law enforcement officials on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Women's Division directors support boycotts by United Farmworkers of California and the Farm Labor Organizing Committee of Ohio.

1976: Mai Gray is the first African-American woman elected president of the Women's Division.

1977: A Hispanic United Methodist Women meeting is held in Puerto Rico.

1978: The third Charter for Racial Justice addressing institutional racism in church and society is adopted by Women's Division directors. Mai Gray introduces the charter at the United Methodist Women Assembly in Louisville, Ky., and thousands of women march in silent vigil outside the site where the Methodist Episcopal Church separated over slavery more than 100 years earlier.

1979: The Women's Division helps to found the National Anti-Klan network, now the Center for Democratic Renewal. Women's Division directors adopt a resolution against the practice of redlining, a banking process to deny credit and bank access to poor communities, particularly communities of color.

1980: The Charter for Racial Justice Policies is adopted by General Conference as policy of the whole church upon the Women's Division petition.

Women's Division directors support reparations for Japanese Americans interned during World War II.



1980

The United States 1981-1990

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1981-1990

21

1981

1980s: United Methodist Women sponsors a series of Ethnic Seminars to provide a space for black, Latina, Native American and Asian women to reflect on their experiences and to help the organization as a whole explore the deeper meaning of becoming a multicultural organization.

1982: Vincent Chin, a Chinese-American draftsman, is clubbed to death in Detroit by two white men angry about the loss of auto jobs to Japan. More than 250 churches provide sanctuary to Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees fleeing war in their countries.

1984: Women's Division officers and cabinet, in consultation with women of color, discuss language needs and priorities and lay the groundwork for outreach to Spanish- and Korean-speaking members.

1986: The Immigration Reform and Control Act legalizes three million undocumented workers but also initiates sanctions making it illegal for employers to hire undocumented workers, which creates a two-tiered workforce.



1988: The U.S. Senate supports redress of Japanese Americans forcibly detained during WWII.

1985: Hispanic women's consultation in The United Methodist Church is held.

Argentinian American Nilda Ferrari joins the General Board of Global Ministries' staff. Her job includes translating United Methodist Women resources into Spanish.

1986: The Women's Division withdraws investments in 14 companies doing business in South Africa to add pressure to end apartheid.

The Women's Division supports the publication of *When Hate Groups Come to Town*, published by the Center for Democratic Renewal.

1989: Berlin Wall falls.

1987: Women's Division directors approve a resolution against the Ku Klux Klan and other hate groups in the United States.

1990: The Immigration Act increases quotas for immigrants. People can no longer be denied admittance to the United States on the basis of their beliefs, statements or associations. The U.S.-Mexico border is militarized; INS and private citizens commit increasing acts of violence against migrants crossing the border and migrant workers in the United States.

1990

The United States 1990–1995

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1990–1995

22

1990

1991: African American Rodney King is beaten and arrested by Los Angeles police officers.
South Africa repeals apartheid laws.

1990: The first South Asian United Methodist Women unit forms in Nashville, Tenn. Women's Division directors issue a resolution on anti-Arab backlash in light of the Gulf Crisis, calling on "elected officials and other opinion makers to refrain from appeals to bigoted or racist attitudes and stereotypes."

1992: Congress passes the North American Free Trade Agreement with Mexico and Canada, intensifying the flow of U.S. agribusiness to Mexico, leading to dislocation of Mexican rural peasants and urban workers and migration to the United States in search of jobs.

1991: Women's Division directors approve a resolution challenging police brutality in the aftermath of the Rodney King beating in Los Angeles, asking United Methodist Women members to call for state task forces across the country to investigate police brutality.

A jury acquits four police officers in the beating of Rodney King, leading to major urban rebellions, including the targeting of Korean businesses in California and other states.

Boatloads of U.S.-bound Haitian refugees are stopped, detained and deported by the U.S. government.

1992: Korean-American Heasun Kim joins the Women's Division as a consultant to work with Korean-American United Methodist Women.

1993: U.S.-Mexico blockade strategy forces migrants to cross through the desert; 3,000 people die over the next 10 years.

Carolyn Johnson is the second African-American woman to serve as national president.



