



# The Informer

Mobile District United Methodist Women Newsletter Aug 2018

## MOBILE DISTRICT MISSION TEAM 2018

President

**Barbara Carroll**

Vice President

**Jay Locker**

Secretary

**Michele Smith**

Treasurer

**Kathy Ulmer**

Program Resource

**Bobbi Ferguson**

Communications

**Judy Burnham**

Mission Coordinators

Education and Interpretation

**Sylvia McCaskill**

Membership Nurture Outreach

**Robbie Bunkley**

Social Action

**Nancy Brumfield**

Spiritual Growth

**Gail Bradford**

Committee on Nominations

Class of 2018

**Martha Teasley, Chair**

**Mary Gipson**

**Joanne Myers**

Class of 2019

**Jamie Blake**

**Linda Ferguson**

**Linda Weaver**

Class of 2020

**Betty Ewbank**

**Shirley Bryan**

**Kay Lauber**

Class of 2021

**Trina Jackson**

**Ella Dean Ellisor**

## A Message from the President

To those of you who have held any length of conversation with me, you quickly learned that I am excited about United Methodist Women. I am excited about our purpose and the services we provide to women, children and youth all over the world. Therefore, I am especially excited as we fulfill our plans and meet our goals for local events and activities.

I am excited as our mission team prepares for our upcoming Annual Presidents Workshop – we had a well-attended, informative and fun workshop and plan to learn even more this year.

I am excited as we prepare for Spiritual Enrichment Day. Remember how much fun we had last year in our break-out sessions? Well, get ready for more excitement. This is also the time that we elect new district officers.

I am excited as we start to receive mid-year Pledge Reports, especially because we are off to such a good start. Many of our units are in the midst of summer fund raising activities.

I hope that YOU ARE ALSO EXCITED as we work to meet our goals because we have a huge responsibility- we have much work to do. There are so many families depending on us.....

If your unit is interested in hosting a Mission Study, District Annual Day or Spiritual Enrichment Day for 2019, please let us know as we are planning next year's calendar.

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon and as always, let us continue to PRAY FOR EACH OTHER, PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH and PRAY FOR UNITED METHODIST WOMEN being a beacon of light and HOPE to the world and the families we serve.

Let's share the EXCITEMENT and keep putting FAITH, HOPE and LOVE IN ACTION

God Bless,

*Barbara*

Barbara Carroll  
Mobile District UMW President  
United Methodist Women

## WE CAME! WE PACKED! WE DELIVERED!



### UMW Calendar

#### 2018 District Dates

Mission Study – Springhill

UMC – Aug 11

District Unit Presidents

Meeting – Westside –

Aug 18, 10am

District Spiritual Enrichment

Day – Springhill Ave UMC –

Sept 15

#### 2018 Conference Dates

Conference Spiritual

Enrichment Day –

Blue Lake, Oct 19-21

#### Other 2018 Dates

Nov – UMW Sunday in local

churches

#### Looking Forward

SE Jurisdiction UMW, Mobile -

April 17-19, 2020

The UMCOR Action Workshop held in May was a record-breaking success! We learned more about UMCOR, ate some yummy snacks, and packed a record-breaking number of Hygiene (formerly known as Health) Kits! This year, we sent 431 complete kits to Annual Conference breaking last year's record by some 20 additional kits with a value of \$5772. We also sent bulk donations to UMCOR and to a local agency valued at another \$454. Special note was made at Annual Conference that Montgomery FUMC and the **Mobile District United Methodist Women** had contributed the greatest number of completed kits in the Conference! Way to go, Mobile United Methodist Women!



The thing that we need to plan for *now* is to beat that record of 431 kits next year! The new goal: *450 Hygiene Kits!* When you have a coupon or see a sale on the items contained in the Hygiene Kit, pick up a few extras and hold for May 2019's UMCOR Action Workshop!

