



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

The Connection

DOTHAN DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Volume 2019 Issue 4

WINTER 2019

LOVE in Action 2019

Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.
1 John 3:18 NIV

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Dothan District United Methodist Women have enjoyed a good year! Some are still participating in the Days for Girls project with Jean Johnson. We have participated in informative mission studies, Spiritual Day activities with Jane Brown, Jean Johnson, and Denver Sasser, and conference activities with our friends in other districts.

2020 will be filled with more adventures for United Methodist Women! The Southeastern Jurisdiction meeting will be held April 17-19 in Mobile, Alabama. This meeting will be filled with speakers, workshops and work projects. You may register on line at <https://www.umwsej.org/registration>.

January 11 is the date for Dothan District new and returning officer training. The training will be held at Enterprise First United Methodist Church beginning at 9:30. Unit officers, there are a few changes and updates we will cover, so please plan to be in attendance! We will have the first district mission team meeting after the training. All unit presidents are asked to attend or send a representative in your place.

February 14-15 is Conference Annual Day at Enterprise First UMC. As this meeting is being held in our district, we hope to see a great attendance from our district. Rev. Sara Shaver will be the speaker. Bishop Graves and all eight of the District Superintendents will be there also. If you haven't attended this event before, this is a great time to be inspired by speakers and to see how other units and districts in our conference fulfill the mission of United Methodist Women.

As we go forward into a new year, we often talk about ways we will improve or how we plan to do something differently. In 2020 we have the opportunity for new leadership. The offices that are up for election are President, Secretary, mission coordinator for Social Action, mission coordinator for Education and Interpretation, and Communications Coordinator. Next year will be my last year as president of the Dothan District as I will have served on the Dothan District Board for the maximum number of years. Requiring change in officers every few years was a smart decision by our founding mothers who knew that change can bring a fresh approach to procedures and planning. We all grow through new experiences and new roles. Let 2020 be the year for us to embrace change and challenges!

With Joyful blessings,
Debbie Bracewell
President
Dothan District United Methodist Women

2019

**Dothan District
Mission Team**

President

Debbie Bracewell

Vice President

TBD

Secretary

Marilyn Skipper

Treasurer

Carolyn McInnis

Program Resources

TBD

Spiritual Growth

Jane Dyer Brown

Membership Nurture & Outreach

TBD

Social Action

Jean Johnson

Education & Interpretation

TBD

Communications

Carolyn McInnis

Nominations

TBD

UPCOMING UNITED METHODIST WOMEN EVENTS

Calling u...To Celebrate

What is SEJ 2020 about?

It's ALL ABOUT YOU !



April 17-19, 2020 • Mobile, Alabama
United Methodist Women • Southeastern Jurisdiction

We're Calling u... to enjoy exciting workshops!

We're Calling u... to enjoy great music!

We're Calling u... to celebrate 150 years of service to the United Methodist Women.

This and so much more awaits you at the United Methodist Women's **2020 Southeastern**

Jurisdiction event April 17-19, 2020 at the Renaissance Riverfront Hotel in Mobile, Alabama

<https://www.umwsej.org/registration>

Spiritual Enrichment Retreat 2019





SPIRITUAL GROWTH



A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial

A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial is an opportunity for women to reflect on the gospel of Christ and make an offering that helps sustain ministry around the country and world. UMW participates yearly to collect offerings to support worthy initiatives related to the year's mission focus.

Objective

That this program will shine a light on the many ways members of United Methodist Women have changed the lives of women, children and youth on the margins through their gifts to A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. This giving also transforms members' own lives as they grow in their love of God and neighbors.

Learn — Reflect — Action

The offerings we give this year will support the work of National Mission Institutions, International Partners and Regional Missionaries. These programs offer educational and economic development opportunities to underserved and marginalized women, children and youth. Projects will include child development and afterschool programs; GED and ESL programs; job readiness, life skills and livelihood training; scholarships and microenterprise projects.

Many of us are familiar with the work A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial supports in the United States—the 90-plus National Mission Institutions located in neighborhoods across the country. Perhaps less familiar is the work that our sacrificial giving funds internationally, most especially through our Regional Missionaries. We have eight Regional Missionaries whose work around the globe is funded by A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. Our sacrificial gifts make this work possible for:

- Catherine Akale serving in Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa and Angola, as well as ecumenically
- Emma Cantor serving in Asia and the Pacific
- Hikari Chang serving in Japan
- Grace Musuka serving in Central Africa
- Finda Quiwa serving in sub-Saharan Africa
- Serna Samuel serving in the Caribbean
- Elmira Sellu serving in East and West Africa
- Andrea Reily Rocha Soares serving in Latin America

One hundred percent of the offering will go directly to fund these projects.

In planning this program, please go to www.unitedmethodistwomen.org for the following resources:

- A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial brochure
- Program of Worship (also in the Program Book)
- Poster
- Prayer Calendar
- Prayer Card

United Methodist Women members answer the call for healing and hope around the world. This is the time for each of us to determine what we will give as we seek better opportunities for the future.

Jane Dyer Brown
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

2019 Dothan
District Pledge to
Mission
\$14,750

TREASURER

Merry Christmas!

2019 Dothan
District Pledge to
Mission Received
\$10,298.54

What??? Can it really be that late in the year? 2019 may be almost over, but the work of United Methodist Women is not over and does not even take a break for the holidays. I am closing out our district's books for the year and have received \$10,298.54 toward our district pledge of \$14,750. We are currently at about 70% of our goal.

