

# Circuit Writer



NOVEMBER 2018

ADJUSTED  
DISTRICT DATE:

January 12, 2019:

Election, Installation,  
and Officer Training  
at First UMC. PC

SEE CONFERENCE  
2019 CALENDAR,  
page 4



My prayers are with  
all affected by the  
hurricane. I don't  
have internet yet, but  
anyone can contact  
me at 850-819-4332  
by talk or text.

*Peggy Kundo*

Vice President

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Dear *United Methodist Women of Marianna/Panama City*:

all in various ways and will still through the next years.  
I pray that all of us survive knowing that God is living  
this out with us. We are sorrowed and shocked and fearful of the future but  
He is walking with us with every footstep we take -and we know He always  
will.

Since phones and Internet may be unavailable to us all in various ways, this  
article will be brief.

In whatever way is available to you, PLEASE get the following to everyone  
in your Units:

January 12, 2019. will be our first District meeting. Our *Unfinished* business  
will be to conduct our 2019 elections. After elections are finished, the new  
District President will take over control of the meeting.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BAG LUNCH.**

Water and coffee will be provided.  
Registration is 9 am - 9:15 am (cst).

**Program will begin 9:20am (cst)**  
Community Life Center- FUMC -Panama City,  
903 East 4th St., Panama City, Florida, 32401

If you have any questions, please contact me at my cell number:  
**(850) 866- 6280.**

All of us need to come together for support and encouragement during this  
difficult time of dealing with the hurricane's aftermath, so I hope to see many  
of you on **January 12, 2019**. Michael has left us with many opportunities to  
spread our Christian faith, hope, and love through our actions of reaching out  
to each other and to those who may not know the hope we have in Christ.

Comfort and Peace to you,

*Karen*

**Encouragement from our  
Alabama-West Florida Conference  
United Methodist Women  
President**

To all our dear Marianna-Panama City United Methodist Women Members,

You are in our Prayers. You know us, we can't all physically come and help you move a piece of destroyed furniture to the curb. We can't know any emotion you're feeling at the loss of "everything" of memory or years of living in this one place.

Your suffering and loss are in our Prayers. We have been asking everyone we know "do you know her conditions?" "do you know about this street?" We do know of the many churches damage as they update the church conference news daily. We know many church buildings in the area are damaged, but not the Spirit of the church. That's hopeful news for us.

I will place this reminder about our 2018 theme of Hope before you "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." We continue our Prayers for each day to bring you renewed strength and health as you are cared for by the One who knows just what you need.

God Bless,  
Debbie Bell, President  
Alabama-West Florida  
United Methodist Women

*Circuit Writer Editor:*  
Deanie DeFelix  
deanie575@gmail.com  
(850)209-3834



**PROGRAM RESOURCES:**

**WE HAVE POWER!**

Losing the 20 pine trees in our yard to Hurricane Michael last month was not a time of great fun and left us a sense of great loss, but we are thankful our home wasn't damaged. On a positive note, I did have more time to read - even if it was by flashlight!

The book I mentioned in the August CW, *Reclaiming the Spiritual Power of Humor: Laugh Your Way to Grace* by Rev. Susan Sparks, offers some quite timely thoughts: "laughter can empower us through hard times, bringing physical, emotional, and spiritual healing." She says that God gives us the gift of smiling when we are born—we don't have to learn how! But, as we age and encounter life's problems, we sometimes forget to use that gift.

I am smiling more as our conveniences in life are returned: being able to drive down streets, having lights (without the noise of generators), cable, telephones, and internet! But my biggest smiles come because without my trees I can now see a beautiful sunrise and sunset!

Rev. Sparks recommends, "Find one small thing to smile or laugh about today and share it with someone. Smiling is contagious and leads to healing for our community and our world."



Please let me know the names of women who completed the Reading Program and the level completed by Nov. 25 so that I can send in my report.