*NEW HAND TOWELS*

*COMBS – At least 6 inches long*

*NAIL FILE OR CLIPPERS*

*NEW WASHCLOTHS*

*BAR SOAP*

*ADULT TOOTHBRUSHES*

### Purpose

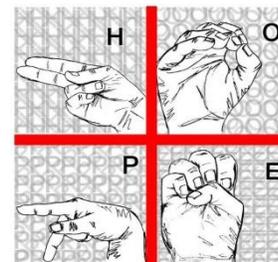
United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to the dozens of United Methodist Women in the Mobile District who contributed time, money, and effort to this vital outreach of the United Methodist Church. What a caring way of demonstrating *Faith, Hope and Love in Action!*



Many thanks to Joyce Genz and the Christ UMW members for **LEADING THIS EFFORT!**

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



## **BACK TO SCHOOL WITH CHRIST UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Several years ago, Christ United Methodist Church began a partnership with Dixon Elementary School in Irvington. Each year needed school and health supplies are donated by the congregation as an outreach to this small low-income school and community. After the first year, members of the United Methodist Women have played a pivotal role in the mission of collecting and delivering the school supplies.

Each teacher has cards listing needed school supplies posted on a colorful display board from which congregation members may select. The cards also request that the giver write, on the reverse side, a prayer or words of encouragement for the teacher. The card is attached to the school supplies bag or box and returned to the church.

At the end of the school supplies drive, Christ United Methodist Women (with the help of some spouses) load the bags and boxes for delivery just before school opens. What a sight we are at Dixon as we unload the truck and haul everything into the cafeteria, placing each bag or box in grade level piles! Sweat and sore muscles are ignored as we examine the piles of help for teachers and families. Our faces light up as we see the joy and sometimes tears of gratitude of the teachers.

We join together in prayer over these gifts, asking God's richest blessing on the children and adults who will benefit from the supplies.

For more information, contact Susan McRae at [1susanmrae@gmail.com](mailto:1susanmrae@gmail.com) or 251-751-1775.

## **Membership, Nurture and Outreach...in the United Methodist Women**

You ask someone to be a member of the United Methodist Women – out of Faith – that everyone does their job...to WELCOME this new member and to show her the WONDERFUL FELLOWSHIP. We nurture by CARING for this new member. We nurture in caring ways that her NEEDS are met. We are always in the OUTREACH mode – to reach out to different PEOPLE, GROUPS, FRIENDS, etc. You learn thru your past EXPERIENCES and take the BEST OF TIMES to remember. I remember, our family loved traveling on our summer vacations (growing up) during which we saw 48 states (stopping on Sundays for church.) What I have seen has been BREATHTAKING...with the old and the new.

Someone said...by letting go of the PAST enables us to embrace GOD'S POSSIBILITIES FOR THE FUTURE!! The future is what we are all working for!! This year in February at CONFERENCE ANNUAL DAY at Foley UMC...THE LORD'S SPIRIT WAS THERE IN THAT MEETING! This was so WONDERFUL – YOU COULD JUST FEEL HIS SPIRIT!

We are going into a new day – let us ALL TRY TO BE FAITHFUL, showing our caring for membership, nurture, outreach and to always do our BEST for the UNITED METHODIST WOMEN of which we are a part! It takes all of us to GET THE JOB DONE!

I would like to say...from the heart...**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!!!**

**OUR GOD, WE ARE THANKFUL FOR YOUR STRENGTH, HOPE AND SALVATION TO US AND FOR US AND FOR YOUR MANY BLESSINGS.**

Hugs and Prayer...Robbie Bunkley,  
District Membership, Nurture, Outreach.

