



If Music Be the Food of Love, Play On

The UMW Women's Event
Fairmont Hot Springs Resort
March 3 -5, 2017

WHO should come? YOU! All United Methodist Women, teens and girls, their friends and neighbors are invited to come to Fairmont for RETREAT, RECREATION RENEWAL AND REJOICING.

WHAT is this? The Women's Event is a biennial gathering of United Methodist Women of ALL ages and their friends to explore our faith life, sing, study, reflect and grow. This is a wonderful time to recharge for the coming spring.

"Music is the universal language of all mankind." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Music touches us at the deepest instinctive levels. Pitch, rhythm, tempo, harmony, and melody call forth deep memories and emotions - across cultures, around the world. From the time we are in the womb, listening to our mother's heartbeat and lullabies she hums, we absorb the music of life, and it helps shape us into the person we become. As we learn to speak, the lyrics of songs can teach us how to share and care and help one another, as in songs about Noah, Jesus, and This Little Light of Mine. As we grow and mature, music helps us explore our world and search for identity, and then express ourselves and join in community with others. We use music in protest against injustice, in celebration, and in mourning, and our souls resonate with the rhythms of the seasons and the "harmony of the spheres". We may find ourselves stirred by music into patriotic fervor, comforted by familiar hymns, persuaded to buy a particular product, or even tortured by unfamiliar scales and discordant harmonies. Playing an instrument or singing in a musical group strengthens neural brain connections, and improves motor skills and sensory selectivity. Music can motivate us to exercise, keep us alert through drudgery, and even relieve pain. In our waning years music rekindles fading memories, and may in fact be the last of our senses still active as we complete our life's journey. We are all musical beings, to the core - regardless of how much musical "ability" we may feel we have.

Join us, as we share a musical journey through life!

During this event we will look at Music as a spiritual practice - listening, singing, playing, chanting, praying - as we take time away from "busyness" to be still and hear God.



Meet our leader Dave Merkel, formerly of Huron, South Dakota, currently pastor at Shiloh United Methodist Church, Billings. Dave is a life-long musician, pianist, composer, worship leader and performer. In a quote from his blog Dave states "My relationship with music is multi-dimensional, listening, playing, performing, writing, notating and arranging." His keyboard prowess has led him not only to work as a professional touring musician and in piano bars but also as a well-known performer who has raised over \$60,000 for various area and local charitable organizations not only in Billings but in other cities as well.

Dave's talents and skills have been used in a variety of UMC and UMW events, planning and directing music and worship. As a former on-air broadcaster, he has experience both as a DJ as well as creating and producing voice-over radio advertisements and narrations.

His enthusiasm and heart are evident in his music and songs.

WHERE: Fairmont Hot Springs, Gregson, Montana (near Anaconda). Rooms at the resort accommodate 1 to 4 people with a private bath. For photos, go to www.fairmontmontana.com

WHEN: From Friday evening March 3, 2017 with program beginning at 6:30 p.m. Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. – dinner is on your own and goes through Sunday morning March 5, 2017 ending by noon.

WHAT TO BRING: A Bible, a notebook and pen for a journal, a swimsuit, comfortable clothing, a wrap or a sweater in case the room feels chilly to you.

LODGING: The block of rooms held are all Non-Smoking rooms with 2 Queen Beds in each room. Room reservations must be received by the hotel by noon **February 20, 2017** to receive the special rate of \$124.00 plus tax & TBID per room per night for 1 to 4 persons. The room cost includes pool time.

To **book your room by phone** call **800-332-3272** – tell them you are with the United Methodist Women's Event. Or to **book your room online:**

www.fairmontmontana.com



Click BOOK NOW



Click GROUP TAB



and enter Group ID: 18348 and Password: 345

SCHOLARSHIPS: There is a special effort to increase the number of young UMW women participating so spread the word in your unit and church. Deadline is Feb. 15th to apply. Scholarship applications will be on the UMW webpage: <http://www.yacumc.org/umw>.

We will have time to share with friends new and old and there is always joy when we come together. It will be even better if YOU are there!



REGISTRATION

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Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

March 3 -5, 2017

REGISTRATION FEE: \$125.00 Includes retreat fee, meals, snacks Saturday through breakfast Sunday and most crafts. This does NOT include room fee. Rooms MUST be booked directly through hotel. There will be a special, optional Prayer bead necklace activity that will cost \$10.00 for supplies.

Registration deadline is February 20, 2017 but space is limited!!!

Send a deposit of \$50.00 per person (non –refundable but transferable.)

This amount will be deducted from your total Registration.

Make checks payable to: Yellowstone Conference UMW.

Send your registration form and check to:

Roxanne Roehl 8205 Double Tree Lane Missoula, MT 59804.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Unit: _____

Email: _____

Optional \$10 Prayer Bead Craft Activity: YES NO

Special dietary or mobility needs? Please be detailed so we can accommodate you. _____

Any other special requirements? _____