*Elizabeth Bell*



## *The Secretary's Pen*

Janis Johnson, District UMW Secretary

Hurricane Michael has been the topic foremost in our minds since October 10. It impacted every church in the Marianna-Panama City District in varying degrees from minor damage and increased opportunities for outreach ministry to major damage and needing assistance from other churches, the District, and outside groups.

As communication was restored, one of the major concerns was how our fellow United Methodist Women in the district were affected. It was a wonderful sense of relief when word came through Facebook or other social media sites that members from various units were minimally impacted. It was heartbreaking when news came that some members had lost homes, had to relocate, or had major damage to their homes. Our love and prayers are with each of them during this difficult time. And the sad reality is the full impact of the hurricane is still not known, nor will it be for some time. That opens the door for UMW to continue to be the hands and feet and heart of Jesus as we hear of needs and respond to those in a loving and compassionate manner.

Bonifay First UMC (my home church) had minimal damage from the hurricane and began immediately to reach out to the local community by providing sack lunches for families without food and utility workers. A team formed and began to go to homes to cut trees and remove debris for the elderly and homebound. As needs from neighboring areas and churches became known, several truckloads of high demand items such as diapers, MRE's, water, pet food, and similar items were delivered to help meet critical needs. A visit to Woodlawn UMC to the District distribution center was eye-opening and encouraging as it showcased the power and strength we have in our connectional system where all United Methodists work together for a common cause.



The immediate future presents a multitude of needs for the churches and families located in the areas that were hit hardest by the hurricane. The other aspect of this storm is that the recovery will be long and difficult and will continue to provide opportunities for ministry for months and years to come. Marianna-Panama City UMW will rise to meet the challenges before us as we continue to be the mission arm of the United Methodist Church.

Blessings,

*Janis*

**RESOURCES FROM  
CONFERENCE  
WEBSITE**

**ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**2019 Calendar of Events**

Theme: ***Love in Action***

Scripture: 1 John 3:18

"Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." (NIV)

<b>JAN 25-26 (Fri-Sat)</b>	Friday start 5:00PM XTeam Officers & Distr. Presidents	*Executive Mission Team Meeting Location: <b>Enterprise First UMC in Enterprise, AL.</b>
<b>FEB. 1-3 (Fri-Sun)</b>	<b>Friday start attendee list TBA</b>	Leadership Development Days (LDD) Location: Tempe, AZ. National organizes hotel/event schedule
<b>FEB 15-16 (Fri-Sat)</b>	Fri 3PM Checkin All invited	AWF-UMW Conference Annual Day Location: <b>Demopolis First UMC in Demopolis, AL.</b>
<b>JUL 12-13 (Fri-Sat)</b>	Friday start 5:00PM XTeam Officers & Dist. Presidents AND District Treasurers	**Executive Mission Team Meeting 2019 District Budget Reviews Location: <b>Pine Hill UMC in Pine Hill, AL.</b> District Treasurers will also be required to attend this meeting
<b>JUL 19-20 (Fri-Sat)</b>	Schedule pending	Mission u Location: <b>St. Luke UMC in Pensacola, FL.</b>
<b>OCT 11-13 (Fri-Sun)</b>	Fri 3 PM Checkin Sat 7AM Checkin All invited	Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat 2020 Executive Mission Team elect/install Location: <b>Blue Lake Assembly Grounds</b>
<b>NOVEMBER (Recommended)</b>	ALL	UMW Day celebrations per Local Unit Be Invitational!
<b>NOVEMBER 2 (Sat ONLY)</b>	Sat. 8:30AM to 3:30PM	District president & District treasurer <u>ONLY</u> Location: <b>TBA</b>

\* Includes conference executive mission officers AND District Presidents

\*\* Includes conference executive mission team officers, District Presidents AND District Treasurers

† March 8-9 COSROW – Blue Lake Assembly Grounds All Invited

† June 2-5 UMChurch Annual Conference - FrazerUMC AWF-UMW  
Conference/District President

**START PLANNING NOW FOR ATTENDING**

† April 17-19, 2020 Southeastern Jurisdiction meeting Mobile, AL. All Invited









