

**JUNE/JULY
2017**

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT SOJOURNER

**SOUTH WEST
DISTRICT OFFICERS**

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www.facebook/
Southwestdistrictumw.com



UMW Publication Florida Conference



Good Morning South West District Sisters!

Greetings All! I can hardly believe it is already the month of June! Where has the last five months gone? With the month of June that means several things. For my two oldest grandsons, it means school is out!! They will be in the 1st and 2nd grades and are just getting a “good” start, but they LOVE it....let’s hope it continues!!

June also means that summer has “officially” begun, although it has felt lately like we went straight from winter to summer overnight! Father’s Day occurs in June – a time for us to “spoil” our fathers and honor them for all the hard work they do for our families. For those whose fathers have passed on, a time to remember and reflect.

June is also a month in which we should be thinking (and hopefully you’ve already done this) and that is to submit your registrations for Mission u in July! **July 13-16 will be the Florida Conference’s Mission u. The theme for this year’s Mission u will be “Learning Together for Transformation...” and will be held in Daytona Beach at Bethune-Cookman University.** Studies will be offered for children, youth and adults. Adult studies will be offered in English, Haitian Creole, Spanish and Korean. T-Shirts available for \$10 each. Please continue to check your email address for additional information as well as well as our District’s website for updates.

And last but certainly not least on **May 18-20, 2018 will be ASSEMBLY!** We will be traveling to **Columbus, Ohio** which marks both the official celebration of the organization’s 150th anniversary and the location of the first Assembly in 1942! This event is sure to offer an incredible personal faith journey through community building, training for action and visioning a movement for the future! Please click on the following link to find out more: <https://umwassembly.org/>

I wish you a wonderful summer, and I look forward to seeing you at Mission u in July.

Blessings,

Shelley Davidson, President, South West District



The PURPOSE of United Methodist Women

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

Thank You!

A NOTE FROM your Vice President...

It has been only a few weeks since our meeting in Spring Lake and I just wanted to say thank you to all who attended! Although I know many have already gone north for the summer we had 47 women attending our half day event focusing on Communications & Membership Nurture and Outreach. As your Communication Coordinator I was able to highlight three areas that are vital to communicating with our members: Fake news-how we can tell if something is true, understanding how different generations communicate and United Methodist Women publication guidelines which are essential in helping our membership grow.

Thanks go out to Sharon Wilson who not only spoke about what it means to be a part of United Methodist Women, but also how to connect with each other and the importance of nurturing those members we have to help them be the best they can be while supporting our Purpose and Mission. A most enjoyable "Jeopardy" game helped us to remember fun facts with the Communication and MN&O topics.

Finally, a special thank you goes out to Jewell Weaver and her Unit for hosting us and providing wonderful morning snacks (mmm...sticky buns) and a delicious lunch for our District Team. Our planning and budget meeting for 2018 was very productive in the afternoon as we were able to accomplish all of our goals.

Blessings,

Mary Van Tol, Vice President, South West District



UPDATE ***UPDATE***UPDATE

Pam Heady, President of Englewood United Methodist Women, recently suggested that Units in our District should post when they are having a Mission Study on our website, Facebook, and in the Sojourner. This would enable other nearby Units to join in the study together. What a Great Idea!!! Starting in July there will be a tab on the front page of our website listing all available studies and their location. Pooling our resources is a great way for all of us to learn about missions and serve others. Click on the **EVENT** tab to see all the studies available or to add your event!



DISTRICT EVENT

**SOUTH WEST DISTRICT
United Methodist Women**

Membership, Nurture & Outreach
and
Communication

*“Membership Grows With Good
Communication”*

Saturday, May 20, 2017
Registration: 9 am – 9:45 am
Event: 10 am – 12:30 pm



*“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be
acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.”
— Psalm 139:4*

Sebring Spring Lake UMC
8170 Cozumel Lane
Sebring, FL 33876

Please note: No lunch will be served



Music leaders Agatha Johnson & Shirley Young



Mary Van Tol, District VP & Communication Coordinator speaking about UMW communication guidelines



Jewell Weaver, Spring Lake UMW Unit President



Sharon Wilson demonstrates how we can nurture our membership with the help of her daughter Shelley Davidson!



