



DEMOPOLIS DISTRICT LINK

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Points from the President's Pen

margaret_agee@yahoo.com

We have had an informative mission study on **Climate Justice** at Pine Hill UMC with twenty-seven members present representing six local units. If you have read the book you will be able to count it in the **Social Action** category. If you read "*The Missionary Conferences of the UMC*," you can count it in the **Education for Mission** category. "*Living as a Covenantal Community*" is the **Spiritual Growth** mission study. Don't forget to report your books read from the Reading Program listing. **Plan I** is one book in each of five categories and reading the *Response* magazine regularly. **Plan II** would be two books in each category and reading *Response* and *New World Outlook* magazines.

I want to thank all of you who cooperated in the membership drive either by keying or by sending us the listing so that we could get it set up and keyed.

All of our conference and district events are planned for your information to know what is going on with the United Methodist Women. Please consider attending. The Demopolis District will be having our Spiritual Day Apart meeting coming up October 7th and held at Johnson Hill UMC with our registration at 9:30 and our program beginning at 10:00. We will also hold district officer elections and installations at this time. Our speaker for the day is Dr. LaTeasa Hicks, the Executive Director of Mary Ellen's Hearth @Nellie Burge in Montgomery.

The conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat will be held at Blue Lake on October 20-22. Dr. Laura Early from the Western North Carolina Conference will be our speaker for the weekend. You can check her out on this website to learn about her ministry: placeofpossibilities.org. Now is the time to register for this yearly retreat that offers UMW members the opportunity to hear an inspirational speaker as well as time to be with old and new friends. The General Registration Form can be found at the end of the newsletter along with the Health Form for Blue Lake Assembly which must be attached to the Registration Form. There are instructions for filling out the form as well. It is important for you to fill out the registration form as soon as possible; the deadline for registration is October 6th, and it is sent to our own Demopolis District past president who is now the Conference Treasurer for AWF UMW! ☺ Please note that if you register after 10/6, you will have to pay a late fee of \$10. District Officers have a different form to complete, please contact me for that form. If you cannot be there for the entire time just fill out the items according to your arrival or departure. Figure your payment accordingly or call Jean Creswell for verification of the amount. Her phone numbers are listed on the registration form. Demopolis and Dothan Districts are assigned refreshments on Friday evening at 3:30. I hope you will consider bringing some snacks with you or sending us some money to help pay for the purchase of a few. Please let me know what to expect from your unit as to what you can do!

*Please keep in mind the reporting date of **November 30th**. Reports should be in the District President's hand **before or by that date** because my reports have to be in to AWF Conference President by December 10th which doesn't give me much time.*

Our Demopolis District Annual Day will be held February 3, 2018 at Grove Hill UMC. Our speaker for that day will be our AWF UMW president, Debbie Bell of Mobile. This will give each of you time to hear from her the state of our UMW organization and share the accomplishments that are occurring throughout our conference. This meeting will also be the time we celebrate our Memorial

Service and honor all those women in our district churches who have participated in the mission of our United Methodist Women's organization.

I trust that in your meetings each month now you are reviewing your Mission Today Unit report to see what you have accomplished and what you might be short on. All of these meetings mentioned above are listed on that report. Also be looking at and reviewing your giving; as of now we have only 5 units that have given in all 5 categories of the 5-Star unit. Each of the presidents were mailed a "Report Card" (as requested by some) to let you know what your giving was to that point. I hope you have considered it. Don't wait until the last minute because the Special Mission Recognition pin has to be ordered, and it does take from 6-8 weeks sometimes to receive that back so plan your meetings accordingly. We have paid \$7,277.50 on our pledge of \$13,000 and will need to send in \$5,722.50 more. We're over halfway there to meeting that goal! Fall is catching up with us, and we need to be reviewing our year to see what we need to improve on.

