

**OCTOBER  
2018**

**SOUTH WEST  
DISTRICT OFFICERS**

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Sandra Barton

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**Southwestdistrictumw.com**

# **SOUTH WEST DISTRICT SOJOURNER**

## **UMW Publication Florida Conference**

Greetings Sisters in Christ,

*"All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along." Galatians 2:10*

"In the early 1970's Indiana businessman Richard Dugger led a group of high school students on a visit to Haiti and was deeply moved by the plight of people in developing countries. He and others made personal commitments to share their time and resources. They prayed and dreamed of ways to help meet the needs that they had seen. Other Christian laymen and clergy from Indiana and Florida caught the dream, and ECHO (Educational Concerns for Haiti Organization) was born."

In June of 1981 Dr. Martin Price became the executive director and the work in Haiti was closed. However, all of ECHO's resources were directed towards strengthening the work of other organizations and under his direction ECHO has become an ever-growing pipeline for sharing information, ideas, techniques, methods, plants, books, materials...whatever has the potential to ease world hunger. ECHO's primary functions are providing agricultural information to overseas workers, distributing seeds for promising food plants, and offering training opportunities at the Florida farm. ECHO's role and purpose as conceived in the early 1980's endures today, and as a result, ECHO's "history" is mostly a story of the expanding ministry. ECHO.Echocommunity.org connects over 12,000 small-scale farmers and those working to eliminate world hunger with essential resources and each other.

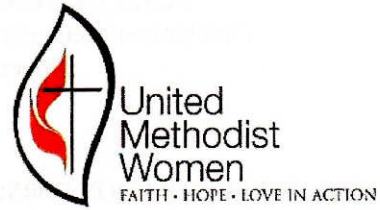
On September 15<sup>th</sup> we had eleven units with 51 attendees go to see the work of ECHO in action. It was a sunny and hot day, but we had three great tour guides taking us around the grounds to learn a little about the types of plants that are grown and studied to best provide the needed food in areas of the world that have depleted resources. Thanks go out to Joyce Shelso, Social Action Coordinator and Phyllis Jackman, District Treasurer as well as Sandra Barton who helped make the event go smoothly and trouble free. Hopefully we all got to go back to our Units and share what we learned about this vital mission whose social action follows our scripture above where we are asked to continue to show our love by remembering the poor.

As your Units are starting back up after the long hot summer, we ask that you attend our Annual Meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> in Cape Coral to celebrate your accomplishments over the past year as well as to elect and reconfirm our 2019 slate of officers. This year we will also be hosting our Mission Sampler on November 17<sup>th</sup> in Venice where you will learn techniques of holding your own mission and spiritual growth studies. Look for the registration in next month's Sojourner. You are also invited to the Conference Annual Meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Lakeland. Information and registration form are in this newsletter.

Mary Van Tol, South West District President

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.

**Florida Conference**



**Forty-fifth  
Conference Annual Meeting  
November 3, 2018  
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
Registration begins at 9:00 AM**

**“Sacred Spaces”**

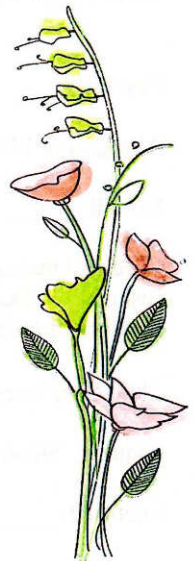
*Then you will live a life that honors the Lord, and you will always please him by doing good deeds. You will come to know God even better.*

Colossians 1:10 (CEV)

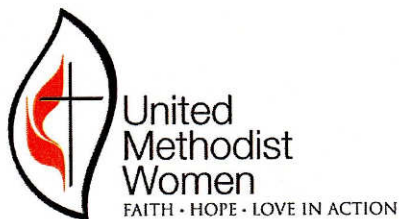
**Special Guest: Julie Taylor**

Executive Director, National Farm Worker Ministry  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**First United Methodist Church  
72 Lake Morton Drive  
Lakeland, FL 33801**



**United  
Methodist  
Women**  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



United Methodist Women of  
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TO: Local Unit Presidents  
FROM: Kay Roach, President  
SUBJECT: CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING  
DATE: September 1, 2018

The 45th Conference Annual Meeting of the Florida Conference United Methodist Women on Saturday, November 3, 2018 at First United Methodist Church, 72 Lake Morton Dr., Lakeland, FL. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn around 4:00 p.m.

