



# DEMOPOLIS DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

September 5, 2016



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Dear UMW Sisters,

We're almost to the end of another year and beginning to make plans for next year.....

As you may remember our local unit reports and finances are now due by November 30<sup>th</sup> this year and not at the end of August like previous years. The only report that local units need to return is the Consolidated President's Report (CPR) and the Treasurer's Forms for all monies collected that are sent to the District for the five areas of giving, Call to Prayer, and the Conference Specials. The time frame for the reports is from September last year until the end of November this year. Next year, it will be from January to November. Any monies or activities done in December should be included in your next year's report. Many of you have not sent in any monies to date and I urge you to do so as soon as you can. Waiting until the very end makes it much more stressful on our treasurer to get all her monies into the Conference. Special Recognition Pins take weeks to receive after you send to our district treasurer. We have a pledge to honor and our district is counting on you to fulfill your part.

Within this issue you will see our slate of district officers for the 2017 year. These will be voted on at our Fall Social Action on October 8<sup>th</sup> in Greensboro. These ladies listed have graciously accepted this calling that has been placed on their hearts and I hope that you will give them the support and love needed to fulfill their responsibilities. I have been nominated to serve as the Alabama West Florida Conference as our treasurer. The conference elections will be held at the Conference Fall Social Action event on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at Blue Lake. I hope that you will try to attend each of these events, not only for the great speakers that we will have, but to elect our officers for each area. Our district needs your individual participation in these events to make an effective organization and equal representation.

This month we had a great mission study in Thomasville on Latin America that was done by Susan Hunt, a Deaconess and a member of our AWFC staff. We had 35 in attendance from eight local units. You will also have an opportunity to attend another mission study-- this one is on **The Pursuit of Happiness** conducted by Rev. Dawn Bond and our Conference MNO Coordinator Tutti Johnson. It will be held at the Linden United Methodist Church with Jefferson UMW hosting on Saturday, Sept.10.

One of the criteria for being a Mission Today unit is the unit's participation in a mission study. But more than being just an item to check-off for the award, you gain so much from the classes. Education is one of our goals of being a United Methodist Woman for without it we can't learn, change or grow.

Don't forget to bring your supplies for the Sybil Smith Village at Dumas Wesley to our Fall event in Greensboro. Zion UMW has graciously volunteered to take the items to Mobile for us. Dumas Wesley, an agency of the United Methodist Church, has had its federal funding dramatically cut this year. This directly affects the Sybil Smith Village. Please help us support this UMW national agency here in our own backyard.

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If you need a form or want to know how to do a specific local office, please go to our Conference website <http://www.awf-umw.org/> where you can download all forms and the workbook. We are in the process of updating this information for next year and if you have any suggestions, I urge you to send them to me. Feedback is the key to success and change.

Thanks for all you each do to make our United Methodist Women units the hands and feet of our Lord. If you need help.....just call, email or write.....I'm here for you.

*Jean*



*In loving memory  
of*

*Elaine Chapman*

*Betty Milstead*

*Allison Wetherbee*

During this past summer our Demopolis District UMW lost two women dear to our hearts and faithful workers in their local church. Over the years, Betty Milstead had served on the district level in various offices, and Elaine Chapman was to be our district treasurer in the coming year. Although Allison Wetherbee was not a United Methodist Woman, she was our inspirational speaker at our Day Apart district meeting in Camden. We honor these women in this newsletter and thank God for their lives lived well in our midst.



## Committee on Nominations

Chairperson: Kathy Patterson, Jefferson UMC

Members: Lou Webb (Butler 1<sup>st</sup> UMC), Eleanor Brooker (Demopolis 1<sup>st</sup>), Faye Tyree ( ), Nan Dunn (Jefferson UMC), Bobbie Samac (Pine Hill UMC)

Officers to be elected and their years to serve are:

**President (2), Treasurer (1), Secretary (2), Communications (2), Spiritual Growth and Education (1), MNO and Social Action (1).**

Those we will vote/install will be:

**President:** Margaret Agee    **Treasurer:** Elaine Jonakin    **Secretary:** Peggy Givens

**Membership, Nurture, & Outreach/Social Action:** Tracye Kennie

**Education & Interpretation/Spiritual Growth:** Kayte Melton

**Communications:** Paula Bonner



## Introducing our officers . . .

Margaret Agee is a member of the Kimbrough UMC, part of the Pine Hill Charge. She is married to Kennon Agee, has two grown sons, and is a retired employee of the First U.S. Bank in Thomasville, AL. Margaret joined UMW in 2005 and has held several offices both in her local unit and in the Demopolis District. Besides her work with UMW, she has taught both children and adults in Sunday School, and is a member of the Friday Afternoon Club, the Quilting Club, the Oak Hill Supper Club, and the Garden Club.

Peggy Givens is a member of Butler First UMC. She is married to Mike Givens, and they have two daughters and three grandchildren. Peggy works with her husband at his surveying company. She is president of her local UMW unit and has served as our district UMW secretary.

