

**OCTOBER
2016**

**SOUTH WEST
DISTRICT OFFICERS**

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SOUTH WEST DISTRICT SOJOURNER

UMW Publication Florida Conference

Greetings South West District!

The fall season is upon us and although I can't feel the weather changing, I am told by family members that "yes" there is a little bit of a change in the feel of the wind. Speaking of change, you will read further in this newsletter that we are losing one of our District officers. Sissie Lumpkin and her family will be moving to Kentucky to venture on their new journey in life. Sissie has a stepson and step-daughter as well as grandchildren who I know are excited for their arrival. We will greatly miss Sissie as one of our District's faithful servants, and I personally will miss one of my best friends. We bid you well my friend and wish you all the blessings life has to offer.

Also looking ahead, is Assembly 2018! I know, you're saying "2018??" Yes, it sounds like a lifetime away, but honestly it will be here before you know it. Recently, I received information from our National and Conference levels and based on the meetings they have had, there was a strong request to have information about this event shared with District and Local levels as soon as possible; therefore making it easier for us to plan our schedules and reach and invite as many women as possible to this share in this wonderful experience!

Assembly 2018 will be our 20th Assembly and will be held in my home state of Ohio, May 18-20. We will gather at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, which is the city where the very first Assembly was held in 1942!

Please join us at our upcoming Annual Meeting, October 15th where I will share more information about this wonderful event.

Love & Blessings,



Shelley Davidson
District President



United Methodist Women's PURPOSE

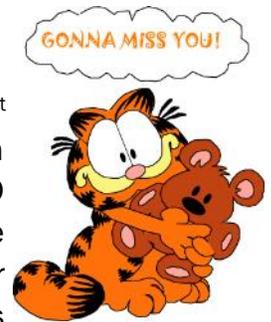
The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



From Desk of Sharon Wilson, District M.N&O Coordinator

Hello Ladies:

Our District Secretary, Sissie Lumpkin, is moving to Franklin, Kentucky October 1st leaving a BIG void in our District. I will be stepping in as your District Secretary again until we can fill the position. I will be wearing two hats as I will still be M, N&O coordinator. We honored Sissie at the Sampler in September with a sapphire mission pin and had a lovely cake for her and Gabriel who we affection- ally call our Mascot. They will truly be missed. Sissie has been a faithful servant for many years and her shoes will be hard to fill. We wish her happiness and God be with her and her family as she starts in on this new venture in her life. She has touched so many lives and will be missed by many. She will let us know her new address and e-mail so we can share with the District and keep in touch. God Bless You Sissie!



A Note from your Vice President

Thanks to the Bonita Springs UMW for hosting our Mission Sampler on September 17th. Kudos to Unit President, Sue Atkinson who organized about 20 women who went above and beyond to make us welcome with their hospitality and commitment to our District. Thank you goes out to our Units for encouraging their women to attend as 103 women were able to learn about the new mission studies for 2016-17!

A special thanks goes out to Pastor C.J. Hill opening our meeting with a prayer of invocation recognizing the importance of the missions we support.

Congratulations to our E & I coordinator, Marti Daltry who organized and led us. She provided us with handouts, facts, quizzes, and ideas for everyone to take back to their units so they can hold a more in-depth study. These studies help us as United Methodist Women to learn more about the world and how to best use our resources to help others. We were touched by a video about The Isle de Jean Charles Band of Biloxi-Chitimacha-Choctaw Indians of southern Louisiana is in immediate danger of losing their home and culture due to rising sea levels as a result of climate change and human activities.

