

125 Years of Love, Justice, and Service

Prezi Presentation Script

Instructions for Prezi

1. Download the Prezi file from the following web address:
<http://www.dhmumc.org/downloadables/125-prezi.zip> or
<http://www.dhmumc.org/downloadables/125-prezi-sans-missionary.zip>
2. Unzip the file. Windows 7 and Mac OS X should already have a utility that can do this.
3. Open/Run the program file that matches your operating system. For example, Windows users will double click on "Prezi.exe".
4. A small window will open with the presentation in it. Click the button in the lower right corner to make it full screen. Use space bar or arrow keys to navigate from frame to frame.
Please contact Debbie Pittman (profdpitt@gmail.com) or Myka Stephens (mykaks@gmail.com) if you need assistance

The presentation can also be accessed via Internet, for those occasions when an Internet connection is available at the time and location of the presentation. Go to <http://prezi.com/yijznwrjk9ne/united-methodist-deaconesses-125-years/> or <http://prezi.com/xlvkmjzvafgz/united-methodist-deaconesses-125-years-sans-home-missionary/>

Please feel free to use and/or adapt the following script when giving the presentation. "(tap)" indicates pressing the space bar and what will happen on the screen when you do. The presentation takes approximately 10 minutes with the script as written.

Presentation Script

(tap) In 1888,
(tap) a movement began

Fannie Canfield, Isabelle Reeves, and Evelyn Keeler were three young women of Chicago. Among the first students of the Chicago Training School for City, Home, and Foreign Missions and protégés of Lucy Rider Meyer, these three women and their ministry of house-to-house visits in Chicago's immigrant neighborhoods mark the beginning of a movement that continues today. On May 18, 1888 the all-male General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church approved the establishment of the office of deaconess. Fannie,



Office of Deaconess, Home Missioner, and Home Missionary
United Methodist Women, national office
475 Riverside Drive, 15th floor · New York, NY 10115
Phone: 212-870-3850 · Fax: 212-870-3695
deaconess@unitedmethodistwomen.org

Isabelle, and Evelyn were consecrated on June 5, and later licensed by the Rock River Annual Conference Board of Nine, established to oversee deaconess service, making them the first Methodist deaconesses in the United States. Word of the deaconess movement quickly spread across the country, with much help from the Women's Home Missionary Society who diligently worked to establish deaconess homes in other cities across the Methodist Episcopal Church connection. Within 20 years, the office of deaconess was established and growing in all predecessor churches of the United Methodist Church.

(tap) 125 years

(tap) later, we are:

125 years later, through numerous church unifications and changes in administration, the Office of Deaconess, now joined by the Office of Home Missioner, remains a vital ministry within the United Methodist Church. For six generations deaconesses have stayed on the cutting-edge of ministry, serving in the borderlands between church and society.

(tap) a vibrant community

Today we are a vibrant community, diverse in our backgrounds, geographic locations, and ministries.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Olma Garibay]

We place a strong emphasis on community; while we are serving across the United States, we remain in covenant connection with one another, praying for and supporting one another through social media, regular newsletters, and biennial gatherings. Our community is rooted in Scripture, informed by history, driven by mission, ecumenical in scope, and global in outreach.

(tap)(tap) of strong

Deaconesses and home missioners are strong; strong in faith, strong in call, and strong in spirit. Our strength sustains us in our ministries, and supports us through a lifetime of discernment of God's call in our lives.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Fran Lynch]

It was this kind of strength that guided Deaconess Fran Lynch to ministry in rural Alaska, leaving her friends, family, and familiarity of life in the Southeast. Fran's strength carries

her through each day as she cares for the people of the Willow and Anvik communities, assisting impoverished families and those in need.

(tap)(tap) bold

We are bold. For many deaconesses and home missionaries, the call to ministry requires a pioneering spirit. It means making a way and forging a new path to embody the church in the world.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Valerie Mossman-Celestin in Haiti with HAPI staff]

Deaconess Valerie Mossman-Celestin took bold initiative to establish Haitian Artisans for Peace, International, or HAPI for short. Especially in the wake of the earthquakes that devastated Haiti in 2010, Valerie saw the need for a ministry that would help the Haitian people to sustain themselves. HAPI strives to do just that, promoting gender equality by empowering women with microfinance loans and fair-trade marketing of their crafts.

(tap)(tap) courageous

We are courageous. It takes courage to be in ministry on the edges of society, to stand with those whose rights are infringed upon.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Marian Martin]

Now retired deaconess Marian Martin brought courage to her ministry, Gulfside Assembly in Waveland, Mississippi, where African Americans in that community could find support and seek refuge. And it was with courage that she faced the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, picking up the pieces and finding a way for that ministry to move forward.