Our Spring Lake Hostesses led by Linda Spear serving the Mission Team a delicious lunch!



Our own “Alex Trebeck’s Jeopardy Game”



Mission Team members and guests enjoying fellowship lunch together before our annual planning meeting.



Unit News

Wings of Shelter Confronts Modern Day Slavery

Modern day slavery – in the form of human trafficking – affects 27 million people around the world. That slavery can take the form of forced labor or commercial sex. And the state of Florida ranks third, after only California and Texas, in the number of reported cases of human trafficking based on calls to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline. These were only a few of the many facts shared by Hillary LeMaster, executive Director of Development for Wings of Shelter, during a presentation April 17, 2017, in the sanctuary of First UMC of Bonita Springs, which was sponsored by the United Methodist Women.

Following the presentation, the Bonita Springs UMW unit presented a \$200 check to Wings of Shelter to support the important work the organization is doing. Wings of Shelter is a non-profit organization which has a local presence in Lee County. The local group was organized in 2008 and is based in Estero. It is the “first long-term residential service for trafficking victims” in the state, according to Ms. Le Master. There are now several other facilities in Florida which are licensed by the Florida Department of Children and Families. The local group is licensed as a “long-term group home” where minor victims can remain up till 18 years of age. Wings of Shelter maintains two “safe houses” in the county to serve minor female victims.

Human trafficking is “here in our backyard”, according to Ms. Le Master. The speaker pointed out that this is “domestic” human trafficking. Her organization is not dealing with foreign adults brought into the country to be exploited either by forced labor or commercial sex. Estimates show 100,000 American kids are victimized through prostitution, pornography, or stripping. The Human Trafficking Resource Center at Florida Gulf Coast Center serves a seven-county area. It reported 14 cases in 2013; the reported number grew to 38 cases in 2015.

The speaker shared that there is no single profile for victims – not by race, ethnicity, physical description or size. She said that traffickers “can create a vulnerability for victims” through their recruitment tactics. A common misconception is that victims are physically restrained. More often, emotional or psychological abuse is used to control the victims. Since minors under 18 years of age cannot legally consent to sex, the fact that some “may seem willing” is not relevant. Many of the victims do not self-identify or ask for help because they incorrectly believe the “trafficker” is caring for, providing for, and loving them. Many come to Wings of Shelter because they have been involved with law enforcement, been removed from abusive home lives, or been placed with child welfare agencies.

The goal of Wings of Shelter is to rescue victims and “begin the restoration process through a victim’s centered, non-punitive approach in our Safe Houses.” While girls are in the program, the organization works “to empower and encourage our girls academically, emotionally, spiritually and socially to help them heal from the complex trauma they have endured and move toward independence.”

REVISED
9:45 am, May 11, 2017

**FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
'MISSION u' ADULT REGISTRATION FORM**

July 13 – July 16, 2017, Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida
Please fill out carefully and completely – Please print legibly – No lunch on Sunday

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Home phone _____

Name of Church: _____ City: _____ District: _____

First time attendee ___ Attending a college or university ___ Age group 18-35 ___ 36-50 ___ 51-70 ___ 71+ ___

Laity ___ Clergy ___ Missionary ___ Deaconess ___ Member/United Methodist Women ___

District or Conference Officer? ___ Your Office _____

HOUSING: Female ___ Male ___ Couple ___ Choice of Roommate _____
Roommates must send in registration forms together

Physical/Disability Needs: 1st floor room ___ Wheelchair accessible ___ Wheelchair accessible shower ___

EMERGENCY INFO (Must be completed):

Physician _____
Name _____ Phone Number _____

Insurance/Policy # _____ Allergies, medical concerns, health/dietary needs _____

All participants will take the Covenantal Community study. Indicate 1st or 2nd choice of Study Leader. PLEASE CHOOSE an additional study. Indicate 1st or 2nd choice of Study Leader.