1994: California's Proposition 187 passes, prohibiting public education, welfare and health services to undocumented immigrants. Federal courts rule it unconstitutional.

1993: Inaugural National Korean-American Training is held at the Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, Tenn., involving 50 women.

1995: The Oklahoma City bombing by U.S. white supremacists kills more than 150 people.

Although most of the nation's crack users are white, 88 percent of those convicted and imprisoned under harsh new laws are African-American.

1994: Women's Division directors assign monitoring institutional racism to its Policy Committee.

Hispanic/Latina women celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Program Book in Spanish.

The first Korean United Methodist Women Program Book, *The Life and Faith of Women*, is published.

1995

The United States 1995–1999



1996: “Welfare reform” establishes time limits for public assistance for the poor with a disproportionately negative effect on women of color.

African-American church burnings sweep the South and the nation.

“Welfare reform” proposals, an anti-terrorism bill, and the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act make undocumented immigrants ineligible for virtually all federal and state benefits and increase the jailing of nonviolent, noncriminal immigrants. Congress votes to double border patrol to 10,000 agents.

1999: The U.S. Supreme Court strikes down Chicago’s anti-loitering law, which had disproportionately targeted African-American and Latino youth not engaged in criminal activity and resulted in the arrest of 45,000 innocent people.

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 1995–1999

23

1995

1995: Women’s Division resolution “Global Racism: A Violation of Human Rights” is adopted by General Conference.

The first Korean language classes are offered at a School of Christian Mission and the first Korean women’s United Nations seminar is offered.

1996: Women’s Division directors’ resolution supports Affirmative Action.

United Methodist Women mobilizes against church burnings that target African-American churches. The Women’s Division board resolution, “Arson on Black Churches,” is adopted. The inaugural training of Korean-American conference language coordinators is held at the Upper Atlantic Regional School.

General Conference adopts the Women’s Division resolution supporting reparations for African Americans.

1997: The first Korean-American Consultative Group is created to advise the Women’s Division on all programs and resources related to Korean-American United Methodist Women members. The first United Methodist Women Resource Writer’s Workshop is held to train Korean women and gives birth to the book *Life of Dreams, Life of Love*, personal stories of Korean immigrant women’s survival.

1997–2005: United Methodist Women members participate in a project to monitor hate crimes across the United States. The Women’s Division supports the creation of the National Coalition for Burned Churches to rebuild churches and to protect the right of congregations to worship.

The Women’s Division publishes its first Korean newsletter.

1999

1999: Women’s Division adopts the resolution, “Hate Crimes in the United States.”

2000–present

The 9/11 attacks and world events alter the racial dynamics of the United States.

2000–present

United Methodist Women members face new challenges of diversity within the movement and complexity of racial justice issues in society.

The United States 2000–2002

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 2000–2002

25

2001: September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon kill 3,025 people.

U.S. Administration declares a “war on terror,” setting the stage for national security-based immigration policy. More than 1,200 Arab, Muslim and South Asian men are detained in secret.

The United States wages war in Afghanistan.

The USA PATRIOT Act gives the government greater powers to detain suspected terrorists, eavesdrop on communications, and counter money laundering. Presidential directive is issued to try suspected terrorists in military tribunals rather than courts.

2002: The Department of Homeland Security, which takes over responsibility for all immigration enforcement and emergency relief, among other vast responsibilities, is created.

2002–2003: The United States conducts special registration, where boys and men in the United States from 25 Muslim-majority countries must register and be fingerprinted in search of terrorists. Some 13,000 men are placed in deportation proceedings for minor immigration infractions.

2000

1999–2000: The Women’s Division holds jurisdictional training events for Hispanic United Methodist Women members.

2000: Women’s Division funding to National Ministries Initiative continues to support immigrants, refugees and migrants.

The Baltimore-Washington Conference organizes the first Russian-speaking United Methodist Women unit.

Bible Women’s Pilot Training Project takes place in Sabah, Malaysia, in November, with 50 women representing eight different language groups in attendance.

2001: The Women’s Division sends delegation of staff and directors to Durban, South Africa, for the United Nations World Conference Against Racism.