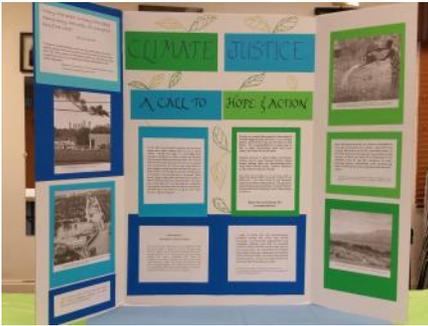
In a skit about "The Bible and Human Sexuality" we heard the stories of women in the bible and how they were used and how they affect us even today. The video about "Latin America: People and Faith" showed us about the diverse people and places of Latin America, and Marti encouraged us to contact Sarasota First, Englewood, Venice Grace or Friendship Punta Gorda UMW who completed those studies this past year for more ideas that would enhance our study.

Finally a thank you for photos from our event which are included in this Sojourner to Lori Perkins. Be sure to share it with your units!

Mary Van Tol

District Vice President/Communication Coordinator

Mission Sampler Highlights



Climate Justice Board



Marti Daltry & The Bible & Human Sexuality Board



Latin America: People & Places Board



Bonita Springs UMW hostesses



Mission Sampler Altar



Bonita Springs UMW helped Roberta get the altar ready!



Sue Atkinson, Bonita Springs Unit President



Sissie Lumpkin, secretary taking roll call of the units!



Mary Van Tol, District Vice President welcome

Mission Sampler Highlights



“Cape Coral Players” led by Marti Daltry educating us about “Climate Justice”



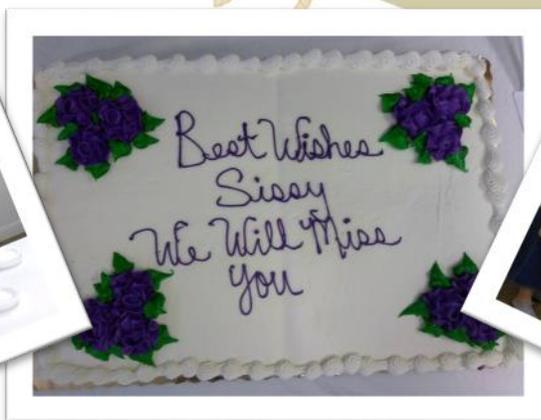
Women reading about strong women in the Bible



Mission u attendees reading “The Bible and Human Sexuality” skit.



The South District Team says goodbye to Sissie Lumkin & her grandson Gabriel (our “mascot”)



Member News

Thursday, August 18th at noon eighty five **Englewood United Methodist Women** came together to celebrate missions as well as new life with a served luncheon of chicken salad on a bed of lettuce, fruit cup and homemade party breads.

Our summer luncheon is a mission project to bring cookies to be given to Englewood's Meals on Wheels. Members brought cookies in extravagance to share, many homemade.

We coupled this luncheon with a celebration of little Lucas Martin, Pastor Perri Martin's second son to be born around September 15th. Our members brought four carloads of Pampers and wipes for Pastor Perri as she will have three little ones under the age of three.

Pastor Don Burlock and his wife Mary provided lovely entertainment of stories and song after which we enjoyed a Lucas birthday cake and punch!

What a wonderful day for all!

Pam Heady, President

Englewood UMC/UMW



Pastor Perri, Englewood United Methodist Church

Calling all UNITS...

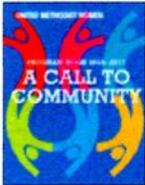
This space is provided for sharing what our sisters in Christ are doing in our individual units around the South West District. Sharing ideas with each other helps to make our units stronger and unites our efforts. If you have something to share, please send it to Mary Van Tol at embarqmail.com by October 25th!

NOW AVAILABLE FROM MISSION RESOURCES:

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/store or by calling 1-800-305-9857.



PRAYER CALENDAR | The 2017 United Methodist Women Prayer Calendar is a celebration of community.



A CALL TO COMMUNITY | United Methodist Women Program Book 2016-2017 | explores the teachings and people in communities in the Old and New Testaments through programs every month.



Election Checklist | United Methodist Women has created a 2016 Candidate Checklist: A Questionnaire for you to use while following this year's election. Use the checklist as a tool to assess whether a candidate's position reflects your values. Find the checklist at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/2016-election-checklist-a-questionnaire-for-voters.



