



United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# The Connection

DOTHAN DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

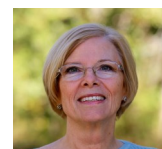
Volume 2018 Issue 2

SUMMER 2018

## HOPE — "... We have this HOPE..."

*We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever — Hebrews 6:19-20 NIV*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



This year is half over, and we as United Methodist Women still have much to do!

This summer we have Mission u scheduled for July 20-21 at Gadsden Street United Methodist Church in Pensacola, FL. The Courtyard Marriott (850-857-7744) at 451 Creighton Rd, Pensacola, FL, is one of the reserved hotels for our group. The Hampton Inn & Suites (850-505-7500) at 7050 Plantation Rd, Pensacola, FL, is the other hotel reserved for our group. Three excellent studies will be offered: *Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States*, *What About Our Money*, and *Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living*. Be sure to Register by July 7 for the studies and by June 15 for the hotels. Mission u is a great time for fellowship and education to transform us as servants of God.

Our Dothan District Spiritual Day is August 18. We are looking for a host church—if your church would like to host Spiritual Day, please let me know! We will have three workshop sessions from which attendees can choose two in which to participate. We will also have a devotional message.

District officer elections are coming up. Offices that are available are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Spiritual Growth coordinator, Program Resources coordinator, Membership Nurture and Outreach coordinator, Education and Interpretation coordinator, Communications coordinator, and Nominations Chair. Several of these leadership positions are currently vacant. While some may feel they are not equipped to be leaders, *Hebrews 13: 21* tells us that God will "equip you with everything good for doing his will." Prayerfully consider joining our leadership team to assist the Dothan District in fulfilling our purpose in mission with women, children, and youth.

Joyful blessings,

*Debbie Bracewell*

### 2018

**Dothan District  
Mission Team**

#### President

Debbie Bracewell

#### Vice President

TBD

#### Secretary

Marilyn Skipper

#### Treasurer

Carolyn McInnis

#### Program Resources

TBD

#### Spiritual Growth

TBD

#### Membership Nurture & Outreach

TBD

#### Social Action

Jean Johnson

#### Education & Interpretation

TBD

#### Communications

Carolyn McInnis

#### Nominations

TBD



## SOCIAL ACTION DAYS FOR GIRLS PROJECT

Great news! We are quickly mobilizing as the Dothan District UMW Mission Team to sew Days for Girls feminine products that will help women and girls in third world countries lead more productive and healthier lives. Through this work, not only women and girls, but also their communities, will grow stronger. Drop-out rates in a Uganda school went from 36% to 8% after one year of access to Days for Girls kits. *We can make a difference* in a very meaningful and practical way.

Our first sewing day was Saturday, May 19, 2018, at St. Luke United Methodist Church in Enterprise. Patsy Chalker from St. Luke UMC was lead seamstress in preparing our samples for evaluation. We are working with Rosellen Bohlen, a Days for Girls mentor from Foley, Alabama, to make sure we're on the right track. Every pattern is cut exactly. Every stitch is important. Every detail is added with love.

At our first meeting, we learned about the project with a video and introduction to the product and materials; then, we created an assembly line to include tracing patterns, cutting, basting, assembling, sewing the shields, ironing, quality checks and adding snaps. We had three marking and cutting tables, eight sewing machines, and 22 women. We went for the "gold standard" in the quality of our products, measuring carefully for an excellent result. We have completed 25 shields, 12 of which were completed that day. Also, a few women took home work to complete and return. All in all, it was a great success; and, we had fun getting to know each other and sharing a delicious meal together prepared by Mary Alice Logan of St. Luke UMC.





## DAYS FOR GIRLS PROJECT WORK DAY ST. LUKE UMC



Courtesy Days for Girls



Courtesy Days for Girls



Courtesy Days for Girls



Assembly 2018 was held in Columbus, Ohio, May 17 – May 20. **The Power of Bold** was the theme of this Assembly, and this message was woven throughout every workshop and every gathering with inspiring music, interpretative dance, thought-provocative exhibits, and passionate speakers.

**WHAT HAPPENED AT ASSEMBLY?** Public action gathering at the state capital focuses on A Living Wage 4 All.



United Methodist Women Assembly May 18-20, 2018 • Greater Columbus Convention Center



**CALLED TO BOLD**—Laurel Akin Deaconess Commission-



Leymah Gbowee, a Nobel Peace Prize recipient in 2011 for her work in leading a woman's peace movement that brought an end to the Second Liberian Civil War in 2003, speaks about **BOLD**



### **INSPIRE**

Be inspired by cutting-edge speakers and deep spiritual experiences.

