

**NOVEMBER
2018**

**SOUTH WEST
DISTRICT OFFICERS**

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SOUTH WEST DISTRICT SOJOURNER

UMW Publication Florida Conference

Greetings Sisters-in-Christ!

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

There is always
something to be
thankful for

It's hard to believe this year has gone by so fast and we are about to celebrate Thanksgiving! In January, I began a new year going down a path I never thought I would go by taking on the role of being your District president. This year our District team had six new leaders and two former members along with me taking on new roles on the team. Only Sandy Segur served in her previous role as Secretary of Program Resources. I am thankful for her leadership and all the team work, discussions, training and support these women have given the District as they all learned and grew into their new roles as United Methodist Women. For the upcoming 2019 year some of us are taking on new roles and welcome Laurie Leskanic to our team as part of our committee on nominations.

This year has also offered us many opportunities to connect with others in our District, Conference and National organizations as we attended the trainings, spiritual growth events, Mission u, and Assembly. Thanks go out to all the work that went into these events and for all the attendees. In my annual report given at our Annual Meeting in October, I was thankful we had over 25 women, children and youth attend Mission u, including six first time attendees. Our hope is that next year more women would consider attending and will be able to share in the fellowship that these four days bring.

We have one more District event on November 10th at Venice Christ UMC. I am thankful that they were willing to host this event during this very busy season of the year. Please make every effort to attend this mission sampler so you will be able to hold mission studies that are the foundation of what United Methodist Women are all about!

Blessings to All!

Mary Van Tol,
President
South West District



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 ministries of the church.

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT United Methodist Women

Mission Sampler 2018

Saturday, November 10, 2018

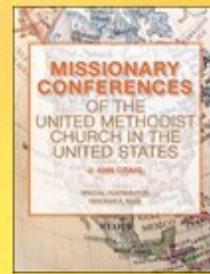
Registration: 9:00 am – 9:45 am

Program: 10:00 am – 2:30 pm

Transforming Grace

**“The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the
world, and all who live in it.”**

~ Psalm 24:1 (NIV)



Christ Venice United Methodist Church

1475 Center Rd
Venice, FL 34292

LUNCH: \$8 per person

(Please see your unit Treasurer for additional information)



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
SOUTH WEST DISTRICT
Florida Conference
Pamela Freeland, District Vice President
Phone: 701-361-7973

Email: pamelafreeland.umw@gmail.com
Website: www.southwestdistrictumw.com

October 8, 2018

Dear All United Methodist Women:

Our 2018 South West District Mission Sampler is scheduled for November 10, 2018, at Christ United Methodist Church in Venice, FL. The theme, **Transforming Grace**, is based on the Mission u theme and the 2018-19 Program Book, "Sisterhood of Grace." From Psalm 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it the world and all who live in it," we will learn how this transformation takes place through our studies. Please join us!

South West District Mission Sampler "**Transforming Grace**"
November 10, 2018
Christ Venice United Methodist Church
1475 Center Road
Venice, FL 34292

Registration and a light continental breakfast will be available from 9:00 to 9:45 am. Our session will begin promptly at 10:00 am.

As hostesses, the ladies of Christ Venice will be making preparations for your arrival. Reservations are necessary! **Please register with your Unit treasurer no later than November 5, 2018.** The cost for lunch is \$8. (I have attached a registration form for Unit Treasurer's to use to send in registrations for the Unit.)

I cannot stress enough how much your attendance will be appreciated for this important event. Please share this letter and post the flyer. Encourage your United Methodist Women members and any non-member guests to attend. I look forward to seeing you in November!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Blessings always,

Pamela Freeland

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.

Dear Sisters-in-Christ,

Pamela Freeland just informed me that Arlene Calahan-Wilson, her Unit treasurer has passed away after having surgery last week. Please be in prayer for her and her family. The phone number on the form is no longer in service.

