



# THE MESSENGER'S

AUGUST 2020

## DISTRICT OFFICERS

### President

Marsha Clayton

### Vice-President

Reda Brooks

### Secretary

Mable Lawrence

### Treasurer

Brenda Hargrave

### Social Action

Gloria Jean Williams

### Communications

Carolyn Davis

### Membership Nurture & Outreach

Lyndall Barlow

### Education & Interpretation

TBA

### Spiritual Growth

TBA

### Nominations

TBA



## From The President's Desk

Hello, my dear friends in Christ. Hope all of you are staying safe and prayed up as we travel through this abnormal time called the coronavirus pandemic.

Though we are limited in gathering together, we can still do much to carry on the mission of United Methodist Women.

We are still a community of women (keeping in touch with each other by telephone, notes, cards, text, Facetime, Zoom, etc.) whose purpose is to know God (by reading His Word, study, and worship) and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ with constant prayers, faith, and hope. We are to be a supportive fellowship by continuing to pay our pledges and by giving to support our local, national and international agencies supporting women, children and youth. Furthermore, expanding our concepts of mission (often defined in our Reading Program literature) through participation in the global ministries of the church via a wide range of teleconferences/Zoom experiences and other virtual learning and listening opportunities focusing on the major emphases of our mission.

Some key things we can do include praying, praying, praying, staying connected, continuing to submit reports on a timely basis and completing at least Plan I of the Reading Program by reading 5 books, one from each category: Leadership and Development, Spiritual Growth, Social Action and Nurture.

*(President's message continued)*

As of this time, in-person gatherings in the world of UMW are still on hold, cancelled, or postponed. The conference level Spiritual Enrichment Event is being planned to be held virtually. Additionally, during this event elections will occur. There will be more information coming about that later. The Montgomery-Prattville District team will meet in the next month to discuss plans for the District's final programming for this year/first of 2021 as well as elections.

Appeals have been made to some individuals and now to all of you to take on or nominate someone to fill the District offices of Nominations, Treasurer, Spiritual Growth and Education and Interpretation Coordinators. Please, please, please! We need you, your talents and abilities, your willing spirit. We need you!

We will continue to stay in touch. Pray for our District and hold the UMW Purpose and Mission close to your hearts. Stay safe.



Grateful to be in your service,

*Marsha Clayton, District President*

 Follow the Facebook Prayer Calendar

<https://www.facebook.com/umwprayercalendar>



Our beloved calendar helps put your faith, hope and love into action with a daily mission focus, birthdays of people in mission, holidays and space to plan your schedule. Themed sacred spaces—our encounters with God and neighbor—each week features stunning photographs of United Methodist Women and Global Ministries projects and partners in the U.S. and around the world.



Brenda Hargrave  
Treasurer

2020 has been a year to remember as we have faced so many new challenges both personally, nationally and within our United Methodist Women. I know that our units and district have not been able to be together since March; and understandably, you have not had fund raisers or perhaps received member pledges. I have received money toward our District Mission Pledge of \$11,000 in the amount of \$3085 as of July 29. Below is a report of these funds:

Balance on Hand, Jan 1, 2020 \$ 639.80

Receipts

Received from Units 4153.00  
Annual Day Offering 70.00

Total Receipts 4862.80

Disbursements

Pledge to Missions 2605  
Special Mission Pin 140  
Gift in Honor/Mission 15  
Gift in Memory 25  
World Thank 300  
Prayer and Self Denial 680  
UMCOR 300  
Conference Love Offering 150  
Postage 17.60  
Annual Day Expenses 112.09  
Copying 26

Total Disbursements -4370.69

**Balance on Hand 7/29/2020 492.11**

**Designation of Balance**

Pledge to Missions 78  
M-P District A and MD 414.11

The Mission work of UMW continues even as we are sheltered in place and I would suggest that perhaps members could mail their funds to their unit treasurer during this time when we are not meeting.

If you have any questions or need help, please feel free to contact me at:

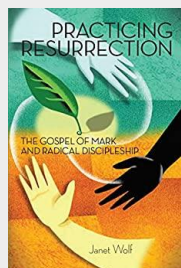
[jbhargrave@elmore.rr.com](mailto:jbhargrave@elmore.rr.com) 334-285-5788 (H)---334-322-4086 (C)

The Montgomery – Prattville District  
United Methodist Women Mission Team  
need to fill the Office of  
**Spiritual Growth Coordinator**  
**Education & Interpretation Coordinator**  
**Treasurer**  
and

**Nomination chairperson**  
If you would like to serve on the  
Montgomery-Prattville District  
Please contact one of the officers on the district

BONUS BOOKS Bonus Books count as two books! The 2020 Reading Program bonus books are the current United Methodist Women mission studies.

- **Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship** by Janet Wolf counts as two books in the category Spiritual Growth.
- **What About Our Money? A Faith Response** by Susan Taylor counts as two books in the category Education for Mission.
- **Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission** by Ellen Blue counts as two books in the category Community.
- **So You Want to Talk About Race** by Ijeoma Oluo, studied by the United Methodist Women Program Advisory Group, counts as two books in Social Action category.





**Montgomery-Prattville District  
Social Action Coordinator  
Gloria Jean Williams**

### *Charter for Racial Justice*

Here are some suggested Unit Points for reading and staying aware of social issues.

