

**Forty-Sixth Annual Meeting**  
**Alabama-West Florida Conference**  
**United Methodist Women**  
**February 15-16, 2019**



*"Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth"*

*1 John 3:18*

**DEMOPOLIS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**200 E. Decatur**  
**DEMOPOLIS, ALABAMA 36732**



### **Our 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.

### **Our Vision**

Our vision sharpens and energizes the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women to remain vital in the years to come. Inspired by 1 Thessalonians 1:4, the vision describes a United Methodist Women organization that is Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

### **Our Annual Meeting**

Conference leaders plan an annual meeting to conduct the business of the conference organization. The meeting may also include worship and other programs. *United Methodist Women Handbook 2017-2020*, page 35.

### **Our Offering**

Our offering today is designated to Conference Pledge to Mission. Make checks Payable to: **AWFC-UMW** and on the For line: **Annual Day 2019**.

## TABLE OF CONTENT

Friday Schedule	Page 4
Saturday Schedule	Page 5
Communion	Page 5-7
Biographies	Page 8
Celebrating the Past	Page 9
Opportunities for 2019	Page 10
Education & Interpretation Report	Page 11
Membership Nurture & Outreach Report	Page 11
Spiritual Growth Report	Page 12
Social Action Report	Page 12
Mission Today Report	Page 13
Website Report	Page 13
Treasurer's Report	Page 14
Hymns - Sweet, Sweet Spirit / Jesu, Jesu / In Christ there is no East or West	Page 15
Hymns - Go Make of All Disciples / Love Divine, All Loves Excelling / Jesus Loves Me	Page 16
Elections & Meetings Standing Rules	Page 17
Conference Awards	Page 18

### CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS

HELEN McGONIGAL	Deceased	1973 - 1976
SUE JONES	Deceased	1977 - 1980
JANE WEEKLEY		1981 - 1984
ELOISE McGUCKEN	Deceased	1985 - 1986
ANNE DALTON		1987 - 1989
RUTH ANN POWERS		1990 - 1992
JEAN SUBLETTE		1993 - 1996
NELL CHANCE	Deceased	1997 - 2000
DOROTHY BOOKER		2001 - 2004
LINDA SHERRY		2005 - 2006
BETH BOWDIN	Deceased	2007 - 2010
BETTY HELMS		2011 - 2014
LYNN HAMRIC		2015 - 2016



**Today in the Prayer Calendar**

**Mission Focus:** Bolivia, National Christian Formation and Children's Ministry. Creating and publishing contextualized Bolivian Methodist Children's Sunday school curriculum.

**Happy Birthday:** (Staff) Amy Fuselier, Director, Sager Brown, UMCOR

**ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE  
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
ANNUAL DAY 2019  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019**

**All activities will be in the Fellowship Hall**

4:00 PM	Check In	Registrar
5:00 PM	Gathering Music	Jay Locker & Paula Bonner
5:30 PM	Dinner Blessing	Laurel Akin
6:30 PM	Gathering Music	Jay Locker & Paula Bonner
7:00 PM	Program	Joan Simmons

Welcome	Kayte Melton, Demopolis First UMW President
Session Opening	Debbie Bell, President
Prayer	David Willis, Pastor Demopolis First United Methodist Church
Credentials Report	Cathy Givan, Secretary
Memorial and Celebration of Life	Kristine Jones, MN&O
Introduction of Speaker	Joan Simmons, Vice President
Program, Love In Action	Nancy Graves



Nancy Graves is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee. She was studying at the University of Tennessee when she met and married her husband David. They will be celebrating their 38th anniversary in June. Nancy and David have two children, Casey and Gregg. Casey lives in Kingsport, Tennessee with her husband Bryan, son Brooks and daughter Lucy. Gregg lives and works in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Nancy has worked for three school systems in Tennessee. She has served as lead secretary to the principal of Ooltewah High School, Executive Assistant to the Assistant Superintendent of Kingsport City Schools and Administrative Assistant/Human Resources Assistant for Director and Assistant Director of Maryville City Schools. She has been active in the Emmaus Community, served as Chairman of the Ooltewah Junior Miss program, served as host family for the Tennessee Junior Miss program, as well as being active in the church where her husband served.

The Nancy and David now reside in Montgomery, Alabama as he serves as Bishop for the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. She enjoys being able to travel with David as she supports him in his work. She loves the local church, but most importantly loves Jesus and sharing how He has touched her life.

**ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE  
UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
ANNUAL DAY 2019  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019**



**Today in the Prayer Calendar:**  
Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga.  
**Mission Focus:** Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga.  
**Happy Birthday:** (Mission Personnel) Andrew Lee, Missionary in Phnom Penh 3 Cambodia

7:45 AM	Gathering Music	Jay Locker & Paula Bonner
8:30 AM	Processional	Call Outs by Joan Simmons, Vice President
	Opening Prayer	Allen Gantzhorn, Demopolis District Superintendent
	Social Action	Ora Gillespie, Coordinator
	Session Opening	Debbie Bell, President
	Greetings	David Graves, Alabama-West Florida UMC Bishop
	Communion	Bishop Graves and the District Superintendents

**A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II**

**INVITATION**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have failed to be an obedient church.  
We have not done your will,  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors,  
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader to people:

Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People to leader:

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

Leader and people:

**Glory to God. Amen.**

**THE PEACE**

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (Continued)

All, including the pastor, exchange signs and words of God's peace.

### OFFERING

As forgiven and reconciled people, Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

### TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. The pastor may lift hands and keep them raised.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,  
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,  
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup,  
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Drink from this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me."

The pastor may raise hands.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION (Continued)

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the  
body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all  
the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and  
glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you.

**Amen.**

### Break

### Gathering Music

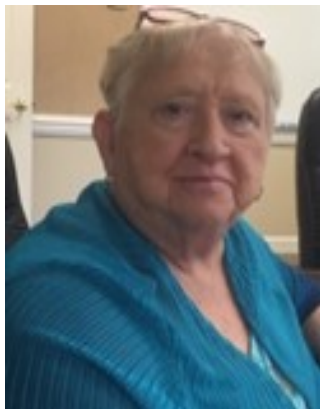
Business Session	Debbie Bell, President
Credentials Report	Cathy Givan, Secretary
Board of Directors Nominee Election	Debbie Bell, President
Pledge Skit	Jean Creswell, Treasurer and District Treasurers
Offertory	
Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! AMEN.</i>
Introduction of Speaker	Joan Simmons, Vice President
Love In Action	Nancy Graves
Hymn	<i>Go, Make Of All Disciples</i> , Page 16
Noon Luncheon Blessing	Clara Ester, National Vice President



**Bishop David W. Graves**

**Bishop Graves** is a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. He received his Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia. He was the recipient of the 2013 Holston Denman Evangelism Award. He has been an ordained pastor in the United Methodist Church for more than 28 years. He began his ministry at the Fountain City United Methodist Church in Knoxville, Tennessee. He comes to Alabama-West Florida Conference from Church Street United Methodist Church in Knoxville. He was appointed to the Alabama-West Florida Conference as Resident Bishop on July 14, 2016 at the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. Bishop Graves and his wife, Nancy, have been married for 35 years. They have 2 children, Casey and Gregg.

**Bishop David Graves**  
4719 Woodmere Blvd  
Montgomery, AL 36106-3078  
(334) 356-8014  
bishop@awfumc.org



**Jay Locker**

**Juanita Locker**, known as Jay, was born and raised in Pennsylvania. Jay was awarded a Bachelor and a Master's Degree in Nursing from Misericordia University and the University of Scranton. For most of her career, she was employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health as a Community Health Nurse. She retired in 1999 as a Supervisor in Community Health for a number of counties in Pennsylvania. She was married to Rev. William Locker who served churches in Northeastern PA. Bill died in 2014, where they were living in Stuart, FL. Jay has two sons and two daughters-in law and a number of grandchildren and great grandchildren. Jay continues to be very active in UMW activities. Her hobbies include: playing with grandchildren, reading, hand work, Bible study and handbell playing and singing in the Choir.

**Juanita "Jay" Locker**  
6339 McMurray Place S.  
Mobile, AL 36609  
(251) 586-8580  
jaybilllocker11@yahoo.com



**Paula Bonner**

**Paula Bonner** is a native of Ft. Walton Beach, Florida and has followed her pastor-husband from the hills of North Georgia to The Alabama West-Florida Conference serving churches from South Mobile County, Tallassee, Montgomery, Selma, Camden, Prattville, Ft. Walton Beach, and lastly into the Demopolis District as District Superintendent where he retired. Paula is a retired school teacher and piano player. In retirement she enjoys living in the country and growing vegetables when the weather cooperates!