If you are wondering just where your money has gone, please take a few minutes and go to the national website. The national website has a direct link to the 2018 Grants disclosure <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/about/financial-documentation/2018grantsdisclosure.pdf>. The list is too long for me to publish here, but I urge you to read the list and share it with your unit. This list of grants reminds me of the great needs in our country and around the world. As members of United Methodist Women, we are striving to meet those needs!

The needs of women, children, and youth around the world are ongoing, and so is our support. When you are considering what you can pledge for 2020, please remember that people are depending on us for help. Even if you feel that you can not give enough to make a difference, **you do make a difference**. Our individual contributions add up to life-changing amounts for others.

Carolyn McInnis

Treasurer

REPORTING DUE DATES

Local Officer to District Officer

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Treasurer's Report Unit Treasurer	By November 30 Carolyn McInnis, District Treasurer
*Name of Deceased Members Unit Secretary	By November 30 (please report any December deaths by January 10) Jane Dyer Brown, Spiritual Growth
*Local New Unit Report Unit Secretary	By November 30 TBD, Membership Nurture & Outreach
*Social Action Report Unit Social Action Coordinator	By November 30 Jean Johnson, Social Action
*Reading Program Reports Unit Program Resource	By November 30 TBD, Program Resources
*Mission Study Participants Unit Education & Interpretation	By November 30 TBD, Education & Interpretation
Consolidated President's Report Unit President	By November 30 Debbie Bracewell, President
New Officer Lists Unit Secretary	By November 30 Marilyn Skipper, District Secretary
*Included in the Consolidated President's Report	

Dothan First UMC World Thank Program 2019





DOTHAN DISTRICT UMW SPOTLIGHT ON SOCIAL ACTION



Greetings and Happy Fall, everyone! There is so much of God's work to do, and the cooler temperatures seem to energize us to get the Lord's work done. Since I wrote to you last, our Days for Girls sewing group at St. Luke United Methodist prepared 139 full kits, which were immediately mailed to the DfG receiving center in early October. This represents a ton of hard work and an even greater number of blessings received. Thank you, ladies. If anyone wants to join in, learn, and contribute, please let me know and I will put you in touch with the right people.

At this year's Spiritual Day, we took a look at issues related to a UMW priority, the School to Prison Pipeline. After much prayer, our speaker that day contacted the Kairos of Alabama Director, who will drive on Monday, November 18, from Huntsville to Enterprise to train my husband Denver on how to stand up a Kairos team in South Alabama. As it turns out, God had been putting the need for Kairos in South Alabama on the Kairos Director's heart, as well. The Lord works in mysterious ways. As United Methodist Women, may we prepare our hearts to support this team from the outside when the time comes. I will keep you posted.

Another way to give support this year is the Angel Tree ministry at Christmas. This is an outreach to spouses and children of prisoners. Enterprise First United Methodist supports this ministry not only with gifts for the children, but with an Angel Tree Christmas Party for these families. You may know of other opportunities to support Angel Tree, which is an outgrowth of the Chuck Colson Ministry, Prison Fellowship. There are several children in Houston County who have not yet been assigned sponsors in Angel Tree. You may contact me if you'd like to know more.

I wish you all the blessings of the Christmas season. May the love of God overflow from your hearts and cover others with His blessed presence.

Jean Johnson
Social Action Coordinator
334-406-7964

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.



TALENT BANK INFORMATION ON PROSPECTIVE LEADERSHIP

(To be completed by prospective leader)

Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary) Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Local Church _____ District _____

Age _____ Email _____

Spoken _____ Racial Ethnic Group _____

Professional skills, job experience _____

Office(s) Held in United Methodist Women

Office(s)	Dates of Service
Local _____	_____
District _____	_____
Conference _____	_____
Jurisdiction _____	_____

Additional Experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Methodist Women) or in the community _____

Special Talents or Skills _____

Areas of Special Interest or Concern

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> secretarial | <input type="checkbox"/> recruiting members | <input type="checkbox"/> publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> social issues | <input type="checkbox"/> workshops |
| <input type="checkbox"/> computer | <input type="checkbox"/> creativity | <input type="checkbox"/> newsletters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> accounting/bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> recording minutes | <input type="checkbox"/> retreats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> organization of details | <input type="checkbox"/> public policy | <input type="checkbox"/> music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> nominations | <input type="checkbox"/> public relations | <input type="checkbox"/> youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> program planning | <input type="checkbox"/> community building | <input type="checkbox"/> children |
| <input type="checkbox"/> administration | <input type="checkbox"/> inclusiveness/pluralism | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Do you wish to serve on which level (circle): Local District Conference

Which office(s) on the United Methodist Women’s Team would you most like to hold given the opportunity to serve?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Nurture & Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary | <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Growth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair of Nominations | <input type="checkbox"/> Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Interpretation | |

Why are you interested in this position and what qualifications do you feel you have for your office(s) of choice?

Would you be able to use your gifts and talents to uphold and strengthen United Methodist Women through the PURPOSE of the organization? _____

Is it possible for you to be away from your home or employment for:

Full Day _____ Weekend _____ Extended Time _____

Yes or No Yes or No Yes or No

_____ I am sorry but I am unable to accept an office this year. Please keep my name on file and contact me in _____.