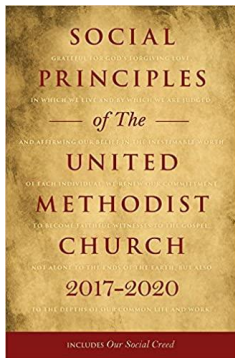


<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram>



<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/response/trydigital>

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/responsepodcast>



<https://www.umcjustice.org/news-and-stories/social-principles-2020-607>

<https://www.umc.org/en/what-we-believe/basics-of-our-faith/our-social-positions>

*To my sisters in Christ, be well, be stay, and pray for our nation.*

**God Bless,**

**Social Action Coordinator Gloria Jean Williams**

We can still read while social distancing during COVID-19.  
Go to the Reading Program website and choose books to read..

## The Reading Program 2020

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

### READING PROGRAM PLANS

Choose and follow one of the four plans. When you have read the required number of books and magazine issues, report your completion to your local member in charge of program resources. Titles read from the 2015 list will be credited through December 31, 2020.

#### PLAN I: 5 books a year

- One book from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth.
- Selections can be from the 2015–2020 reading lists if not included in previous reports (including children and youth titles).
- Regular reading of response magazine

#### PLAN II: 10 books a year

- Two books from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth.
- Selections can be from the 2015–2020 reading lists if not included in previous reports (including children and youth titles).
- Regular reading of response magazine.

#### PLAN III: 15 books a year

- Two books from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth.
- Plus five additional books from any category.
- Selections can be from the 2015–2020 reading lists if not included in previous reports (including children and youth titles).
- Regular reading of response magazine.

#### PLAN IV: 20 books a year

- Two books from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action and Spiritual Growth.
- Plus ten additional books from any category.
- Selections can be from the 2015–2020 reading lists if not included in previous reports (including children and youth titles).
- Regular reading of response magazine.

**All District Events have been CANCELED due to the Coronavirus until further Notice.**

**Alabama-West Florida Conference**

**2020 Calendar**

Jan	17-18	Conference Mission Team and District Presidents at Marianna UMC, Marianna, F
Feb	14-15	Conference Annual Day at Enterprise, First UMC, Enterprise, AL
Mar	23	United Methodist Women Annual Giving Day
July	10-11	Conference Officers, District Presidents & Treasurers at Gadsden St. UMC, Pensacola, FL
July	24-25	Mission u at Aldersgate UMC in Montgomery, AL
Oct	9-10	Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat at Blue Lake Assembly Grounds
Nov	7	Conference President and Conference Treasurer meeting with District Presidents and Treasurers Location TBA

**Montgomery-Prattville District UMW**

**2020 Calendar**

JAN 25	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps	Executive Mission Team Meeting Location: Millbrook 1st
FEB. 22	ALL	District Annual Day/Officer Training/Memorial Service Location: Millbrook UM Church
MARCH		
APRIL 4	Montgomery/Prattville Montgomery-Opelika Districts Combined	Special Anniversary Study- 150 Years Legacy Study Location: Auburn 1 <sup>st</sup> UM Church, Auburn, AL
May 16	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps	Executive Mission Team Meeting Location: Millbrook 1st
JUNE 20	ALL	<b>Mission Study – Book of Mark</b> Location: Metropolitan UM Church, Montgomery
JULY 27	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps	Executive Mission Team Meeting Location: Millbrook 1st
August 27	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps	Executive Mission Team Meeting Location: Millbrook 1st
SEPT 12	All invited	<b>District Spiritual Enrichment Retreat</b> Location: Chapel UM Church, Electric, AL
NOVEMBER (Recommended)	ALL	UMW Day celebrations per Local Unit Be Invitational!
NOVEMBER	District Team, Vice, Presidents, Two Reps from other Women Ministries	Review, Evaluations, Planning, Calendar for 2019 Submit monies and Report Forms Location: Millbrook

All district events begin with registration at 8:30 AM followed by the program from 9:00 AM - Noon unless otherwise announced.

All conference level events registration, forms are available <http://www.awf-umw.org> and provide all information regarding registration, meal, and lodging fees for the events.

**We would love to include your unit activities and mission projects in *The Messenger's Flame*. Please submit articles and photos, if available, to [cdavis854@bellsouth.net](mailto:cdavis854@bellsouth.net)**



**Carolyn Davis, Communication Coordinator**

**United Methodist Women do not furnish lists of their elected leaders or members to individuals or agencies outside the organization unless authorized by the Executive Committee.**



**Mable Lawrence, District Secretary**



## ALERT! . . . Are you a Subscriber?

You too can become informed of Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women events and activities by subscribing to Alert today!

Send your request to Michele Smith, Communications Coordinator: [Michelesmith2002@hotmail.com](mailto:Michelesmith2002@hotmail.com) Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women. Yearly subscription for a paper copy of the Alert newsletter is \$8.00. Payments can be mailed to Michele or Jean Creswell,

You may receive a copy of ALERT free by email. Email [Michelesmith2002@hotmail.com](mailto:Michelesmith2002@hotmail.com) with your request and you will be added to our email list.

### STAY CONNECTED

National UMW Website:

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

AWF-UMW: [www.awf-umw.org](http://www.awf-umw.org)

Montgomery-Prattville District:

[www.awf-umw.org](http://www.awf-umw.org)

### 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.*