

February 2019

SOUTH WEST DISTRICT OFFICERS

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South West District

Sojourner

United Methodist Women Publication, Florida Conference

Greetings Sisters in Christ,

By now all your Units have elected and installed your officers, and many came to our Local Leaders Training in January. Thank you to all those who were able to attend this most welcoming event hosted by the women of St. John Sebring United Methodist Women. A special thanks to Ruth Hollandsworth, Unit President and Magdala Edmond, National Director and Unit member who provided us with everything we needed for this event. For those leaders unable to attend the training, a complete packet of training materials will be sent to the president of your unit. She is responsible to share these with all the leaders. If any of you have questions pertaining to your role and responsibilities, you may contact me or any of your counterparts for answers. A list of our emails is on the sidebar of this page. The new Loving Links and Training Materials will be available on our website by the end of this month.

This year the Mission Team has decided to continue the BOLD theme from Assembly 2018 in Columbus, Ohio. In January we learned as leaders to “Walk Boldly” as we were elected and heard the call as Mary did when she was told she would have a son called Jesus. As our roles change, just remember United Methodist Women online website as well as our own District website offer lots of information to help you “walk boldly” along the way.

In the next two months there will be many opportunities for you to attend local, District and Conference events. I encourage you to register early for the events you plan to attend as this allows those in charge to provide you with everything you need. Since March 23, 2019 is the 150-year anniversary day for United Methodist Women, you might plan a birthday party in your Unit. This issue of the newsletter has a page of helpful ideas that you could use to give a special birthday gift to the Legacy Fund, thus continuing the work of United Methodist Women into the future for our children and grandchildren.

Blessings,

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.

LEGACY FUN-RAISER IDEAS

FOR INDIVIDUALS



Give Your Birthday:

Ask friends and family to give to the Legacy Fund in lieu of a birthday gift.

Run/Bike/Walk Your Personal Best:

Race against your personal best time. Friends and family can donate based on the miles you complete.



Cook-off:

Charge admission to the event or charge a separate fee for each tasting. Serve chili, pies and cakes, barbecue or a fish fry.



Marathon Event:

Ask friends and family to sponsor you or your unit for a run, bike race or walk-a-thon. Marathon example: The north, west and east districts of Desert Southwest Conference had Rock-A-Thons and collectively raised over **\$12,027!**



FOR GROUPS

Silent Auction:

Organize a silent auction of donated items.



Game Night:

Sell tickets for an evening of good food and games. Try the classics like Monopoly, Connect Four or Candyland. A giant Jenga or bag toss are also additions.



Karaoke Contest:

Similar to game night, sell tickets for an evening of good food and a singing contest!



Ice Cream Social:

Sell homemade ice cream with sundae toppings. Or, reach out to local frozen dessert cafes, which provide opportunities to host fundraising parties at their establishments.

Community Sporting Event:

Sell tickets and host a sporting event the whole community can enjoy. Play baseball, soccer or tug of war; make a homemade obstacle course; have an inflatable bounce castle; and add a cotton candy machine for a "carnival" feel.



THE LEGACY FUND
ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN

District In Action

South West District Unit Officer's Training was held on January 26, 2019 at St. John UMC, Sebring. Here are a few pictures of the learning and fun had by all!



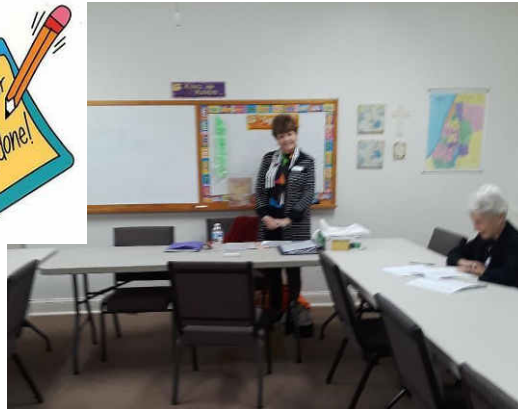
Skit performed by District Officers



Sandra Barton and Sandy Segur reading their parts for the skit.



Pastor Ron DeGenaro, Jr. giving the invocation.



Calling all Secretaries
Gloria Heston gave a wonderful training.



Mary Van Tol, SW District President and Pam Free-land, SW District Vice-President joined together to help Unit Presidents and Vice-Presidents. Leadership is a key element to officiate a Unit meeting.

SW District Treasurer, Phyllis Jackman helped Unit Treasurers understand the financial reporting needed by the District.



District In Action



Conference CON Lori Perkins giving SW District Co-Coordinator Susan Webb and others information on how to recruit new members. The Committee on Nominations helps Units grow.



