



The Informer

Mobile District United Methodist Women Newsletter May 2018

MOBILE DISTRICT MISSION TEAM 2017

President

Barbara Carroll

Vice President

Jay Locker

Secretary

Michele Smith

Treasurer

Kathy Ulmer

Program Resource

Bobbi Ferguson

Communications

Judy Burnham

Mission Coordinators

Education and Interpretation

Sylvia McCaskill

Membership Nurture Outreach

Robbie Bunkley

Social Action

Nancy Brumfield

Spiritual Growth

Gail Bradford

Committee on Nominations

Class of 2018

Martha Teasley, Chair

Mary Gipson

Joanne Myers

Class of 2019

Jamie Blake

Linda Ferguson

Linda Weaver

Class of 2020

Betty Ewbank

Shirley Bryan

Kay Lauber

Class of 2021

Trina Jackson

Ella Dean Ellisor

A Message from the President

This letter is written less than two weeks following our 45th District Annual Day. So, I am still basking in the joy of the day. I appreciate hearing from several of you regarding how much you enjoyed our celebration. On behalf of the Mobile District Mission Team, I thank you for your participation and support. The day was great!! It was well attended, spiritual, informative and fun. We were blessed with a hopeful message from our District Superintendent Dr. Debora Bishop. We celebrated unit achievements, received updates and announcements and enjoyed delicious refreshments. Congratulations to units for completing Mission Today Goals and the Reading Program. The entrance of presidents and pastors with unit banners and signs is always exciting. We appreciate the beautiful banners and the unit uniform dress. These efforts denote love and excitement for our ministry. Most of all, it makes us feel like “family” and we looked beautiful!!! Thanks to our District Vice-President, Jay Locker and the Mobile District Mission Team for planning the day and to Toulminville-Warren Street for hosting. We thank everyone on program, our supporting pastors and guest.

Our attendance count is still growing. To date, we have 104 recorded. We had 17/21 Units present, 14/21 presidents and 3/21 pastors. Thank you for our offering in the amount of \$513.00. It will be given to Pledge to Missions. If your unit or unit president did not attend, I hope you will contact the Mission Team for updates. Would your unit like to host next year’s 46th Annual Day, Spiritual Enrichment Day or Mission Study? Let me know..... so we can work out dates.

Well, we have almost reached mid-year. I hope you are re-evaluating your calendar, goals, programs and progress thus far, so that you can make any necessary adjustments and finish the year successfully. I am excited about our pledge report to date and can hardly wait to see where we stand after remaining fundraisers, 5 Channels of Giving and end of year pledges are transferred.

Nomination Committees, is it time to start identifying officers for 2019. If you are interested in serving on the Local, District or Conference Team, please let us know. Please continue to strive for our 2018 focuses of (UMW) Purpose, Participation and Membership.

Mark your calendar and plan to attend our upcoming events. Check our web-site regularly for updates (Mission u location has been changed to Gadsden St. UMC, Pensacola, Florida).

Let us continue to PRAY FOR EACH OTHER. PRAY FOR UNITED METHODIST WOMEN being a beacon of light and HOPE to the world. PRAY FOR THE WOMEN, CHILDREN AND YOUTH that we serve.

God Bless

FAITH, HOPE, LOVE IN ACTION

Barbara

Barbara Carroll
Mobile District UMW President
United Methodist Women



UMW Calendar

2018 District Dates

Mission Study – Springhill

UMC – Aug 11

District Unit Presidents

Meeting – Westside –

Aug 18, 10am

District Spiritual Enrichment

Day – Springhill Ave UMC –

Sept 15

2018 Conference Dates

Mission u – Gadsden Street

UMC, Pensacola, FL,

July 20-21

Conference Spiritual

Enrichment Day –

Blue Lake, Oct 19-21

Other 2018 Dates

UMW Assembly – Columbus,

OH “Power of Bold”-

May 18-20, 2018

AWF Annual Conference –

June 3-6

Nov – UMW Sunday in local

churches

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.