**Paula Bonner**  
260 KP Thomas Road  
Pine Hill, AL 36769  
(334) 385-3384  
paulamarie49@aol.com



# **CELEBRATING THE PAST YEAR**

## **ANNUAL DAY 2018**

Our first Annual Day "Into the Districts" was held in the Baypines District at Foley UMC on February 23-24, 2018 with Ms. Shannon Priddy, National President of United Methodist Women as our Speaker. Shannon shared her message of Hope-Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow, "it's about teamwork, making connections and building our relationships with Christ and one another."

Bishop Graves & the District Superintendents placed before us Communion; we celebrated the life of our sisters that passed away, presented awards to the Districts and experienced great Fellowship.

As we continue to travel around the Districts with our Annual meeting, we look forward to the many more UMW members joining us and the opportunity to share the message about United Methodist Women in Mission.

## **COOPERATIVE MISSION u 2018 Report**

Cooperative Mission u was held at Gadsden Street UMC, Pensacola on July 20 & 21.

As we gather for our mission studies, the plans include and promote emphasis to the global mission of the church, the missionary outreach, the Christian social action and spiritual growth.

The Spiritual Growth study was the second part of Covenant Community - Embracing Wholeness : An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living. It was taught by Rev. Gail Baughman and Rev. Jim DuFriend.

It was the second year for the geographic study - Missionary Conferences and was taught by Joyce Genz.

The Issue Study was- What about our Money. The study leaders were Betty Helms and Angie Woodward.

Over all it was a good two days and including walk-in's on Saturday the attendance 100-plus each day. The studies were enjoyed and the two days were a great experience with good music, food and friendships both old and new.

## **SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RETREAT 2018 Report**

In late October we met in the Blue Lake woods for our Fall retreat with Rev. Dr. Connie Shelton leading us into the Hope of Jesus Christ, our "anchor for the soul." Many members joined in, many did not and many could not but we all gathered in our supportive Fellowship once again

We gathered for several Focus sessions that included:

Computer Tips with Jean Creswell

Crocheting Homeless Mats with Joyce Genz & Jay Locker

A Prayerful Walk created by Tutti Johnson

During our brief business session in the weekend we elected and installed some new conference officers, we took care of a Standing Rule and passed our 2019 Budget.

A great and amazing time was had by all who came into this Fellowship.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2019

### PRIDDY PAL MENTORING FOR THE FUTURE OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

**Beginning 2018**, immediately following our Annual Meeting, all members of AWF United Methodist Women were challenged to seek out a young woman and intentionally involve her in some activity of United Methodist Women missions.

**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 mission team members to meetings - even if you don't need a driver.
- Proofreading newsletters and other documents prior to publication.

**2018 Recognition - Addison Genard**, from the Christ UMW in the Mobile District, is the recipient of the 2018 Priddy Pal Award. The winning entry letter, to be shared from the platform during the Membership Nurture & Outreach report time, tells us about the remarkable accomplishments of this "younger" woman who intentionally got involved in a activity of United Methodist Women.

Addison's "friends" in this mentoring endeavor are Joyce Genz and Debbie Bell.

### COOPERATIVE MISSION u

2019 Cooperative Mission u

Place - St. Luke UMC, 1394 East Nine Mile Road , Pensacola FL 32514

Date - July 19 & 20 2019

Studies

Spiritual Growth - Gospel of St. Mark (Radical Discipleship)

Study Leaders - Sylvia McCaskill and TBA

Anniversary Study - United Methodist Women in Mission (150 years and Beyond)

Study Leaders - Debbie Bracewell and Ruth-Ann Powers

Social Issue - What about our Money

Study Leader Angie Woodward

### SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RETREAT

On October 11-13, we'll once again meet at the Blue Lake Assembly Grounds with a focus on "Love in Action". Watch for all the details in the coming months for the opportunity to retreat and be in fellowship with our UMW friends from around the conference. Our Speaker will be Rev. Reba Wiley.

### SUBSCRIBE TO ALERT NEWSLETTER

Our Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Women newsletter. Published each quarter and emailed to the membership Leaders and shared within the many Local Units. This newsletter is published to ALERT you of upcoming events and enlighten you of past events. As the next Editor, please reach out to me either by phone 251-895-1306, by text message at 251-895-1306 or by email michelesmith2002@hotmail.com.

This can be emailed to anyone, it is always sent to Local Unit United Methodist Women presidents around the conference as long as I have a correct email address. It can be mailed via USPS for \$8.00 per year. As we focus on our AWF-UMW theme for 2019 *Love in Action* I'm looking forward to helping communicate "Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1 John 3:18 NIV.