Living As A Covenant Community:	Missionary Conferences of The United Methodist Church in the United States:	Climate Justice:
Rev. David Range _____	Rev. Amos Adhemar (C) _____	Sara Orellana (S) _____
Rev. Miguel Velez (S) _____	Praveena Balasundaram _____	Rebecca Rochester _____
Gwang Hyun Jacob Parks (K) _____	Sandi Goodman _____	
Dea. Mary Melvin _____	Dea. Nan Gordon _____	Legend:
Joyce Waldon Bright _____	Dr. Judith Pierre-Okerson _____	(C) Creole
Dr. Lorraine Mayfield-Brown _____	Icel Rodriguez (S) _____	(K) Korean
Rev. Harold D. Lewis _____	Denise Morrell (YA) _____	(S) Spanish
Rev. Luc Dessieux (C) _____		(YA) Young Adult

Sign language needed ___ Interpreter ___ What language _____

Fees: Postmarked by June 30 after June 30 Postmarked by June 30 after June 30
Rooms/Meals \$200.00 \$210.00 Commuter \$50.00 \$60.00

REFUNDS: Will be made by written request only and must be submitted to the registrar by July 5, 2017.

MAIL registration and check, payable to Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u, to:
Ciliane Louis, PO Box 1546, Hallandale FL, 33008. Phone 954-226-8110. Email: clouis3@yahoo.com.

MISSION PROJECT: This year we will be collecting gift cards from Walmart and/or Target for Cornerstone Family Ministries.

**FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
'MISSION u' CHILDREN'S REGISTRATION FORM**

Children under 5 years of age –

July 13 – July 16, 2017, Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida - **No Lunch on Sunday**

Please fill out carefully and completely for each child attending – Please print legibly.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Gender _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth _____

Name of Church: _____ City: _____ District: _____

Name of adult with whom the child is rooming: _____

Parent or Legal Guardian: _____ E-Mail: _____

Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (must be completed): _____ Phone _____

Family Physician's Name _____ Phone _____

Insurance Carrier: _____ Policy No. _____

Allergies or Medical Concerns: _____

Is your child receiving any medical attention at this time? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please explain _____

Does child have any SPECIAL NEEDS? _____ if so, please explain: _____

LIABILITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE

I give my permission for my child, _____ to attend the Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u, July 13-16, 2017 at Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida.

I understand that I cannot hold the Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u, staff or volunteer leadership responsible for any accident or injury, which my daughter/son may incur while participating in this event. I also understand that if my daughter/son becomes ill or injured during this event, I give permission for such diagnostic and therapeutic procedures as may be deemed necessary by qualified medical care providers, hospitals, or physicians.

Parent /Guardian Signature

Date

Registration deadline: June 30, 2017

Postmarked by June 30, 2017
Room & Meals: \$25.00

after June 30, 2017
Room & Meals \$35.00

MAIL: Registration form, Children's Covenant form and check payable to Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u, to Ciliane Louis, PO Box 1546 Hallandale, 33008. Phone: 954-226-8110 E-mail, clouis3@yahoo.com.

REFUNDS: will be made by written request only and must be submitted to registrar by July 5, 2017.

MISSION PROJECT: Gift cards from either Walmart or Target will be collected for Cornerstone Family Ministries.

**FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
'MISSION u' CHILDREN'S REGISTRATION FORM**

Children - Kindergarten through Rising 8th Grade.

July 13 – July 16, 2017, Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida - No Lunch on Sunday

Please fill out carefully and completely for each child attending. Please print legibly.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ E-mail: _____
 City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Gender _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth _____ Grade entering in the fall _____
 Name of Church: _____ City: _____ District: _____
 Name of adult with whom the child is rooming: _____
 Parent or Legal Guardian: _____ E-Mail: _____
 Phone: _____ Cell Phone _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (Must be completed): _____ Phone _____

Family Physician's Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Insurance Carrier: _____ Policy No. _____

Allergies or Medical Concerns: _____

Is your child receiving any medical attention at this time? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, please explain _____

Does your child have any SPECIAL NEEDS? _____ if so, please explain: _____

LIABILITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE:

I give my permission for my child, _____ to attend the Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u, July 13-16, 2017 at Bethune Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida.

I understand that I cannot hold the Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u, staff or volunteer leadership responsible for any accident or injury, which my daughter/son may incur while participating in this event. I also understand that if my daughter/son becomes ill or injured during this event, I give permission for such diagnostic and therapeutic procedures as may be deemed necessary by qualified medical care providers, hospitals, or physicians.