Check out the flicker page for UMW Photos:

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



### Love in Action in Costa Rica

Three members of Mobile District UMW demonstrated Love in Action during a mission trip in July to Costa Rica with Hands of Joy Mission Team, <https://www.facebook.com/handsofjoymissions/> Hands of Joy was formed by Karen Freeman, wife of former UMC pastor, Gerald Freeman. Kim Feagin, South Brookley UMC, Janice Clark, St. Mark UMC and Judy Burnham, South Brookley, worked alongside 11 other missionaries on an all-purpose building at the Methodist Children's Home of Costa Rica, becoming stucco experts! They were also able to spend time playing with the children. If you are interested in joining Hands of Joy for a inspiring week in Costa Rica next year, contact them via the Facebook page or Judy Burnham, Mobile District UMW Communications Coordinator, [burnham@comcast.net](mailto:burnham@comcast.net)

### Support Dumas Wesley While You Shop

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

### TALENT BANKS ARE HERE TO STAY!

The Mobile District UMW Committee on Nominations would like to thank those who completed Talent Bank forms earlier this year. The information provided was invaluable!! Our task was made so much more productive matching the District Team needs with individual passions, gifts and availability. Forms completed this year will be kept on file as needs occur at any time. Now, those of you who have not provided Nominations with a completed Talent Bank form will have several more opportunities this year. If we don't find you, look for our display at all District events.

The Talent Bank form can be found online - <http://www.awf-umw.org/forms/awf-local-form-talentbank-201706.pdf>

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

Shirley Bryan  
Historian

**Unit Presidents Workshop** (for presidents, treasurers, incoming officers and all interested) will be held on Aug 18, 10am Westside UMC. This is mandatory for all units. BRING A BAG LUNCH.. Drinks will be provided.

## **NOMINATIONS SLATE PRESENTED BY COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS**

Current officers seeking re-election:

President - Barbara Carroll, Toulminville/Warren UMC, two year term ending 2020.

Vice President - Jay Locker, Christ UMC, one year term ending December 2019.

Membership, Nurture and Outreach - Robbie Bunkley, Christ UMC, one year term ending December 2019.

Officers presented for election:

Secretary - Linda Ferguson, Toulminville/Warren UMC.

Communications – Not yet determined – Are you interested in filling this position?

Education and Interpretation - Rosalind Darby, Theodore First UMC

Social Action - Katy Wrona, St. John's UMC

Nominations Chair - Jamie Blake, Dauphin Way UMC.

Nominations Committee Class of 2019 - Michele Smith, South Brookley UMC and Class of 2022 - Mary Gipson, Theodore First UMC and Martha Teasley, Theodore UMC

Officers completing their previously elected terms are;

Treasurer - Kathy Ulmer, Kingswood UMC

Program Resources - Bobbie Ferguson, Christ UMC

Spiritual Growth - Gail Bradford, Saraland UMC

Nominations Committee members - Class of 2019 - Michele Smith, Linda Weaver, Jamie Blake, (Chair.) Class of 2020 - Shirley Bryan, Kay Lauber and Betty Ewbank. Class of 2021- Celeste Eubanks, Katrina Jackson and Ella Dean Ellisor. Class of 2022 - Mary Gipson and Martha Teasley.

Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Election will be at Spiritual Enrichment Day, Sept 15, Springhill Ave UMC.

### **Program Resources**

I hope that you all are enjoying a lazy, hot summer staying out this heat and reading all of our great UMW books, because the deadline to turn in your list of books read during the 2018 year is just a little over 3 months away, Yes, you must give the plan that you have read this year to your local UMW Secretary of Program Resources OR your Local UMW President before October 31, 2018. Then she will send them to me, Bobbi Ferguson, District Secretary of Program Resources. I send them on from there to the District President so that she can have them for her report for the Conference Secretary of Program Resources in December. I stopped by the District Office the other day and WOW I said, where are all the books, I am happy to say that almost a whole shelf full had been checked out. That was very exciting to see. I have received the new list of books for 2019 and will be ordering some them for the District Library after I returned from Mission U. I hope that you have a great rest of the summer I hope to see y'all in September at District Spiritual Enrichment Day.