Michele Smith, Communications Coordinator

# REPORTS OF THE MISSION COORDINATORS

## EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

There are several tasks under the job description of Education and Interpretation Coordinator. These include: interpreting and educating members about "where the money goes", Mission Today promotion, and encouraging mission studies at the local and district levels. Membership on the Conference Board of Global Ministries and the Mission u Planning Team are expected, as well. In addition to performing these jobs, study boards were prepared and displayed at the appropriate meetings.

The E and I Coordinator and the Treasurer work in tandem to promote transparency and understanding of how pledges are secured and sent to the National Office of United Methodist Women for work with women, children and youth in this country and around the world. The Five Channels of Giving provide dollars well-spent with agencies such as Dumas Wesley in Mobile and so many other deserving groups.

Mission Today participation is down by 11 units this year compared to 2017. The reporting form has been simplified over the past few years, but perhaps, drawing continuous attention to it will help get more participation. Mission studies at the local and district had fewer attendees in 2018, but the studies that were presented had good attendance. Please see accompanying charts at the end of this report. Three thousand fifty two women in 146 units in 8 districts make up the membership in the Alabama –West Florida Conference of United Methodist Women.

Training with local units was changed up somewhat this past year with more generalized training for several offices at the same session with break-out training for presidents and treasurers in some districts. This worked well, especially with smaller units. The Workbook continues to be a great resource tool for all who are involved in training and leadership roles. With so many resources available (especially on conference website), jobs are made easier, and recruiting officers may also be easier.

All in all, 2018 was a very good year for United Methodist Women in the AWF Conference. Moving around the conference for meetings has been a positive experience and seems to be getting more attention from first-time attendees. Communication continues to be a key factor, and it is improving all the time.

Shirley Hodges

Please see Mission Today Units Report on Page 13.

## MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH

Bobbie Lou Samac, from the Demopolis District, is the recipient of the 2018 Nell Chance Award.



The winning entry letter, to be shared from the platform during the Membership Nurture & Outreach report time, tells us about the remarkable accomplishments of this "seasoned" woman who exemplifies the attributes of a United Methodist Women, woman.

The 2018 summary of the eight districts in the Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Women MN&O report captured several notable challenges for our membership. The Memorial and Celebration of Life will capture ninety-three members that have gone to Glory; the "lost for other reasons" includes the deceased members, but also captures the members who've had to move into other locations that might include a nursing home, another state closer to children for health reasons and even "just didn't want to be a UMW Local Unit or member anymore."

It's here. 150 years ago on March 23, 1869 a small group of women braved a legendary torrential rain to gather at Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston, Massachusetts, and organized for mission. The women established the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, a predecessor of United Methodist Women, and galvanized women around the country to raise money to send a doctor, Clara Swain, and a teacher, Isabella Thoburn, to India as missionaries to serve the women of that nation. What has happened since is so amazing. As the anniversary date of March 23, 2019 gets closer we have not stopped our mission focus for women, children and youth who are STILL the most at risk in society today. We will celebrate with cake and programs and skits and trinkets to hand out; we'll make mention of those who've forged a path for us through the muck and mire and prayerfully lift up those who'll go on ahead with the mission. There may not be the same agendas or meetings or events style and content, but we'll still gather to encourage, affirm, be in relationship, engage, respond, share...the Vision of turning Faith, Hope and Love in Action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Continue to Invite and Involve others,

Please welcome & connect with Kristine Jones, 2019-2020 Membership Nurture & Outreach coordinator. email: kbj0007@auburn.edu.

## REPORTS OF THE MISSION COORDINATORS

### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

2018 was a great year for Alabama-West Florida Conference UMW. GOD WAS ON THE MOVE! The fellowship of women committed to Christ is an awesome thing to experience. The Rev. Connie Shelton reached deep into our souls as she led us on a journey of HOPE with Jesus Christ. What a blessing that was!

We shared lots of laughter and cleansing tears, loads and loads of love, women leaning on each other, and supporting each other in prayer as we began to open up to the possibilities we found in HOPE! SER is an opportunity for us to step outside of our day-to-day boxes and devote ourselves to God in praises, in music, in studying His word, talking to each other, sharing ourselves not only as sisters, but with God .... each of us was blessed with the gift of time for ourselves, time that was not interrupted by other obligations, time to when we didn't have to cook or clean, ... time for our Lord, to listen to Him, commune with Him, sometimes alone, sometimes together as sisters .... and what a joy and a blessing to be together celebrating our 150th Anniversary! WOW! Celebrating those amazing women who recognized a need, knew what they must do, and then simply did it!