 Parent /Guardian Signature Child's Signature Date

Fees:	Postmarked by June 30, 2017	After June 30, 2017	Postmarked by June 30, 2017	After June 30, 2017
	Room & Meals: \$125.00	\$135.00	Commuter \$50.00	\$60.00

Mail Registration, Children's Covenant form and check payable to **Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u**, to Ciliane Louis, PO Box 1546 Hallandale, FL 33008. Phone: 954-226-8110, E-mail, clouis3@yahoo.com

REFUND: Refunds will be made by written request only and must be submitted to the registrar by July 5, 2017.

Mission project: This year gift cards from either Walmart and/or Target for Cornerstone Family Ministries will be collected.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
'MISSION u' YOUTH REGISTRATION FORM
July 13 – July 16, 2017 – Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida.
Please fill out carefully and completely. Please print legibly. No lunch on Sunday

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

City _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Home phone _____

Gender _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____ Grade entering in the fall _____

Name of Church: _____ City: _____ District: _____

Choice of Roommate _____

Parent or Legal Guardian: _____ E-Mail _____

Work phone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Emergency Contact (must be completed): _____ (Name) _____ (Phone)

Family Physician _____ (Name) _____ (Phone)

Insurance Carrier: _____ Insurance/Policy # _____

Allergies or medical concerns: _____

Is your child receiving any medical attention at this time? _____ Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please explain _____

Does your child have any SPECIAL NEEDS: _____ if so please explain: _____

LIABILITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE:

I give my permission for my child _____ to attend the Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u July 13-16, 2017 at Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida.

I understand that I cannot hold the Florida Conference staff or volunteer leadership responsibility for any accident or injury, which my daughter/son may incur while participating in this event. I also understand that if my daughter/son becomes ill or injured during the event, I give permission for such diagnostic and therapeutic procedures as may be deemed necessary by qualified medical care providers, hospitals or physicians.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Youth Signature _____ Date _____

Fees:	Postmarked by June 30	after June 30	Postmarked by June 30	after June 30
	Rooms/Meals \$200.00	\$210.00	Commuter \$50.00	\$60.00

REFUND: Refunds will be made by written request only and must be submitted to registrar by July 5, 2017.

MAIL: Registration, Youth Covenant and check, payable to **Florida Conference United Methodist Women Mission u**, to: Ciliane Louis, PO Box 1546, Hallandale FL, 33008. Phone 954-226-8110. Email: clouis3@yahoo.com.

MISSION PROJECT: This year we will be collecting gift cards from Walmart and/or Target for Cornerstone Family Ministries.

CHILDREN/YOUTH COVENANT

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 'MISSION u'

As a child/youth attending 'Mission u,' I take seriously my responsibility and affirm my commitment for the well-being and safety of others and myself. I agree to remain on the site of the event unless I have been given permission to leave by the Dean of 'Mission u.' I will attend all activities, sessions and meals. I will observe scheduled curfews by being in my room at the appointed time and I will respect the rights of others.

I understand that anything considered illegal for minors (persons under 18) under civil and criminal law applies to this event or meeting as well. Therefore, I will not use tobacco, illegal substances, or alcohol, nor will I possess any firearms, weapons or fireworks. I will respect the equipment and property of others and care for the facility, which we share. Any damages to the facility will be the sole responsibility of the person or persons who caused the damage and the Parent/Guardian of each person responsible. I understand that the dress code is the same as the dress code in public schools, and I will observe that code.

I understand that if I break the covenant, and if the brokenness cannot be reconciled, my parent and/or legal guardian will be contacted and my participation in the event will be terminated.

Child/Youth Signature

Date

PARENTAL CONSENT FORM:

I give my permission for my daughter/son to participate in the Florida Conference United Methodist Women 'Mission u,' July 13-16, 2017 at Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach, Florida. I am aware of the purpose of this event and understand the full scope and nature of the programs and activities my daughter/son will participate in. I agree that any photographs, videos and/or other images taken of my daughter/son at the United Methodist Women's 'Mission u,' may be used to promote the 'Mission u.' I have read the Covenant, which my daughter/son has signed, and I understand the responsibilities she/he has agreed to. I will support her/him in fulfilling this Covenant.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

In case of emergency, you may contact me at _____ or _____
Home phone # Cell phone #

Our **Reading Program** for this year is coming to a close. Please **submit the Plan** you have chosen, listing the books you have read, to your Program Resource Secretary or to your President by the first part of July so that she can submit the listing by **August 1**. You will receive your **CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION** at our South West District Annual Meeting in October.