Bobbi Ferguson  
District Secretary of Program Resources

### **Mission Study**

Living in Covenant Community, the 2017 Spiritual Growth study will be held Aug 11 at Springhill Ave UMC. Clara Estes will present the study.

### **Message from the District Secretary**

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

Michele Smith  
Mobile District UMW Secretary

Please, please, everyone check your Alabama-West Florida and Mobile District web pages at least weekly, if not daily. Debbie Bell and Barbara Carroll maintain constant contact with me and assist in keeping the most current and accurate information on the websites.

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

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

Vera Moore  
Keeper of the websites



Mobile District UMW members discovered the Power of Bold at the 2018 Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. Mary was bold when she accepted God's calling to be the mother of the Savior. Boldness by Leymah Gbowee, Nobel Peace Prize Winner, helped women and children in her native Liberia. Attendees were reminded of priority issues for 2016-2020 of Economic Inequality, Climate Justice, Mass Incarceration of Communities of Color and Maternal and Child Health. They were inspired with music, dance and spiritual encouragement.

### Spiritual Enrichment Day

Join Mobile District on Sept 15 at Springhill Ave UMC for the Spiritual Enrichment Day. Elections for 2019 will take place and the budget presented. Breakout sessions will be held. Further details will be sent to all units later this summer.



Sisters in the Mobile District, Citronelle UMC will host a Quilt Show on November 17, 2018. Our ladies would like to invite you to place a quilt in our show. If you are interested, please either call or email Marion Platt at (251) 610-9748 or [mdplatt54@gmail.com](mailto:mdplatt54@gmail.com). We would also like to invite you to attend this show on the 17<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-2PM, admission is \$5 and a soup/salad lunch will be served for \$7. All monies raised will go to missions in our local area.

Toulminville-Warren Street UMW participated in the City of Prichard Juneteenth Celebration. They presented information on the unit's mission of Economic Inequality and other focus missions of the UMW.

This event provided both information on our missions and visibility in the community.

Goals of the event were community outreach, distribute information and hand out water. The information included an invitation to church.





Celeste Eubanks (St. John UMC, Mobile District) and Laurel Akin (Enterprise First UMC, Dothan District), newly consecrated Deaconesses, with Clara Ester (Toulminville-Warren St UMC, Mobile District) at Assembly 2018. Congratulations to Celeste and Laurel!

### **Making a Bold, Powerful Effort for God**

As we all know, through the Five Channels of Giving, United Methodist Women members help empower and improve the lives of women, youth and children in the United States and around the world. About 70 percent of Mission Giving funds from members go to programs and projects supporting women, children and youth. Around 20-30 percent of funds given remain with the local, district, and conference organizations of United Methodist Women for local mission. Only 9 percent covers administrative costs.

70% of our giving funds goes for grants to: ***International Ministries*** projects in Africa (28), Asia /Pacific(38), Europe(14), Latin America & Caribbean(29), Middle East(8), North America (1), and World Wide(1); about 100 ***National Institutions; Regional Missionaries***, who implement their work with women, children and youth in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Latin America, The Caribbean primarily through: training programs, workshops, strategic planning, network development; and ***Service and Advocacy*** focusing on priority issues for 2016-2020 of Climate Justice, Economic Inequality, Maternal and Child Health, and Criminalization of People of Color. Past priorities have been Human Trafficking, Global Migration, Gender Justice, Racial Justice and Food Justice. ***Giving through the 5 Channels makes a bold, powerful effort for God.***

The questions we have to ask ourselves as local units are: “*Are we using the local portions too boldly and powerfully support projects and issues for God?*” and “*Are we doing all we can to fund the Five Channels of Giving?*”

(District E& I Coordinator – Sylvia McCaskill)

Mission u 2018 offered Mobile District members study on the following topics: ***The Spiritual Growth Study, Embracing Wholeness, What About Our Money? A Faith Response, Missionary Conferences of The United Methodist Church in the United States***