It's an awesome responsibility to walk behind these women 150 years later, working to not only give aid and assistance to women and children, but sometimes just reaching out to offer a hand for them to hold. We know that the God of our mountains is still that same God in our valleys — so it's up to us to give that HOPE to those who need it most, to continue for another 150 years to bring the Light of Jesus to a world that desperately needs HOPE ...

Respectfully submitted,  
Tutti Johnson, Spiritual Growth coordinator

Resources for Spiritual Growth:

- Prayer Calendar Moments
- Call to Prayer and Self-Denial
- Bible Studies • Mission u studies
- Missionary Witnesses
- Reading Program books
- Fall Retreat

Please visit  
The Prayer Room  
and leave your  
prayer requests there.

### SOCIAL ACTION

The members of the Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Women continue active service in our communities, our country and around the world. These are just a few ways we actively advocate in Mission.

#### Charter for Racial Justice

Our Charter for Racial Justice activities include holding programs on the Charter in several units. For example, members of the Foley unit in the Baypines District participated in, and were instrumental in organizing, a multicultural worship experience at their church. Several members in the Baypines District participate in the Path to Peace movement, a multi-racial organization in south Baldwin County, which is working toward racial reconciliation and peace, and have participated in a multiracial Bible study with the same goal. In the Dothan District, the Dothan First unit participated in worship at a church of a different ethnic background, gave a Special Mission Recognition pin to a Racial Justice advocate, watched a video on the Charter, and held discussions of response articles and reading program books related to the Charter. In the Montgomery-Prattville District, the Locust Bluff unit created and facilitated an annual multicultural festival and a Rainbow event that highlights the customs and artifacts of different countries and ethnic groups.

#### ISSUE PRIORITIES: 2017-2020

Climate justice: continues to be a topic of study and action by our districts. The Montgomery-Opelika District held a study that focused on plastic pollution, encouraging the use of fabric shopping bags and eliminating plastic whenever possible. The Mobile District acted to educate with "Be Just, Be Green."

Maternal and Child Health: Many units donated UMCOR kits. Some are Myrtle Grove (Pensacola District), 60+ school kits; Auburn (Montgomery-Opelika District) 60 health care kits; units in the Baypines District donated flood buckets, school kits, and health kits; the Mobile District Local UMW Units, 400-plus health kits.

Economic Inequality: In the Mobile district, members supported the Sybil H. Smith Family Village with donations of needed items and volunteered at Dumas Wesley Community Center. Units in the Dothan District, Demopolis District and others also supported Dumas Wesley/Sybil Smith. They also provided meals and personal care items at McKemie Place shelter for women in Mobile. McKemie Place was also supported by others, including the Baypines District.

Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration: Through our membership in Alabama Arise, the AWF United Methodist Women, as well as many individual members, participated in efforts to improve the lives of those living in poverty by lobbying the Alabama State Legislature on social justice issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Akin, Social Action Coordinator 2017-2018

## 2018 MISSION TODAY UNITS

	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Participants	Total	# Units	%
Baypines	0	4	2	0	6	19	32%
Demopolis	0	1	5	5	11	15	73%
Dothan	0	3	3	2	8	19	42%
Marianna/Panama City	1	7	5	1	14	17	82%
Mobile	1	6	5	1	13	21	62%
Montgomery-Opelika	1	4	1	0	6	13	46%
Montgomery-Prattville	1	5	2	1	9	23	39%
Pensacola	1	5	6	0	12	19	63%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>54%</b>

## 2018 MISSION STUDIES

District	#	Study	Total
Baypines	58	Covenant Community	58
Demopolis	26	Missionary Conferences	26
Dothan	26	Covenant Community	43
	17	Embracing Wholeness	
Marianna/Panama City	51	Missionary Conferences	82
	31	What About our Money	
Mobile	26	Missionary Conferences	72
	46	Covenant Community	
Montgomery-Opelika	7	Climate Justice	7
Montgomery-Prattville	26	Missionary Conferences	66
	40	Covenant Community	
Pensacola	40	Missionary Conferences	109
	69	Covenant Community	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>14 Studies</b>	<b>420</b>

## AWF United Methodist Women do not share personal information online

We believe personal online information should be limited. Safety precautions online must contain the wisdom of self-protection and security of our counterparts as we work together for good for all.

