

## **ALERT**

#### Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women



#### **CELEBRATE**

#### Annual Day and District Officer Update October 21,22

This year there will be many changes to both Annual Day and the District Officer Update. First, we recognize that last years Annual Day could have been a lot better. Your executive team spend many hours talking and praying to make this program more meaningful and fun.

I think you will love this years annual day and we feel it will be like the annual days of past when every one had a good time. We are planning some fun educational skits and we want to ensure that there is more pomp and circumstance to our award ceremony. We also want you to be loud. Please cheer and stand when your district wins an award. It has been suggested the each district bring a pom-pom in their district color. Plan to have a great time.

Finally, we want you to come and invite your ladies with young girls. We want Mothers and daughter to come together and we will have programs set up for the girls. These ladies do not need to be UMW members to come.

We also have looked at District Training day. This day is primarily targeted for District Officers. This year we have more than just your specific office training. We want to give you the latest information in UMW and will have an opportunity to get information on one of our pressing issues.

#### Inside this issue:

Message from our President	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Proposed Budget	4
Annual Day	5
Your Spiritual Walk/Kits	6
Program Resources/Missions Today	7
Women's Division Proposal	8
Proposed Standing Rules Changes/Haiti video links	9
Nominations Committee	10
Proposed Slate of Officers	11
2011 Calendar of Events	12
Enclosures:	
Registration Form	
Health Form	

The Alert/ Registration Form and Health Forms are also available online at: http://www.gbgmumc.org/awfconfumw/



## From the Desk of the President

How great it was to see many of you at the Tapestry and Spiritual Enrichment Retreats as well as the Cooperative School of Christian Mission. I look forward to greeting you at our Annual Meeting in October. This issue of the Alert will tell you that we have a great event planned with a wonderful speaker and talented music leaders. Annual meeting is also our business meeting of the year.

Officers will be elected, the budget adopted, and we will celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of the districts for 2010. Wouldn't it be wonderful if every local unit had a representative at Annual Meeting? Each local unit may have one voting delegate to vote on business matters of the Conference.

This is a good time of year to check the progress of your local unit in several areas. The Mission Today Criteria is good to use to measure your progress. Has your unit given in all five channels of mission giving? Has your unit invited a District or Conference officer to a meeting or event? Has your unit participated in a hands-on-mission project? Do you have members participating in the Reading Program? If the answer is no to any of the above, you still have time to complete these requirements to help your unit become a Mission Today Unit in 2011.

The Purpose of United Methodist Women states that we are to: "expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church." We do this by:

- · praying for missionaries and mission projects using the Prayer Calendar
- · reading Response magazine
- · learning at the School of Christian Mission
- · attending Conference and District events
- giving money for missions

On Annual Day we will also be building School Kits to support Missions. We are requesting each of you to bring school supplies for building school kits to the annual meeting. The School Kit list can be found on page 6 of this newsletter

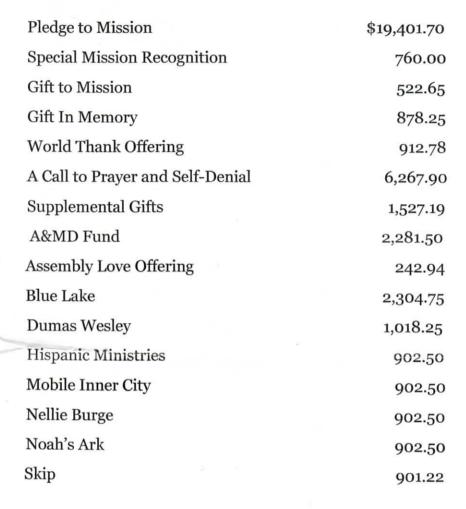
As United Methodist Women, we do "expand concepts of mission" as we reach out to women, children and youth around the world. Continue to pray, read, learn, attend, and give as we participate in the wonderful ministry of United Methodist Women.

Betty Helms AL/WFL President



## **Treasurer Report**

#### ALABAMA WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE UMW MISSION GIVING APRIL 01—JUNE 31, 2011





Included in Pledge to Mission above: Ribbons sold for Missions—\$1,160.00

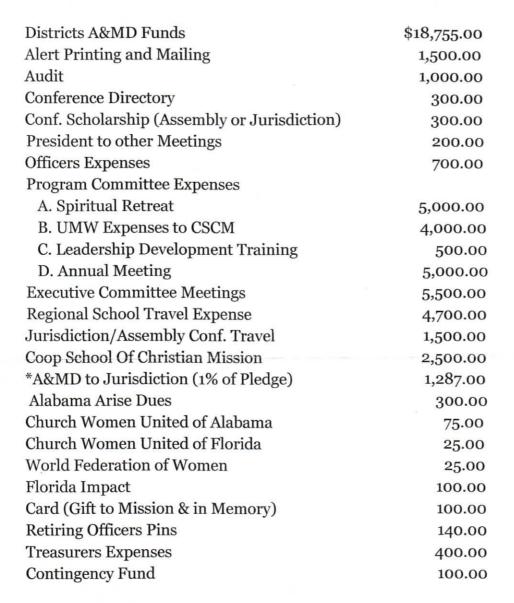


Check the Badge of Ribbons pictured. This is a great way to give them as a gift or buy one for yourself. The total cost is **\$40.00**. \$33.00 for Missions and \$7.00 for the badge. I will have some at Annual Day or check with your District Treasurer.

In His Service, Margie Outlaw Treasurer

## **Treasurer Report**

#### ALABAMA /WEST FLORIDA UMW 2012 Proposed Budget





\$54,007.00

TOTAL

\*A&M to Jurisdiction is always 1% of the total Pledge PLEDGE FOR 2012 is \$128,700.00

Formula for Conf. Budget 2010 Pledges received \$128,500.51

X .35%

44,989.17 **Plus A&MD from Districts Giving ( 2010 )**9,600.00

TOTAL BUDGET FOR 2012 is \$54,589.17

# Leadership Training Event-Oct 21 Annual Conference-Oct 22 Blue Lake

Leadership Training Event—For District and Conference Officers

Annual Conference—For anyone—bring you daughters and your friends



## **Annual Day Speaker**

Kathy Booker is our speaker for Annual Day. She is President of the Southeast Jurisdiction Core Planning Team as well as a Women's Division Director. She was born and raised in Bristol, Tennessee and attended John Wesley United Methodist Church. She further pursued her education by attending Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee and received a B.S degree in Bio-Chemistry and a minor in Sociology.

Upon graduating she was employed by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture and has been there for 30 years. She currently holds the position of Pesticide Administrator and has the responsibility of overseeing the use, miss-use, application, sale and distribution of pesticides across the state. She has been the past president of the Association of Southern Feed, Fertilizer and Pest Control Officials (ASFFPCO), Tennessee Vegetation Management Association (TVMA) and EPA Region IV Pre-SFIREG Chair (State FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group).

Kathy has been active in United Methodist Women since she was 5 years old. She has held offices on the local, district and conference level. At present, she is president of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Training Team.

She is a member of Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church and within her local church she is the Finance Chair and Leadership Council Secretary. She has held several other positions.

On the conference level she is the treasurer for TN BMCR and lay member of Congregational Development.

Above all else she is a child of God and cannot do anything without his guidance. One of her favorite verses is "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me".

She loves listening to all types of music, but especially Christian and Classical music as well as collecting various types of cookbooks, the key word is collecting and not cooking.



## Your Spiritual Walk

Much work and planning went into making the Cooperative School of Christian Missions an educational and inspirational event. Participants gained fresh insights into ways to put FAITH, HOPE and LOVE into action from the studies and plenaries. Especially exciting was the inclusion of the children's Haiti Mission Study, Krik Krac. The children from the Princess Camp sang at one of the sessions and also assembled UMCOR Health Kits. It is encouraging to see more young people becoming involved.

The program book theme this year is All Things Made New. Our spiritual growth study, the journey, explores forgiveness, restorative justice and reconciliation. Using stories from the Bible as well as recent history, this study demonstrates ways that individuals, families and communities can work together to create conditions where all people can live in harmony with God, their fellow man and creation. Biblical justice is the consequence of God reconciling himself to us through Christ. As United Methodist Women on our individual journeys, we can work to transform the world by changing systems that lead to injustices so all people can flourish. What a challenge! I encourage each district and unit to pursue this timely and vital study.

As you pray for peace, reconciliation and justice, remember to:

Praise God for Who He is

Recall His answers in the past

Acknowledge His power and wisdom

Yield the situation to His perfect love

It has been a special joy to serve on the Mission Team as your Spiritual Growth Coordinator. I look forward to seeing you at Blue Lake on October 21 and 22 for the District Leadership Update and Conference Annual Day. Shalom!

Martha Spiva

#### MISSION SCHOOL KIT SUPPLIES APPEAL

#### **School Kits:**

- 1 pair blunt scissors (rounded tip only no plastic scissors please)
- 3 pads of paper (spiral or top bound pads 150 sheets of loose leaf can be substituted for 1 pad, combinatons of spiral, top bound or loose leaf is acceptable)
- 1 hand held pencil sharpner (must be at least one inch long remove from packaging)
- 1 30 centimeter ruler (hard or flexible, cartoon characters are acceptable no advertisements please)
- **6 unsharpened pencils** (no advertisements religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols please cartoon characters are acceptable)
- 1- 2 1/2 inch eraser (no advertisements, religious, patriotic, military or camouflage symbols please cartoon characters are acceptable)
- 1 24 count box of crayons (only 24 count boxes please)

Please bring what you can to Annual Day

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_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 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:\_\_\_\_

## ALABAMA WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ${\bf 39}^{\rm TH}$ ANNUAL MEETING

District Officer Update: October 21, 2011 - Annual Day: October 22, 2011 REGISTRATION BLUE LAKE, ANDALUSIA, AL

#### "ALL THINGS MADE NEW"

#### Who should attend?

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Oct. 10, 2011** 

- · Every United Methodist Women
- · Bishop, District Superintendents, and Ministers
- Each unit has ONE voting delegate and MUST pre-register

## ANNUAL DAY REGISTRATION ONLY: Registration begins @ 8:30 a.m. in GYM All participants must pre-register

Name:	Email			
Address:	City		_St	Zip
Hm Phone:	Cell:	_District		
Local Unit Voting Delegate	District Superintender	nt 🗆		Clergy □
Cost for Saturday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup> (i  Make checks payable to AWFU  Mail to: Sheila Hare, Registrar	MW – @ 734 Shiloh Street Saraland,	, AL 36571		
FOR D	RKSHOPS BEGIN @ 4 p.m ISTRICT & CONFERENCE C \$25 additional) - REGISTRAT UMW – AND MAIL TO:	- DINNER @ 6 OFFICERS ON TION DEADLI	:00 P.M ILY NE: OO	И
Name	email			
Address	City		St	Zip
Home Phone #:	Work #	Cell #		
Conference Officer Office	ee you hold:			
District Officer Office	ce you hold:			<u>.—///.</u> ) 5
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At Annual Day this year, I hope to have a broad selection of the 2012 Program Resources. The Program Book is available now and other new resources are promised in time for Annual Day.

A change in the Reading Program begins in 2012. The details follow this announcement and will be available to you through this issue of

#### ALERT.

The fifth category, Leadership Development, came into being a year ago. Now the category is incorporated into the makeup of the Reading Program.

There is only Plan I that requires any additional reading. It now requires five books, one from each category, instead of four. The other plans have the same number of books. Please read the changes carefully and we can go over questions if you have any.

Ruth Ann Powers

## **Mission Today Units**



The criteria for Mission Today Units should be close to completion in your districts. I am making plans to give the District Education & Interpretation

Coordinator or President the forms to be filled out so copies can be made for each unit in the district. Also, a copy of the criteria that we need to meet for each award.

This information is so important for our Annual Day Event. The awards to the districts will be published in the program for Annual Day.

The due dates for information for Mission Today Units is September 1, to District Education & Interpretation Coordinator or it's President, and September 15, to Conference Education & Interpretation Coordinator.

Annual Day 2011 is going to be fun and informative. Our President, Betty Helms, is working hard for this to be our best Annual Day. See you at Blue Lake on October 21 for the leadership training event and for an exciting 2011 Annual Day.

Hope-Faith-Love in Action

God Bless, Margie Miller

#### Women's Division Proposes Becoming "Structurally Separate, Missionally Connected" to Global Ministries

#### By Leigh Rogers

April 10, 2011

The Women's Division board voted to become structurally separate from the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) while remaining "missionally connected" in staff configuration and by its board of directors at its recent meeting, April 7-11 in Stamford, Conn. The directors of GBGM also approved the proposal at their meeting, April 11-13.

Based on recommendations from the board's policy committee, there was strong support of the proposal to be structurally separate and missionally related to GBGM. These recommendations came out of the previous Fall 2010 meeting request to prepare two plans for consideration at the Spring 2011 meeting, one outlining structural connection with GBGM and another outlining structural separation.