The theme this year is: *Sacred Spaces*, Colossians 1:10 (CEV) with guest speaker Julie Taylor, Executive Director, National Farm Worker Ministry and former Executive for Spiritual Growth of United Methodist Women in the National office.

The business session will include approving the 2019 budget and the electing members of the Conference Committee on Nominations Class of 2022.

As Unit President, you are the voting delegate from your Unit, but if you are unable to attend, your Unit should elect an alternate. Please encourage other members of your Unit to attend as we celebrate the work of United Methodist Women throughout the Florida Conference and the Mission Field. A registration form (form may be duplicated) is enclosed for your convenience. It is essential that you complete and return the form for our records as well as your lunch reservation.

Cards for the “**Love Offering**” can be obtained from your District President, at the Spiritual Retreat, and/or at the annual meeting indicating the amount of your Unit’s gift. **Send the money to your District Treasurer.** This is an extra mile giving, over and above your pledge to Mission Giving, to be used where needed most. We look forward to our time together.

Blessings,  
  
Kay Roach

*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.*



**FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
 FORTY FOURTH CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING**  
 First United Methodist Church, 72 Lake Morton Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801  
 November 3, 2018 – 10:00 AM. – 4:00 PM

*“Sacred Spaces”*

Please complete the REGISTRATION FORM for CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING and **mail to reach the Registrar no later than October 15, 2018. All attending must register.** Please send each individual registration on a separate form (form may be duplicated). If registration is for more than one person, please attach all forms to the check. The registration of \$25.00 includes meeting and lunch. The **REGISTRATION FEE OF \$12.00 IS FOR THE MEETING ONLY (NO LUNCH)**. On-site registration is available. If you register on-site, you will not be able to have lunch at the church. We need a count for lunch by the **15th of October**. Make check payable to **Florida Conference United Methodist Women**.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting in the sanctuary lobby. There will be no refunds for cancellations after October 15, 2018.

**FREE CHILD CARE** will be made available beginning at 9:00 AM at the church. If needed, please indicate on the registration form. Advance reservations necessary.

Be sure YOUR NAME IS PRINTED ON THE FORM AS YOU WOULD LIKE IT ON YOUR NAME TAG. **Send the registration form to:** Ethel Ewing, 823 Lakeside Ct. Lakeland, FL 33815 TN# 863-680-4072 Home 863 370-8757 Cell E-mail: [ethelewing@msn.com](mailto:ethelewing@msn.com). Be sure to use **Conference Annual Meeting** in the subject box.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING 2018      Reg # \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (C)

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency notify: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name, area code, phone number)

Physician: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance Carrier: \_\_\_\_\_ Policy# \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or Medical Concerns: \_\_\_\_\_ Health/Dietary Needs \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ Local Unit \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply: Conference/District Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Current 2018 Local Unit President \_\_\_\_\_ Local Unit Member \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ Deaconess/Missionary \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ District Superintendent \_\_\_\_\_ Member of Conference CON \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member of District CON \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate, replacing Local President as a voting delegate \_\_\_\_\_ Visitor \_\_\_\_\_

Child Care Needed \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of Children: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