### **MOBILIZE**

Learn to mobilize through a public rally, Town Halls, workshops and social justice exhibits.

### **ACTIVATE**

Leave with action plans for your own community.



**COST OF BOLD** speakers Michelle Alexander and Marian Wright Edelman. Alexander authored the book *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. Edelman is the founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund and is an advocate for disadvantaged Americans.





**Bold Action** was addressed by Reverend Hannah Bonner and Tamika Mallory. Reverend Bonner is the Director of the Wesley Foundation of Tucson at the University of Arizona, was recognized as one of the 16 Faith Leaders to Watch in 2016 and is a prolific author. Mallory is one of four co-chairs of the Women's March on Washington and is included in the 2017 *Time* 100 Pioneers list and *Fortune's* 2017 list of the World's Greatest Leaders.

Nine women bishops joined United Methodist Women for the closing service of **The Power of Bold** quadrennial Assembly in a show of mutual support, celebration of progress and a joint commitment to the ongoing struggle for gender justice in church and society.



# 2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<h2>January</h2> <p>13 — District-Wide Officer Training, 9:30, Enterprise First, Gathering Room 19-20 — COSROW, Blue Lake 28 — Super Sunday, Enter-</p>	<h2>February</h2> <p>10 — District Annual Day 23-24 — Conference Annual Day, Foley United Methodist Church</p>	<h2>March</h2> 
<h2>April</h2> <p>7 — District Mission Study, 8:00 Registration, 8:30 Welcome and Study, Dothan First United Methodist Church</p>	<h2>May</h2> <p>18-20 — United Methodist Women Assembly, Columbus, Ohio</p>	<h2>June</h2> <p>3-6 — Annual Conference, Frazer United Methodist Church</p>
<h2>July</h2> <p>20-21 — Mission u, Gadsden Street United Methodist Church, Pensacola, FL</p>	<h2>August</h2> <p>18 — District Spiritual Day</p>	<h2>September</h2> <p>15 — District Mission Study, 8:00 Registration, 8:30 Welcome and Study</p>
<h2>October</h2> <p>19-21 — Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat (SER), Blue Lake</p>	<h2>November</h2> 	<h2>December</h2> <p>Come let us <i>Adore</i> Him</p> 

## FIVE CHANNELS OF MISSION GIVING

Through their generosity 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 stays with the local, district, and conference organizations of United Methodist Women for local mission. Only 9 percent covers administrative costs.

### **Pledge to Mission**

An individual member's Pledge to Mission is the amount a woman gives to her local unit to help fulfill the Purpose of United Methodist Women. The conference United Methodist Women pledges a specific amount to United Methodist Women's national office for mission with women, children and youth and retains a designated percent to be used for district and conference administration and membership development expenses.

### **World Thank Offering**

Spontaneous additional gifts can be given out of gratitude for God's abundance and in celebration of the joys of life. The World Thank Offering is an opportunity for individuals to respond to God's abundance and grace with spontaneous gifts of gratitude. The funds collected are used in the total program of mission carried on through United Methodist Women's national office in the United States and around the world.

### **Special Mission Recognition Pins and Certificates**

These pins offer a meaningful way to honor members who have dedicated so much time and effort to service. Gift amounts range from \$40 to \$2,000. Pins are purchased through a treasurer.

### **Gift to Mission**

Make a gift in honor of someone and send a card to the honoree. The following cards are available: Congratulations, Thank You, A Baby, In the Service of Christ, A Special Day, Thinking of You, Happy Birthday and assorted Christmas cards.

### **Gift in Memory**

Give a gift in memory of a member, a friend or anyone, in any amount of \$5 or more. Gift in Memory cards, available free, may be sent to the family of the deceased.

## TREASURER

It is almost summer. My children are out of school, and I am ready for a break! How about you? Most units take a break over the summer, but we need to remember that the institutions that United Methodist Women support do not take a break. The money that your unit gives goes to help women, children and youth in the United States and around the world. The United Methodist Women's website has several great charts and other information on the Mission Giving Resources page <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/giving-resources>. On the right side of this page, it will tell you to visit the United Methodist Women's Flickr site to view the images. You are welcome to download the material and use it in your unit to make sure that everyone is informed.

In April, I sent out a "report card" to each unit. This is not to "grade" anyone, but just to let you know what money that I have received from your unit and how our district is progressing toward our pledge to the conference. I will be sending out a report each quarter. Please check it carefully and make sure that your unit has received the correct credit in each area of giving. If your unit is working toward being a "Five Star Unit", please make sure that you have given in each of the "Five Channels of Mission Giving." If you have any questions, please call or email me.