Puerto Rican Magda Morales becomes the Women’s Division’s first full-time Hispanic coordinator for Hispanic Consultative Group and Spanish language conference coordinator.

The Korean Methodist Church’s Women’s Society for Christian Service partners with Korean-American United Methodist Women in an Asian Women’s Training in Korea.

2002: Following passage of the USA PATRIOT Act, the Women’s Division calls on United Methodist Women members to create “civil liberties safe zones” in their communities. The Women’s Division holds a consultation for Asian-American and Pacific Islander women, including Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Hmong, Japanese, Laotian, Native Hawaiian, Samoan, South Asian, Tongan and Vietnamese women. Hispanic/Latina United Methodist Women National Training offers leadership development for a new generation of Hispanic/Latina women.

2002

2003

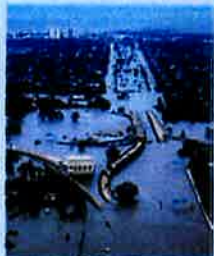
2003: U.S. invasion and occupation of Iraq begins. The U.S. Supreme Court upholds the University of Michigan Law School's policy ruling that race can be one of many factors considered by colleges during the admissions process.

2003: Women's Division board adopts resolution "Global Racism and Xenophobia: Impact on Women, Children and Youth," affirming principles contained in the U.N. World Conference Against Racism declaration. Exodus spiritual growth study looks at how African-American Methodists have dealt with racism in the Methodist family.

2004: Arizona passes Proposition 200, which states Arizonans must present proof of U.S. citizenship to receive basic public services and register to vote. Some see the voter registration components as a modern-day poll tax that keeps many low-income people and communities of color from voting.

2004: General Conference adopts the Women's Division resolution on environmental racism.

Kyung Za Yim becomes the first Korean-born and first Asian-American president of the Women's Division. An Asian American, an African-American, a Latina, a Native American and a white woman lead the division on its executive committee.



2005: Hurricanes Katrina and Rita on the Gulf Coast spotlight race and class divisions in U.S. society.

United Methodist Women mobilizes the Enhancing Democracy Campaign prior to presidential elections to challenge state efforts to disenfranchise African-American, Latino, Asian-American and Native American voters.

2005: The Minuteman Project, a vigilante group with a presence in 20 states, forms to stop undocumented immigrant crossings at the Arizona-Mexico border with some 500 volunteers. They begin to photograph undocumented day laborers and turn them in to immigration authorities.

2005: Women's Division resolution "Repairers of the Breach" addresses racism and class issues in the context of Hurricane Katrina.

The Korean Methodist Church's Women's Society for Christian Service partners with Korean-American United Methodist Women in an Asian women's training in Korea.

2005

2006

2006: Representative Jim Sensenbrenner proposes bill to criminalize immigrants in the United States.



2008: Barack Obama is elected the first African-American president of the United States.

2008

2006: Women's Division organizes Racial Justice Consultation, bringing together white, African-American, Latina, Asian and Native American women to recommend priorities for future work on racial justice.

Korean-American United Methodist Women partners with women of the Korean Methodist Church to host a Bible Woman program in China.

United Methodist Women members write letters challenging legislation that would criminalize undocumented immigrants and all those who help them.

United Methodist Women begins the Immigrant/Civil Rights Initiative.

Women's Division establishes the Office of Language Ministries to expand outreach beyond Spanish- and Korean-speaking women to include women who speak Hmong, Creole, Tagalog, Tongan, Fijian, Portuguese and Russian.

2007: United Methodist Women sends a delegation of 25 to the National Network of Immigrant and Refugee Rights national conference in Houston and participates in a border tour organized by the Black Alliance for Just Immigration.

At National Seminar in Nashville, United Methodist Women members act for racial justice in public witness with the homeless.

2008

2010: Rising racism, vitriol and threats of violence surround the debate for healthcare legislation.

Arizona passes SB1070, criminalizing undocumented migrants in the state.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (commonly referred to as the ACA and colloquially as “Obamacare”) is signed into law by President Obama. If fully implemented, it will extend healthcare coverage to roughly half of the 50 million uninsured individuals, many poor and people of color, across the nation by 2016.