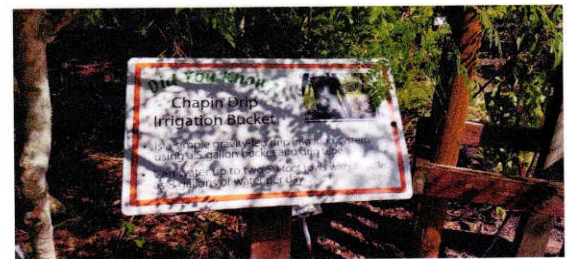
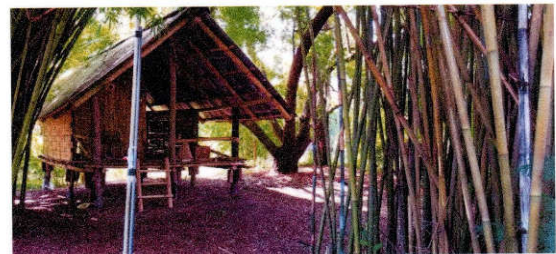
Request: Signing for hearing impaired \_\_\_\_\_ Need language translation (language) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 (meeting and lunch) \_\_\_\_\_ \$12.00 (meeting only)

# Social Action ECHO Tour



Tour guides Martin & Donna Price







ECHO tour showing ways to raise chickens, goats, worms, and plants!

Photos courtesy Mary Van Tol



# Conference Spiritual Retreat “Sacred Spaces” September 7-9, 2018 Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland



A good time was had by all!



Magdala and Judith with the Haitian ladies singing in Creole.



Beautiful Day



Rev. Vidalis Lopez



Magdala and her daughter's singing the song from The Sound of Music, “Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So, La, Te, Do.”

Photos courtesy of Shelley Davidson

# Upcoming Unit Events

## **Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church, Ft. Myers**

Come join Wesley Memorial Church United Methodist Women for a unit meeting featuring the topic, "Human Trafficking," on October 27, 2018 beginning at 11:00 am. The guest speaker is Christy Ivie from Christy's Cause. For additional information contact Susan Webb at [Smidwebb@hotmail.com](mailto:Smidwebb@hotmail.com). She can also be reached by phone at (239) 267-7423.

### **ACTION ALERT: Air Pollution and Public Health**

The following link is to the September Action Alert. Please post on Facebook with the headline:

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/air-pollution-and-public-health>

Thank you!

Best, Aliya Jones, Program Assistant, Washington Office of Public Policy, United Methodist Women

[csadc@unitedmethodistwomen.org](mailto:csadc@unitedmethodistwomen.org)



*Happy  
Halloween!*





# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2018-2019 READING PROGRAM



## 2019 READING PROGRAM BOOKS:

The 2019 Reading Program catalog is available only on the United Methodist Women website and no longer being printed. Each of the five categories feature books regarding our current mission studies and more!

The Reading Program this year looks at the history between the United Methodist Church, the United States and Native people; Alzheimer's disease; and the importance of wellness in body and spirit. Of course, we continue to look at the quadrennial focuses of economic injustice, the environment and exploration of intellectual and spiritual leadership. And, as always, we walk together on personal journeys of spiritual growth.

## BOOK SOURCES:

Call Mission Resources at 1-800-305-9857. Please note that titles labeled "Kindle" are also available in print on Amazon. [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/store](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/store) and/or [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) indicating United Methodist Women for supporting contribution of 5% for selections made on Amazon!

## CHOOSE A PLAN:

**PLAN I: 5 books per year, one from each category**

**PLAN II: 10 books per year, two from each category**

**PLAN III: 15 books per year, two from each category plus five additional from any category**

**PLAN IV: 20 books per year, two from each category plus 10 additional books from any category**

**ALL FOUR PLANS are to include regular reading of *response* magazine.** Please note that *New World Outlook* is no longer being published.

## MISSION u:

*Save the Date!* Plan to attend **Mission u 2019** July 11 – 14 at Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL for opportunities of learning and spiritual growth!

