



Demopolis District United Methodist Women *The Link*



January 28, 2017



Table of Contents

President's Letter,
p. 1-2

Calendar of Events,
p. 3

**Horseshoe Farms: A
Preview of our
February Meeting**
p. 4

**Treasurer's End of
Year Report, p.5**

**Demopolis District
United Methodist
Women on the
Road! p. 6**

Lovelady Pictures
p. 7

**Conference Health
Form, p. 8**

**Conference Annual
Day Registration
Form, please go to
AWFCUMW.ORG to
print out your copy**

**Conference Dates &
District Officers,**
p. 9

Points from the President's Pen

As we begin the 2017 New Year and also a new Quadrennial of 2017 through 2020. The United Methodist Women's theme is "Faith, Hope, and Love in Action." That after all, is what UMW is all about; these are words that have sustained us for 150 years. In our Conference and District Meetings we will be promoting a part of this theme each year throughout the quadrennial. In 2017 we will be highlighting the theme of "**FAITH**"; in 2018 "**HOPE**"; in 2019 "**LOVE in ACTION**"; leading up to 2020 when we will be celebrating our **150th Anniversary**.

In quoting our Conference President, Debbie Bell:

"We present the 2017 annual theme and support scripture:

Faith . . .

' . . . of greater worth than gold. . ' 1 Peter 1:7" (NLT)

Not only did we experience a year of transitioning in 2016, but our new year of 2017 brings us into the year of change! We will now be on the calendar year in all of our activities and giving. Our first **District Annual Day** in the calendar year will be February 4, 2017 at **Demopolis First UMC** with registration at 9:00 and the program beginning at 9:30 and Beverly Sanders, our Vice-President, facilitating. We will review what we have done and recognize those who have been busy throughout the year serving women, children, and youth. Awards can be picked up after the meeting. Our **Memorial Service** will be conducted by our outgoing Membership Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator, Memie Mitchell. At the end of 2017 you will send your listing of "Deceased UMW members" to Tracye Kennie who is our incoming MNO. Our speaker will be **Dr. John Dorsey** of **Horseshoe Farms in Greensboro, AL**. We will also be doing our updated **TRAINING** of officers of the local units and district. This in-depth training is specifically for your officers, but others from your unit are encouraged to be a part of celebrating the women who are no longer with us and to learn about the mission of Horseshoe Farms. This training will be facilitated by the President, Margaret Agee with the help of the Conference Treasurer, Jean Creswell and other Conference Officers in our district. We will have the updated **Demopolis District UMW Workbooks to hand out at the Annual Day Training session**. We invite questions. ALL questions are relevant; someone else may be having the same problem!

Points from the President's Pen, cont.

Also in 2017, we will also have a change in the **Spiritual Day Apart** which usually occurs in the spring of the year. This special meeting will be held **October 7, 2017** at **Johnson Hill UMC** facilitated by Kayte Melton our Spiritual Growth Coordinator with registration at 9:00 and the program beginning at 9:30. Elections will be held at this time in order to allow time for training before taking office January 1, 2018. The Nominations Chair, Kathy Patterson, will be responsible for the slate of officers and also the Installation Service.

August 19, 2017 is the date of our District Mission Study to be held at Pine Hill with the Pine Hill United Methodist Women hosting. It will be on **Climate Justice** taught by **Beth Bond** from Atlanta, Ga. We look forward to that study. Bring your sack lunch and drinks, chips, and desserts will be furnished by the Pine Hill ladies.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A SECOND MISSION STUDY IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE DISTRICT, I WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU AS TO WHAT YOU WOULD HOST OR TEACH. The subjects will be taught at Mission 'u' at Millbrook UMC **July 21-22, 2017**. You will be hearing more about this later in the year. Mark these dates on your calendar for the year and don't be left out of the activities planned for you.

The Demopolis District Pledge to Missions to the Conference is \$13,000. If our units could send ¼ of it quarterly it would not be so difficult to get it all in at one time at year end. There is also a change in the EXTRA amount you want to give to any of the Specials. You will need to send the Additional amounts directly to the Agency of your choice. Those addresses are listed in your book. The amount of \$9.75 per member that you send on your Specials Report Form should reflect your membership number.

This year the National Office is trying to get an accurate number on UMW membership. They are sponsoring a Membership Census which can be done online or you can fill out your information and let one of your members who is on Internet key it in. We ask that you participate in this as well. Our district is also trying to get an accurate count.

Don't forget to register for Annual Conference at Blue Lake for February 10-11, 2017. The speaker for Saturday will be our new Bishop Rev. David Graves. Registration forms are in the Alert and also in this edition of the LINK.

I appreciate the confidence you have shown in me by electing me to this important position in your organization and look forward to serving you to accomplish our goals. If I can be of any help to you please don't hesitate to call or contact me.

Margaret



Margaret Agee
810 Shadow Creek Drive
Camden, AL 36726
334-682-5579
E-mail: margaret_agee@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

February 4, 2017	Demopolis District Annual Day Memorial Service Dr. Dorsey on <i>Horseshoe Farms</i> Officer Training for Local Units	Demopolis First UMC Registration: 9:00 Program: 9:30
February 10-11, 2017	AWFC UMW Annual Day Speakers: <i>Friday Evening:</i> Chris Ziebach, Camille Place <i>Saturday:</i> Business Session Bishop David Graves Communion	Blue Lake Assembly Registration Deadline: 1/27/17 Send to: Jean Creswell P. O. Box 250 Arlington, AL 36722
August 19, 2017	Demopolis District Mission Study: "Climate Justice" Beth Bond, Facilitator	Pine Hill UMC Resource: <i>Climate Justice: Call to Hope and Action</i> Bring: Sack Lunch, Drinks, Chips Desserts provided by Pine Hill UMW
October 7, 2017	Demopolis District "Spiritual Day Apart" & Officer Elections	Johnson Hill UMC
November 5, 2017	Demopolis District Local & District Officer Training	TBA

So what is Horseshoe Farm?

from an article on *The Daniel Foundation* Website: danielfoundationofalabama.com

Project Horseshoe Farm received a grant of \$25,000 towards their general operating support. This program works to find ways to care for and support the community's most vulnerable members including children, people with mental illness, and seniors in the Black Belt region of the state. Another component is the Horseshoe Farm Fellows program which trains and prepares future community leaders. The Daniel Foundation supports programs that provide for basic human needs, train leaders and improve the quality of life in our communities.

Project Horseshoe Farm, located in Greensboro, Alabama, was founded in 2007. They have developed programs for at-risk children, seniors, adults with mental illness, and promising future community based service leaders in medicine and education. The organization was founded on the idea that communities must take responsibility and come together to help provide structure and support to more effectively meet these challenges. As a result, they have reached 75% of the elementary age children in their area and helped them improve at least one quartile on the math portion of the Alabama Reading & Math test. They have also assisted 30 women with mental illness live more independently, and launched a community clubhouse that welcomes between 40-60 elderly and disabled community members for activities and fellowship.

The Horseshoe Farm Fellows program trains individuals who are selected from some of the best and brightest aspiring future community service leaders in the South and the nation. The year-long program began in 2009 and is a pioneering attempt to provide a new model for how to prepare the most promising future community leaders in healthcare and education, especially for service in rural areas of need. All of these programs are improving the lives and building stronger communities in the Black Belt region.

Don't miss the opportunity to hear Dr. Dorsey share the work that's being done at Horseshoe Farms in Greensboro on February 4th at Demopolis 1st UMC; lunch will be provided. Check it out on the internet as well!



A Report From your outgoing Treasurer

In 2016 the Demopolis District pledged 12,000 to the Alabama West Florida Conference United Methodist Women. We paid in \$11,371.54 in pledges. We also paid a total of 2,440.23 in other 5-Star Giving which gives us 13,811.77 in Undesignated Mission Giving. Our giving to Conference Specials amounted to 3,802.75 and to Call to Prayer 1,282.69. The overall giving totaled \$19,082.96. We appreciate you in all you do. We have eleven 5-Star Units and three participating in 5-Star giving.

Some have given in other areas of missions through your Mission Study actions for work being done for women, youth, and children. We are to give through some channel of mission work, or do some hands on mission work when we have a mission study. After all it is to “stir the flame that is in our hearts.”

For the year 2017 we have pledged \$13,000 to AWFC UMW. It will be a challenge but I believe we can do it. One way is to give something each quarter so that it is not so much at the end of the year.

We have yet to mail out the Mission Cards that were ordered. Please be patient we will do that soon. Looking forward to a great year in 2017 and God bless you all for all you do. As Jesus said, “When you have done it unto one of the least of these you have done it unto me.”

I have enjoyed serving you as treasurer and look forward to leading in the presidency.

Thank you so much for all you do.

Margaret Agee



Demopolis District United Methodist Women on the Road!!

In August of 2016 two United Methodist Women groups from the Demopolis District journeyed to Lovelady Center in downtown Birmingham on the same day just an hour or so apart. The pictures that you see in this edition are only the Pine Hill group, and the next issue of *The Link* will have the pictures of the Jefferson UMW. Hopefully, I will find them in my computer soon! Kathy Patterson from the Jefferson UMW wrote this moving article last summer, and I'm hoping it will inspire your unit to venture off to see the ministries that are all around us and become a Unit on the move in your part of the world! Both groups of women were amazed at this wonderful haven of Christian love and faithfulness this place represents to the community and to all who live there and become all that God calls them to be.

Here is Kathy's article:

In July, Ann Larson, a UMW member at Forest Lake UMC in Tuscaloosa, came to visit the Jefferson circle and reviewed the book, *Miss Brenda and the Lovelady's*. Her review was so powerful that the Jefferson women decided to take their annual August trip to visit and tour the Lovelady Center in Birmingham on Saturday, August 13. What an amazing place! We traveled via the Linden UMC bus, with Rev. Tony Antonelli as our chauffeur. The Lovelady is located at 7916 2nd Avenue South, and we got to meet "Miss Brenda" as well as Pastor Leslie Drake, whose own mother came through the program after spending 30 years in prison!