2010–2011: A pastor burns the Koran in Gainesville, Fla., in an expression of anti-Islamic sentiment.



2011: The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial opens in Washington, D.C.

The U.S. Senate apologizes for the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

A record number of individuals, 2 million migrants, are deported from the United States between 2008–2012.

2011

2008: United Methodist Women joins the Race and Grace Ministry, an ecumenical initiative to confront the negative use of race, gender and religion by candidates, media and the public during the 2008 presidential election campaign. On December 13, 100 United Methodist Women members and United Methodists from across the New York Conference hold a vigil at an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention facility, calling for an immediate end to raids, detention and deportations.

Inelda González becomes the first Hispanic national president.

2009: United Methodist Women members join an ecumenical group in Postville, Iowa, site of a massive 2008 ICE raid, to respond to needs.

2010: Women’s Division directors issue a letter inviting United Methodist Women members to “Speak Out for Compassion and Against Hate.” The call for action comes at a time of deep economic crisis and global shifts that perpetuate violence.

United Methodist Women members march and pray at Assembly 2010 with thousands from St. Louis, Mo., on behalf of immigrant, civil and human rights. They also write and send postcards to the Secretary of Homeland Security calling for family unity and an end to racial profiling.

2011: United Methodist Women members in New York City join an interfaith vigil organized by New York Neighbors for American Values to counter anti-Islam mobilization at Ground Zero in New York City on September 10, 2011.

2011

2011: Trayvon Martin, a 17-year-old African American, is shot and killed by George Zimmerman, a neighborhood watch volunteer in Florida. The case highlights how racial profiling disproportionately targets African-American men because of inherent unconscious biases that persistently endanger their lives.



2011: Voices: A Transformative Leadership Event, the first ever training event exclusively for language coordinators and conference presidents, is held in Nashville.

National Seminar participants in Birmingham, Ala., remember civil rights history.

United Methodist Women participates in the United Nations' 10-year review of the World Conference Against Racism and hosts a forum on race and migration.

2012

2012: The U.S. Supreme Court upholds the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate as an exercise of Congress's power to tax.

The U.S. government's use of drone warfare increases around the world, including in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Yemen, crossing into a new frontier where killing is seemingly risk-free, remote and detached from human cues. Thousands are killed and many more suffer injury and destruction of their homes, communities and livelihoods as a result of drone warfare.

The United States reelects Barack Obama, the nation's first African-American president, to a second term.

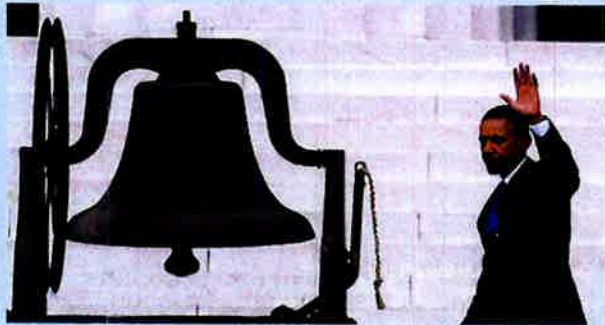
2012: United Methodist Women sends two petitions to General Conference related to racial justice: "Speaking Out for Compassion and Against Hate" and "Criminalization of Communities of Color in the United States."

2012

2013: Key provisions of the 1965 Voting Rights Act are struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court, which erroneously notes in its majority decision that “the conditions that originally justified these measures no longer characterize voting in the covered jurisdictions.”

Congress fails to pass just and humane Comprehensive Immigration Reform legislation, leaving millions of undocumented immigrants without legal status.

The United States honors the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom with a commemorative march, culminating in a speech by President Obama on the site where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his “I Have a Dream” speech.



George Zimmerman is acquitted of Trayvon Martin’s 2012 murder. The acquittal ignites protests around the country that call for reforms to a criminal justice system that still suffers from gross and persistent racial bias.

#BlackLivesMatter Movement launches by mobilizing millions of protesters after the killing of Trayvon Martin.