## 2019 MISSION STUDIES:

- Spiritual Growth: *Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship*. Author Janet Wolf explores the timeless issues of poverty, gender, justice, liberation, equality and others using Mark as a guide.
- Geographic Study: *United for Change: United Methodist Women in Mission – 150 Years and Beyond* by Ellen Blue, a two-year study, will provide a historical survey of United Methodist Women and amplify the voices that shaped the work changing the fact of mission.
- Issue Study: *What About Our Money? A Faith Response*. A repeat study of 2018 on how we understand money within the context of our faith.

*Continue to BOLDLY Read, Pray, and Act! Shalom, Sandy*

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN  
FLORIDA CONFERENCE  
SOUTH WEST DISTRICT  
COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Leadership Team,

The Committee respectfully submits this slate, one of women of faith, that know that volunteering to serve in this office will require a commitment of prayers, time, and energy. Members of the South West District were notified verbally at the August Team meeting of the members to be included in the slate. The members of South West District will be apprised when the slate appears in the October Sojourner and presented at the Annual Meeting on October 13, 2018. It will be the responsibility of the Leadership Team to actively seek members to fill the vacant positions which are Committee on Nominations, Class of 2019 (1), Class of 2020 (2), Class of 2021 (1), Class of 2022 (2).

President: Mary Van Tol

Vice-President: Pamela Freeland

Secretary: Gloria Heston

Treasurer: Phyllis Jackman

COORDINATORS

Secretary Program Resources: Sandy Segur

Spiritual Growth: Sandra Barton

Social Action: Joyce Shelso

Education & Interpretation: Patricia McShane

Communication: Ruth Hollandsworth

Membership, Nurture & Outreach: Vacant

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:

Roberta Swords Class of 2019

Laurie Leskanic Class of 2021

Respectfully,

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Gloria Heston, Chair Class of 2019

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Roberta Swords, Class of 2019



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



South West District United Methodist Women 2019 Proposed Calendar  
Revised 8/2018

- January 26: **Local Officers Leadership Training,**  
Sebring St. John United Methodist Church  
Registration 9-9:45am, Program 10am-2:30pm; Lunch \$8.00
- February 23: **Mission Team Meeting (District officers only)**  
Christ Venice United Methodist Church (10am-2pm)
- March 30: **Spiritual Growth Event: TBD**  
Registration 9-9:45am, Program 10am-2pm; Lunch \$8.00  
MTM to follow 2:15-3pm
- May 18: **Social Justice ½ day Event**  
**Trinity United Methodist Church, Sarasota**  
Registration 9-9:45am, Program 10am-12pm  
Mission Team Meeting to follow (District officers only plan for 2020)  
12:30-2:30pm
- July 11-14: **Mission u**  
Florida Southern College in Lakeland
- August 17: **Mission Team Meeting (District officers only)**  
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church in Ft. Myers; 10am-2pm
- October 19: **Annual Meeting TBD**  
(Registration 9-9:45am, Program 10am-2pm; Lunch \$8.00)
- November 23: **Mission Sampler TBD**  
(Registration 9-9:45am, Program 10am-2pm; Lunch \$8.00)
- December 14: **Mission Team Meeting TBD (District officers only)** 10am-2pm

If your Unit is willing to host one of the events, please contact Pamela Freeland at 701-361-7973.