BOOKS FOR THE 2017 READING PROGRAM

PLAN I – 5 Books Per Year: One book from each category: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social

ction and Spiritual Growth. Selections can be from the 2012-2017 reading lists if not included in previous reports (including Children and Youth titles). Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN II – 10 Books Per Year: Two books from each category, **response** magazine and **New World Outlook** magazines, if available.

PLAN III – 15 Books Per Year: Two books from each category **Plus five** additional books from any category, **response** magazine and **New World Outlook** magazines, if available .

PLAN IV – 20 Books Per Year: Two books from each category **Plus ten** additional books from any category, **response** magazine and **New World Outlook** magazines, if available .

KINDLE – Electric Books | You will notice some titles are electronic books only. This merely means that United Methodist Women will not have these titles in its inventory. These books are available elsewhere in both print and electronic formats – you can choose what format works best for you. You can purchase titles not available from United Methodist Women **in PRINT or KINDLE** from our Amazon store at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/astore

BONUS BOOKS – Count as two books – either as two books in Education for Mission or Social Action, or as one book in either of those two categories.

Extended Reading List! While supplies last, 2011 books can be used to fill requirements for the 2017 Reading Program. PLUS - 2011 titles are on sale for \$2.00 - \$5.00. (Originally up to \$35.00)

Titles read from the 2012 list will be credited through December 31, 2017.

Sandy Segur, Secretary Program Resources

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
SOUTH WEST DISTRICT**
The United Methodist Church
Florida Conference
Mary Van Tol, District Vice President
1216 SE 19th Terrace, Cape Coral, FL 33990
Phone: 239-271-0161
Email: mvantol@embarqmail.com

September 17, 2016

Dear All United Methodist Women:

Please accept and share this letter of invitation with all the ladies of your Mission Team, Unit Ladies as well as the ladies of your congregation. The South West District Mission Team would like to invite you to their 11th Annual District Event. It will take place on Saturday, October 15th at Venice Christ UMC. Our theme for the day will be ***"Women in Mission"*** emphasizing our vision to help women and youth around the globe.

The women of Venice Christ UMW will greet us from 9 am to 9:45 am with morning refreshments. Our program will begin promptly at 10 am. Lunch will be available for \$8 per person. **Please remit your reservation form and unit check to Venice Christ's unit Treasurer, Arlene Callihan-Wilson, 324 Aurora Street E., Venice, FL 34285: Phone: 941-485-5571, Email: arljo29@msn.com** (see the attached reservation form). Deadline for reservations is **October 7th**.

Our guest speaker will be Deaconess Nan Gordon. She is a retired music educator from Massachusetts, Deaconess and currently working in Arts in Medicine at the University of Florida Health and for the Veterans Administration in the Gainesville area showing how music is used for healing and stress relief. She will talk about her mission trips in South America which falls in line with our Latin American People and Faith study.

Also, for your convenience, I have enclosed a flyer to post on your UMW bulletin board as well as in your church bulletin and newsletter. **Please share this announcement with ALL the ladies of your unit.**