2013



2012: To counter hate speech in anti-Muslim ads supporting Israel in a “war between civilized man and the savage,” United Methodist Women places signs in subway stations throughout New York City and Washington, D.C., that state, “Hate speech is not civilized. Support peace in word and deed.”

United Methodist Women launches Leadership Development Days (LDD), an annual leadership development training, and, building on the organization’s history, integrates racial justice as a core component.

Justice monitoring begins at United Methodist Women board and program advisory group meetings to document and log progress toward eliminating institutional racism.

Native American Consultation is held to identify, explore and strategize ways to strengthen leadership, mission and ministry with indigenous women in The United Methodist Church.

2013: United Methodist Women co-convenes the 6th annual People’s Global Action on Migration, Development and Human Rights, which brings together hundreds of grassroots leaders and organizers from around the world.

2013



2014: African-American Eric Garner is killed after he is put into a chokehold for 15 seconds by a New York City police officer in Staten Island. Although Garner's death is deemed a homicide by the city coroner, the officer is not indicted. The non-indictment of the officer leads to weeks of near daily protests around the nation and in New York City to demand justice for Garner and, more broadly, police accountability.

The death of Michael Brown, an 18-year-old African-American man who was fatally shot by a police officer in Ferguson, Mo., and the non-indictment of the officer cause months of protest and uprisings in Ferguson and around the nation. Thousands of protesters take to the streets to expose police brutality and a broken and biased criminal justice system.

The world commemorates the 30th anniversary of the Bhopal tragedy, considered the world's largest industrial disaster. The incident occurred when a pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, owned by Union Carbide, leaked methyl isocyanate gas and other chemicals, creating a dense toxic cloud over the region and killing more than 8,000 people in just the first few days, mainly from cardiac and respiratory arrest. Over 20,000 people over 20 also lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of mostly poor people were left with lifelong health impacts.

2014

2013: Directors of United Methodist Women embark on a multi-year effort to operationalize the Acts of Repentance with Native Americans throughout United Methodist Women and the entire Methodist church.

The Church Center for the United Nations celebrates its 50th anniversary. This building was built with Methodist women's contributions to serve as a home for countless groups working on peace and justice issues, regardless of their religious affiliations. Social movements from around the world, such as the South African anti-apartheid struggle, have used the Church Center as a key place of organizing, respite and capacity building.

2013–2016: United Methodist Women becomes an independent organization within The United Methodist Church, reduces its board size, and adds a representative program advisory group. New board officers reflect the ever-growing geographical, language and ethnic/cultural diversity of the organization. They include Yvette Richards, president; Tupou S. Kelemeni, vice president; Becky Thompson, secretary; Judith Pierre-Okerson, chair of the committee on governance; and Nichea Ver Veer Guy, chair of the committee on finance.

2014

2014: The United States reopens family detention centers in Texas and Pennsylvania. The detention facilities hold mainly refugee women and children seeking to escape violence and extreme poverty in Central America.



2014: United Methodist Women responds to the increasing killing of unarmed black people by law enforcement and vigilantes with critical public statements that also address the broad crisis of mass incarceration as a racial justice concern for the church and wider world. United Methodist Women holds several staff, leader and member conversations about how to confront the ongoing legacy of racism.

United Methodist Women/National Mission Institutions respond to an increase in the flow of refugees coming across the United States' southern border by opening hospitality centers and advocating for policy changes by the U.S. government. Many of the refugees are women and children fleeing war, violence and economic deprivation in Central America, circumstances created largely by U.S. trade and foreign policy in the region.

The United Methodist Women general secretary, the assistant general secretary for Christian Social Action, a deaconess, United Methodist Women members, and scores of allies participate in public witness and are arrested to express a moral imperative to stop the government policy that is deporting 1,100 people each day and tearing families apart.



2015

United Methodist Women 2014–2015



2015: Following the death of African-American Freddie Gray while in police custody, thousands take to the streets to protest police abuse in Baltimore. The protests are part of a growing movement for black lives that focuses not only on ending police brutality, but addressing the underlying causes of systemic racism that results in most people of color in the United States facing disproportionate negative outcomes in all areas of life.