When you share your whereabouts to the social media world, you are putting yourself at risk. Many people on social networks are not aware that a tweet or status update may also expose their current location. When you share your location, this is risky because it advises any potential thieves that you may not be home.

In like manner, when someone visits our website and sees there is a meeting scheduled at Blue Lake or First Church, etc., and your address has been shared in a newsletter, that lets any

potential thieves know you may not be at home. The best method of being accessible to your counterparts and mission team members is to always ask them to find your contact information in the conference and/or district directories.

We use a special method of protecting your e-mail address on AWF-UMW.org. While officer names are listed beneath areas of responsibility on the webpages, clicking "Contact Us" is received and forwarded as appropriate. We know you are a busy person do not need to be distracted by unnecessary and unwanted e-mail contacts.

Anne Capps, Website Master  
<http://www.awf-umw.org>

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER

MISSION GIVING (2018 PLEDGE)	Pledge	Paid by Districts	Balance	% Paid
Bay Pines	12,200	15,222	-3,022	124.8%
Demopolis	12,000	12,386	-386	103.2%
Dothan	14,750	13,640	1,110	92.5%
Marianna/PC	12,800	12,320	480	96.3%
Mobile	20,000	25,351	-5,351	126.8%
Mtg/Oplk	12,500	9,401	3,099	75.2%
Mtg/Pratt	12,200	11,330	870	92.9%
Pensacola	25,000	25,909	-909	103.6%
Events - Offering		2,728	-2,728	
<b>TOTALS FROM DISTRICTS</b>	<b>\$ 121,450</b>	<b>\$ 128,286</b>	<b>\$ -6,836</b>	<b>105.6%</b>

**BEGINNING BALANCE CHECKING 1/1/2018** **\$ 11,890**

**INCOME**

Pledge from District via Local Units	128,286
Restricted to National	15,829
Conference Specials - Agencies	9,764
Conference Specials - Assembly	1,394

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$ 155,274**

**EXPENSES:**

Conference Budget	10%	12,620	
District Budget	8%	9,924	22,544
Sent to Agencies			9,764
Sent to National - PLEDGE	92%		111,154
Sent to National - Supplementary			15,829
Transfer/Savings Not Budgeted			11,669

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$ -170,960**

**TRANSFER TO/FROM SAVINGS** **\$ 9,009**

**ENDING Checking BALANCE** **\$ 5,213**

SAVINGS / CD (Restricted)	Beginning	Interest	Transfers	Ending
	59,231.12	1,410	-10,857	<b>\$ 49,784</b>
<b>TOTAL Checking and Savings 12/31/18</b>				<b>\$ 54,997</b>

2019 Approved Pledge & Budget	2019 Pledge	2019 Budget
Baypines	14,000	2,350
Demopolis	15,000	2,229
Dothan	14,750	2,365
Marianna/PC	13,000	2,031
Mobile	20,000	3,385
Mtg/Oplk	11,500	1,350
Mtg/Pratt	11,000	1,420
Pensacola	25,000	3,560
Conference	1,750	22,780
<b>TOTALS 2019</b>	<b>\$ 126,000</b>	<b>\$ 41,470</b>

Prepared by Jean R. Creswell, AWF-UMW Treasurer

## **Sweet, Sweet Spirit**

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,  
and I know that it's the spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet, Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,  
stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
when we shall leave this place.

## **Jesu, Jesu**

**Refrain:** Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.

Refrain

Neighbors are rich and poor, neighbors are black and white,  
neighbors are near and far away.

Refrain

These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you.

Refrain

Loving puts us on our knees, serving as though we are slaves,  
this is the way we should live with you.

## **In Christ There Is No East or West**

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north;  
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord, close binding humankind.

In Christ now meet both east and west, In Him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

## **Go Make Of All Disciples**

“Go, make of all disciples.” We hear the call, O Lord,  
That comes from thee, our Father in Thy eternal Word.  
Inspire our ways of learning through earnest, fervent prayer,  
and let our daily living reveal thee everywhere.

“Go, make of all disciples.” We at thy feet would stay  
until each life's vocation accents thy holy way.  
We cultivate the nature God plants in every heart,  
revealing in our witness the master teacher's art .

“Go, make of all disciples.” We welcome thy command.  
“Lo, I am with you always.” We take thy guiding hand.  
The task looms large before us; we follow without fear,  
in heaven and earth thy power shall bring God's kingdom here.

## **Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.  
Take away bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crown before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

## **Jesus Loves Me**

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! This I know, as He loved so long ago,  
taking children on His knee, saying, “Let them come to Me.”