Attention all District Officers: Sunday, November 5th at 2:00 **YOU** are invited to join us for a District Officer Training session to be held at Linden UMC (one on one). Because there will be changes in some of our report forms, especially in the Treasurer's position, **Local Unit Officers** will be trained after the first of the year. (TBD) The Conference AWF UMW is trying to cut back on forms as best we can and still get the information we need for reporting.

I cannot close without asking that you PRAY for those affected by the disaster areas (Texas, Louisiana, now Florida, and the Caribbean) and seriously consider monetary gifts to UMCOR (Advance #901671 U.S. Disaster Response), Samaritan's Purse, Salvation Army, Red Cross, or your local church if you have a disaster team headed in the direction of the Gulf disaster area to help with clean up.

Give me a call or e-mail me if there is anything I can do for you or your unit. I am here for you. God bless you for all you do for women, children, and youth.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Margaret Agee
margaret_agee@yahoo.com

Conference & District Dates

October 7	District Spiritual Day Apart Dr. LaTeasa Hicks, Director Mary Ellen's Hearth @ Nellie Burge	Johnson Hill UMC 9:30 Registration 10:00 Program Lunch provided
October 20-22	Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat and Elections	Blue Lake, Registration due before Oct. 6
November 5	District Officer Training	Linden UMC @ 2:00
February 3, 2018	District Annual Day & Memorial Service Guest Speaker: AWF UMW President, Debbie Bell	Grove Hill UMC

Climate Justice Study @ Pine Hill UMC



Back Row: Pine Hill UMW Members

Middle Row: Demopolis First UMW Members



**Jefferson UMW Members
Jean's daughter, Jennifer, at the table behind Jefferson**

Thomasville UMW Members





District Nominations Committee Report

2018 Officers for the Demopolis District UMW



Introducing **Linda Carden** – **Communications Coordinator**

Linda and her husband, Mark moved to Pine Hill in September 2016 with Mark's job at International Paper. They have 5 sons! Linda has a BS in Nursing and worked as Director of Education for several years before taking a job as nursing instructor. At present she is enjoying staying at home with the boys and her mom, who moved in with the family about a year ago. She is a member of Pine Hill UMC.



Here is **Carolyn Hemstreet** – **Nominations Committee Member**

Carolyn is married to William Hemstreet and is library director at Hale County Library in Greensboro. She attends Greensboro First UMC where she serves as Secretary to the Administrative Board and sing in the choir. Carolyn is a member of Greensboro UMW and recently finished a term as UMW President.



Introducing **Joyce Kerby** – **Nominations Committee Member**

Joyce L. Kerby was married for 62 years to Jack O. Kerby until his death, February 22, 2015. The couple reared 3 children: Lucinda K. Mason, J. Olen Kerby, Jr., and Victoria K. Justice. Mrs. Kerby has 7 grandchildren and 1 great-grandson. She was a Business Education teacher for 31 years. Joyce is a member of Demopolis First UMC and served as President of their UMW for 6 years as well as serving previously as President of Thomasville UMW!

Introducing **Odette Yeager – District Treasurer**

Odette is a member of Greensboro First Methodist. She also is a member of the DAR as well as the Greensboro Music Study Club. Her vocation has been in the business world as a CPA.



Here is **Kayte Melton – Nominations Chair**

Kayte and her husband Thomas have been married for 59 years, have 2 daughters, 5 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. She is a retired teacher of English and a Certified Reading Specialist. Kayte has served 7 years on the Demopolis District Mission Team, is past president of Demopolis UMW and Nominations Chair for Demopolis UMW. She is a member of Demopolis First UMC, a member of the Board of Trustees, teaches a Sunday School Class, and sings in the choir!

Let me introduce you to **Kathy Patterson – Education & Interpretation/
Spiritual Growth**

Kathy is married to Jim Patterson (53 years!), and they have 2 children and 4 grandchildren. She is a member of Jefferson UMC where she is church treasurer, pianist, choir director; pre-school Sunday School teacher, and UMW President. Kathy is a retired first grade teacher and volunteers at Bryan W. Whitfield Memorial Hospital and Gaineswood. She has served as DD Nominations Chair for the past 2 years.