Please send all registrations for the November 10 Mission Sampler event at Christ United Methodist Church in Venice to:

Pam Freeland
112 Cala Court
Venice, FL 34292

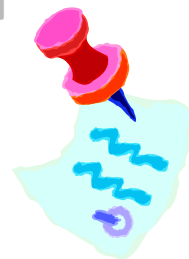
701-361-7973



Treasurer's Reminder

Just a reminder to send in your 4th quarter pledges are due by December 10th to:

Phyllis Jackman
5317 Congo Court
Cape Coral FL 33904



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting held on October 13, 2018 with 89 members and guests in attendance. Nancy Vanderwall, Unit President of Venice Grace, was our guest speaker. She spoke about how we were all BOLD women as we continue to carry out the mission of United Methodist Women through social action. The 2019 Budget was accepted with \$75,000 going to pledge to mission and \$7,315 for A&MD. Thanks to Jannett Hawley who acted as our parliamentarian during the business portion of the meeting,

Awards were given out recognizing nine Mission Today Units, eight Mission Study Awards, four Racial Justice Awards, 25 Rainbow Givers, 14 Five Star Units, and 63 Reading Plan participants reading over 400 books!

We were honored to have Rev. Chuck Engelhardt, pastor of Cape Coral First giving us a warm welcome and leading us in Holy Communion. It was a delight to see and hear Magdala Edmond's (National Director) two daughters sing for us as we began both the morning and afternoon sessions. Thank you to Magdala for reaffirming our leaders for 2019.

A special thanks goes out to Unit President Ali Pilon and the women of Cape Coral First who provided delicious refreshments, lunch and a lovely cake for dessert celebrating all the hard work the Units have done this year. Thank you also goes out to our song leaders Joyce Russell and Judy Moulton and pianist Cheryl Dobson who led, sang and played our hymns during the event.



2019 SLATE FOR SOUTH WEST DISTRICT REAFFIRMED ON OCTOBER 13, 2018

Officers

President	Mary Van Tol, Cape Coral First
Vice President	Pamela Freeland, Christ Venice
Secretary	Gloria Heston, Cape Coral First
Treasurer	Phyllis Jackman, Wesley Memorial

Coordinators

Education & Interpretation	Patricia Mc Shane, Sebring First
Program Resources	Sandy Segar, Charlotte Harbor Trinity
Spiritual Growth	Sandra Barton, Bradenton First
Social Action	Joyce Shelso, Bradenton First
Communications	Ruth Hollandsworth, St. John Sebring

Nomination Committee

Nominations Class of 2019	Roberta Swords, Cape Coral First
Nominations Class of 2021	Laurie Leskanic, Port Charlotte





2018 Memorials

Bradenton First

Mary Lou White

Cape Coral First

Brenda Middaugh

Christ Venice

Louise Griffiths
Barbara Schlemmer

Englewood

Faith DeLong
Joyce Split
Myrtle Gray
Mim Bone
Renee Arnold
Joan Larson
Shelley Gutz

Grace Venice

Lorraine Astfalk
Patricia Darling
Shirley Grabner
Paddy Claypoole
Lois Probst
Marcia Morley

North Naples

Murial Scott
Samantha Blodgett

Sarasota First

Margaret Adair
Louise Barrar
Ann Brandt
Jo Sue Simpson

Sarasota Trinity

Elaine Bower
Helen Cihlah
Leah Dukes

Sebring First

Maxine Elick
Verna Hall
Nona Allen Neatrou
Sylvia French

Wesley Memorial

Dorothy (Dot) Huse
Virginia DeShazo
Louise Lee



THE LEGACY FUND ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

Plan an Anniversary Celebration

As the 150th anniversary of United Methodist Women approaches, be sure to celebrate all the ways you've made life better for women, children and youth.

by Sandy Wilder

United Methodist Women members bake a special cake for their Legacy Celebration.

In just a matter of months, United Methodist Women will celebrate its 150th year as women organized for mission. How will you celebrate? With whom will you share the story of United Methodist Women in the coming months?

