

**The Ladies Groups of UEC were first started in 1873.**

In 1873 the Canton neighborhood around the church was mostly made up of persons of German descent. The German United Evangelical Church began as a school house on the corners of East Avenue and Dillon Street. This school was started to teach the children the English language. A preacher was also added to have services in German. At this time the first Women's Group was founded, named the Ladies Aid Society. In 1915 the Society purchased the picture of "Christ Walking the Galilean Sea" which was on the wall at the back of the altar. In 1923, as the group grew, they also purchased the oak floors and new carpet for the church. Through the years the Ladies Aid Society helped support the Lord's Supper Tableau (60 years), sour beef suppers, oyster dinners, bake sales, altar linens, drapes, and many other necessary items.

**In 1944 the Young Women's Guild (YWG) was formed.**

This group was for women 18 years of age and older. Some women joined both groups as there was one evening meeting and one daytime meeting. The YWG continued the support for the church. They were involved with many activities including the mother-daughter banquets; flea markets; Tom Thumb Weddings (1977-78); and many Lenten activities including codfish cake sales, homemade donuts, and bake sales. The YWG cooked for the father-son banquets and the men cooked for the mother-daughter banquets. The YWG also started the first Girl Scout Troop at United (Brownies and Junior Girl Scouts, ages 6-12). This group also purchased many items needed to support the church. In 1957 our new church was dedicated. In about 1990, the Ladies Aid Society and the YWG continued as one group.

**In 2002 The Ladies Organization of UEC was formed.**

In 2002 the group was still meeting but decided they needed to change names. About this time another generation of women was retiring from their jobs and decided to form a new group. The new name of the group was the "Ladies Organization of UEC." Our activities were able to support the church. We held flea markets, strawberry festivals, teas, and continued to work with the Lord's Supper Tableau and St. Patrick Day Luncheon.

All three groups met to share God's words through devotions, social get togethers, planning activities for church members and families, and sponsoring activities that could support United in all ways. In 2002 our Ladies Organization numbered 31 members. Along with the Ladies Aid Society and the YWG, our Ladies Org. supported and helped the church in many ways. For about 40 years all the groups participated in attending the Frederick Faith United Church's Oyster, Ham, and Turkey Luncheons in April and November.

**In 2015 the Ladies Organization of UEC closed.**

Our church women mostly hold jobs and are unable to attend daytime meetings. The remaining funds in the treasury were used to move, tune, and purchase a dolly to move the grand piano that was donated to the church. If you talk with our Ladies, they can tell you about each group because our stories and memories of our time spent have travelled from grandmother to mother to daughter. Hopefully, we will be able to start an evening or Sunday afternoon group for the Ladies of the church to get together once a month for devotions, fun, and fellowship.