#### **IV. ELECTIONS AND MEETING Art. V and VI, pages 105-107**

##### **A. The electorate of the conference organization shall be composed of the following:**

- a. One representative from each local unit**
- b. Conference Executive Committee**
- c. Bishop**
- d. District Executive Committees**
- e. District Superintendents**
- f. Directors of the National United Methodist Women residing within the Conference**
- g. Officers of the jurisdiction organization residing within the Conference.**

#### **VI. JURISDICTION QUADRENNIAL MEETING Art. V. Section 4, p. 106**

Three conference officers and one alternate shall serve as delegates to the Jurisdiction Quadrennial as follows:

1. Delegates shall be President, Vice President and Secretary. The Treasurer shall serve as the alternate.
2. Delegate names shall be published in the Alert, which contains the call to the Annual Meeting three months preceding the Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting.

#### **VII. NOMINEES TO NATIONAL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN Art. V, Section 3 and 4b, p. 143**

The Committee on Nominations shall nominate two nominees and one alternate for membership on the **National United Methodist Women Board of Directors** to be elected at the Annual Meeting of the conference organization prior to the Jurisdiction meeting.

1. The Committee on Nominations shall present the names to the Executive Committee at the summer meeting.
2. The Committee on Nominations shall present the names of three nominees to the Executive Committee at the summer meeting to be considered by National United Methodist Women to serve on the Program Advisory Group of the United Methodist Women National Organization.
3. The names of the nominees shall be published in the issue of the ALERT which contains the call to the Annual Meeting with the consent of the nominee(s).
4. Additional names may be nominated from the floor of the Annual Meeting with the consent of the nominee.
5. The names of those elected will be sent to the United Methodist Women National Office.

## Conference Awards

Circle the winning districts as they are announced:

READING PROGRAM	SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION	MANY COLORS, ONE SPIRIT
Baypines	Baypines	Baypines
Demopolis	Demopolis	Demopolis
Dothan	Dothan	Dothan
Marianna/Panama City	Marianna/Panama City	Marianna/Panama City
Mobile	Mobile	Mobile
Montgomery-Opelika	Montgomery-Opelika	Montgomery-Opelika
Montgomery-Prattville	Montgomery-Prattville	Montgomery-Prattville
Pensacola	Pensacola	Pensacola

### How are winners of the Annual Day Awards decided?

Answer:

**Reading Program** - winner is based on the most readers in the district during the year.

**2017 winner, Pensacola with 59 participants.**

**Special Mission Recognition** - award presented by the conference to the district is based on percentages of membership in attendance at the following events:

District Spiritual Enrichment Day

District Annual Day

District Officer Training

District Mission Studies

**2017 Special Mission Recognition winner - Mobile with 290 points.**

**Many Colors, One Spirit** - awarded by the conference to the district is based on percentage of attendance to the following:

AWF UMW Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat

AWF UMW Conference Cooperative Mission u Event

AWF UMW Conference Annual Day

The point scale is the same as Special Mission Recognition previously listed.

**2017 Many Colors, One Spirit winner - Montgomery-Opelika with 220 points.**

### Are percentages added or are the two membership totals added to reach percentage?

Answer:

**Membership** is based on beginning and ending membership totals of the district **USING AN AVERAGE OF THE TWO**. Each event **ATTENDANCE IS RANKED BY** points 10 through 80 - the one with the most points is winner. Percentages are not added - points are totaled.

For example: Dothan District has a total average membership of 492. Their Day Apart (Spiritual Enrichment Day) recorded 91 attending or 18%. Thus 80 points for that event **IF** that is the highest percentage reported from the eight districts. The points are added just before conference Annual Day and the district with the most points gets the award. Points are awarded on a 10 point increment scale; 80 points is the max for the largest attendance at that event.