March 23, 2019, our 150th anniversary date, is a Saturday, so consider organizing a celebration of United Methodist Women that lasts for the entire weekend. Activities might include a service day, a unit program, a 150th birthday party or special event, a retreat, or participation in the Day of Giving (March 23). On Sunday, plan a worship service conducted by United Methodist Women, a festive luncheon, a prayer service.

You can plan a "fun-raiser" and announce the amount raised at a 150th birthday party. What is a fun-raiser? It is an activity your unit, circle or conference creates to raise money for the [Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign](#). The Fun-Raiser brochure details how and can be found at the Legacy Fund website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/150/fundraiser.

Remind members that every woman needs to have a valid will and that in their wills they can easily plan for a gift of any size to United Methodist Women. Could we get 150 bequest commitments from each conference in our anniversary year?

Promote the legacy of your United Methodist Women community and global work by sending a story to your local newspaper or pitching a news story to your local news station.

Challenge all your members to "stretch" during the anniversary year by giving an amount every month during 2019 to the Legacy Fund. A commitment of \$20 a month to the Legacy Fund can be our modern-day "two cents a week and fervent prayer" pledged by our founders.

Honor your leaders by presenting them with the special 150th Mission Recognition pin or the 150th necklace.

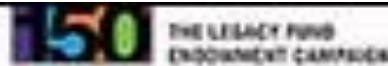
Continue your 150th celebrations in 2019 at Mission u, annual conference, conference and district annual meetings and all conference, district and local events next year.

Source: <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/plan-an-anniversary-celebration>





THE LEGACY FUND ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN



FUN-RAISE FOR THE LEGACY FUND!

We put the “fun” in
“fundraising” with the
Legacy Fun-Raiser!

What is a Fun-Raiser? It is an activity
you or your unit, circle or conference
creates to raise money for the
Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign.



2: SPREAD THE WORD

The more people you tell, the easier it
will be to reach your goal. Explain that
for nearly 150 years, United Methodist
Women and its members have lifted up
the most marginalized in their
communities and around the world. The
Legacy Fund will support the work for
years to come.

1: PICK AND PLAN AN ACTIVITY



Pick an activity and give it a name. Make
a plan and then announce it with e-mail
invites and flyers.

3: WATCH IT RISE!



As you watch the
donations for your
Fun-Raiser increase,
remember to watch the Legacy
Fund Endowment Campaign rise
towards the \$60 million goal on the
Legacy Fund website:
unitedmethodistwomen.org/150

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2018-2019 READING PROGRAM



For almost 150 years, United Methodist Women have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. The purpose of the program is to encourage United Methodist Women members to:

- Expand understanding of and participation in God’s mission.
 - Increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests and concerns.
 - Encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today.
 - Grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.
 - Enhance self-knowledge and act from that knowledge.
- Strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

The 2019 Reading Program catalog is on line only – no longer being published - at: <http://online.fliphtml5.com/eiek/fxug/#p=1>

Book Sources: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/store and www.smile.amazon.com

Also Barnes & Nobel and Cokesbury are sources for the Reading Program books.

Call Mission Resources at 1-800-305-9857

Please note that all titles labeled “Kindle” are also available in print:

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram. (Links to books will be provided there.) and www.smile.amazon.com indicating United Methodist Women for supporting contribution of 5%.

Electronic books can be read on any device (a computer, smart phone or tablet) and the text can be enlarged to make any Reading Program book readable.

CHOOSE A PLAN: 5 Categories – Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, Spiritual Growth and Leadership Development

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.

READING PROGRAM BOOK LIST: UNITED METHODIST WOMEN 2019

Shop at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org www.umwmissionresources.org and www.smile.amazon.com for “Kindle” and out of stock books. Call: 1-800-305-9857.

