

May 12, 2019

Mission Moment

United Methodist Women members have a legacy of answering God's call to help those in need. This call has led us to make maternal and child health in our communities and around the world a top priority. Another focus in our work is building peace. Our organization has worked in both areas for 150 years. In fact, those issues led Methodist women to inspire the observance we now call **Mother's Day**.

In the 1860's, Ann Jarvis started "Mother's Clubs" that served the poor, sick mothers and children. Later "Mother's Friendship Day" was founded to build peace after the Civil War ended.

Currently, women play increasingly important roles in church, society and families; women who mother deserve to be honored. It's important to remember that not all women who *mother*... have children, yet their mothering helps others just as much. Many women without children have been inspiring leaders, mentors and surrogate mothers to young people in ways that transform them into mature adults.

Women, especially United Methodist women, serve others in faith, hope and love in their homes, communities and the world with their time and through **Gifts to Mission** every day.

As we celebrate Mother's Day let us pause in gratitude for the treasured women in our lives. Let us celebrate those who mothered and supported us, may it be a day of commitment to be more compassionate in our love of others.