

**MAY  
2018**

**SOUTH WEST  
DISTRICT OFFICERS**

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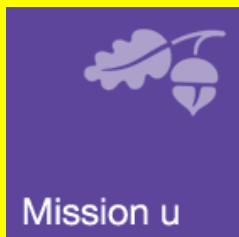
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July 12-15, 2018

# **SOUTH WEST DISTRICT SOJOURNER**

## **UMW Publication Florida Conference**

Greetings Sisters in Christ,

*"She is clothed in strength and dignity and she laughs without fear of the future."*

*Proverbs 31:25*

As we begin the month of May, we remember there is a special holiday called "Mother's Day" which we celebrate every second Sunday. On May 8, 1914 President Woodrow Wilson signed this into law after much persistence and a great deal of groundwork done by Anna Jarvis who originally wanted to honor her mother. Her mother's name was Ann Reeves Jarvis who was a founder of Mothers' Day Work Clubs. She was a social activist, defined by her faith and very active within the Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church community. During one of her Sunday school lessons in 1876 her daughter Anna Jarvis allegedly found her inspiration for Mother's Day during a closing prayer:

*I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mothers day commemorating her for the matchless service she renders to humanity in every field of life. She is entitled to it.*

*— Ann Reeves Jarvis*

The symbolism of the white carnation was described by Jarvis as:

*"Its whiteness is to symbolize the truth, purity and broad-charity of mother love; its fragrance, her memory, and her prayers. The carnation does not drop its petals, but hugs them to its heart as it dies, and so, too, mothers hug their children to their hearts, their mother love never dying. When I selected this flower, I was remembering my mother's bed of white pinks."*

In the 1920s prices of white carnations increased, and the floral industry introduced the red carnations to meet demand for the flower as Anna Jarvis' original symbols began to become re-appropriated, such as the red carnation representing living mothers and the white carnation honoring deceased mothers. She attempted to counter these commercial forces, creating a badge with a Mother's Day emblem as a less ephemeral alternative to the white carnation. She spent her later years and money trying to rescind the holiday, but was unsuccessful. She was placed in a sanatorium late in 1940s paid for by the greeting card and floral companies. Although she never married or had any children, she paved the way for children today to honor their mothers.

In today's world we have all types of women who, whether or not they have had children, have been in loving and mothering situations with the people in their lives: aunts, cousins, teachers, nurses, doctors, pastors, co workers, friends...so, if there is that special "mother" in your life, please wish her a "Happy Mother's Day" and let her know how much you treasure her!

Blessings and Joy!

*Mary Van Tol*

Mary  
South West District President

**Happy  
Mother's  
Day!**



**The organized unit of United Methodist Woman shall be a community of woman 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.**



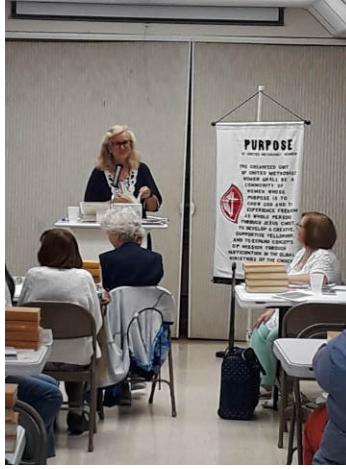
# District in Action

## First UMC, Bradenton

Many thanks to the ladies at First UMC at Bradenton for hosting a wonderful Spiritual Growth Event about Peace...Like a River! All attending had such a fantastic time learning about the Caloosahatche, Myakka, Peace and Manatee Rivers, presented by Sandra Barton, the Southwest District Spiritual Growth officer.



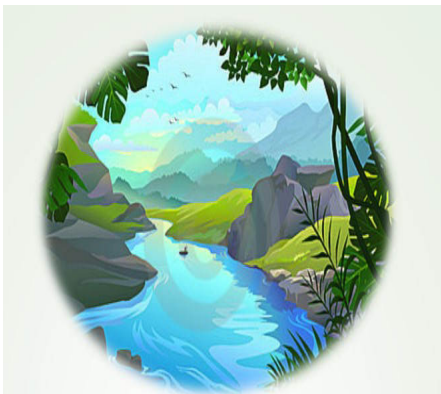
Ruth Qualich,  
Unit Co-President



Rosalind Keppler  
Prayer Calendar



Sandra Barton



# Units in Action

## Christ Methodist Redbird Mission Study with Grace UMC on March 22.

We decorated bags for the children of Henderson Development 's Easter Egg Hunt. Port Charlotte & Englewood United Methodist Women joined us. We raised \$1,000.00 for Henderson Settlement.



decorated Easter Egg Hunt Bags



Peg Oatley, Grace UMC



Pamela Freeland, Christ  
Sandy Segur, Port Charlotte



Doris Ann Wasson, Speaker,

## RED BIRD MISSION

Founded in 1921 in the Cumberland Mountains of SE Kentucky to provide education and Christian Evangelism ministries to residents of the area. It was born in answer to a prayer. It is a story of gracious outpouring of prayer and means by the church. The first school building was completed at Beverly in January 1922. Soon after teachers came, nurses and doctors arrived. In 1968 The EUB merged to become The United Methodist Church. The Work Camp Involves approximately 2500 volunteers annually and now help repair Community homes. The hospital operated until 1986 when closed for economic reasons. In 2000 Red Bird Clinic opened as an outpatient clinic. They have a community store and a crafters market through ministry.

Since the 1990's the Communities Out Reach ministries serve the elderly and families. Emphasis on family food production led to the Farmer's Market in 2010. The first new home was built in 2016 by volunteers. Today the need remains critical in this area of chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing and rugged mountainous terrain. Red Bird Mission is currently facing a financial Crisis.

Submitted by Lucy Boyce, Venice Christ





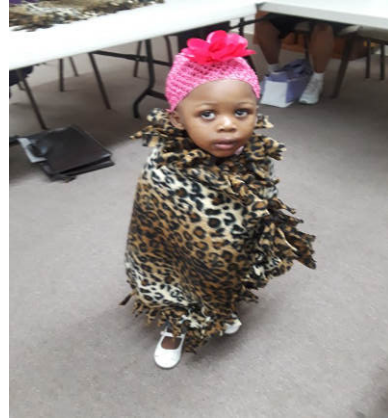
# Units in Action

## St John UMC, Sebring

The ladies at St. John UMC Hope Circle made fleece blankets to send to Henderson Settlement. We even had a blanket model so we knew we were making the child's size!



Opal Stebbins and Tootie Marschke tying blankets



Our Model

St John UMW Sebring are sewing children's bibs for Florida Hospital Child Development Center. So far, 22 bibs made and many more too go!! This will be an ongoing project as bibs are always needed.

Our work Team



Mary Gray

Ann Vancoevering & Marylee Kragt



# Upcoming District Events

Mission u—July 12—15, 2018 Daytona, FL  
Forms are now available. Contact your Unit President. Scholarships are available from the District, contact Mary Van Tol, SW District President for more information.

Life Enrichment Retreat—September 7—9, 2018

## Sacred Spaces

Retreat Leader: Rev. Vidalis Lopez, Associate Pastor

First United Methodist Methodist Church, Coral Gables, FL

Echo Farms—September 15, 2018 North Fort Myers, FL

This Social Action event is not to be missed. ECHO's purpose is to help those who are teaching farmers around the world. In 35 years of assisting development workers around the world, ECHO has become the "go-to" organization for challenges faced by individuals and organizations.



## Treasurer's Reminder

Just a reminder to send in your 2nd quarter pledges to:

Phyllis Jackman

5317 Congo Court

Cape Coral FL 33904

Please submit by June 1st.





## **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN READING PROGRAM Book Club – JOIN IN ANY TIME!**

**Shed light on your life and love perspective through the Reading Program!**

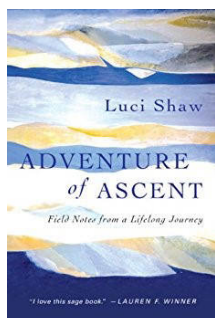
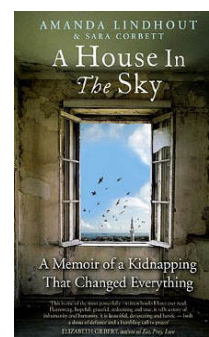
**Spring – *Trouble I've Seen* – we are on Chapter 3, covering a chapter a week with email discussion questions for each chapter. Come to my house at 11am, Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> for a group discussion. Bring a sandwich. Drinks and desert will be provided.**

**Sign up at District Events or on our website:**

**[www.southwestdistrictumw.com](http://www.southwestdistrictumw.com)**

**Sandy Segur, Secretary Program Resources  
479 Northview Street, Port Charlotte, FL 33954  
941-249-8726 [sandyrsegur@gmail.com](mailto:sandyrsegur@gmail.com)**

**Summer – *A House In The Sky* – 6/21/2018**



**Fall – *Adventure of Ascent* – 9/22/2018**



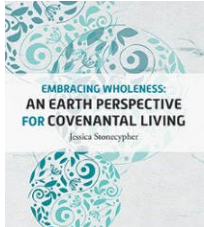
## PROGRAM RESOURCES

**Reminder: Reading Program Plan Reports DUE the end of July!**



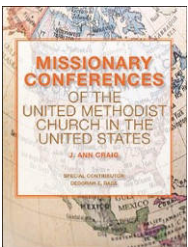
### 2018 Mission Studies:

**Spiritual Growth Mission Study: Embracing Wholeness: An Earth Perspective for Covenantal Living**



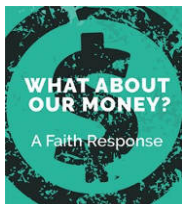
The 2018 Spiritual Growth Study, *Embracing Wholeness* is the second in a two-part series about covenantal living. Part 2, *Embracing Wholeness* is designed to build on this work. It explores the ways God has called us to live in covenantal relationship with all of creation and challenges readers to work toward stronger and healthier relationships with creation, their communities, themselves, and God.

### Geographic Mission Study 2017 – 2018: Missionary Conferences of the United Methodist Church in the United States



The aim of the study is to give an overview of the three missionary conferences in The United Methodist Church, the contexts out of which they grew and their current engagements: The Alaska United Methodist Conference, Red Bird Missionary Conference, and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference are a hybrid of home and international missionary work.

### Issue Mission Study: What About Our Money?



*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. She 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.

Respectfully Submitted by Sandy Segur, Secretary Program Resources [sandyrsegur@gmail.com](mailto:sandyrsegur@gmail.com)  
941-626-8384





## *United Methodist Women Online Treasure Hunt*

Want to know more about United Methodist Women website? See if you can locate and identify the answers to these 10 questions!

- Q1 Where can you find a document titles, "Find United Methodist Women on the Web?"
- Q2 Where can you find information about United Methodist Women Seminars?
- Q3 Name one contact for the seminar programs.
- Q4 Where would you find United Methodist Women groups or blogs?
- Q5 Is the 2018 program book available for free download?
- Q6 Under what category will you find a link to download free materials?
- Q7 What types of maps can you find on [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org)?
- Q8 Where can you find the online registration for Assembly 2018?
- Q9 Where can you find PowerPoint and other UMW templates?
- Q10 Where can you find information on planning a UMW service?

Hint: Answers will appear in next month's Sojourner!



## **Mission Study Annual Report**

The Mission Study Annual Report is due to Pat McShane by June 16, 2018. E & I Coordinators are responsible for submitting this report including the Mission Study Credit Report if you had a Mission Study. If your unit does not have an E & I Coordinator the President needs to submit the report. This report covers from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. If you have any questions, contact me at 863-655-5290 or [Paticake83@gmail.com](mailto:Paticake83@gmail.com). Forms are available in this newsletter or at

<https://sites.google.com/site/flcumw/>





**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

**MISSION STUDY REPORT**

**Please complete one form for each study completed**

**Send form to: Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing address** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF CHURCH** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF STUDY** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF STUDY FACILITATOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE COMPLETED** \_\_\_\_\_

**NUMBER OF HOURS** \_\_\_\_\_

**FROM** \_\_\_\_\_ **TO** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARTICIPATING UNIT (S)\*** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**WERE YOU THE HOST FOR THE STUDY?** \_\_\_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO** \_\_\_\_\_

**IF NO, HOW MANY PARTICIPATED FROM YOUR UNIT?** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACTION (S) PLANNED/TAKEN AFTER THE STUDY** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Person Completing Form** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Participating unit must send their individual report to receive credit.**



## Florida Conference United Methodist Women MISSION TODAY ANNUAL REPORT



To qualify as a MISSION TODAY UNIT, the unit must participate in at least eight of the following criteria, five of which must be marked with an asterisk (\*).

Program year being reported: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit/City: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_

1. \* \_\_\_\_ Made and met our **Pledge to Mission**. \*
2. \_\_\_\_ Was a **Five Star Unit** by contributing through all 5 channels of Mission Giving.
3. \* \_\_\_\_ Used the **Prayer Calendar** at every unit meeting. \*
4. \* \_\_\_\_ Used at least two programs from the **Program Book** for UMW during the year\*.
5. \* \_\_\_\_ Had at least two members subscribe to **response magazine**. \*
6. \_\_\_\_ Had a regular **Response Moment** at circle/unit meetings where one article is lifted to tell the mission story.,
7. \_\_\_\_ Had at least two members complete Plan I of the **Reading Program** and encouraged all members to participate.
8. \* \_\_\_\_ Conducted or co-sponsored at least one **Mission Study** during the year\*.
9. \_\_\_\_ Had at least one member, other than a conference or district officers attend the **Conference Mission u event**.
- 10\* \_\_\_\_ Had at least one member, other than a conference or district officer attend a **district/conference training or spiritual growth event**.
- 11 \_\_\_\_ Had at least two members, other than a conference or district officer, attend the **district and/or conference Annual Meeting**.
- 12 \_\_\_\_ Reached out to **persons in mission** (Deaconess/Home Missioner Regional Missionary, Global Mission Fellow, etc.) or **National Mission Institution** in at least one way. Example \_\_\_\_\_
- 13 \_\_\_\_ Had at least one member actively involved in the **UMW Action Network**.
- 14\* \_\_\_\_ Implemented the **Charter for Racial Justice** in at least one way. \*  
Example \_\_\_\_\_
- 15 \_\_\_\_ Participated in the **Campaign for Children** in at least two ways.  
a. \_\_\_\_\_  
b. \_\_\_\_\_
- 16 \_\_\_\_ Honored **God's Creation** (environment) in at least one way. Example(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 \_\_\_\_ Helped to address the **needs of women, children and youth** in at least one way. Example \_\_\_\_\_
- 18\* \_\_\_\_ Added at least **two new members** by reaching out to all women of the church. \*
- 19 \_\_\_\_ Connected with the larger organization by inviting at least one **conference or district officer to speak at a meeting** during the year.



### **May 12, 2018**

Friendship UMC—Punta Gorda  
MTM—District Officers Only

### **July 12-15, 2018**

Mission u  
Bethune-Cookman  
Daytona, FL

### **August 4, 2018**

Port Charlotte  
MTM-District Officers Only

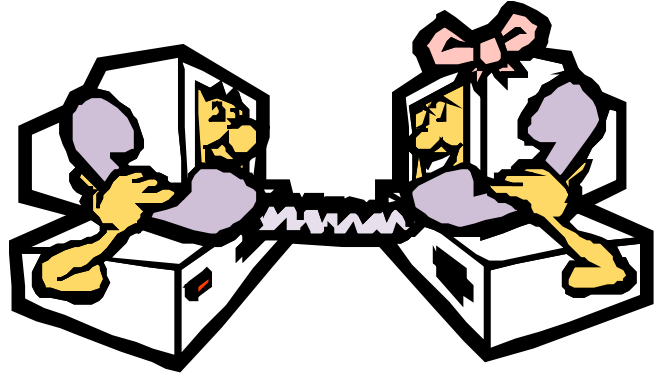
### **September 7—9, 2018**

Spiritual Enrichment Retreat—  
Florida Conference  
Life Enrichment Center  
4991 Picciola Rd.  
Fruitland Park, FL

### **September 15, 2018**

Social Action Event—ECHO Farms  
17391 Durrance Road  
North Fort Myers, FL  
(more information to follow)

## Communications



Please submit articles for our next Sojourner issue by the **25th** of the month. Send them to the Communications Coordinator listed below. All Unit activities are welcome for submission. Digital photos are preferred.

### **Ruth Hollandsworth**

Communications Coordinator  
1327 Deer Park Court  
Sebring, FL 33872

:

Phone: 863-414-6530

Email: [ruthhollandsworth.umw@gmail.com](mailto:ruthhollandsworth.umw@gmail.com)

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

**[www.southwestdistrictumw.com](http://www.southwestdistrictumw.com)**

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