President Obama vetoes the Keystone XL oil pipeline. The pipeline's construction would have made it easier to move heavily pollutive petroleum from Canadian oil sands. The process of extracting the oil-sands petroleum produces about 17% more planet-warming carbon pollution than conventional oil. Poor communities and communities of color bear the brunt of the impact of global warming and climate change.

2015: 21-year-old Dylann Roof kills nine worshipers at Mother Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C. Roof says the massacre was an attempt to spark a race war.

Women of the United Methodist Tradition 2014–2015

33

2014



2014: At Assembly 2014, public action highlights the racial and economic disparities in West Louisville, Ky. United Methodist Women's "Be Just. Be Green" initiative launches at this Assembly. It outlines 13 Principles to Sustainability that provide practical, theologically sound tools for members to use to address the intersectional realities of gender, racial, economic and climate injustice.

United Methodist Women hosts the International Day of Peace Symposium with powerful speakers, artists and representatives from the United Nations and other organizations focused on how meeting the core human needs of food, water and health is affected by gender, climate insecurity and violent conflict.

2015: United Methodist Women joins organizations from across the nation in the Campaign to End Family Detention, the U.S. government's use of detention for migrant families, including pregnant women and children, many of whom are refugees fleeing war and poverty in Central America.

United Methodist Women Baltimore-Washington Conference organizes a weekend-long racial justice seminar in Blackstone, Va., for the northeast jurisdiction, which includes nine conferences.

United Methodist Women commemorates the 15th anniversary of the unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, which focuses on women's perspectives, needs and concerns during war, peace negotiations and post-conflict reconstruction.

2015

2016: Michigan Governor Rick Snyder declares a state of emergency in Genesee County, where the Flint River was polluted with lead and other toxins by industries not held accountable for their polluting. When residents complained that the poisoned water made them sick, they were misled by state and local officials to believe it was safe. With African-American children suffering from lead poisoning at three times the rate of white children, Flint is a stark example of the rampant nature of environmental racism.

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe mounts a months-long encampment to protest the approved construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline, which would threaten the region's water source and the tribe's sacred burial grounds. The encampment faced severe and ongoing threats and brutality from law enforcement.

Donald J. Trump wins the U.S. presidential election after running a campaign in which he employed racist rhetoric, calling Mexicans rapists and proposing a ban on all Muslims entering the United States.

The number of hate groups in the U.S. rises for a second year as the radical right is energized by the candidacy of Donald J. Trump, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. The most dramatic growth is the near-tripling of the number of anti-Muslim hate groups—from 34 in 2015 to 101 in 2016.

2017: President Trump signs two Executive Orders (13769 and 13780) banning entry of people from seven Muslim majority nations. The orders also seek to begin the dismantling of the entire U.S. refugee program. Federal judges halt these "Muslim bans" on the grounds that they are unconstitutional.

2016

2017

2016: At Leadership Development Days (LDD) trainings, United Methodist Women focuses advocacy action on an effort to stop repression and displacement. United Methodist Women members are called on at LDD and beyond to call banks to demand that they end their funding to the Dakota Access Pipeline.

United Methodist Women mounts an educational effort to inform and mobilize members about the water crisis in Flint, Mich. United Methodist Women members and the broader Methodist community in the Detroit and Flint areas protest and mobilize resources to support the resistance and organize residents.

Racial Justice Charter Support (RJCS) Team convenes for the first time. The team was created to help give Racial Justice Charter committees the concrete tools to meet the urgent internal and external racial justice needs they face on a daily basis. The RJCS Team consists of five two-person teams deliberately designed to be cross-racial in each jurisdiction.

2017: United Methodist Women partners with ecumenical and interfaith partners to challenge the targeting of Muslims.

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Central American refugees in the U.S. Silvia Penado (left) and Mirna Vasquez, refugees from El Salvador, sit in the airport in San Antonio, Texas, on December 2, 2015. With Vasquez is her daughter Catarin.

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Support for Central American refugees in the U.S. Volunteers assemble backpacks and bags of personal items for women and children who've been released from immigration detention facilities in Texas.

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The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose 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.



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