



The Informer

Mobile District United Methodist Women Newsletter Feb 2018

MOBILE DISTRICT MISSION TEAM 2017

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 20201

Trina Jackson

Ella Dean Ellisor

A Message from the President

UMW Sisters

I am grateful and elated to greet you at this the start of the New Year. Congratulations and welcome to newly elected officers and members, and greetings to returning sisters.

Thanks to your dedication and hard work, we had a successful past year. We walked in our calling - we provided numerous mission services to our local and global communities, participated in self-enrichment projects and met our conference Pledge to Mission goal – Yea!!!

I hope that units are getting organized and off to a great start. Organization is important because the success of our ministry begins with what we accomplish on the local level. Start with getting Pledge Cards signed. This will allow you to affirm membership, calendars/ events, pledges, etc.

There are upcoming district and conference events planned to assist you, commencing with our District Training on February 3rd at Christ UMC. General information, calendars, updates, Unit Training Packets and 2018 District Directories will be available. So, mark your calendars now and plan to attend. Check our website for regular updates.

I am looking forward to a great year!!! I am looking forward to us growing in **FAITH** and ministry; I am looking forward to us providing **HOPE** to women and children at home and far; I am looking forward to us putting **LOVE IN ACTION**..... I am looking forward to us supporting the ministries of United Methodist Women.

God Bless and keep you in His care.

God Bless United Methodist Women and those to whom we ministry.

Barbara

Barbara Carroll
Mobile District UMW President
United Methodist Women



UMW Calendar

2018 District Dates

District Officer's Training –
Christ UMC – Feb 3, 9am
Mission Study – Citronelle
UMC – March 3
District Annual Day –
TWSUMC – April 8, 2:30pm
UMCOR Workshop – Christ
UMC, April 21, 9:30-11:00
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 Annual Day –
Foley UMC Feb 23-24
Mission u – St Luke UMC,
Pensacola, FL, July 20-21
Conference Spiritual
Enrichment Day –
Blue Lake, Oct 19-21

Other 2018 Dates

UMW Assembly – Columbus,
OH "Power of Bold"-
May 18-20, 2018
AWF Annual Conference –
June 3-6
Nov – UMW Sunday in local
churches

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.

Mobile District UMW 2018 Budget

Officer's Expenses

| | |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Postage | \$100 |
| Supplies/Copies | \$200 |
| Travel | \$125 |
| Total Officer's Expenses | \$425 |

Other Expenses

| | |
|---|---------|
| Resources/Literature | \$200 |
| Officer training | \$100 |
| District Annual Day | \$100 |
| Spiritual Enrichment Day | \$100 |
| Newsletter/Correspondence | \$150 |
| District Directory | \$100 |
| Mission Studies | \$100 |
| Assembly/Jurisdiction | \$300 |
| Contingency Fund | \$200 |
| Scholarship Annual UMC Conference (Pres.) | \$550 |
| Audit Review | \$100 |
| Retiring Officers | \$100 |
| Total Other Expenses | \$2,100 |
| Total Administrative and Development Budget | \$2,525 |

TOTAL PLEDGE TO MISSION \$20,000

Message from the District Secretary

District directories will be available on District UMW website look for announcement. Thanks to all local UMW that updated information.

Michele Smith
Secretary

Membership, Nurture and Outreach

MEMBERSHIP IS LIKE A FLOWER

(All my flowers are inside because of snow and weather!)

Look at a plant - - it needs food, water and the best place to get sunlight. . . sometimes music and talking to them, also helps them to grow!!

How is your membership growing?

Nourish your future members into a wonderful, warm, sunny place where they can shine for Jesus! Talking to them and doing projects for Jesus is the key to any UMW meeting. Invite them in with a Welcome Letter and a UMW card showing times and places.

Remember. . . Jesus is there with you. Enjoy! This will get you off to a wonderful 2018 with Jesus. Start a membership drive TODAY!

Robbie Bunkley
Membership, Nurture and Outreach

UMCOR Health Kits

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is a vibrant and essential arm of the United Methodist Church whose outreach is world-wide. In times of disaster, UMCOR is among the first to step forward to help rebuild and restore. Every penny donated to UMCOR goes directly to help others – no administrative costs are never taken from donations.

The need for Health Kits at UMCOR continues and we are so blessed to be able to help supply these kits as an annual project of the Mobile District UMW. We will meet on *April 21* from *9:30 AM to 11 AM* at *Christ United Methodist Church* in the *Christ Center Assembly Area* for our annual UMCOR workshop and meeting. Supplies to be brought for the workshop are listed below. Monetary donations are also welcome and are used for bulk purchases; send donations to your unit president or treasurer who will channel them to the coordinator for this project.

We are blessed and thankful to be on the giving end of this project and have hope that we will not need to be on the receiving end.