#### Changes in Relationship

The plan would bring a variety of changes to how the Women's Division and GBGM relate to each other.

- The Women's Division would name 5 directors to the proposed 30-member GBGM board The Women's Division "would intentionally release seats at the GBGM Board of Directors ... to make it possible for GBGM to add additional representation from Central Conferences within a smaller board," a preliminary proposal noted. "We see releasing five seats on the GBGM board as an investment in Central Conference board membership," said Harriett Olson, deputy general secretary of the Women's Division, "and especially in the women of the Central Conferences, who we hope GBGM will agree to seek as directors."
- Women's Division would not be represented on GBGM's Program Cabinet on a regular basis, but is recommending that its
  chief executive would be represented at the General Secretaries' Table, a body composed of top executives from the 13
  agencies of the United Methodist Church.
- Staff structures would be separated, although Women's Division and GBGM have already agreed that Women's Division
  may continue to purchase some shared services from GBGM as it does now.

#### "Streamlining UMW, Inc.

As well as recommending becoming "structurally separate" from GBGM, the board took several actions to strengthen missional connections within the organization.

The board approved changes that will be reflected in the constitutions of local, district, conference and jurisdictional organizations of United Methodist Women in order to offer members more flexibility to shape the organization as they see fit. The board approved amending organizational documents to refer to the local organization of United Methodist Women instead of the "unit."

Constitutional language will also flip the norm from larger to smaller officer teams, only naming President, Secretary and Treasurer as required positions to be filled. Functions can be handled as determined by the group to encourage officer teams to develop more organic, mission-focused organizations.

The board voted to all the whole organization "United Methodist Women" dropping the name, "Women's Division." United Methodist Women is already incorporated as a not for profit organization, as all boards of The United Methodist Church are. So it would be a change in name. It would not be a board or a commission in the disciplinary sense, but an agency of The United Methodist Church.

These changes come out of the proposal recognizing, "some (more) of our institutional language must disappear, and we must have less focus on the UMW organization and more focus on our amazing praying, serving and advocating members."

#### Implementation of Plan

Because some of United Methodist Women's structures are described in the Book of Discipline, some legislation will have to be brought forward to General Conference for a vote in 2012, and will not be implemented officially until January 2013. However, United Methodist Women will prepare for implementation following General Conference.

This plan "will strengthen United Methodist Women's identification with our work in the world and will enhance our strong witness in the church and the world," said Ms. Olson. "We need to continue to find clearer ways to show and tell what we are accomplishing as an organization. The members deserve to know that they make a difference."

Leigh Rogers is the public relations and web content associate for the Women's Division. UMW News website





#### VIIIFUNDS Art. VII, page 108

A.A percentage of the conference undesignated receipts mission giving shall be used for the administration and membership development expenses of the conference, a contribution to the jurisdiction fund for administration and membership development, and a remittance to the districts for administration and

membership development; \$300.00 from each district's administration and membership development funds shall be designated for representation by districts beyond the conference to Assembly and/or Jurisdiction.

B. Each districts shall return any unused funds to the Conference Treasurer at the end of each year.

By December 15, annually, districts shall return to the conference treasurer any monies left in their treasury, with the exception of an annual start up fund of up to \$500. The other exception is noted in F. below.

C.Any remittances from the districts that do not meet the deadline will be credited in the next year.

D. The conference treasurer shall establish an Administration & Membership Development Pool from which districts may draw, by request, to fulfill the needs and opportunities of their district budgeting.

E. In the first quarter of the year, district treasurers shall subtract the \$500 start up monies from their request for funds from the A&MD Pool.

C.F. The only other monies a district may hold at year's end are:

- 1.\$50.00 for workshops. This money may accrue;
- 2.\$25.00 per year that may be put into savings for up to five years for Scholarships to Church Women United.

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

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

Ruth Ann Powers

# Haiti



Many of you asked me for the two video's that I showed during the School for Christian Missions. These video's were the Haiti Goudougoudou video and the Stand By Me video. The u-tube websites for these are available below. The first is the Haiti link and the second the Stand by Me link.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88UA4iKYe8k

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Us-TVg4oExM

If you need these and do not know how to download them from U-tube, you will be able to get a loan out copy from Betty Helms.





