



The Informer

Mobile District United Methodist Women Newsletter
August 2016

MOBILE DISTRICT MISSION TEAM 2016

President

Debbie Bell

Vice President

Barbara Carroll

Secretary

Michele Smith

Treasurer

Kathy Ulmer

Program Resource

Bobbi Ferguson

Communications

Judy Burnham

Mission Coordinators

Education and Interpretation

Sylvia McCaskill

Membership Nurture Outreach

Nancy Brumfield

Social Action

Vanessa Shoots

Spiritual Growth

Gail Bradford

Committee on Nominations
Chair

Valerie McWilliams

Class of 2016

Betty Ewbank

Jamie Blake

Class of 2017

Nettie Lang

Linda Ferguson

Class of 2018

Martha Teasley

Mary Gipson

Joanne Myers

A Message from the President

Impact: Presidential Conventions, Racial Tension, Citizen and Police shootings, Terrorists act out their hate for “infidels”, record heat indexes, thousands of acres burned of all vegetation, Bayway backups; these news reports capture our attention and our emotions. We try turning off the TV, but the issues are still there, we’ve just got to change our listening ear for a more excellent “*voice to hear*” just as a beautiful song is heard. Laura Story sings a song, Blessings; “*we pray for blessings, we pray for peace, comfort for family, protection while we sleep; we pray for healing, for prosperity; we pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering; and all the while, You hear each spoken need, yet love us way too much to give us lesser things.*” We can’t be fearful and allow these “giants” more power over our lives than our Heavenly Father.

As we moved into the second quarter we finished the business of electing our jurisdictional leaders, two who just happen to be Alabama/West Florida Conference UMW members/leaders; namely, Betty Helms elected as the SEJ President and Clara Ester elected as a National Director. We commend these two women for their service to United Methodist Women. We also recognize our AWF-UMW Conference President, Lynn Hamric, for receiving the Suzanna Wesley Award.

Now, comes the third quarter. School starts back and the sultry summer begins to ease, just a bit!

We’ll meet together again in September to nominate and elect and install some other new officers to help guide and direct our Love in Action; our 2016 Mobile District plans for our Fall Event at St. Mark on September 17th is where you can Fellowship with other Local Unit members. Please be in prayer for the many teachers, students, administrative persons in our Mobile County Public School System. Mostly, remember the parents who will juggle school event schedules and a home life, and get in their work schedule too. Please continue to address social injustices that impact women, children and youth.

Please visit our Mobile UMW website, which has access to our Conference website for your convenience. <http://www.awf-umw.org/mobile.html>

Debbie Bell

Mobile District, UMW President
251-232-6898 or 251-649-4772
mawbel36575@yahoo.com



UMW Calendar

District Dates

Sept 17 – District Annual Day,
10am, St. Mark UMC

Conference Dates

Oct 21-22 – Fall UMW Event –
Blue Lake

Feb 10-11, 2017 – Conference
Annual Day, Blue Lake

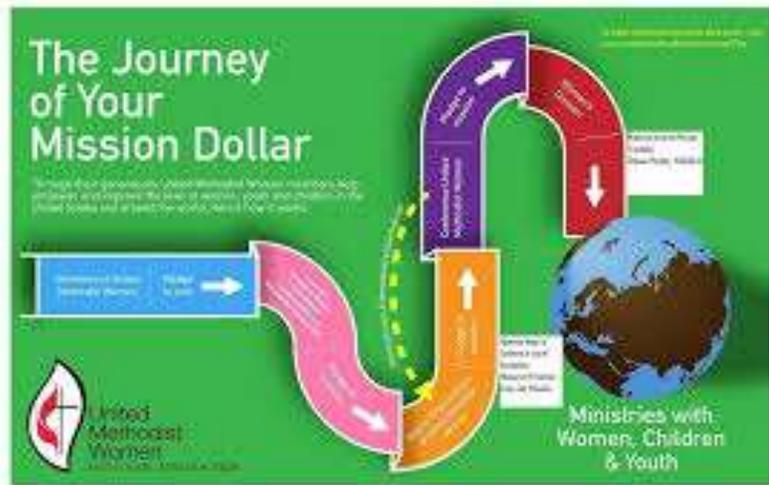
Oct 20-22, 2017 Spiritual
Enrichment Retreat, Blue Lake

Other Dates

Nov 13 – UMW Sunday in local
churches

AWF Conference Special Mission Agencies

- [Blue Lake United Methodist Campground](#)
- [Hispanic Ministries](#)
- [Dumas Wesley Community Center](#)
- [Save Kids of Incarcerated Parents \(SKIP\)](#)
- [Nellie Burge Community Center](#)
- Mobile Inner City Mission - Metro Ministries



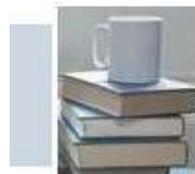
Purpose

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Just a reminder to all Circle Chairs and local Secretaries of Program Resources. Participants in the reading program have an extended time this year to complete the plans they have chosen for the 2016 year. Count books read from August 2015 through October 31, 2016. Please send participants names and information to me no later than November 15, 2016.

Two books that I would like to suggest for reading this year are: Just Mercy, by Brian Stevenson and Miss Brenda and the Loveladies, by Brenda Spahn and Irene Zutell. Both are true stories and both are Alabama stories.

Bobbi Ferguson
District Secretary of Program Resources



UMW
Reading Program

UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR: THE DATE FOR DISTRICT BOLD FAITH DAY HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 10:00 AM ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 AT ST. MARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please be reminded

- ALL UNITS are requested to be in attendance – Presidents give your attendance count to St. Mark as soon as possible
- Bring your (small) Unit Flag or Banner and if possible, wear something that identifies you as a unit, ex: tee shirt or scarf
- Bring \$2.00 each (or more) –instead of can goods for Dumas Wesley and Inner City Mission (a regular offering will also be collected)
- Photo opportunities will be available for your unit scrapbooks
- Come prepared to celebrate accomplishments and give recognitions
- Come prepared for nomination, vote and installation of 2017 District Officers
- Come prepared to receive 2016 District Reports
- Come prepared to receive goals and objectives for 2017
- Come prepared to receive calendar events and activity dates for 2017
- Come prepared for up-to-date information on Social Issues being addressed by UMW presented by our Conference Social Action Coordinator, Zan Jones
- Come prepared to thank our out-going District President, Debbie Bell, for her dedicated devotion and service
- Come prepared to meet, greet and fellowship with your UMW Sisters

See you there.....
Barbara Carroll

Spiritual Enrichment

At this time of year, Spiritual Enrichment needs to make sure that you are on target with the Response Moments and use of the Prayer Calendar in your meetings. Work with your Program Resources Coordinator to make sure the Response Magazine and Prayer Calendar are available. The current year (2016) Calendar is often on sale at this time of year. If you have not been using the Prayer calendar, take this opportunity to use it for the rest of the year. Send cards to missionaries when they are on the Prayer Calendar. It very encouraging to the missionaries. We know that sending cards to the missionaries can sometime be frustrating because the cards often come back for lack of the correct address. The President at Saraland, Patricia Hopper, uses electronic mail if that address is available. If it was returned after using the address in the Prayer Calendar, I have had success in send cards to the agency a missionary works for. I have found these by looking the agency up on the internet.

For those of you that are early planners, it is the Spiritual Enrichment Coordinators responsibility to make sure the World Thank Program is held. The Coordinator does not have to conduct the program, just ensure that it is held.

Lastly, soon the District may have more information about cards for the Pledge to Missions. This should help make it easier to send these cards more often.

Gail Bradford
Spiritual Enrichment

**Following the Call – The Southeast Jurisdiction Gives to the Legacy Fund
Members raise \$9,000 in 48 hours for the Legacy Fund.**

For United Methodist Women, 1869 is more than just a number. It is the year that United Methodist Women's precursor organization was founded, and at the recent SEJ meeting, it became a fitting number for donating to the Legacy Fund.

As United Methodist Women asks members and friends to support the work we do for women and children, it is important that we as an organization do the same. So when the opportunity arose to pay it forward at the Southeast Jurisdiction quadrennial meeting, United Methodist Women President Yvette Richards was one of the first to donate.

The Southeast Jurisdiction is the largest jurisdiction of United Methodist Women, and it was meeting to elect new leadership teams as well as new United Methodist Women directors. During a Friday afternoon workshop, an attendee suggested that every member donate \$18.69 to the Legacy Fund. Two days later, \$9,000 was raised!

When asked what led to this outpouring of generosity, Richards said that members are "inspired by United Methodist Women's commitment to children and youth. They gave to the Legacy Fund knowing it will carry that work into the future. They want to help create more than the 150 mission institutions we already have, and want to take our four priorities to the next level. They understand the seriousness of the work that we do."

This work never ends, and Richards is looking forward to repeating the call for donating \$18.69 to the Legacy Fund at other upcoming jurisdictional meetings.

Raising \$9,000 in less than 48 hours—now that's making it happen! If you would like to donate to the Legacy Fund, visit the donation page, <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund>

Posted or updated: 6/10/2016 11:00:00 PM,
<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/southeast-jurisdiction-gives-to-legacy-fund>

If you receive the Informer by postal mail and have an email address, please send it to Judy Burnham, burnham@comcast.net. Money spent on photocopies and postage can then be donated to missions.

Because of health issues, Carolyn Lee will no longer be able to continue in her role as District Treasurer. Kathy Ulmer has agreed to complete Carolyn's term. Please keep Carolyn in your prayers as her health improves and Kathy in your prayers as she assumes this new role.

As United Methodist Women, we are faith, hope and love in action.

FAITH --Thousands of women participate in our reading programs and educational opportunities annually to grow spiritually, become more deeply rooted in Christ, and put faith into action.

HOPE --Our national mission institutions empower women, care for children, educate and equip youth, care for the neglected, advocate for social justice issues, create economic opportunities, and strengthen neighborhoods.

LOVE--Our members give out of their love for the world and provide financial support for national mission institutions, higher education scholarships for international students, and 121 programs taking place in 110 countries.

ACTION--United Methodist Women members' voices are heard around the world as they call for justice on issues such as immigration, human trafficking, domestic violence, health care and the environment.

G. Each member of the local unit may give **\$2.00** per year to supplement the Administration and Membership Development expenses.

H. The conference organization may support the Blue Lake Project. Funds for Blue Lake may be secured through the asking of **\$2.00** per year.

I. Each member of the local unit may give twenty-five cents (**.25**) per year for Assembly/Jurisdiction love offering.

IX. SPECIALS

A \$5.50 special per member may be paid each year.

1. Seventy-five cents (**1.50**) of this amount shall be given to Dumas Wesley Community Center in Mobile, Alabama;
2. Seventy-five cents (**.75**) of this amount shall be given to Nellie Burge Community Center in Montgomery, Alabama;
3. Seventy-five cents (**.75**) of this amount shall be given to United Methodist Inner City Mission in Mobile, Alabama;
4. Seventy-five cents (**.75**) of this amount shall be given to SKIP, Inc. in Montgomery, Alabama;
5. Seventy-five cents (**.75**) of this amount shall be given to Hispanic Ministries within the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church.
6. One dollar (**1.00**) of this amount shall be for the support of Mission u.

[above this line is copied from the AWF-UMW Conference Directory]

Conference Specials

Dumas Wesley Community Center	1.50
Nellie Burge Community Center	.75
Mobile Inner City Mission	.75
Save Kids of Incarcerated Parents (SKIP)	.75
Hispanic Ministries	.75
Administrative & Membership Development Fund	\$2.00
Blue Lake	\$2.00
Mission u	\$1.00
Total Specials	\$9.50

[Many Units add their Love Offerings into this category]

Love Offerings

Assembly/Jurisdiction Love Offering	.25
Conference Love Offering	.25
District Love Offering	.25

Specials Plus Love Offerings **\$10.25**

At some time in the past, you may have known "Specials" as "askings", these are the same "Funds" requested each year from the Conference and they now total \$10.25, as of 2016. Conference Specials and Love offerings are based on an estimated total membership of your Unit. Amounts paid will vary slightly based on actual "total" membership.

THESE SPECIALS ARE SEPARATE FROM PLEDGE TO MISSIONS TOTALS GOAL OF \$20,000.00.

Local Unit Treasurers, Please begin to correspond with our Ad Interim Treasurer, Kathy Ulmer, for the remaining 2016 year. Due to personal/illness, Carolyn Lee is unable to continue in these duties for our UMW District Finances. Kathy Ulmer's contact info is:

6014 St. Gallen S / Mobile, Al. 36608 / ulmer5@comcast.net / 251-545-6438

Below are current funds recorded for Local Units that have responded with Quarterly remittance forms. Notice the columns only report current total Pledge to Missions And Specials; our 2016 Pledge to Conference is \$20,000.00. Continue to help our Mobile District reach our goal this year. Each Unit/member pledges funds directly to the District Treasurer to Journey to the National table for grants to the many agencies we support.

Please note, "other" funds you've sent may not show in this "brief report".

August 2016, Submit by D. Bell

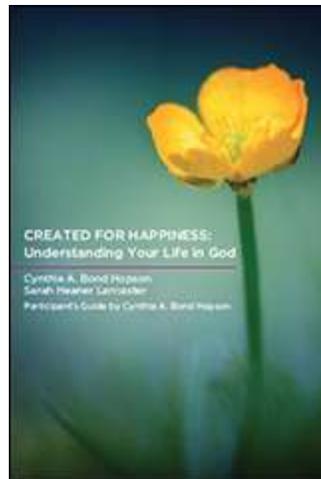
<u>Pledge per Unit</u> <u>Info to-date</u>	<u>Total Pledge</u> <u>to Missions</u>	<u>Specials</u>	<u>Grand</u> <u>Total</u>
Chickasaw	607.25	87.75	695.00
Christ	5073.00	1,066.00	6139.00
Citronelle	218.75	102.50	321.25
Dauphin Way	1098.50	214.75	1,313.25
Forest Hill	1,084.00	215.25	1,299.25
Grand Bay	581.50	174.25	755.75
Kingswood	340.00	325.50	665.50
New Life	254.10	51.25	305.35
Pine Grove	115.00	9.75	124.75
Saraland	1210.04	427.00	1637.04
South Brookley	1,050.00	97.50	1,147.50
Springhill Ave.	216.51	205.00	421.51
St. John	50.00	92.25	142.25
St. Mark	668.69	10.25	678.94
Theodore	1,250.00	292.50	1,542.50
Theodore 1st	70.50		70.50
T-W St.	701.00	189.80	890.80
Totals	(RECEIVED) \$14,588.84	\$3,561.30	\$18,150.14
	(GOAL) \$20,000.00	\$5688.75	

AWFC MOBILE DISTRICT MISSION STUDY
“CREATED FOR HAPPINESS”
UNDERSTANDING YOUR LIFE IN GOD

Hosted by

TOULMINVILLE WARREN STREET
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

STUDY LEADER: CLARA ESTER, UMW DIRECTOR



Saturday, August 13, 2016

10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

TOULMINVILLE-WARREN STREET UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH

2271 ST. STEPHENS ROAD MOBILE, AL 36617

RSVP to Geneva Hogan @ 251-300-9513 by August 6, 2016

Lunch will be served

Study Book: Created For Happiness

Authors: Cynthia A Bonds & Sarah Heaner Lancaster

TALENT BANK INFORMATION ON PROSPECTIVE UMW LEADERSHIP

(To be completed by prospective leader) Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Home: _____

Work: _____

Email: _____

Local Church: _____

District: _____

Age: ____ 20's ____ 30's ____ 40's ____ 50's ____ 60's ____ 70's ____ 80's+

Languages Spoken _____

Racial/Ethnic Group _____

Professional skills, job experience: _____

Office(s) held in United Methodist Women:

Office(s)	Dates of Service	Local	District	Conference	Jurisdiction
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_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Additional Experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Methodist Women) or in the community: _____

Special Talents or Skills:

Areas of Special Interest or Concern:

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> secretarial | <input type="checkbox"/> recruiting members | <input type="checkbox"/> publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> communication | <input type="checkbox"/> social issues | <input type="checkbox"/> workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> computer | <input type="checkbox"/> creativity | <input type="checkbox"/> newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> accounting/bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> recording minutes | <input type="checkbox"/> retreats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> organization of details | <input type="checkbox"/> public policy | <input type="checkbox"/> music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> nominations | <input type="checkbox"/> public relations | <input type="checkbox"/> youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> program planning | <input type="checkbox"/> community building | <input type="checkbox"/> children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> administration | <input type="checkbox"/> Inclusiveness/pluralism | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) _____ | | |

Which office(s) on the Conference United Methodist Women's Team would you most like to hold given the opportunity to serve?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Nurture & Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Growth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair of Nominations | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Interpretation | |

Why are you interested in this position and what qualifications do you feel you have for your office(s) of choice? _____

Would you be able to use your gifts and talents to uphold and strengthen United Methodist Women through the PURPOSE of the organization? _____

Is it possible for you to be away from your home or employment for (Yes or No):

Full day _____ Weekend _____ Extended Time _____

_____ I am sorry but I am unable to accept an office this year. Please keep my name on file and contact me in _____.

You may send your completed Talent Bank Form as an attachment emailed to the Mobile District Nominations Chair, Valerie McWilliams



The 2016 meeting of the Southeastern Jurisdictional (SEJ) United Methodist Women was held June 3-5, 2016, in Charleston, South Carolina. The theme was, "A Fresh Wind Blowing." At this meeting, Clara Ester of Toulminville-Warren Street UMC was elected to the UMW Board of Directors. She was a delegate to 2016 General and Jurisdictional Conference and has also served in numerous district and conference roles. She is an active lay servant minister and a retired deaconess. We give thanks to God for the various ways Clara has served the Lord and the UMW.

Mobile District UMW
c/o 3726 Bay Front Rd
Mobile, AL 36605
"Return Service Requested."