



# HORIZONS

## JOINED AND HELD TOGETHER

### Mission u 2017

Camp Sumatanga

July 27-29

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Mission u is one means of fulfilling the purpose of the United Methodist Women in emphasizing the global mission of the church. This year Mission u event is giving all people the opportunity for spiritual growth and understanding our connection with our national Missionary Conferences. The Spiritual Growth Study, "Living As a Covenant Community explores major covenants throughout the Bible and what they reveal about God's character and eternal love for us.

The adult, youth, and children's geographic studies will focus on the Missionary Conferences of the United States of America; Alaska United Methodist Conference, Red Bird Missionary Conference, and Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. These studies will help deepen our understanding of the Missionary



Conference and may open opportunities for relationship – building and hands-on mission.

Do not miss this great opportunity of learning this summer. Mission coordinators, children and youth directors — this is an opportunity to encourage your groups to participate.

Mission u is for everyone- men and women; children and youth; clergy and laity. Come let us learn together for the transformation of the world. We are all joined and held together by the unconditional love of God that calls us to be in mission with our brothers and sisters all around the world.

Adlene Kufarimai- Dean  
akufarimai@umcna.org

**Mission u, Children's Mission Camp and Children's One Day Event Registration Forms inside!**

# From the President



An offering will be taken during Mission u and given to the three Missionary Conferences we'll be studying!

## LOVE THY NEIGHBOR

James 2: 8 – If you keep the royal law found in the scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself” you are doing right.

My message begins with a resounding THANK YOU for being good neighbors. You are true neighborhood cheerleaders. It has been a time of emotional turmoil for me the past six months and I cannot count the many ways you have showered me with your love. You have also shown love to other members who are facing trying times. You have put faith, love and hope into action every day.

I witnessed women working together in lifting one another up, carrying heavy burdens or just listening with an attentive ear which gives us a special bond of sisterhood. You love God, love your neighbor, show great love to all. The story of the good Samaritan shows who the Christian was. The law expert treated the wounded man as a topic for discussion, the robber, as an object to exploit, the priest, as a problem to avoid, and the Levite, as an object of curiosity. Only the Samaritan treated him as a person to love. The parable shows us that our neighbor is anyone of any race, creed, or social background who is in need. A good neighbor is slow to judge and quick to forgive, shows patience, empathy and love to all humanity. I feel so blessed belonging to an organization that seeks to demonstrate that God lives in every neighborhood. United Methodist Women is an organization of women who willingly give encouragement and help to not only local members but to women, children and youth around the world. We are called to listen and be ready to be

good neighbors. Some of our neighborly accomplishments are listed below. We are sisters on a journey. We are called to be a light in the world.

## OUR 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Spiritual Enrichment Program in April focused on Racial/Social Justice issues. Great Program.
- Supported two Hands-On Local Mission Projects. Donations were outstanding and were delivered to:
  - ◆ Tennessee Valley Family Services, working to help homeless, at risk, abused and human trafficked youth located in Huntsville, AL.
  - ◆ WellHouse, a place of grace for trafficking victims. A rescue and recovery organization for women who are victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking located in Leeds, AL.
- Assembly 2018 publicity off to a great start.
- North Alabama United Women’s Directory for 2017-2018 distributed.

## TASKS

- Expand publicity campaign for Assembly 2018. Theme: The Power of Bold. The goal is to increase attendance by at least 30%. Travel by chartered bus from Birmingham to Columbus.
- Support Mission u. Get the word out, tell everybody, lets increase attendance. You are in for a treat.
- Finalize revision of our Standing Rules – be ready to vote at Annual meeting.
- Support and increase publicity for Legacy 150 Campaign Silent Auction at Annual meeting.

Olene H. McGowen  
President  
North Alabama Conference  
United Methodist Women

## GREETINGS TO ALL PROGRAM RESOURCE SECRETARIES

Hope things are going well for all of you. Our next big event is the Conference Mission u. I will have books available for all of the studies that are being taught. Hopefully the 2017-2018 Program books will be available in July and if so I will have them. I know that there were a lot of women that wanted the Constitution and By-Laws at the April meeting and I also plan to have some of those. I have not been told at this time as to whether 2018 Reading Program books will be available but basing my thoughts on previous years, I do not believe that these will be available before Annual meeting in October. The 2012 books can be used for credit in the Reading Program through December. I will have many different free books available in July as well as other free material.

Encourage the United Methodist Women in your District to participate in the Reading Program. There are a lot of good books available and I have enjoyed reading them. If you have not sent me a list of the persons in your District that will receive certificates at the Conference Annual meeting in October, please send this information as soon as possible so the certificates will be ready for Annual meeting.

Hope to see all of you at Mission u. Please remember that I am always available for any questions or concerns that you might have. God Bless each of you and all of the work that you do for United Methodist Women.

Kay West  
North Alabama Conference  
Secretary, Program Resources  
United Methodist Women  
256-509-9575  
kaygeoffwest@bellsouth.net



## Children's Mission Camps

We are so excited that camp is just around the corner. The Children's Mission team has been working in great anticipation for the 2017 Mission Camp and One Day Event to be here. As we go to the Red Bird, Alaska and Oklahoma Missionary Conferences, we will learn how we are all connected and how by learning about each other we can help each other. Step out of the box and support a camper through your prayers and your gifts. So many of our counselors were campers in the past and now are leaders. Make a pledge with your unit to send a kid to camp. And as always, if you can't find a kid to send, we can find one for you. Thank you for your past, present and future support towards this wonderful ministry. See you at camp in July!

In His Service,  
Tracy Conner

# MISSION U

## 2017 Studies & Leaders

### Spiritual Growth Study **Living As A Covenant Community**

This study examines major covenants throughout the Bible and what they reveal about God’s character and eternal love for us. It will enhance your understanding of how God works with us, in us, and through us.

Study Leader:



**KIM WOODIN**

Kim Woodin is currently the District Director of disABILITIES Ministry for the Mountain Lakes District. She has worked specifically with the special needs and disABLED community through Special Olympics, teaching Preschool Handicapped in the public school system in North Carolina, as well as at the elementary, middle and high school level. She has been very involved as a volunteer to this community through starting two Special Needs Ministries in the local church as well as working with agencies in the community. Kim and her husband enjoy and have a passion for this community and

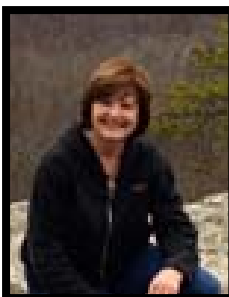
volunteering as camp counselors at Camp Sumatanga for Adult and Older Adult Special camps in the summer. She enjoys volunteering as a pianist and choir director to local churches.



### Geographic Study **Missionary Conferences of The United Methodist Church In the United States**

The 2017 Geographic Study tells the story of the three missionary conferences of The United Methodist Church: Alaska United Methodist Conference, Red Bird Missionary Conference, and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference.

Study Leaders:



**KAREN MCINTOSH FITE**

Karen is married to Dr. Larry C. Fite, retired family physician, for 41 years. She has one son, Jeremy. Karen is a Registered Nurse with a BSN, MSN from UAB’s School of Nursing. She taught in the Nursing Department at Calhoun Community

College for the past 30 years full time and currently is a Part Time Clinical Supervisor for nursing students in the clinical setting at Decatur Morgan Hospital in Decatur for the past 7 years. Karen is a member of Gandys Cove United Methodist Church in Falkville, and has been a member of United Methodist Women for 30 years. Karen has a deep commitment to volunteering in Missions and has served on medical mission teams to Ghana Africa, La Ceiba Honduras and the home repair team at the Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayes, North Carolina.



**JO ANNE FINLEY**

Jo Ann is currently Pastor of Haven Chapel United Methodist Church, Dadeville AL. After retiring in 2001, from the US Army from serving her country for 25 years, she returned home to be with her family and to fulfill her burning desire to

become a Missionary. In October 2003, she attended a Deaconess Discernment Event in New York. In 2008, Joanne was commissioned as a Deaconess and Church and Community Worker for the General Board of Global Ministries. As part of her ministry as a Deaconess here in Alabama, she is working with the Southeast District of the United Methodist Church as Mission Specialist, working outside of the four walls of the church in the ethnic ministries and ministry with the poor. Jo Anne holds multiple degrees and a host of certifications in education.



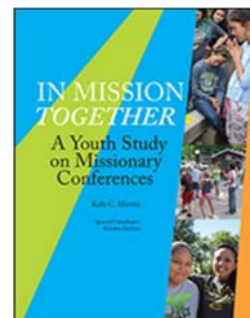
# MISSION U

## 2017 Studies & Leaders

Youth Study

### In Mission Together: A Youth Study on Missionary Conferences

The youth study focuses on the three U.S. missionary conferences of The United Methodist Church: Alaska United Methodist Conference, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, and Red Bird Missionary Conference. It also offers opportunities for youth who are interested in relationship-building and hands-on mission.



Study Leader:



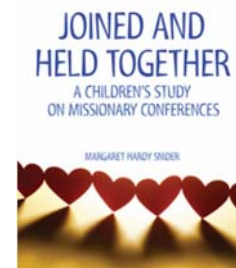
**MARGARET PARKER**

Margaret Parker is a member of Huffman United Methodist Church where she serves as church organist and Children's Choir Director. She is an active member of her local UMW. She has taught in a number of Mini Schools in the past several years. She received her degree in Music Education from The University of Montevallo and her Masters from University of Alabama in Birmingham. She taught in Jefferson County and Trussville City Schools for a total of 37 years. She is married to Bob Parker and they have one son, Seth. They live in Trussville

Children's Study

### Joined and Held Together: A Children's Study on Missionary Conferences

This mission study for children dives deep into the wealth of ministry, history, and diversity of the Alaska United Methodist, Oklahoma Indian Missionary, and Red Bird Missionary Conferences.



Study Leader:



**CLAUDIA LEWIS**

Claudia Lewis is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. She holds a baccalaureate degree in Music Therapy from the University of Alabama and currently works as a board-certified Music Therapist. For over a decade, Lewis has utilized her gifts of music, science, and psychology to impact the lives of thousands of children and adults suffering with mental illness, grief, abuse, physical rehabilitation, and end-of-life transitioning.

Lewis also serves as a licensed local pastor in the United Methodist Church, and is a member of the House of Restoration United Methodist Church Mission. She leads the children and youth ministries; is a member of the praise team, and is a counselor at the Dream Garden Inc. Lewis resides in Birmingham; is married to minister Robert Lewis, III., and is the mother of seven energetic children, ages 12, 10, 8, 7, 6, 4, and 3.

**For Mission u, don't forget to pack...**

|                               |              |                      |                   |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Your Bible                    | Notebook/Pen | Flashlight(s)        | Comfortable Shoes |
| A willingness to learn & grow |              | A prayerful attitude |                   |

North Alabama Conference Mission "u"  
**Children's Mission Camp**  
**July 27-July 30, 2017**

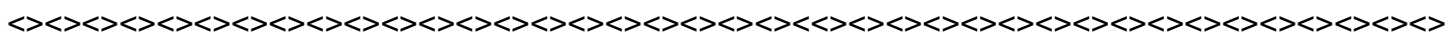
At Children's Mission Camp 1<sup>st</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in the United Methodist Women's nationally endorsed children's curriculum and this year's study is on **Missionary Conferences Alaska, Oklahoma and Red Bird, Kentucky**. In addition, the children will be able to take advantage of all that Camp Sumatanga has to offer: swimming, hiking, crafts, singing and learning about nature. Experienced counselors, who love children, lead the camp and are with the children at all times.

Registration begins at 1:00PM, Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Camp will end after lunch on Sunday, July 30.

Our schedule consists of class time, crafts, recreation, theme related activities, and worship. There are also special events such as campfires, marshmallows, movies, and games. Campers will not have access to telephones except in the case of an emergency. Parents may contact campers through the camp office at 205-538-9860.

Health forms and a checklist for what to bring will be sent to you with your confirmation. Space is limited to 50 children. 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will room together, 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders will room together and 7<sup>th</sup> ~ 9<sup>th</sup> graders will room together. Please be sure to indicate your child's roommate request on the application form.

**Cost and Scholarship Information:** Cost is \$175 per child prior to July 1st, registrations between July 1<sup>st</sup> & July 15<sup>th</sup> cost is \$195 per child, and after July 15<sup>th</sup> cost is \$215 per child. There is also a same family, multi-child discount: \$10.00 off total for 2 children and additional \$10.00 off for 3<sup>rd</sup> child. Payment must be included with the application form. Many churches offer full or partial scholarships for summer camp; we also have scholarships provided for the camp thru July 15<sup>th</sup> by United Methodist Women and the North Alabama Conference. Please don't let the cost stop your child from participating.



## **Children's Mission Camp Application Form**

Return this portion with your payment or scholarship

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade entering in the fall? \_\_\_\_\_ Male:\_\_\_\_ Female:\_\_\_\_ Child's E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Can we send forms to parents email? Yes / No

Roommate request (Please only one per camper): \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship/ Mail Application to: Teresa C. Aldrich,  
103 Spring St., Springville, AL 35146  
Telephone: 205-863-8083  
Or email applications and questions to [teresacaldrich@gmail.com](mailto:teresacaldrich@gmail.com)



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**2017 North Alabama Conference Mission U**  
**July 27 – 29, 2017**  
**JOINED AND HELD TOGETHER**  
**FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD**  
Deadline for registration is July 14, 2017

|                 |
|-----------------|
| BUILDING: _____ |
| ROOM#: _____    |
| CK #: _____     |
| RCT: _____      |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate Choice \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

(Example: Mobility, Language, Food, Vision, etc.)

Teaching a Mini School? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_

Please check all that apply:

- |  |                                       |  |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Time Attendee | <input type="checkbox"/> Unit Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> CEU Credit          | <input type="checkbox"/> District Officer       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Female              | <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy       | <input type="checkbox"/> Study Leader        | <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male                | <input type="checkbox"/> Laity        | <input type="checkbox"/> Mission School Team | <input type="checkbox"/> District Scholarship   |

**Study Group Selection**

Everyone will take **Living As a Covenant Community** (Spiritual Growth Study)

A second study – **Missionary Conferences** will also be offered to those that wish to take it. There are three studies for Missionary Conferences. Please place a 1, 2 & 3 by order of preference:

\_\_\_\_\_ Missionary Conferences–Adult Study      \_\_\_\_\_ In Mission Together–Youth Study  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Joined & Held Together- Children’s Study

**Registration Fee** (Registration is Thursday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1- 2 pm)

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Time: \$168.00<br>(includes lodging and meals, based on double occupancy) | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commuter: \$38.00<br>+ Number of Meals   | \$ _____ |
| _____ x \$9/lunch   | \$ _____ |
| _____ x \$12/dinner   | \$ _____ |

**Child Care Registration** (Child stays in room with adult.)

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 5: Free        |                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Year Olds: \$35.00 | \$ _____                      |
| Name: _____                                   | Age _____ M or F (circle one) |

**T-shirts** (Optional)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> T-Shirt: \$15.00 |  |
| Circle Size: S M L XL XXL XXXL            |  |

|   |
|---|
| If registration is received after July 14 <sup>th</sup> , t-shirts cannot be ordered. |
|---|

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NACUMW AND MAIL WITH COMPLETED FORM NO LATER THAN JULY 14, 2017 TO:**

Teresa Aldrich, 103 Spring Street, Springville, AL 35146  
 Phone: (205) 863-8083 Email: teresacaldrich@gmail.com

**NEW: Health Form must be completed and provided at Registration.**

Camp Information for Emergency Only: (256) 539-9860

**DO NOT CALL CAMP FOR ANY REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

|  |
|--|
| Registration: Thursday, 1:00-2:00 pm<br>Opening Plenary: 2:00 pm<br>Program ends Saturday at 2:30 pm |
|--|

**DUE TO HPPA REGULATIONS, THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED SEPARATELY  
FROM ANY REGISTRATION FORM AND BROUGHT TO EVENT.  
DO NOT MAIL THIS FORM WITH ANY REGISTRATION.**

## **Health Form**

Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Health Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_ Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies to medications \_\_\_\_\_

Current medications \_\_\_\_\_

In the event of emergency, contact:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relation \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relation \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

In the event emergency medical aid/treatment is required due to illness or injury during my stay at a UMW event, I authorize the NAC UMW to:

1. Secure and retain medical treatment and transportation if needed.
2. Release my health information to the authorized individual or agency involved in the medical emergency treatment.
3. I hold harmless the North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women, the North Alabama Conference, the United Methodist Church and/or the owners of the facility for which the event is taking place for any act or failure to act during a medical emergency.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Consent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### **Consent Plan**

This authorization includes x-ray, surgery, hospitalization, medication and any treatment procedure deemed "life saving" by the physician. This provision will only be invoked if the person(s) above is unable to be reached. I hold harmless the North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women, the North Alabama Conference, the United Methodist Church and/or the owners of the facility for which the event is taking place for any act or failure to act during a medical emergency.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Consent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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### **Non-Consent Plan**

I DO NOT give my consent for emergency medical treatment/aid in the cases of illness or injury. In the event emergency treatment/aid is required, I wish the following procedures to take place:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I hold harmless the North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women, the North Alabama Conference, the United Methodist Church and/or the owners of the facility for which the event is taking place for any act or failure to act during a medical emergency.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Consent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Witness Signature \_\_\_\_\_



North Alabama Conference Mission "u"  
**Children's One Day Mission Event**  
**Tuesday, July 25, 2017 – Camp Sumatanga**

This one day event is designed to introduce children entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade to needs of mission and how they can be a part of meeting that need.

**2017 Study**  
**Missionary Conferences**  
**Alaska, Oklahoma and Red Bird, Kentucky**

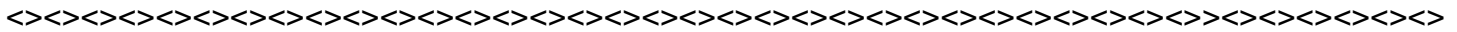
Registration/Sign In: 9:30 – 10:00 AM

Event: 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Cost per child: \$15 includes lunch, snacks, and all supplies. Each child should bring one non-perishable item for hands-on mission

There will be study, crafts, music, and other fun activities to fill the day with an awareness of mission and how children can fit into that ministry.

In order that we meet safety standards we ask that there be one adult for each 5 children. There is no activity fee for adults but we do ask for \$5 for lunch. Babysitting will be available for younger children upon request.



**Children's One Day Mission Event Registration Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering in fall: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_ Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Attending Adult \_\_\_\_\_ cell # \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, give my permission for the staff of the Children's One Day Mission Event to seek medical attention for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, should the need arise. Relationship to the child: \_\_\_\_\_. Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

I give my permission for my child to be photographed during the event. Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Teresa C. Aldrich,  
103 Spring St., Springville, AL 35146  
Telephone: 205-863-8083  
Or email applications and questions to [teresacaldrich@gmail.com](mailto:teresacaldrich@gmail.com)

## YOU ARE SOMEBODY

Something special is happening in the North Alabama Conference! We are making sure that everyone is reminded that they are "Somebody." Our Special Emphasis Giving theme for the next few years is "You Are Somebody." We want all people to know this. Has someone done something nice for you? Does someone you know need a lift? Could a new graduate or new mom be congratulated? Empowerment, confirmation, appreciation, these are all great reasons to remind a special person that they did something great, that you know they can do it, that they are important. Tell them, "You Are Somebody."



We had a great time with our photo booth at Refresh & Retreat and at Annual Conference in Huntsville. If you can't come to an event for a picture, check out the great notecards that can be ordered from your treasurer or E&I coordinator, so you too can tell all those special to you, "You Are Somebody!" Order forms can be found on our website, [www.nacumw.org](http://www.nacumw.org).

Hope to see you at Mission u.

You Are Somebody,  
Tracy Conner, Chair

## Silent Auction Annual Meeting—October 7th

### Auction items are needed

Artwork, Home Décor, Purses, Jewelry, Quilts  
Any homemade items — crochet, embroidery, knitting, etc.

**Please** — no clothing items

Proceeds will be given to the Legacy Fund

Questions? Contact

Jacque Clay

256-593-4725 (home)

256-659-8376 (mobile)

JClay@charter.net

# We're Looking for a Few Good Women



Being part of United Methodist Women produces leaders. You know who they — or you — are: organized, willing to volunteer, and leading their local unit or district to accomplish great things.

The Nominations Committee for the North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women is looking for a few great leaders to serve on the Conference Executive Committee. If you know someone, or if you're interested, please contact Hilda Moody, Chairperson, Committee on Nominations.

Being part of the Conference Executive Committee is a fulfilling and rewarding opportunity. Come join the team!

Hilda Moody  
 Chairperson, Committee on Nominations  
 902 Miller Avenue, Gadsden, AL 35903  
 hburnsmoody@bellsouth.net  
 256-492-6719



## A Note from Your Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation

Please make sure that all your reports are in to me so I can have the honor of recognizing all those units that have worked so hard to become Mission Today Units. The criteria and recording forms can be found on our website [www.nacumw.org](http://www.nacumw.org). Also, I need your Excellence of Study forms so your efforts to broaden your spectrum through our Mission u studies can be noted and celebrated. Excellence in Study forms can also be found on the website. Combining efforts with at a sister church or unit to your study can double the education and experience, not to mention, you might make a new friend. Try it this year, you could be surprised.

In His Service,

Tracy Conner  
 6229 Alabama Drive, Trussville, AL 35173  
 tdgconner@aol.com

# GO WITH US ON THE BUS TO COLUMBUS

## 2018 ASSEMBLY MAY 17 – 20, 2018



Mark your calendar and plan to join your fellow  
North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women on the bus to Columbus, Ohio!

### ASSEMBLY PACKAGE

#### **\*\$295.00 EARLY REGISTRATION**

The early registration fee for 2018 Assembly is \$295.00, deadline is November 15, 2017. After that date, regular registration fee is \$330.00. This fee includes two healthy lunches for attendees.

#### **\*\$140.00 THRASER BROS. CHARTERED BUS**

To and from Columbus, Ohio, departing from United Methodist Conference Center in Birmingham, with stops in Cullman and Athens.

#### **\*\$240.00 DRURY INN & SUITES**

For three (3) nights, each person based on double occupancy, 2 queen beds. Guests of Drury Inn & Suites in downtown Columbus have easy access to the Greater Columbus Convention Center through an adjoining walkway.

**\*TOTAL COST IS  
\$675.00**

November 15, 2017, is deadline for registration and first payment in the amount of \$300.00. Second payment in the amount of \$375.00 due April 1, 2018.

### 2018 ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ASSEMBLY PACKAGE

**\$295.00 EARLY REGISTRATION**

**\$140.00 THRASER BROS. CHARTERED BUS**

**\$240.00 DRURY INN & SUITES**

**TOTAL COST IS \$675.00**

November 15, 2017, is deadline for registration and first payment in the amount of \$300.00. Second payment in the amount of \$375.00 due April 1, 2018.

**MAIL REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENTS TO:**

**LINDA DUNCAN**

**5982 COUNTY ROAD 151, CALERA, AL 35040**

**Call 205 668 0969 for questions/information.**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Special Accommodations** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Handicap room, special meal, etc.**

**ROOMMATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOMMATE PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_



May 18-20, 2018  
 Greater Columbus Convention Center  
 Columbus, Ohio

## **WHEN WOMEN UNITE, BOLD AND COURAGEOUS ACTIONS HAPPEN**

### **WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND:**

Assembly 2018 will be a forum for all women. Assembly will offer an incredible personal faith journey through community building, training for action and visioning a movement for the future.

Worship/Plenaries infused with music and

performing arts, quality workshops and riveting Town Hall meetings with important leaders, action opportunities and Experience Hall with educational immersion experiences await you.

Assembly 2018 is a time for fellowship and opportunity to empower faithful women to be stronger discipleship leaders in their communities. Through moving worship services, inspiring speakers, immersion experience exhibits and riveting workshops and town hall style meetings, you will leave Assembly with the knowledge, courage and determination to change the world as part of this daring and compassionate 150-year-old movement.

United Methodist Women is celebrating its 150th anniversary of women putting their faith into action by donating their money and time to help women, children and youth nation and worldwide. "The Power of Bold" will be the Assembly theme. Throughout this inspirational and educational weekend, participants will revisit the journey of Mary, who boldly risked safety and security to answer yes to God's call to service.

The 2018 Assembly is particularly momentous in that it marks both the official celebration of the organization's 150th anniversary and a return to the location of the first Assembly in 1942. St. Louis was the original site for that first Assembly, but the women moved their meeting to Columbus because St. Louis would not allow white women and black women to congregate in the same space. They boldly united and switched to a location where ALL women could meet, worship and stay together.

When women unite, bold and courageous actions happen. In 1869, eight women came together to send a woman doctor and woman teacher to India and formed the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. One hundred and fifty years later, that society is the largest faith-based women's mission organization in the world. United Methodist Women has, is and will be a unique movement for transformation in our church and our world.

## Lovelady Center Children's Birthday Parties



**2017 Dates: June 25, July 23, August 20,  
September 17, October 29, November 12, and Dec 3**

**Time: 2:00 pm (so far it has been over at 3:00)**

**Each child with a birthday that month receives a Happy Birthday card with \$10.00**

Thank you so much for your interest in the birthday parties for the children at the Lovelady Center. One of the staff who was also in the program told me that we have no idea how much it means to those living there to receive community support. She said that most of them (she was including herself) were living on the "outside of society" and did not feel a part of the community. I think that may include the children also. The Center is an amazing place where women in crisis can rebuild their life from prison, drug addiction, domestic violence and other devastating issues. Some of these ladies bring their children with them. While safe lodging, food, day care and school are provided for these children, the reality is that they are living together in one room with no space for privacy or for play. Another reality is that these children have grown up in a world much different from the one that our children and grandchildren enjoy. Many of them had to take the role of caretaker for their parent, who was not able or willing to care for them.

While most of us are not equipped to deal with the larger issues, we can all throw a Birthday Party and have fun with kids. In doing this, we have an opportunity to show God's unconditional love, acceptance and joy to these children for a few minutes each month. This is a completely new endeavor so it is still evolving. When doing the first one, we asked for a room with one door so that parents could drop off their child, we could control the door, and the parent would come back and pick up their child. What actually happens is that parents and children (sometimes not together) wander in and out freely. We have little control at the door and/or traffic. That was scary until I realized that we were in their house. This huge building is their home and the children have the run of the place just like our children do in their homes. This makes doing a traditional party a little difficult. You may not even have all the children with birthdays that month in the room at the same time so singing Happy Birthday is not necessarily doable. So far, we have been serving around 20 - 25 children

### **What we have found successful in the past three parties are:**

- ◆ activity tables- we put crayon and color sheets on one table, play dough on another, etc.
- ◆ serve ice cream, cake, etc. throughout the party
- ◆ goodie bags for each child as they leave

### **How can you and/or your unit become involved?**

- ◆ Come help at the party - help serve, sit at an activity table with children, set up, take down, etc
- ◆ Furnish cake, ice cream, goldfish, fruit, etc. or goodie bags
- ◆ Set up an activity or make it/take it table
- ◆ Make a financial donation (send to Harpersville UMW, 5809 Hwy 280, Harpersville, AL 35078)
- ◆ Host the entire party one month
- ◆ Provide birthday cards with \$10.00 for the children with birthdays that month
- ◆ Provide supplies for current tables such as tools to use with play dough



**Refreshments:** we have been serving cake, ice cream and goldfish (ice cream being the favorite). I would really like to have fresh fruit and plan to do that this summer.

**Goodie bags:** We never know what age or gender of the children who will be attending the parties. Therefore, we have made bags for under 3 (no objects that can be swallowed, etc.) and bags for over 3 years of age. When considering what to put in the bags keep in mind:

- ◆ Space is limited in their living area
- ◆ Snacks are good but nothing with peanuts
- ◆ Temporary toys work well i.e.: bubbles, silly putty, soft balls, paper planes, etc.:
- ◆ Clear bags work well so we can see items (sometimes some of the items are gender specific)
- ◆ Ask a child what to put in the bags

**Activity Tables:** Tables we are currently setting up are: coloring, play dough, legos, other building materials and board games. When thinking about doing a table:

If planning a make it/take it craft table remember their living space is small so you must consider what they will do with the finished product. Also, you will need to bring all the supplies, plan for the fact there is no running water in the room, and remember you have limited time.

If doing an activity table, all supplies must fit in center of table, work for multi age children, be simple enough for them to catch on quickly

Board games - must have someone sitting there to play with the child/children who know how to play the game. Game should also be easy to learn.

**Financial Information:** At Refresh and Retreat, we received \$673.00 which was a huge blessing. Thank you to everyone who contributed. An estimate of the costs for each party are:

Cakes \$20.00 (Winn Dixie has them for \$10.00 each on Saturday)

Ice Cream \$15.00

Gifts \$10.00 each child (most we have given out in one month is 5)

Goodie bags \$3 to \$4 each (given out about 20 to 25 each month)

Decorations - cost varies and we try to reuse what we can

Helium tank - \$55.00 (I think) for balloons. Lasts for several parties

Play Dough - purchase new for each party - \$10.00

These costs will grow as the number of children attending the parties grow. We want to reach as many children as possible. As I said in the beginning, this is an evolving mission so there is plenty of room for growth both in ideas and number of children served. One of our assets as United Methodist Women is our collective strength. Let's make these parties an important part of the children's stay at the Center. We may also find that this leads to other ways to serve and help these children who did not choose this life or this place.

Thank you again for your interest,

Ruth Brooks

(205)672-2296 - land line with answering machine      cell:(205)533-2296



Dressed as a clown, South Central District's Polly Bell entertains at the Lovelady Center.



United Methodist Women  
 North Alabama Conference  
 Attn: Debra Payne  
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 Alabaster, AL 35007

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North Alabama Conference United Methodist Women's

Leadership Training - October 6, 2017  
 Annual Meeting – October 7, 2017

Sumatanga Camp and Conference Center  
 Gallant, Alabama

See you there!



20167Calendar

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Children's One Day Mission Event</b> | <b>July 25</b>      |
| <b>Mission u</b>                        | <b>July 27-29</b>   |
| <b>Children's Mission Camp</b>          | <b>July 27-30</b>   |
| <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>      | <b>August 18-19</b> |
| <b>Leadership Training</b>              | <b>October 6</b>    |
| <b>Annual Meeting</b>                   | <b>October 7</b>    |
| <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>      | <b>December 1-2</b> |

**PURPOSE**

OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The organized unit of  
 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 ex-  
 pand concepts of mission through partici-  
 pation in the global ministries of the  
 church.