Blessings,

*Carolyn McInnis*

Treasurer

**2018 Dothan District  
Pledge to Mission  
\$14,750**

## PROGRAM RESOURCES

As a reminder for new and current United Methodist Women, **each person who participates** must read at least 5 books, one from each category: Education for Mission, Social Action, Nurturing for Community, Spiritual Growth, and Leadership. For more information and the reading lists, please visit <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram/findbooks>

### PLAN I

- 5 books each year.
- 1 from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of *response* magazine.

### PLAN III

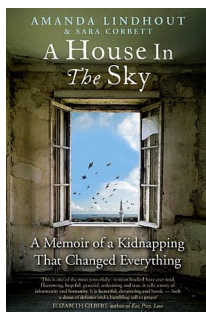
- 15 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 5 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of *response* and *New World Outlook* magazines.

### PLAN II

- 10 books each year.
- 2 from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of *response* and *New World Outlook* magazines.

### PLAN IV

- 20 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 10 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of *response* and *New World Outlook* magazines.



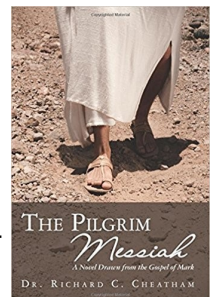
***A House in the Sky***  
Amanda Lindhout & Sara Corbett  
Simon & Schuster, 2013

At nineteen, Amanda Lindhout began saving her waitressing tips so she could travel the globe. Aspiring to understand the world and live a significant life, she backpacked through Latin America, Laos, and India. She went on to Sudan, Syria and war-torn Afghanistan and Iraq, carving out a fledgling career as a television reporter. In August 2008, she traveled to Somalia, “the most dangerous place on earth” and on her fourth day she was abducted by a group of masked men and held hostage for 460 days. She survived on memory, strategy, fortitude and hope, and by reaching for a house in the sky when she became most desperate.

*Education for Mission Category*

***The Pilgrim Messiah***  
Dr. Richard C. Cheatham  
CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2011

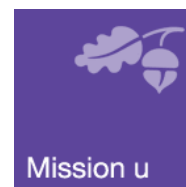
Richard Cheatham, a United Methodist clergyman and gifted storyteller, draws from Scripture to reveal living, understandable people. You will follow the 12 disciples and Mary Magdalene as they grow to understand the man they called Master. You will come to know and love the person anointed by God as Christ and will find understandings lost in translation of Mark’s Gospel.



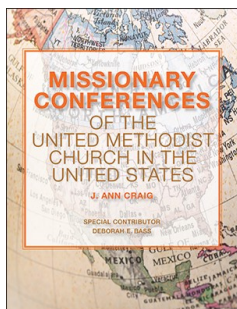
*Spiritual Growth Category*  
(Available at Amazon.com)

## MISSION U

July 20-21  
GADSDEN STREET  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
901 E GADSDEN ST  
PENSACOLA, FL



### GEOGRAPHIC STUDY:



***Missionary Conferences of The United Methodist Church in the United States*** is a mission journey that guides us through the missionary conferences:

- Alaska Missionary Conference
- Oklahoma Missionary Conference
- Red Bird Missionary Conference

These conferences are mission fields close to our hearts. They are the communities and families served by individuals, churches and institutions that carry on the support and solidarity of United Methodist Women organized for mission with them.

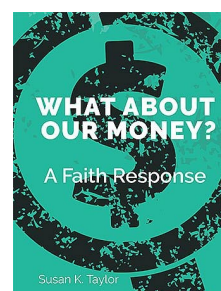
**Study Leader—Joyce Genz**

### ISSUE STUDY:

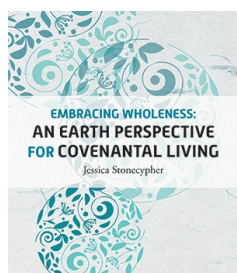
#### ***What About Our Money? A Faith Response***

*What About Our Money? A Faith Response* explores how we relate to money within the context of our faith. Through this connection between our faith and our money, readers discover how to live closer to God and God's people, even in our North American culture that is so deeply defined by money. The author, Susan K. Taylor, explores the biblical foundation of abundance (sufficiency), which stands in opposition to the scarcity narrative our culture tells us from the time we are very young.