Supplies needed for health kits

NEW HAND TOWELS – 15"x25" to 17"x27"

+++*No kitchen, cleaning or microfiber towels, please.*

NEW WASHCLOTHS – *Do not wash hand towels or washcloths.*

COMBS – Sturdy, at least 6 inches long. *No pocket combs or picks.*

NAIL FILE OR CLIPPERS – *No emery boards or toenail clippers.*

BAR SOAP – 3 oz. or larger only.

+++ *No Jergen's or Ivory brand soap, please. Do not remove packaging.*

TOOTHBRUSHES – Adult size only. Individually wrapped. *Do not remove packaging.*

ADHESIVE BANDAGES – 6 per kit; ¾" to 1"-size *Common household band-aids.*

+++*\$1 per kit - For bulk purchase of toothpaste by UMCOR+++*

Contact Joyce Genz at 251.259.1675 or jgenz@comcast.net for more information

See attached flyer

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

Church Women United to meet at Theodore First UMC

The Church Women United will meet at Theodore 1st UMC on Feb 17, with the program to start at 10am. Mrs. Mary Gipson will have a short program on Black History. We will serve lunch after the program.

\$10 for membership in Church Women United is encouraged.

Theodore 1st UMC
5451 Washington Blvd

Theodore, AL

Rev. Ronald McCants, Pastor

Mary Presley

The good things about Mobile District website:

- Information readily available from computers, notebooks and phones
- Free advertising for district and church events
- Fresh new information
- Instant progress reports and appeals
- Saves printing costs
- Saves wasted paper from the landfills

The only negative thing is when we do not hear from you. Share your information with Barbara Carroll or Judy Burnham and they will share with me.

Vera Moore

keeper of the websites:

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

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

Reflecting on the Past to INTENSIFY the Future

We are well into the New Year, but I encourage you, if you have not already done so, to take time to celebrate your unit's 2017 accomplishments. Evaluate your unit's strengths and determine your needs. Reflect how God has been at work in your unit. Giving an account of all the things God has done through your unit anchors your faith and gives hope for the future.

As God's children, the goal is to always to grow and do better. For UMW units, this means we need to plan and organize to promote mission through our activities such as prayer, *learning*, serving, *giving*, advocacy, and community building while keeping in mind what God is calling our groups to do. As District Education and Interpretation (E&I) Coordinator, I highlighted *learning* and *giving only* because I have the responsibility of encouraging your unit via your unit's E&I coordinator (or President if you do not have an E&I Coordinator) to understand and promote mission giving and mission education opportunities within United Methodist Women.

A couple of tools that can be used to provide understanding, evaluation, and planning with your entire group are Mission Today Unit Criteria and UMW Consolidated President's Report. These two tools can help us determine what we've accomplished, how well we've done it, and areas of future focus. Reviewing the UMW Consolidated President's Report is an excellent examination of your accomplishments and highlights areas where improvement is needed. The **Mission Today Unit Criteria can keep you focused on mission throughout the year and is very helpful in planning; its purpose is to:**

- Energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action.
- Increase contacts between units and mission personnel and mission projects so the United Methodist Women understand where their money goes.
- Encourage the use of mission resources through United Methodist Women.
- Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

Assigning each of the Mission Today Criteria to members of your group and have members report on its progress regularly keeps your team engaged and focused.

If you would like to discuss these tools and their use or anything you feel I can help you with as E&I Coordinator, do not hesitate to contact me (256-527-6022 or smccaskil@gmail.com).

God is calling us to intensify our efforts to provide intensified hope for the future!!

Sylvia McCaskill
Education and Interpretation

Let's start 2018 off by making & sending pictures (for the yearbook) to me, as a way for other units in the district to get some new ideas, and to look back on 2018 and remember all the fun times we had during the year. Thank you!

Shirley Bryan
Historian

By the time this newsletter is published, the Mobile District Nominations Committee will have met and been at work looking for ladies to take positions coming open for next year – 2019. Talent banks will be distributed at every opportunity available to each member in our District by the committee members. YOU can help by completing one of these talent bank forms even if you think you have nothing to offer. Each one of us has a talent and/or gift so let's use them! We need a team of dedicated women, and that includes YOU.

Martha Teasley
Nomination Chair

Greetings to Vice Presidents

Hoping by now that you all are excited about beginning a New Year in United Methodist Women activity. We have celebrated the birth of our Savior and now are ready to serve Him through our mission service.

Upcoming events are Officer Training on Feb 3rd at Christ UMC, starting at 9am. Please encourage all elected and current unit officers to attend. This is where we learn about our jobs. District officers will be training the local unit officers and will be available for answering questions and encouraging you as you begin your responsibilities.

Also important is encouraging members and guests to attend Annual Day at Toulminville-Warren UMC on April 8th at 2:30pm. We will be having a business meeting and an inspiring speaker. Also at this meeting we will be honoring deceased United Methodist Women for the year 2017. This should be a very special meeting when we can recognize those who have given their love and service to fulfill the purpose of the UMW.