A THOUGHT FOR TODAY: Do you notice and respond to opportunities as they become available? Prayer is a way to stay alert and on the watch for how God will come in your life. Prayer keeps you connected to him and spiritually sensitive so that you can recognize his voice and actions and discern whether or not an opportunity is from him. Left to yourself, you may miss much, but when God's Spirit connects with your spirit you will hear and see much more. Excerpt from God's Daily Promises for Women.

Your Conference Nominations committee attempted to contact all of the members we have in our Talent Bank files, by phone or e-mail between January and July. We also contacted district officers for referrals. We appreciate the time you spent talking to us or responding to our e-mails.

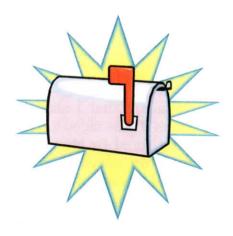
Eight of our UMW members answered "The Call" to be nominated to serve as an officers or committee members for 2012-2013. We are pleased to present the Slate of AL-WFL Conference Officers for 2012-2013. Please review the slate as it appears in this newsletter and send your delegates to vote their approval at our Conference Annual Day on October 22, 2011.

We have an incomplete slate at this time. We are looking for nominees for three positions: Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach and two Nominations Committee members. If you have an interest in serving in one of these positions, please contact one of the Nominations Committee members or me. We are always looking for potential leaders to complete a Talent Bank Form, which is available from a committee member or can be found on our website:

www.gbgm-umc.org/awfconfumw/.

District Nominations Chair and members are encouraged to attend Leadership Training on October 21, 2010. We will review points of concern from the UMW Handbook and have a time for questions and sharing of ideas.

Your sister in Christ, Pat Dodge



Alert is a publication of the Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Women

### Alert

#### ARE YOU A SUBSCRIBER?

(Note: Local unit presidents receive the Alert free)

You, too, can become informed of Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women events and/or activities by subscribing to the *Alert* today.

Send your name and address to Barbara Henning, 2055 Henning Lane, Marianna FL 32448. Enclose a \$3.00 check, made payable to Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women. You may receive a copy of the Alert **free by email.** Email bjhenning@embarqmail.com with your request and you will be added to our email list. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Proposed Slate of Officers for 2012/2013 and

#### **Special Jurisdiction Nominees**

- 1. Vice President Pat Dodge Pensacola
- 2. Treasurer Kathy McQuagge Marianna/Panama City
- 3. Program Resources Margie Outlaw Dothan
- 4. Membership Nurture & Outreach Nominee Needed
- 5. Spiritual Growth Georgette Griffith Demopolis
- 6. Charter for Racial Justice Policies two nominees:
  - a. Joann Ashley
  - b. Replacement for Lucy Romero needed 2 yrs
- 7. Nominations Class of 2015:
  - a. Ruth Ann Powers Montgomery/Opelika
  - b. Imogene Martin Baypines
- 8. Nomination Committee Chair Ruth Ann Powers Montgomery / Opelika
- 9. Nominations Committee Members:
- a. Need one to replace Lucy Romero Class of 2013 2 years
- b. Need one to replace Pat Dodge Class of 2012 1 year

#### Barb's Notes

Ladies, can you believe a year has gone by for me as your Alert editor. It seems as though I just started the first Alert and now I am doing the 4th. I have really enjoyed doing this and I'm grateful for all the positive responses I have received. I view this newsletter as the tool to

communicate the information you need at your local units. I have also worked hard to get you your copy out by the due date. The Alert is due by the 10th in January, March, May and August. Unfortunately, I have recently been told by many of you that you did not get the last Alert by e-mail. I send out over 550 e-mail for each addition and I'm not sure what happened, but as you all know, technology is great until it does not work. From now on I will sent a second e-mail to all my e-mail members stating that the Alert has been sent and it is also out on the web. If you get the second message and not the Alert please let me know. Also, look on our website for additional information. You can also be added to my e-mail list by contacting me at: bjhenning@embarqmail.com

United Methodist Women Alabama/West Florida Conference

Barbara J. Henning 2055 Henning Lane Marianna, FL 32448

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insformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2

Date	Event
Jan 7-8	AL/WFL Conference Mission Team Meeting Blue Lake
Feb 25-26	Tapestry
	Port St. Joe FL
Mar 25-27	Spiritual Enrichment Retreat
	Blue Lake
October 5-6	Executive Committee & Nominations Meeting
	Blue Lake
Oct 21	Leadership Training Event
	Blue Lake
Oct 22	Annual Conference
	Blue Lake