**Study Leaders—Betty Helms and Angie Woodward**



### SPIRITUAL GROWTH STUDY:



#### ***Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living***

The 2018 Spiritual Growth Study, *Seeking Health and Wholeness* is the second in a two-part series about covenantal living. In *Seeking Health and Wholeness*, Jessica Stonecypher explores the ways God has called us to live in covenantal relationship with all of creation and challenges readers to work toward stronger and healthier relationships with creation, their communities, themselves, and God.

**Study Leaders—Jim DuFriend and Gail Baughman**

### STUDY LEADERS:

GEOGRAPHIC STUDY: *Missionary Conferences*  
ISSUE STUDY: *What About Our Money*  
SPIRITUAL GROWTH STUDY: *Embracing Wholeness*

**Joyce Genz**  
**Betty Helms and Angie Woodward**  
**Jim DuFriend and Gail Baughman**

(Mission u registration form is included on page 11)

## REPORTING DUE DATES

Local Officer to District Officer

### FROM

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Unit Treasurer

#### **\*Name of Deceased Members**

Unit Secretary

#### **\*Local New Unit Report**

Unit Secretary

#### **\*Social Action Report**

Unit Social Action Coordinator

#### **\*Reading Program Reports**

Unit Program Resource

#### **\*Mission Study Participants**

Unit Education & Interpretation

#### **Consolidated President's Report**

Unit President

#### **New Officer Lists**

Unit Secretary

\*Included in the Consolidated President's Report

### TO

#### **By November 30**

Carolyn McInnis, District Treasurer

#### **By November 30**

**(please report any December deaths by January 10)**

TBD, Spiritual Growth

#### **By November 30**

TBD, Membership Nurture & Outreach

#### **By November 30**

Jean Johnson, Social Action

#### **By November 30**

TBD, Program Resources

#### **By November 30**

TBD, Education & Interpretation

#### **By November 30**

Debbie Bracewell, President

#### **By November 30**

Marilyn Skipper, District Secretary



## Mattie Kolb Scholarship



We received 103 Mattie Kolb Scholarship applications and 34 of those were received from Ariton High School. They do an amazing job teaching their students about presenting themselves. As it turns out, our two winners are from Ariton High. If you have never had to pick a scholarship winner, it is the hardest job out there. All of the applicants were worthy and I wish we had enough money to give each of them a little something.

We have notified the winners and they are Kape McRae who is going into Business Administration at Mississippi College & Klayton Hicks who is pre-engineering at Troy University. Congratulations!

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Deadline July 7, 2018

(\$10 late fee after July 8, 2018)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)\_\_\_\_\_  
(address)\_\_\_\_\_  
(city, state, zip)\_\_\_\_\_  
(district)\_\_\_\_\_  
(conference/district officer position, if any)

Check all that apply \_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_ Male

\_\_\_\_ Lay \_\_\_\_ Clergy \_\_\_\_ CEU Credit

\_\_\_\_ Need assistance moving around campus. List on separate sheet any dietary needs.

**STUDY COURSE REGISTRATION.**

Each study is a 6 hour course. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Classes begin after the opening and finish at 4:30 p.m.

**Two Days School Fee: \$40**One study each day from the three offered  
Friday \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday Only: \$20**

Choose your study

\_\_\_\_\_ **Embracing Wholeness**\_\_\_\_\_ **What About Our Money?**

Each person is responsible for his or her own lodging

**LODGING:**

Blocks of rooms have been reserved

Thursday, July 19 - Saturday, July 21, 2018

**#1 Courtyard Marriott****451 Creighton Rd, Pensacola, FL****32504**Reservations: Individuals to call 850-857-7744 to make their reservations by **June****15, 2018.**

On-site Contact: Sarah Hughes

Check in after 3 pm &amp; checkout time 12 pm

Standard King: \$149.00

Standard Double: \$149.00

Breakfast buffet included in guestroom rate.

**#2 Hampton Inn & Suites****7050 Plantation Rd, Pensacola, FL****32504**Reservations: Individuals to call 850-505-7500 to make their reservations by **June****15, 2018.**

On-site Contact: Crystal Overstreet

Minimum Two Nights Stay

Standard Queen: \$149.00

Breakfast included in guestroom rate.

Use the name of the event as

**Mission u - United Methodist Womens Conference** when making reservations.**MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM**

with check payable to

**Mission u**

To the Registrar

**Tutti Johnson****P.O. Box 870****Pine Hill AL 36769-0598**

Additional registration forms:

AWF UMW website

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



## 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 _____	_____
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Conference _____	_____
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Jurisdiction _____	_____
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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?

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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 \_\_\_\_\_.