Mobile District UMW 2018 Budget

Officer’s Expenses

Postage	\$100
Supplies/Copies	\$200
Travel	\$125
Total Officer’s Expenses	\$425

Other Expenses

Resources/Literature	\$200
Officer training	\$100
District Annual Day	\$100
Spiritual Enrichment Day	\$100
Newsletter/Correspondence	\$150
District Directory	\$100
Mission Studies	\$100
Assembly/Jurisdiction	\$300
Contingency Fund	\$200
Scholarship Annual UMC Conference (Pres.)	\$550
Audit Review	\$100
Retiring Officers	\$100
Total Other Expenses	\$2,100
Total Administrative and Development Budget	\$2,525

TOTAL PLEDGE TO MISSION \$20,000

It’s all about advertising as Facebook has taught us. People only know what we tell them. While *The Informer* is Mobile District UMW’s main provider of information, the internet, Facebook and other social media may be used as ways to advertise United Methodist Women. It does not need to be a special event, though flyers are excellent ways to advertise an upcoming event, a paragraph or two of witnesses who will share what United Methodist Women have meant to us will encourage others to come find the joy of being in mission right here at home. The Mobile District web page is there for you. Help us keep it updated with all the district is doing.

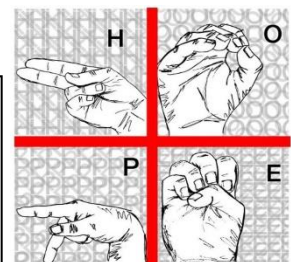
Vera Moore

keeper of the websites:

<http://www.awf-umw.org>

<http://www.awf-umw.org/mobile.html>

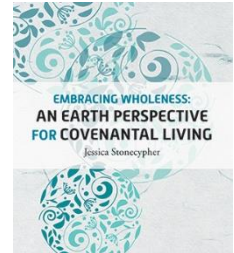
2018 Conference Theme: HOPE...This HOPE we have as an anchor of the soul, a HOPE both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever. Hebrews 6:19-20 NIV





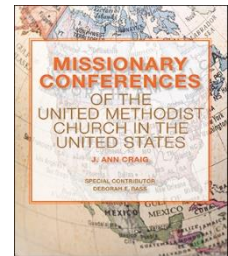
Please note the change in venue for the 2018 Mission u. It will be held at Gadsden Street UMC, Pensacola Florida, May 20-21. This event will give you the opportunity to explore the following studies. Watch the District web page for more details.

Spiritual Growth Mission Study Leaders: Jim DuFriend and Gail Baughman The Spiritual Growth Study, Embracing Wholeness is the second in a two-part series about covenantal living.



Issue Study Leaders: Betty Helms and Angie Woodward
What About Our Money? A Faith Response explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith.

Geographic Study Leader: Joyce Genz Missionary Conferences of The United Methodist Church in the United States is a mission journey that guides us through the missionary conferences: Alaska Missionary Conference, Oklahoma Missionary Conference and Red Bird Missionary Conference.



Greetings to Vice Presidents

Thanks to all who participated and attended the 45th Annual Day at Toulminville-Warren Street UMC. The day was very special, where we honored United Methodist Women who passed away in 2017. It is a good and blessed thing to be a part of United Methodist Women. A special Thank You to our speaker, Dr. Debora Bishop who inspired us with her words about HOPE. **Holy Opportunities Present Everyday.**

As Vice Presidents we need to be enthusiastic about our purpose and our participation in all UMW events. Mark your calendars in advance for future meetings. Plan exciting meetings. Make a promise to yourself to attend and take someone with you. We need to be encouragers - spreading the word of Christ and the mission of UMW.

Call me anytime if there are questions or concerns. Thank you for being a part of our team.

Jay Locker
Vice-President
Mobile District UMW

Want to see more UMW photos? Check out the flicker page:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/umwomen/albums/72157664337515848>

Your Mission Dollar at Work

The February 2018 Response Magazine includes maps showing the mission institutions around the world and in this country. These maps are printed every two years. The article "Mission Giving Makes Mission Happen" points out that \$10 million was allocated during this period. Use these maps to show your unit members and your congregation how your mission dollars help women, children and youth around the world.

Mentoring for the Future of UMW

Mentoring for the Future of United Methodist Women at the Annual Meeting 2018 Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women adopted a program to encourage every member to mentor at least one person. The plan is to be known as Priddy Pals in honor of Shannon Priddy, National President who visited during Annual Meeting 2018. Mentoring is frequently mentioned in Shannon's writing and speaking on behalf of United Methodist Women. How it will be accomplished: Beginning immediately every member of AWF-UMW is challenged to seek out a young woman and intentionally involve that person in some activity of United Methodist Women. Involvement may include but not be limited to: Giving technical help to UMW members - that is - help with smart phone and computers. Reading a book from the Reading Program together with a UMW member. Driving members to meetings - even if you don't need a driver. Proofreading newsletters and other documents prior to publication. And in many other ways as creative members seize the opportunity. Recognition - beyond membership growth: Awards will be presented at Annual Meeting to those two people who have become Priddy Pals based on short paragraphs provided by both the mentor and the mentee (disciple) telling the story of their friendship. These stories are to be sent to Membership Nurture and Outreach and must be received 30 days prior to Annual Meeting 2019. The Program will be evaluated annually.