(tap)(tap) compassionate

We are compassionate. Care of neighbor has been an integral part of deaconess and home missionary ministry since the beginning of the movement.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Judy Poole]

Deaconess Judy Poole shows great compassion for the clients of the McCoy Adult Day Care Center in Birmingham, AL. For these older adults, McCoy is the place they can go to be around others, be involved in activities, and socialize. It is also a place where caregivers can find support and relief. Judy approaches her role as executive director with compassion and care, as she considers all the needs of those who come to the center.

(tap)(tap) gutsy

We are gutsy. It takes guts to take a stand on difficult issues. And it takes guts to act on faith.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Cindy Johnson]

Living on the U.S.-Mexico border, Deaconess Cindy Johnson takes a stand in support of immigration reform, and organizes her community to fight the construction of a border wall in Texas. She understands the hardships and difficulties of those in her community affected by the border wall, and she advocates on their behalf to our elected leaders.

(tap)(tap) and visionary

We are visionary. In a constantly changing society, our ministries must be able to adapt and adjust so that we may continue to meet the needs of our communities. We must be able to envision a future without suffering and where injustice has been eradicated, so that we may develop and shape ministries that will bring about that future of hope and promise.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Gary Locklear]

Home Missioner Gary Locklear uses his vision to lead volunteer work teams to repair and renovate houses and buildings in rural North Carolina, creating safe and comfortable homes for those at the margins.

(tap)(tap) deaconesses

We are deaconesses,

(tap)(tap) [picture of three deaconesses]

... lay women whose diverse forms of service strive to fulfill the mandates of Christ: to alleviate suffering; to eradicate causes of injustice and all that robs life of dignity and worth; to facilitate the development of full human potential; and to share in building global community through the church universal.

(tap)(tap) home missionaries

We are home missionaries,

(tap)(tap) [picture of Scott Vickery]

... lay men who share the same call to servant ministry. The Office of Home Missioner was established in 2004, providing men with equal opportunity to serve in the ministry of the lay diaconate.

<p>(tap)(tap) and home missionaries And we include in our community home missionaries, who came into the United Methodist Church from several previous offices, including those from the Evangelical United Brethren Church.</p>	<p><i>For presentations including home missionaries.</i></p>
<p>(tap)(tap)[picture of Linda Muterspaugh] These home missionaries made a similar commitment to a lifetime of servant ministry, and became a part of the deaconess community during the 1968 merger. While it is no longer possible to become a home missionary, we value our home missionaries, both active and retired, and respect their years of service.</p>	<p><i>The presentation sans home missionary should omit this part of the script.</i></p>

(tap)(tap) who are called and consecrated
Deaconesses and home missionaries are first and foremost called by God to be engaged in a lifetime of servant ministry. This call is recognized by consecration ...

(tap)(tap) [picture of consecration at GC2012]
– the act of the laying-on of hands by a bishop, setting this person apart for ministry in their field of labor. Once consecrated, the deaconess or home missionary is commissioned and appointed to their ministry.

(tap)(tap) lay professionals
Deaconesses and home missionaries are lay professionals, maintaining membership in their local church and are also lay members of their annual conference.

(tap)(tap) [picture of Juliet Choi]
Professional training, education, and/or certification for the ministries to which we are called, is a requirement for consecration. We also take courses in Scripture and Theology, as well as United Methodist history, polity, and doctrine.

(tap)(tap) in cutting-edge ministries of
Just as the deaconess movement began with cutting-edge urban ministries with immigrants, the sick and the poor, deaconesses and home missionaries today still engage in emerging and innovative ministries. Our vision for the movement is to be a prophetic voice for love, justice, and service so that all may experience abundant life. Our ministries

encompass a wide range of social justice concerns including environmental justice, immigration, poverty, homelessness, peace with justice, refugees, women and children, youth and families, and senior adults.

(tap) Love

(tap) Justice

(tap) & Service

Deaconesses and Home Missioners are appointed to full-time ministries of love, justice, and service in a church-related vocation or helping profession. We currently serve in a diversity of contexts including prisons, healthcare facilities, schools and universities, church agencies, shelters, and community centers.

(tap)(tap) [zoomed out logo]

125 years into the deaconess movement, deaconesses and home missioners remain committed to answering God's call to ministries of love, justice, and service. With your support, we can see the movement flourish for another six generations.

(tap) visit unitedmethodistwomen.org to learn more

We invite you to visit the website of United Methodist Women to learn more about the Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner. You will find information about deaconesses and home missioners serving near you and also dates for our upcoming discernment events for those discerning a call to ministry.