**Nell Chance Award** - Selected from letters of recommendations submitted by members.

**2017 Nell Chance Award winner - Lucia Pepper, Pensacola District.**

### SAVE THE DATE - NEXT ANNUAL MEETING -

Date \_\_\_\_\_ 2020

Church \_\_\_\_\_ District Dothan

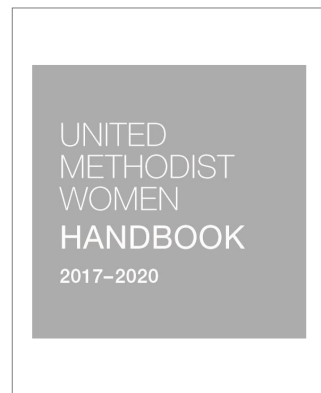
## UMW NEWS - In your mail box or online



[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/umwnews](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/umwnews)

## HANDBOOK

2017-2020



[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)

## RESPONSE

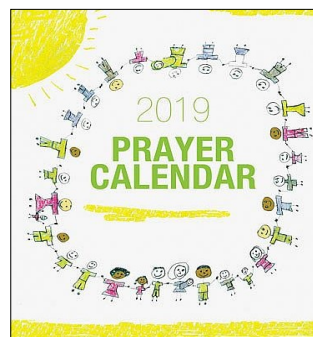
In your  
mail box, digital, or  
selected articles at:



[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response)

## PRAYER CALENDAR

Available from  
UMW Mission  
Resources  
or online daily:

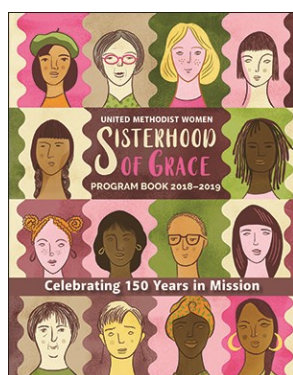


[www.facebook.com/umwprayercalendar](http://www.facebook.com/umwprayercalendar)

## PROGRAM BOOK

Every group needs a  
copy.

Selected programs  
online:



[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/program-book](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/program-book)

## LEGACY FUND

We are making  
history.

Consider your  
legacy.

Ask any UMW  
Officer or see:



[www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150)

**SALLY OZAN** - AWF UMW Program Resources will be happy to help you with any of the above resources as well as others. Visit The Resource area during times listed on back cover.

## THE AWF UMW ANNUAL DAY TEAM

DEBBIE BELL	AWF UMW PRESIDENT
JOAN SIMMONS	AWF UMW VICE PRESIDENT
CATHY GIVAN	AWF UMW SECRETARY
JEAN CRESWELL	AWF UMW TREASURER
MICHELE SMITH	AWF UMW COMMUNICATIONS
ZAN JONES	AWF UMW NOMINATIONS CHAIR
MEMBERS	AWF UMW COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS
SALLY OZAN	AWF UMW PROGRAM RESOURCES
JOYCE GENZ	AWF UMW EDUCATION & INTER
KRISTINE JONES	AWF UMW MEMBERSHIP N&O
ORA GILLESPIE	AWF UMW SOCIAL ACTION
TUTTI JOHNSON	AWF UMW SPIRITUAL GROWTH
DAVID GRAVES	AWF BISHOP
SUPERINTENDENTS	ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE
GERALDINE STIFFLER	UMW PRES BAYPINES
MARGARET AGEE	UMW PRES DEMOPOLIS
DEBBIE BRACEWELL	UMW PRES DOTHAN
PEGGY KUNDO	UMW PRES MARIANNA/PANAMA CITY
BARBARA CARROLL	UMW PRES MOBILE
JUNE HEADRICK	UMW PRES MONTGOMERY-OPELIKA
REDA BROOKS	UMW PRES MONTGOMERY-PRATTVILLE
PAT DODGE	UMW PRES PENSACOLA

### Southeastern Jurisdiction Meeting 2020

Save the date April  
17-19, 2020.  
We'll see you  
in Mobile, AL at the  
Renaissance  
Riverview Hotel.  
Registration details  
are coming!



## PRAYER ROOM

Open All Weekend  
You are invited to visit the Prayer Room  
and leave your prayer requests there.

## THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING

MUSICIANS  
SPEAKERS  
EMERGENCY RESPONSE RN  
DEMOPOLIS FIRST UMC  
DEMOPOLIS UMC PASTORS AND STAFF  
DEMOPOLIS UMW REFRESHMENTS  
PAST UMW CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS  
PAST UMW CONFERENCE OFFICERS  
NATIONAL UMW STAFF FOR LEADERSHIP  
AWF UMW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS  
ALL WHO CAME  
ALL WHO SENT GREETINGS  
ALL WHO PLANT SEEDS OF **LOVE IN ACTION**

## AREAS OF INTEREST

### Program Resource

(Resource Materials Ordering)

### Communications

(Newsletter Signup)

### Membership/Nurture & Outreach

(Census Signup)

➡ Friday, February 15, 2019  
From 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM

➡ Saturday, February 16, 2019  
From 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM