



BAYPINES BEACON

*Serving United Methodist Women in the Baypines District
January 2017*

President
Gerry Stiffler

Vice President
Beth Henson

Secretary
Carolyn Anderson

Treasurer
Lyn Stuart

Communications
Dell Walston

Spiritual Growth
Judy Hust

Social Action
Edith Brooks

Membership, Nurture &
Outreach
Patricia McKee

Education & Interpretation
Deborah Johnson

Program Resources
Bridget Glidewell



Geraldine Stiffler
District President

Happy New Year to all Baypines UMW ladies. I am in FL the first three weeks of the year volunteering at a location where Make-A-Wish sends critically ill children if their wish is Orlando. I have given this time since my grandson made his wish to Disney.

My name is Gerry Stiffler and I am so pleased to have been offered the opportunity to serve as president of the Baypines District United Methodist Women. It is a real challenge for me to accept this position. Please be patient with my inexperience as I seek to learn. I am so lucky to have Peggy Cunningham as my mentor. She has started to help me begin to follow in her steps and make this a smooth transition.

I am studying and planning ways that I can help each of us become stronger in our faith to better understand the ways we can achieve the purpose of our promise. We are a group of women (over 800,000) who strive to turn faith, hope and love into action that will benefit women, children and youth all over the world. I want

to visit each of your units to hear the plans and hopes that you and your members have for 2017. I would like to meet your minister, as he or she is a member of your unit and will and can be a great help in achieving your expectations. All women of the church are eligible to become members of your unit. Invite them to join you in the life changing experience of being a member of United Methodist Women.

I will be in touch with each of the local presidents to find a time that we can get together. Please plan to attend the training meeting in **Bay Minette on January 29 at 2:00 pm**. Bring as many of your officers, or anyone interested in learning about UMW to the training. The leaders of the groups have knowledge and experiences that will help us to strengthen our units. It is very important that your treasurers come with you to the training. I look forward to meeting you there. If I can help you please contact me any time.

Gerry

[251-942-7792](tel:251-942-7792)

geraldinestiffler@msn.com

NOTE: During the Leadership Training on January 29th, Dell will take candid photos that will be posted in our Alabama West Florida Conference Baypines Scrapbook. She will get a group photo of our district officers. If time permits, Dell would like to get group photos of each represented local unit. Wear your best smile!

The PURPOSE of United Methodist Women

The Purpose is adopted by the General Conference of The United Methodist Church as the official mission statement of United Methodist Women.

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.

Out of the Purpose are four mission foci that relate to the mission initiatives and priorities of United Methodist Women.

- To be a community of women
- To know God
- To develop a creative and supportive fellowship
- To expand concepts of mission



What a pleasure it has been to serve as your President for the last three years. I have learned so much about United Methodist Women that I did not know and I want to thank all of you who have been with me on that journey.

I have seen all the great mission work that has been done by the Units in our Baypines District. This work started at home and went around the world which made me very proud.

I want to thank the Baypines District Officers for all their help and encouragement. I could never have done my job without them.

We must remember that we are the hands and feet of Jesus and must do what He would have us do.

As you all go into the New Year, continue to do the mission work that we are called to do. Invite other ladies to join you and show them how you do mission work for God. Bet they will want to help you.

Blessings and Peace,
Peggy

VICE PRESIDENT, BETH HENSON



Hello and Happy New Year from your Vice President!

It is hard for me to believe that 2016 is gone and 2017 is here. What resolutions are you planning for this New Year? Many times, we make promises to lose weight, eat healthy, be patient and love our families more, serve the Lord more, etc. and the list goes on. I have found it is hard to keep New Year Resolutions. As women of God, we know how important prayer is in our lives. Without it, we will not know the presence of Lord and hear His voice as He speaks to us through prayer and His Word.

Recently, my son's girlfriend gave me a copy of the book entitled "Fervent" by Priscilla Shirer. This book is a woman's battle plan for serious, specific, and strategic prayer. We must use prayer to keep Satan off our backs and away from our families. He has come to seek and destroy any good thing God has for us and God promises us a life of blessings and eternity with Him. Don't let the enemy have any part of your life!

If you have not received your copy of the Alert, this is a reminder for you to register for Annual Day, February 10-11, 2017 at Blue Lake. On Saturday, the guest speaker will be Bishop Rev. David Graves. The guest speaker for Friday is Chris Ziebach, founder of Camille Place in Monroeville, Alabama. The deadline for registration is January 27, 2017. I hope you will be able to attend this important event. The Conference has worked hard to bring together excellent speakers. This is also the day that the District receiving the Special Mission Recognition award, the Reading Program award and the "Many Colors, One Spirit" Banner award will be recognized.

Look forward to this exciting year as we serve the Lord in our District. Let's work together to accomplish great things. Pray and listen as God leads you. Inspire others to love God. Speak positively of your role as a United Methodist Woman. What does that mean to you?

Please come and support your District and Conference! If I can do anything for you, please let me know.

Pray without ceasing! (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Beth Henson
Phil. 4:13
bah9103@aol.com



LYN STUART, TREASURER



WE MADE OUR PLEDGE! CONGRATULATIONS LADIES!!

Together we made our Pledge for 2016 – Congratulations! Baypines District UMW's Pledge for 2016 was \$12,200.00 (it has remained the same for years). Our Pledge to Mission is the TOTAL of our gifts to the Five Channels of Mission Giving – (1) Pledge to Mission, (2) Special Mission Recognition Pins, (3) Gift to Mission Cards, (4) to Mission Cards and (5) World Thank Offering. ALL these funds are UNDESIGNATED GIVING and ALL go the same place, United Methodist Women, Inc. and are used for National and International Mission Projects.

Baypines UMW gave \$14,313.10 for 2016. That is \$2, 113.10 Over Our Pledge and I know we can do even better in 2017.

ADDITIONALLY -- Baypines UMW gave \$5,022.27 to AL-WF Conference Specials. (This includes \$2,644.00 to our Five Sponsored Agencies – Dumas Wesley, Nellie Burge, SKIP, Mobile Inner City Mission, and Hispanic Ministries and the balance to the Administrative and Membership Development Fund, Blue Lake, Assembly Offering, and MissionU.)

ADDITIONALLY – Baypines UMW gave DESIGNATED GIFTS of \$1,550.50 to Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, \$212.20 to UMCOR, \$1,125.00 to Legacy 150 and \$1,400.00 to Other (National/International) and \$550.00 to Other (Conference/District).

Specific amounts for each category of giving will be available at District Leadership Training Event on Sunday, January 29th.

IF YOU STILL HAVE MONIES FOR 2016 PLEASE SEND THOSE MONIES IN NOW to Lyn Stuart, Baypines District UMW Treasurer, 41151 Highway 59, Bay Minette, AL 36507.

THE NITTY GRITTY – Some of our Units ONLY contribute to Pledge to Missions (National/International Missions) AND some of our Units ONLY contribute to Conference Specials (Conference and District Mission Giving). Please ensure that you and your members are educated about all our UMW Mission Giving and in 2017 let's all contribute to BOTH and if our Unit desires give over and above those gifts to Designated Giving of various kinds.

SEE YOU JANUARY 29TH AT 2:00 P.M. AT BAY MINETTE FIRST UNITED METHODIST FOR BAYPINES DISTRICT UMW LEADERSHIP TRAINING.

SOCIAL ACTION



EDITH BROOKS

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(251) 981-2515 or (251) 223-6351

Let's Box 'Em Up and Stack 'Em Up! Super Bowl LI is on Feb., 5, 2017

Join this virtual barricade of boxes!

In football, the phrase "stack the box" is used when the defense puts its players in a rectangular formation ("in the box") to stop the offensive team's rush in its tracks. Traffickers run a game on the vulnerable and we aim to stack the box against them, to intercept their game and to box 'em up for prosecution.

This annual awareness campaign gets real results. Last year a woman e-mailed the national office who had helped a trafficking survivor; at first she didn't know what to do, then she remembered that United Methodist Women has resources for prevention, protection and prosecution which she would not have known without our #umwumbrellas campaign. So put away your umbrellas and...

Let's Box 'Em Up! Stacking the boxes will symbolize United Methodist Women intercepting the traffickers who bind the vulnerable within boxes of imprisonment. Our boxes will also embody our commitment to be in communion with survivors of trafficking.

Join our virtual barricade of boxes: Open boxes, closed boxes, and tied boxes! All kinds of boxes can be held, decorated, stacked, left open or sealed. Stack up your boxes with others or simply hold a box yourself, but let's box 'em up!

Get a box to: Box up those who hurt and harm. Box up the criminal traffickers. Box up laws that criminalize the victims.

Decorate a box. Stack the boxes up to build a wall of boxes.

Keep your box open as a sign of invitation and hope for survivors.

Decorate an open box as a symbol of a doorway to new opportunities and to the openness of your heart to receive survivors with love and grace.

Stack the boxes to represent United Methodist Women acting in solidarity with others to intercept the traffickers and to block trafficking criminals from survivors, be they women, men, girls and boys seeking a future of promise.

Join your boxes in a partnership event with organizations headed by women from different cultural or faith communities.

Acting Together we can box 'em up and stack 'em up to intercept human trafficking.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Judy Hust

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 4 Oleander Circle
 Foley AL 36535
 Email: bjhust@earthlink.com



A New Leaf (Author unknown)

He came to my desk with a quivering lip, the lesson was done;
 “Dear Teacher, I want a new leaf,” he said, “I’ve spoiled this one.
 I took the old leaf, torn and blotted,
 And gave him a new one all unspotted,
 And into his sad eyes smiled,
 “Do better now, my child!”

I came to the throne with a trembling heart, the year’s work done:
 “Dear Father, I want a new year,” I said, “I’ve spoiled this one”.
 He took the old year, torn and blotted,
 And gave me a new one all unspotted,
 And into my sad heart smiled:
 “Do better now, My Child”.

As we begin 2017 let us close the door on the past and begin a new step in an “unspotted” new year. Let us begin with ourselves—taking time to be quiet and listen to the word of God. He calls us to be disciples to serve and witness to others around us. Together we can make a better year for Baypines District United Methodist Women. I look forward to working with all of you this year. Please feel free to call on me for anything (phone number & addresses above).

Blessings,
 Judy



COMMUNICATIONS

Dell Walston

The Baypines District Calendar 2017

ALL UMW LADIES ARE INVITED TO THESE MEETINGS. You do not have to be an officer to attend!

Jan. 29, 2017 @ 2:00 p.m. Bay Minette UMC, District Training
 March 4, 2017 @10:30 a.m. District Annual Day
 August 19, 2017 – Time and Location TBA

The Conference Calendar 2017

Jan. 20-21, 2017, COSROW @ Blue Lake (see registration form below)
 Feb. 10 & 11, 2017 Conference Annual Day@ Blue Lake
 March 23, 2017 UMW Day of Giving
 July 21 & 22, 2017 Mission u @ Millbrook United Methodist Church
 Oct. 20-22, 2017 Spiritual Enrichment Retreat @ Blue Lake
 May 18-20, 2018 Assembly @ Columbus, Ohio

Just a reminder: you can go online, <http://www.awf-umw.org/> and find various UMW resources for your respective area(s).

Note: The following email and attachment was received this morning (1/6/17) and I thought it would be helpful to include it in the newsletter:

Just a reminder, if you haven't registered, that time is slipping by after the Christmas and New Year Holidays. The flyer and registration form is attached to this e-mail. I have heard from several people who didn't seem to get the information I sent out in November so I am sending it again. The Ruth Gynther Scholarship has been awarded and is no longer available for this year. Hope you can join us.

Ruth Ann Powers

**COSROW – 2017
Alabama-West Florida Conference Event
Blue Lake Assembly - Andalusia, AL
January 20-21, 2017**

Domestic Violence: What the Church Can Do



Gina Guthrie, Executive Director, Crisis Center of Russell County

“Thus shall you say to all the Israelites, ‘Has such a thing ever happened since the day that the Israelites came up from the land of Egypt until this day? *Consider it, take counsel and speak out.*”

Registration Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Roommate: _____

COST: Registrants must register together. Registration is complete when paid. Send registration and payment to: Ruth Ann Powers, 712 31st Street, Phenix City, AL 36867
rall@ctvea.net

Single Room— \$90.00 Double Room—\$67.00/ea. Meals included
Commuter: Two days—\$48.00/ea. Meals included.

For additional information contact:

Ruth Ann Powers— Rall@ctvea.net

The Ruth Gynther Scholarship will be available to a first time attendee. Contact Ruth Ann Powers for application.