

UMW REPORT TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2017

FROM THE BOOK OR REPORTS

http://www.awfumc.org/files/websites/www/BOR_17_final.pdf

United Methodist Women PURPOSE: to know God and 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. FUNDING: In 2016, The Alabama-West Florida Conference United Methodist Women met our \$125,000 Pledge to Mission to the National organization and exercised good stewardship within our annual budget. The many National agencies include the Dumas Wesley Community Center in Mobile, Alabama. Our mission dollars continue to journey throughout specific projects and help in establishing Methodist Women's societies in other countries and also include help with hospitals, schools and assist with agriculture projects. As well, other funds collected went to specific conference and district agency destinations within our local church communities. FOCUS: Leadership Development, where the central mission of United Methodist Women present opportunities and development for our future leaders. In 2016, we assembled to elect the 2016-2020 southeastern jurisdiction leadership team and National directors. We are honored to announce the election of these leaders from our Alabama-West Florida conference; Betty Helms, for Southeastern Jurisdiction

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President and Clara Ester, for a Director of the National Board of United Methodist Women for this Jurisdiction Leadership Team. Additionally, Clara Ester received the nomination and was elected as the National Vice-President of United Methodist Women. Conference and District Executive Mission Teams, where we are attentive to the scope of work for the United Methodist Women Purpose within the Local Unit (at the Church). Cooperative Mission and district mission studies, where we study lessons of a Biblical, social and geographical nature. Participants are then prepared study leaders to lead or assist these same studies at their local church or Local Unit. Reading Program, where a diverse range of books in categories like Education for mission, Nurturing for community, Social action, Spiritual growth and Leadership development are available to expose us to concepts of mission. At this time, immigration, environment and climate justice, domestic violence and human trafficking are our areas of special emphases. GOALS: Our goal and our challenge, is to ensure every church in our conference has an active Local Unit of United Methodist Women involved in the mission for women, children and youth. Our current membership includes over 3700 women at 148 Local Units focused on the same vision of turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of the agencies that assist women, children and youth in our communities and around the world.

Listen, as we begin to say our organization name "United Methodist Women," more than pronouncing our initials "UMW".

Prepared by Deborah S. Bell (Debbie),
President 2017-2018 Alabama-West Florida United Methodist Women on behalf of
Lynn Hamric, 2015-2016 President

Resources: "On a Path for Mission" brochure, www.umwmissionresources.org/
AWF-UMW Workbook <http://www.awf-umw.org/>