The Lovelady Center is situated in a four-story, 288,000 square foot building that was originally a women's dorm at Howard College, and afterwards it became the old St. Vincent Hospital. It is home to about 383 women and 100 children who live and work there, go to daycare and school, and most importantly, heal and recover there. It contains a large library, classrooms, a clinic run by volunteer doctors (eye, dental, and medical), a chapel, a large lunchroom serving 2000 meals a day, dormitory-type rooms, and a lot of love!

Our tour guide for the morning was Stephanie Smith who was one of the women mentioned in the book. She reported that 87% of women who go through the Lovelady Center's program are successfully rehabilitated, and that the program is strictly supported by faith-based organizations and donations . . . no government funding! After a year at the center women who take classes, go to church, and test clean may transfer to graduate housing elsewhere.

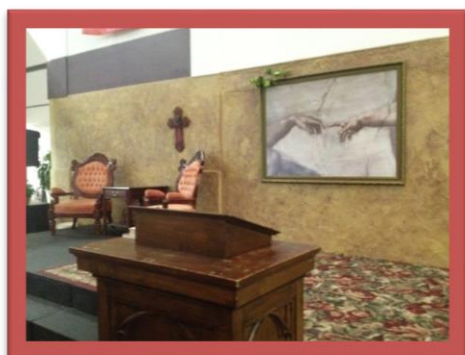
This trip was such a blessing. We had planned to leave the center a check, but the UMW ladies were so impressed with the facility and its work that they took up an additional collection among themselves to add to the UMW check! Thank God for people like Miss Brenda and her wonderful staff.



A sign in the Coffee Shop @ Lovelady Place



Dawn, Jean, Tutti, Linda talking with a resident/worker in Lovelady



One of the chapels in the Lovelady Center; ongoing Bible studies take place here as well.



One side of the store where residents may purchase items they need.



One of many colorful halls that residents have decorated themselves.

ALABAMA/WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

HEALTH FORM

Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment Form

Name: _____ DOB _____ Home

Phone: _____ Work # _____ Cell# _____ Physician's

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Health Insurance

Company: _____ Policy# _____ Allergies to medications:

_____ Current medications:

_____ In the event of an emergency,

contact: Name: _____ Relation: _____ Phone# _____

Name: _____ Relation: _____ Phone# _____ In the

event emergency medical aid/treatment is required due to illness or injury during my stay at a UMW event, I authorize AL/WF UMW to: 1. Secure and retain medical treatment and transportation if needed. 2. Release my health information to the authorized individual or agency involved in the medical emergency treatment. 3. I hold harmless the AL-WFL Conference United Methodist Women, the AL-WFL Conference, The United Methodist Church and/or the owners of the facility for which the event is taking place for any act or failure to act during a medical emergency.

Date: _____ Consent Signature: _____

Consent Plan This authorization includes x-ray, surgery, hospitalization, medication and any treatment procedure deemed "life saving" by the physician. This provision will only be invoked if the person(s) above is unable to be reached. I hold harmless the AL-WFL Conference United Methodist Women, the AL-WFL Conference, The United Methodist Church and/or the owners of the facility for which the event is taking place for any act or failure to act during a medical emergency.

Date: _____ Consent Signature: _____

Non-Consent Plan I DO NOT give my consent for emergency medical treatment/aid in the cases of illness or injury. In the event emergency treatment/aid is required, I wish the following procedures to take place:

_____ I hold harmless the AL-WFL Conference United Methodist Women, the AL-WFL Conference, The United Methodist Church and/or the owners of the facility for which the event is taking place for any act or failure to act during a medical emergency.

Date: _____ Consent Signature: _____

Date: _____ Witness Signature: _____

AWFC UMW DATES

Feb. 10-11, 2017	District Presidents & Treasurers	@Blue Lake
	(Training Friday Night) & <i>Camille Place Speaker</i>	
	Annual Day & Memorial Service	
	Business Session, Worship with Bishop Graves & Communion	
July 21-22	Mission u @ Millbrook UMC	
October 20-22	Spiritual Enrichment Retreat	@ Blue Lake
	& Election of Conference Officers	

President - Margaret Agee

Vice President - Beverly Sanders

Secretary - Peggy Givens

Treasurer - Elaine Jonakin

Program Resources - Beth Wideman

Communications Coordinator - Paula Bonner

Spiritual Growth & Education & Interpretation
Kayte Melton

Membership Nurture and Outreach & Social Action
Tracye Kennie

Nominations
Kathy Patterson, Ch.
Jane Watson
Bobbie Samac
Faye Tyree
Shirley Hodges

District Superintendent - Allen Newton

Need contact information
for your district officers?

That information is in your
Demopolis District
Directory.

You may request a copy
of the Directory from the
website

[http://www.awf-
umw.org/demopolis.html](http://www.awf-umw.org/demopolis.html)