The Mission Study on March 3rd will be at Citronelle UMC. Again, we are responsible to encourage our members to attend. Get all excited – go tell everybody – share your enthusiasm.

Another conference activity that we cannot afford to miss is the Conference Annual Day at Foley UMC. Sharon Priddy, the National UMW President will be the speaker. This is a unique opportunity for us to hear from our National President.

Please share your love of the Lord – get excited and get involved. See you at the next meeting.

Jay Locker

Mobile District UMW Vice President

Spiritual Growth

As we start our year for Spiritual Enrichment with a focus on HOPE, I want to thank all those who attended, planned for and worked to bring us Mission U, Conference and District SED Retreat and Day. After focus on the preciousness of faith, we want to move on to this focus--where and how we are giving!

The Conference SED Retreat, was a sharing of stories about our Spiritual journey. One of my favorite stories, was from a woman, (I don't remember where she was from), but she told about the "Methodist ladies" that work in the local schools reading to children and doing what is needed. She said the children would ask, "Are you a Methodist lady? And can you help me get one of those food bags?" She also told about their work towards Communities of Transformation, and providing a car for a high school young man. He was in a household where no one worked out of the home Now, he can leave school and go to work AND still has time to take care of family members. The young man and family are doing really well, fueled by the faith and hope of the "Methodist ladies."

I feel that if you've been around AL-FLA very long, you had heard the adage, "I don't care what you call me, as long as you call me for supper." Now, somewhere in the UMW hierarchy there would be those who will think we SHOULD always be called UMW. I have thought about this a lot. I have a new appreciation for what we do and what a difference it's making in the world. So, go--all you "Methodist ladies!!!"

Last year I offered to come to your units to give a program or devotional on Faith, built around Biblical Greek (I Peter). I still have this available, as it is already developed and this year, I want to offer this again, this time on Hope.

Gail Bradford

Spiritual Growth

Intercept the Traffickers 2018
United Methodist Women
are Standing in the Red Zone

In football, the area between the 20-yard line and the goal of the defensive team is known as the "Red Zone." A team that has a high Red Zone percentage because it finishes its drives to score touchdowns on a regular basis. In the fight to end human trafficking, United Methodist Women are moving in the Red Zone poised to score points that Intercept Human Trafficking.

A team that is in the Red Zone is one that has the ball and is less than 20 yards from scoring. Hearing that a team is in the Red Zone makes fans take notice and pay attention to what is happening on the field. The National Football League created a television network called the NFL Red Zone to report on "every touchdown and field goal scored" and the strong offensive drives.

Taking its origins from military terms, the Red Zone means generally close to the enemy." Teams in the Red Zone usually get a touchdown and if not, they get a field goal. United Methodist Women are keeping score; we are counting new beds, new funding for services; and increased prosecutions. We are making offensive plays to Intercept the Traffickers; our efforts have put us in a Red Zone where we are applying our skills of advocacy and action to capitalize on the weaknesses of those who prey on the vulnerable. To symbolize our push to move through the goal posts toward victory against the traffickers, we are moving in the Red Zone. We are putting pressure on the traffickers by raising our voices; United Methodist Women have educated and outreached to over 43,000 people all across America, and shared out accomplishments all over the world. We've helped pass anti-trafficking legislation at the Federal level and Safe Harbor laws in state and



supported global partners working to end trafficking which impacts over 20 million people, with 70% of all detected trafficking incidents involving women and children.

What You Can Do:

- Be bold in red – – Stand together all dressed in Red
- Wear red choir robes, red hats and shoes, or gather a room full of redheads
- Make something red
- Hold something red—flowers, cups,
- Dance in a red room
- Sit on a red chair or sofa
- Stand on a red carpet
- Raise red banners, or fans

Take Photos:

Send your pictures to Laurel Akin, Alabama-West Florida Conference Social Action Coordinator, who will share your Red Zone participation in many ways:

National
Conference
Facebook



Mobile District UMW Mission Team are standing in the Red Zone!

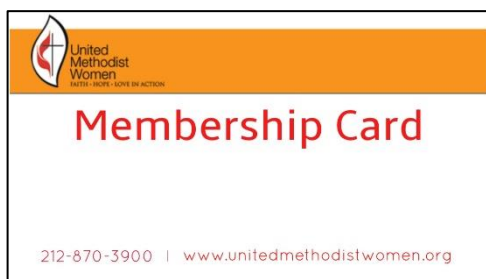
Want to see more UMW photos?

Check out the flicker page:

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



**United Methodist Women Assembly -
May 18-20, 2018 - Greater Columbus
Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio.**



The National UMW Office is asking that we complete the 2017 Census Report (like last year). All members should go to the UMW.org web-site to register and print membership cards. Each unit count helps determine the district count and is combined into the national membership count. Presidents go to: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/census2017 and click on purple box. Members go to: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/myUMW and click blue box. Dead line for registration is MARCH 30, 2018, but please don't wait, do it now.