|                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b><u>JANUARY 2018</u></b><br/> <b><u>LOCAL UNIT OFFICERS TRAINING</u></b><br/> January 27<br/> Sebring First UMC<br/> Registration: 9-10 am<br/> Program: 10-2:30 pm<br/> Lunch: \$8</p> | <p><b><u>FEBRUARY</u></b><br/> No<br/> District<br/> Activities<br/> Scheduled</p> <p>*****<br/> *<u>MTM</u><br/> February 17<br/> Clewiston First UMC<br/> 10.00 am</p>  | <p><b><u>MARCH</u></b></p> <p><b>No<br/> District<br/> Activities<br/> Scheduled</b></p>                                                                                   | <p><b><u>APRIL</u></b><br/> <b><u>SPIRITUAL GROWTH</u></b><br/> April 28<br/> First United<br/> Bradenton UMC<br/> Registration: 9-10 am<br/> Program: 10-2:00 pm<br/> Lunch: \$8</p> <p>*<u>MTM</u> to follow</p> |
| <p><b><u>MAY</u></b><br/> No<br/> District<br/> Activities<br/> Scheduled</p> <p>*****<br/> *<u>MTM</u><br/> May 12<br/> Friendship<br/> Punta Gorda UMC<br/> 10:00 am</p>                   | <p><b><u>JUNE</u></b></p> <p><b>No<br/> District<br/> Activities<br/> Scheduled</b></p>                                                                                   | <p><b><u>JULY</u></b><br/> <b><u>MISSION u</u></b><br/> July 12-15<br/> Bethune-Cookman<br/> Daytona, FL</p> <p>For Scholarships contact<br/> District President</p>       | <p><b><u>AUGUST</u></b><br/> No<br/> District<br/> Activities<br/> Scheduled</p> <p>*****<br/> *<u>MTM</u><br/> August 4<br/> Port Charlotte UMC<br/> 10:00 am</p>                                                 |
| <p><b><u>SEPTEMBER</u></b><br/> <b><u>SOCIAL ACTION</u></b><br/> <b><u>EVENT at ECHO</u></b><br/> September 15<br/> North Ft. Myers<br/> Time: TBD</p>                                       | <p><b><u>OCTOBER</u></b><br/> <b><u>ANNUAL MEETING</u></b><br/> October 13<br/> Cape Coral First UMC<br/> Registration: 9-10 am<br/> Program: 10-3 pm<br/> Lunch: \$8</p> | <p><b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b><br/> <b><u>MISSION STUDY</u></b><br/> November 10<br/> Christ Venice UMC<br/> Registration: 9-10 am<br/> Program: 10-2:30 pm<br/> Lunch: \$8</p> | <p><b><u>DECEMBER</u></b><br/> No<br/> District<br/> Activities<br/> Scheduled</p> <p>*****<br/> *<u>MTM</u><br/> December 4<br/> Pam Freeland's home in<br/> Venice<br/> 10:00 am</p>                             |





# Communications

## OCTOBER 13, 2018

### ANNUAL MEETING

Cape Coral First UMC

Registration: 9-10 am

Program: 10-3 pm

Lunch: \$8.00

## OCTOBER 27, 2018

Human Trafficking

Wesley Memorial UMC

4141 Deleon St., Ft. Myers

11am. Contact: Susan Webb

(239) 267-7423

## NOVEMBER 3, 2018

### Florida Conference Annual Meeting

First UMC

72 Lake Morton Dr., Lakeland

Registration: 9am

Program: 10a-m 4pm

Registration with no Lunch \$12.00

Registration with Lunch \$25.00

## NOVEMBER 10, 2018

### MISSION STUDY

Christ Venice UMC

Registration: 9-10 am

Program: 10-2:30 pm

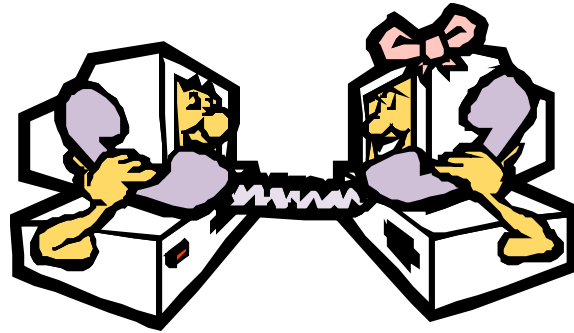
Lunch: \$8

## DECEMBER 4, 2018

\*MTM Only

Pam Freeland's home in Venice

10:00 am Please RSVP.



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)**

**[www.facebook/southwestdistrictumw.com](https://www.facebook.com/southwestdistrictumw.com)**