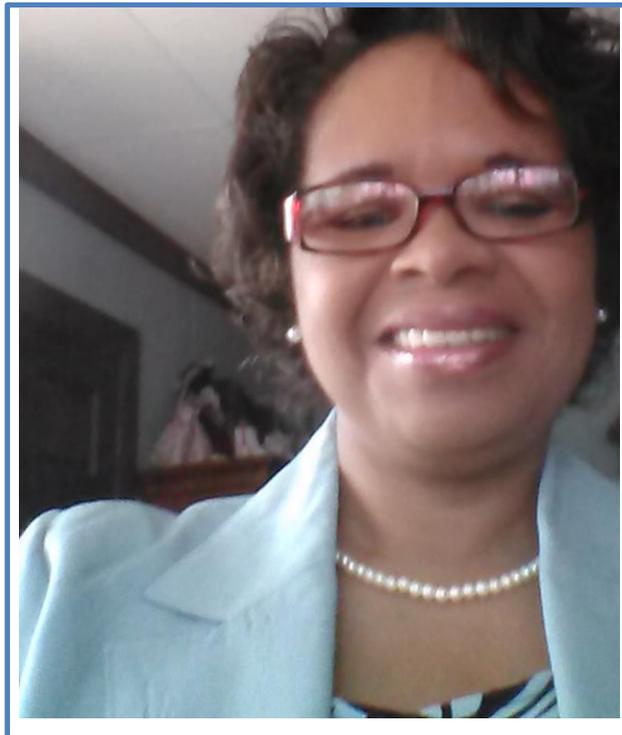
Kayte Melton is a member of Demopolis First UMC. She has been married to Thomas Melton for 58 years and has two grown daughters. Kate is a retired teacher, but has held numerous offices in both her local UMW unit and in the Demopolis District.



## **Introducing our officers . . .con't.**

Tracye Kennie is a native of Mansfield, Ohio and a resident of Alabama for the past 22 years. She and her husband, Stanley, have 8 adult children and 16 grandchildren with #17 expected in early February, 2017! Tracye is an active member of Zion UMC in Marion. She is employed by UAB Hospital as an Office Services Specialist III and serves on the UAB Benevolent Fund Campaign. Tracye is also a member of the Ladies Progressive Club in Marion which is a women's group which gives back to the community in various ways, but the most significant way being educational scholarships for the youth in Marion.

Paula Bonner grew up in Ft. Walton Beach, FL but refers to Alabama as her 'real' home. She is married to John, and they have served in the ministry since 1972-1978 in the North Georgia Conference and from the Fall of 1978 to the present in the Alabama/West Florida Conference. They have a daughter in Michigan with their only two grandchildren and a son who lives in Tuscaloosa with their two "granddogs".



Tracye is our newest officer to come on board the Demopolis District UMW.



## Latin America Study

Susan Hunt (above)  
Our Facilitator

Members from  
Butler (top right)

Pine Hill and  
Thomasville  
members

Members from  
Jefferson (bottom  
right)

Following page:  
Members of Zion,  
Demopolis 1<sup>st</sup>, &  
Thomasville UMW





## Calendar of Events



<p>Sept. 10</p>	<p><b>Demopolis District UMW Study</b></p> <p>“In the Pursuit of Happiness” presented by Rev. Bond and Tutti Johnson</p>	<p>Linden UMC Hosted by Jefferson UMW</p> <p><b>Registration: 9:00</b> <b>Program: 9:30</b></p>
<p>Oct. 8</p>	<p><b>Demopolis District Social Action Event</b></p> <p>Bring all items collected for Dumas Wesley Sybil Smith Village</p> <p><b>Speaker: Representative from Camille Place</b></p>	<p>Greensboro UMC Hosted by Greensboro UMW</p> <p><b>Registration: 9:00</b> <b>Program: 9:30</b></p>
<p>Oct. 21-22</p>	<p><b>AWFC UMW Officer Training (Pre Conference)</b></p>	<p>Blue Lake Assembly AWFC UMW Fall Social Action Event Focus: Mass Incarceration &amp; Maternal Health</p> <p><b><u>Registration Deadline: 10/16</u></b> <b>Speakers: Dawn Hare &amp; Hardy Tyler</b></p>



### Treasurer's Report

A reminder for all treasurers that you need to order your "Special Recognition" pins early so that you will have them available for your membership. Also, purchase some Prayer Calendars from the Resource Center so that your unit might get inspired to visit a mission. Who knows what ideas could come from that experience. . . . . ?



## Demopolis District United Methodist Women on the Road!!

Several UMW Units in the Demopolis District have taken field trips this summer and are full of amazing stories of God's grace as women, children, and youth are being transformed not only in their spiritual lives but in their self-esteem, their discovery of their personal gifts they can use and share with others. Come hear their stories of the visitations to the Lovelady Center in Birmingham and the Sybil Smith Center in Mobile, and see how awesome it is to meet individuals whose lives have been judged by society as "hopeless," "worthless," "no-good drug addict," etc. and hear their powerful stories of healing and redemption that only God offers. Their stories place you firmly on "holy ground." Soooooo, maybe in the next newsletter, I will have learned how to put all the pictures I've been given by these units, and you'll get an idea of what "heaven on earth" looks like! Call someone in the Jefferson Unit or Pine Hill Unit and gather your gals together and hit the road for some really inspiring adventures!