EDUCATION FOR MISSION:

Escape From the Green Mansion – Ordinary Church Women and their Extraordinary Rescue of San Francisco’s Brothel Slaves by Christine Taylor – Kindle

*An Insider’s Guide to **Praying For The World*** by Brian C. Stiller – Kindle

Threading My Prayer Rug – One Woman’s Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim by Sabeeha Rehman

The Mission-Minded Guide to Church and School Partnerships by Jake McGlothlin

One – Unity in a Divided World by Deidra Riggs

Make A Difference – Following Your Passion and Finding Your Place to Serve by James A. Harnish

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography - The Faith of the 20th Century’s Most Influential Woman by Harold Ivan Smith

Fresh Expressions A New Kind of Methodist church for People Not in Church by Kenneth H. Carter Jr. and Audrey Warren

Synergy – A Leadership Guide for Church Staff and Volunteers by Ann A. Michel

Who Is My Neighbor? Quien es mi vecino?- Learning Spanish as Church Hospitality by Joyce Carrasco – Kindle

NURTURING FOR COMMUNITY:

Better – Waking Up to who We Could Be by Melvin Bray

Hope For The Future – Answering God’s Call to Justice for Our Children by Shannon Daley-Harris

The Hidden Life Awakened by Kitty Crenshaw and Cathy Snapp

The Same Sky: A Novel by Amanda Eyre Ward

When Did Everybody Else Get So Old? by Jennifer Grant

SOCIAL ACTION:

Nobody Cries When We Die- God, Community, and Surviving to Adulthood by Patrick B. Reyes BONUS

Walking on Lava Selected Works for Uncivilized Times by Chelsea Green BONUS

“We Are All Fast Food Workers Now” – The Global Uprising Against Poverty Wages by Annelise Orleck BONUS

Where Do We Go From Here- Chaos or Community by Martin Luther King, Jr.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

Lessons to Nourish The Soul – Sermons to Encourage and Challenge You by Rev. Marjorie E. Palmer – Large Print Kindle Only

Be Still – Departure From Collective Madness by Gordon C. Stewart and Eric Ringham – Kindle

Spoken Into Being – Divine Encounters Through Story by Michael W. Williams

The Soulmaking Room by Dee Dee Risher

The Wesley Challenge – 21 Days to a More Authentic Faith – Leader Guide by Chris Folmsbee

The Wesley Challenge – Participant Book by Chris Folmsbee

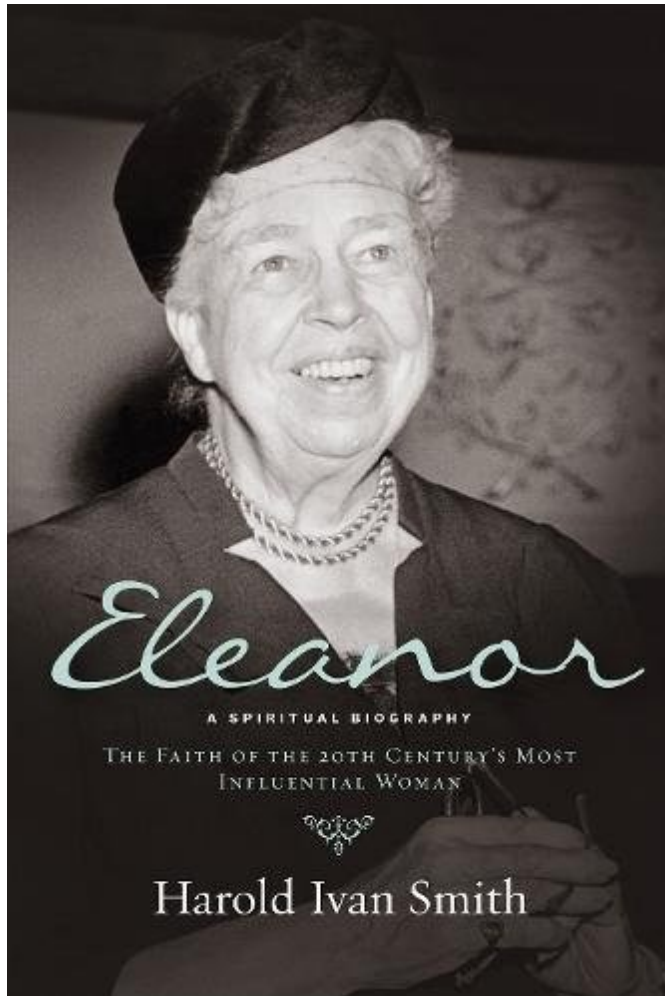
What We Need Is Here – Practicing the Heart of Christian Spirituality by L. Roger Owens – Kindle