Blessings,

Mary Van Tol

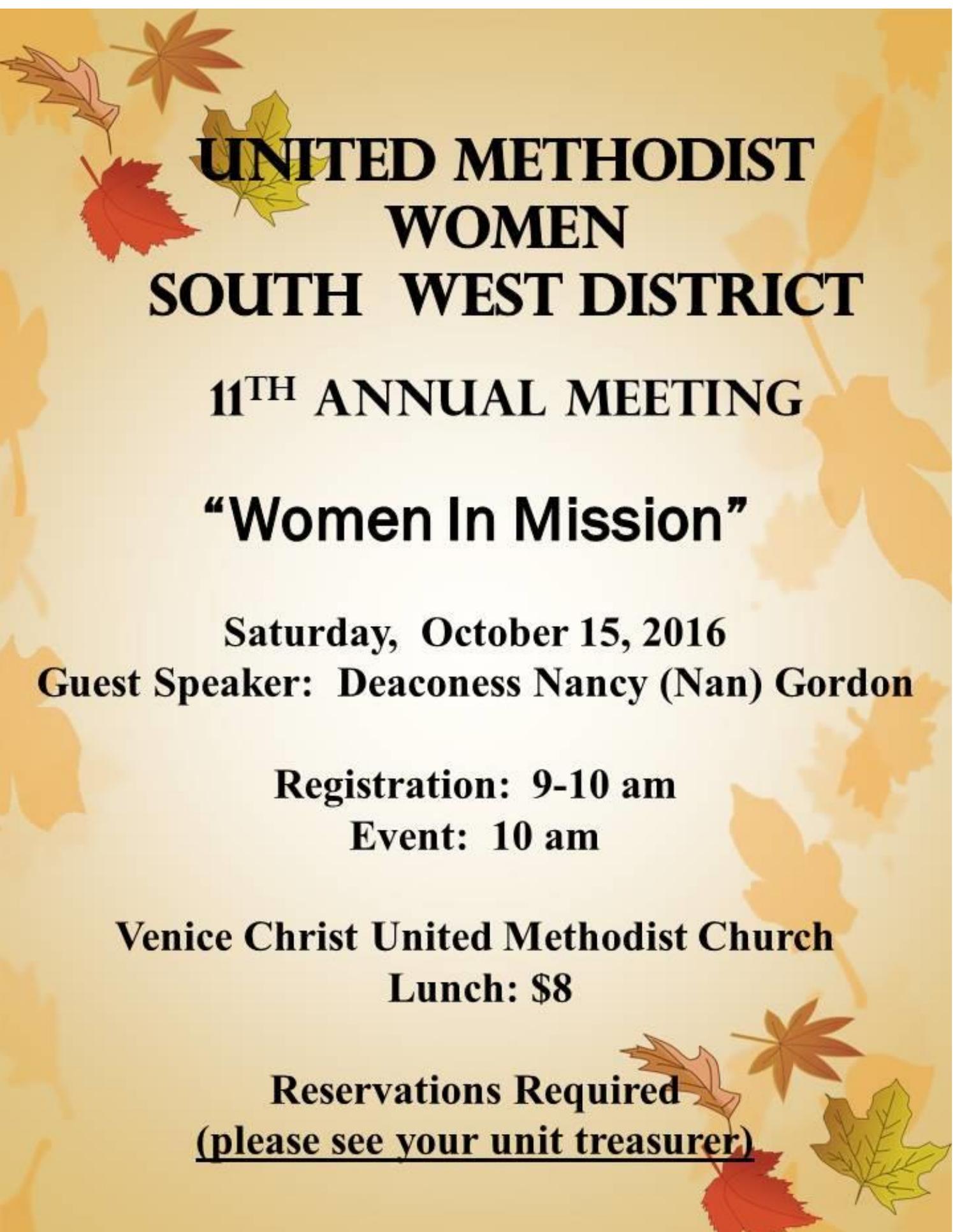
Mary Van Tol

For directions please visit our website at www.southwestdistrictumw.com/forms



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

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**UNITED METHODIST
WOMEN
SOUTH WEST DISTRICT**

11TH ANNUAL MEETING

“Women In Mission”

Saturday, October 15, 2016

Guest Speaker: Deaconess Nancy (Nan) Gordon

Registration: 9-10 am

Event: 10 am

Venice Christ United Methodist Church

Lunch: \$8

Reservations Required
(please see your unit treasurer)

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
SOUTH WEST DISTRICT**

The United Methodist Church
Florida Conference

Mary Van Tol, District Vice President
1216 SE 19th Terrace, Cape Coral, FL 33990

Phone: 239-271-0161

Email: mvantol@embarqmail.com

Dear Unit Treasurers:

The South West District United Methodist Women will hold their next event October 15, 2016. It will be their Eleventh Annual Meeting at Venice Christ UMC. **The address of the church is: 1475 Center Rd, Venice, FL 34292.** We are asking for your assistance in coordinating reservations and collecting money for your unit to cover the luncheon that will be prepared by Venice Christ United Methodist Women.