(Information from Alert, AWF Conference UMW, March 2018)

Remember to send your pictures for the 2018 archives year book. I would like a picture of each unit made with the name of the unit & maybe one picture (or more) of one of your projects. Thank you

Shirley Bryan
Historian

Membership, Nurture and Outreach

ABOUT GOD'S LOVE...FAITH...SPIRIT...LET'S GET EXCITED!!!

Many times, I rode a horse named Lady Lou...but she was anything but a lady! Being a Youth Director, I took groups horseback riding and on hayrides. I would ride at the back because Lady Lou always had a colt with her. Once she bit a guy on the leg when his horse got too close! This horse had 11 colts and was 22 years old when she died. But we were always EXCITED when we went riding... I mean EXCITED!! Does this take you back to your youth? Remember how you were excited about something?? Well, we need to get really EXCITED about our United Methodist Women! When your group meets, invite someone to your meeting. Tell them about the great fellowship, the studies, the Lord's Mission Work that you are doing. Share God's love, faith and spirit. Just show them how much you care! Be EXCITED! And always pray for guidance.

Start letting the women in your church know about the UMW...that we are strong and EXCITED about God's mission!! [For us to grow, ask a visitor to your meeting this month!!](#)

Thank you ALL for everything you do and remember the District Prayer Calendar Daily (Let me know if you need more copies). Please call me if I can help you - 251-581-1443.

In His Grace and Guidance, Robbie Bunkley,
District Membership, Nurture, Outreach.

Message from the District Secretary

Please help to keep the Mobile District UMW Directory up-to-date by sending any changes in contact information to me at michelesmith2002@hotmail.com

Michele Smith
Mobile District UMW Secretary

Camp Scholarships Needed

It's camp time for the kids at Dumas Wesley Community Center and they need our support. As you know, Dumas Wesley provides outstanding recreational and family services in our conference and is partially funded through our UMW Missions. Camping at Blue Lake is one of the favorite summer-time activities for the kids. However, they will not be able to attend without our help. Hopefully, no kid will miss this experience because of lack of funding. Many of our units have supported this program in the past and they are depending on our help again this year. If you can help with sponsoring any amount of camperships (full or part), please contact the Center and mail your donation by May 30th.

Please pray for the safety of the kids and staff while on this adventure. Your support is appreciated. If you have questions, comments or need additional information, please call the center.

Barbara Carroll

Support Dumas Wesley While You Shop

If you shop at Amazon, you can support Dumas Wesley while you shop using the Smile program. When you designate your Smile recipient, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. There is no additional cost to you, but those small donations add up to additional funding for Dumas Wesley. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com> to



**United Methodist Women Assembly
- May 18-20, 2018 - Greater
Columbus Convention Center,
Columbus, Ohio.**

We are 3 ½ months into 2018 and so that means that we have new books on the shelves at the Mobile District office library. I have seen a few individuals checking out books and some leaders at UMW Units checking out for arms full of books to take back to their unit which is very encouraging. We still have 6 months before you must turn in your reading program plan, which means everyone should be able to at least complete Plan 1 this year. I have read three outstanding books I think all of you would enjoy reading that I would like to suggest to y'all, Without You There is No Us, Hiding in The Light, both under Education for Mission and Hollow Faith, under Leadership Development. I challenge each one of you to read these three; they are so enlightening and interesting that I couldn't put them down. If you can't find the book that you would like to read and have tried the District Library, you can go to one of the public libraries. If they don't have the book, ask them to request it for you via interlibrary loan. If I can help you or your Unit out in any way please don't hesitate to call or text me at: 251-554-5716 or email fergusonb42@gmail.com.

Bobbi Ferguson
District Secretary of Program Resources

Was Your Unit Standing in the Red Zone

UMW Units across the nation were asked to Stand in the Red Zone on Super Bowl Sunday to promote awareness of the issue of Human Trafficking not only world-wide, but in our communities as well. These Mobile Districts units participated in the project. If you have pictures of your unit's participation, please send to Shirley Bryant, Historian.



For two Sundays at St. Mark UMC, insets about Human Trafficking were placed in their bulletins. On February 4th, Red Zone stickers were given to all as they entered the sanctuary. At the beginning of the service, Mary Dawkins, our local treasurer, spoke to the congregation about the significance of the stickers.



At South Brookley, UMC, the entire congregation was standing in the Red Zone.