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

Weird! A Story about Bullying in Schools by Erin Frankel – Kindle Only

Program Resources

A MUST READ: You won't be saying "why is this book on the Reading Program." Oh my, no. And you will be clued into tons of totally relevant ways that current situations are to be handled for His Kingdom! Her entire life reflects a woman of instinctive needs of change, of courage, commitment and tremendous perserverence. Each chapter gives revelation upon revelation of our Nation and culture. I cannot impress upon you enough that you need to read this biography.....our roots, for sure!



“Eleanor Roosevelt played a pivotal role in the civil rights movement and had a historic part in giving substance and direction to the creation of the United Nations. Here is a well-documented book that explains how her biblically based faith and morality were the bedrock for her convictions and actions. This book is not just a good history. It is a story that will inspire and lift the reader to a profound awareness of how it was her spirituality, lived out, that gave the world the great woman Eleanor Roosevelt became, despite the odds stacked against her.”

Tony Campolo, Founder of Red Letter Christians and author, social activist, and the former spiritual adviser to President Bill Clinton



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
- September 21: **Mission Sampler TBD**
(Registration 9-9:45am, Program 10am-2pm; Lunch \$8.00)
- October 19: **Annual Meeting 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.



Mark Your Calendars
UPCOMING EVENTS



November 10, 2018

Mission Sampler

Christ Venice UMC
1475 Center Rd.
Venice, FL 34292
Registration: 9-9:45a
Program 10a-2:30p
Lunch \$8

December 8, 2018

Mission Team Meeting

At Pam Freeland's home
13 Cala Court, Venice

December 10, 2018

4th Qtr Pledges Due

Mail to:
Phyllis Jackman
5317 Congo Court
Cape Coral, FL 33904

January 26, 2019

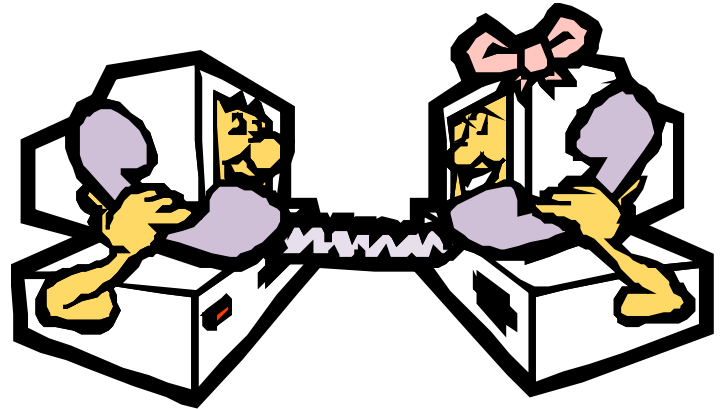
Local Officers Leadership Training

Sebring St. John UMC
33631 Grand Prix Dr
Sebring, FL 33872
Registration 9-9:45am
Program 10am-2:30pm
Lunch \$8.00

As requested by members attending our Annual Meeting, here is the benediction used by Sandra Barton:

May the beauty of God
be reflected in your eyes,
the love of God
be reflected in your hands,
the wisdom of God
be reflected in your words,
and the knowledge of God
flow from your heart,
that all might see,
and seeing, believe.

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

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

www.southwestdistrictumw.com

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