Sandy Segur, South West District Program Resource Secretary

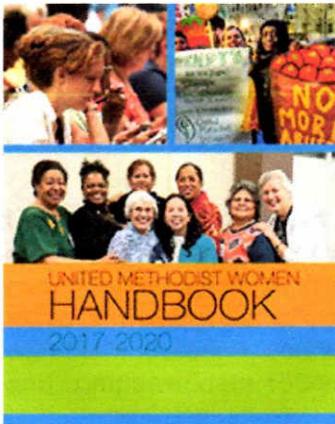
PROGRAM RESOURCES

Recommended Reading:

Reading Program: Education for Mission Category - *Wherever the River Runs: How a Forgotten People Renewed My Hope in the Gospel* – by Kelly Minter Journey down a river teeming with piranhas, caimans, machete-wielding mothers, heroic pastors, faith-filled children and miracles too seldom experienced in many parts of the world on this beautiful adventure through the jungles of Brazil. Kelly Minter rediscovers Jesus among a forgotten people living well beyond the corners of her previously defined faith – a people who draw her back, their pain and their hope, again and again.

Kindle \$9.99 For Hard Copy: unitedmethodistwomen.org/astore

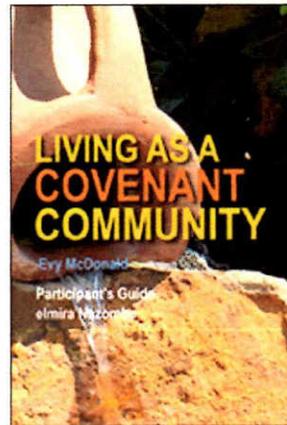
Unit Reference: UMW Handbook
2017-2020



The Handbook 2017-2020 provides you with guidelines and policies and equips each group to organize in a way that makes the most sense to them. Learn about the work of United Methodist Women and how you can engage in mission, connect with one another and find practical tips and suggestions for organization and resources to help you assume responsibility. For ease and flexibility, giving you room for additions and customization, it comes to you three-hole punch, shrink wrapped.

Price \$12.50 Item Number M3196

Mission Study: Living as a Covenant Community



By Evy McDonald

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.

Price \$10.00 Item Number M3291



June 15

Mission Study forms Due

Send to E & I Coordinator

Marti Daltry (martidaltry@gmail.com)

June 20

Mission u Registration Due

See forms on page 5-9

July 5

2nd Quarter Pledges Due

Send to District Treasurer

Dorris Ann Wasson (warrenwasson@aol.com)

July 13-16

Mission u at Bethune-Cookman in Daytona, FL

August 1

Reading Plan Participants Due

Send to Program Resource Secretary Sandy Segur

sandysegur@gmail.com or call 941-249-8726

August 5

Mission Team Meeting (District Team only)

Carlson Memorial UMC in Labelle 9:30 am.

September 16

Mission Sampler at Cape Coral First UMC

Registration: 9:00-9:45am

Program: 10am–2 pm

Lunch \$8.00

October 21

District Annual Meeting in Wesley Memorial UMC

Ft. Myers Registration 9:00-9:45am

Program: 10am-3pm Lunch \$8.00

This is
Twenty

Has Your Information Changed?

People move, get new email and new phones. Please remember to send any updates anytime this happens to **Sharon Wilson** at the address below. Please include their name, address, phone number, cell number (if available) email and their office.

613 Sabel Avenue
Clewiston, FL 33440
561-313-3641 (c)
golfpro613@embarqmail.com



Psalm 74:17

You have fixed all the bounds of the earth; you



Article Deadline

Please submit articles for our next Sojourner issue by the **20th** of this month. We want to highlight your activities for the month, whether it is a fund raiser, social action, spiritual growth retreat, UMW Sunday or a mission study...all stories are welcome!

Mary Van Tol

Vice President/Communications Coordinator

mvantol@embarqmail.com

Phone: 239-571-0161

1216 SE 19th Terrace

Cape Coral, FL 33990

Be sure to visit our websites to get updated news and find information about our District.

www.southwestdistrictumw.com

www.facebook.com/southwestdistrictumw.com