2018 Demopolis District UMW Officers (cont.)

Introducing you to **Beverly Sanders – Vice President**

Beverly is married to William L. Sanders, together they have 4 children, 17 grandchildren, and 4 great-grands! Beverly is a member of Zion UMC in Marion where she serves as PPR Chairperson on the Zion/Simpson Chapel Charge. She is Treasurer of the Ladies Progressive Club of Perry County and President of the Hospitality Committee for Historical Lincoln Normal School and Museum. Beverly was educated in Canada and is retired from a career in management.



Meet **Tracye Miller-Kennie – Membership, Nurture & Outreach/Social Action**

A native of Ohio, Tracye has been a resident of Alabama for the past 22 years. She is a graduate of Concordia College with a BS in Business Administration, and is presently employed with UAB Hospital in the position of Office Services Specialist III. Tracye and her husband Stanley have 8 adult children and 17 grandchildren. She is a member of Zion UMC (Marion) where she serves as Hospitality Coordinator.



Here is **Paula Bonner – Program Resources**

Paula is a native of Ft. Walton Beach, FL, and has followed her pastor-husband from the hills of North Georgia to AWF Conference serving churches from South Mobile County, Tallassee, Montgomery, Selma, Camden, Prattville, Ft. Walton Beach, and lastly in Demopolis. She enjoys living in the country and growing vegetables when the weather cooperates!

Introducing **Frankie Gaddy – District Secretary**

Frankie is originally from Thomasville, but now resides in Camden, where she is a member of Camden UMC and UMW. She is married to Wayne Gaddy (47 years!), and they have three children and 5 grandchildren. Frankie is a busy lady, holding membership in several clubs. She is presently secretary of the Camden UMW Unit.



(Photo not available)



This is the “Bright Lights” page for any Demopolis District UMW Unit to share what and how their Unit has been doing in Mission to their community, or sharing a mission they are supporting in a unique way—it’s a place to share ideas and joys as you work to improve the lives of Women, Children, and Youth!

Jefferson UMW Hosts a SHOE PARTY!!



The idea of cutting out shoes for children in Uganda came to us from a school project in Vestavia. Ugandan children walk, work, and play all day with no shoes on their feet. Feet become damaged from rocks, hot sand and mud, making them susceptible to infections, diseases, and parasites. Untreated, these infections and parasites claim limbs and lives.

We ordered a pattern kit from Sole Hope, gathered our materials (old blue jeans and plastic milk jugs), and had a fun time at our July meeting tracing and cutting out parts for 12 pairs of Toddler 7 shoes. Shoe parts were sent by Sole Hope. Sole Hope will mail them to Uganda to be sewn by Ugandan shoemakers and distributed to Sole Hope Clinics that wash and treat the infected feet of 150-200 children each week.





October 7

**District Spiritual Day Apart at Johnson Hill UMC
Registration 9:30 and Meeting @ 10:00
Lunch will be provided for all, and a donation will
be accepted at the registration table.**

We will be honored to have the Executive Director of Mary Ellen's Hearth at Nellie Burge Center as our guest speaker at the District Spiritual Day Apart. Dr. LaTeasa Hicks is a Licensed Social Worker, a Certified Mediator, Certified Survival Skills Facilitator, and a member of Sigma Delta Delta which is an International Honors Society in Business. She has earned several degrees, among them, B.A. in Social Work from the University of Toledo, a B.S. in Criminal Justice from St. Augustine's College, a M.Ed. in Special Education, MSW in Social Work from Wayne State University and D.D. in Organizational Leadership from Argosy University. Her work experience has been with Gateway Child and Family Services, the Alabama Department of Public Health, as well as 20 years at FOCUS. Dr. Hicks lives in Montgomery.



Attached to this newsletter is the registration form, instructions on how to fill it out, and the health form. If you cannot download it and print it off from this newsletter, please go to our conference website and print it off from that location: (www.AWFUMW.org), and send to Jean @ the address listed in our President's letter.