The reservations must be received no later than Friday, October 7, 2016 by Ms. Arlene Callihan-Wilson, Venice Christ UMW Unit Treasurer. Please use the form at the bottom of this page when you send in your reservation.

Please make the checks payable to Venice Christ United Methodist Women. Send the form with a check from your unit's checkbook when you make the reservation.

Should you have any other questions, please feel free to contact myself or Arlene at the numbers listed on this form. Thank you for helping with this matter.

Blessings,

Mary Van Tol

Mary Van Tol

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Name of Church Unit _____

Name of Person picking up Luncheon Tickets _____

There will be (#) _____ persons eating lunch at \$8 per person
We have enclosed \$ _____ for reservations.

SEND RESERVATIONS TO:

**Arlene Callihan-Wilson
324 Aurora Street E.
Venice, FL 34285
941-485-5571
Email: arljo29@msn.com**

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Forty Third Conference Annual Meeting

November 5, 2016

**LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER
FRUITLAND PARK, FL**

*GROWING
IN
BLESSEDNESS*



*Blessed are those
who hunger and thirst
for righteousness, for
they will be filled.
Matthew 5:6 (NRSV)*

*Liz Johnson, former President
WSCS Central Jurisdiction
And
Grace Okerson, Young Adult*

Registration form on the Conference United Methodist Women's website
www.flconfumw.org

Registration Deadline: **October 10** Scholarship Deadline: **October 1**

**Life Enrichment Center
4991 Picciola Road
Fruitland Park, FL 34731**



October 1, 2016

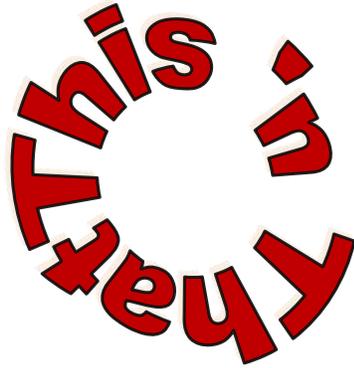
3rd Quarter Pledges Due (send to District Treasurer Dorris Anne Wasson, 1430 Oak St. Nokomis, FL 34275: 941-412-0847)

October 15, 2016

11th Annual Meeting at Venice Christ United Methodist Church in Venice
Registration 9-10, Program 10 am
See flyer and treasurer's form on pages 7-8

November 5, 2016

43rd Conference Annual Meeting
Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland Park
See flyer on page 9



If at anytime throughout the year you or anyone in your unit have updates to contact listings for your ladies, please forward that information to Interim District Secretary, Sharon Wilson. She will update the database, which will then be forwarded to your district counterparts so they know how you can be reached.

Sharon Wilson

golfpro613@embarqmail.com

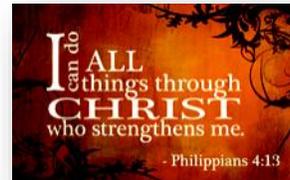
561-313-3641 (c)

"Tell me and I'll forget.

Show me and I might remember.

Involve me and I will understand."

Benjamin Franklin



Article Deadline

The Sojourner is YOUR newsletter to let others in the District know about your challenges and triumphs working to help those women and children in need. Please **send** me anything you wish to share with the District Units by the **25th of the month.**

Mary Van Tol

Vice President/
Communications Coordinator
South West District
mvantol@embarqmail.com
Cell: 239-571-0161
Home: 239-574-1963

Be sure to visit and bookmark our website to find forms and information about our District.

www.southwestdistrictumw.com

Like us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/southwestdistrictumw>