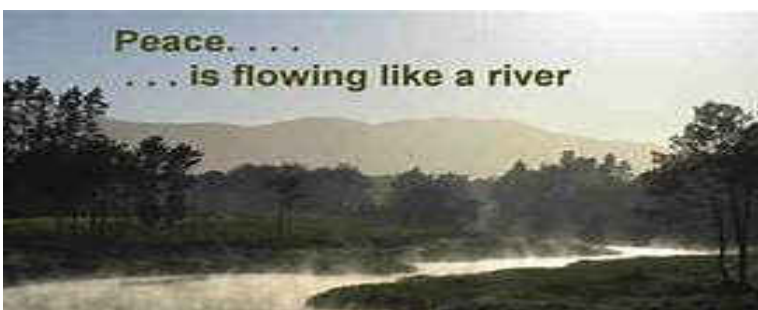
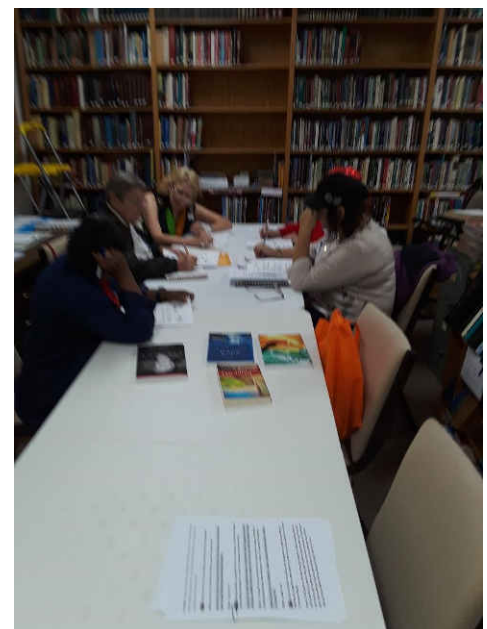
Pat McShane, E & I Coordinator, discussing Mission Studies



Spiritual Growth Leader Sandra Barton sharing ideas!



Sandy Segur, SW District Program Resources Secretary reviewing the changes to the 2019 Reading Program.





Southwest District United Methodist Women
Spiritual Growth Event

Bold Dreams

Presented by Sandra Barton

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” Jeremiah 29:11

Saturday March 30, 2019

Registration: 9 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Program: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Lunch \$8.00



Wesley Memorial UMC

4141 DeLeon Street

Ft. Myers, FL 33901



Thomas Alva Edison (February 11, 1847 – October 18, 1931)
Made his winter home in Fort Myers, FL. He is credited with developing many devices in fields such as electric power generation, mass communication, sound recording, and motion pictures and inventions, including the phonograph, the motion picture camera, and the long-lasting, practical electric light bulb. A true Bold Dreamer!!

Reservations required, contact your local Unit Treasurer



WHAT ABOUT OUR MONEY?

A Mission study presented by Pat McShane

**FIRST SEBRING FAMILY LIFE CENTER
126 S. PINE STREET
SEBRING, FL 33870**



THURSDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2019

REGISTRATION: 9:00 AM TO 9:30 AM

STUDY: 9:30 AM TO 2:30 PM

FREE LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

An offering will be taken for Cornerstone Ministries of Tampa

**CONTACT PAT MCSHANE AT 863-655-5290 TO INDICATE HOW
MANY ARE PARTICIPATING**



Your 2019 Mission Study Books are available!

Order from Mission Resources on line:

www.umwmissionresources.org

or call: 1-800-305-9857!



Reading Program Update and Mission Study Books

The information above is excerpted from an article written by Shelley Davidson, Secretary of Program Resource, Florida Conference United Methodist Women, published in the January 2019 issue of Genesis, newsletter of the Florida Conference United Methodist Women. You can obtain a free copy of Genesis at the new Florida Conference UMW website: www.flconfumw.org.

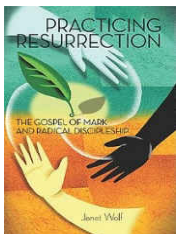
As many of you know, the Reading Program has changed. Reading books can no longer be purchased through Mission Resources. You can order through Amazon, Cokesbury, or visit your local library. Program Books Prayer Calendars, UMW Bibles, Handbooks AND Mission Study books, however, can still be purchased through Mission Resources. Keep in mind, these are purchases and NO returns are allowed. And there are shipping costs.

This year, when you register for Mission u, you will be given a few options for purchasing mission study books. Choose the option that works best for you and your unit/district.

- 1) Place your order on your own by contacting Mission Resources (you pay shipping costs).
- 2) Place your order when you register to attend Mission u and submit your \$10 per book. The books will be ordered by the Conference Secretary of Program Resources for these prepaid orders (you don't pay for shipping).
- 3) Purchase your order when you arrive at Mission u for \$15 per book.

The information above is excerpted from an article written by Shelley Davidson, Secretary of Program Resource, Florida Conference United Methodist Women, published in the January 2019 issue of Genesis, newsletter of the Florida Conference United Methodist Women. You can obtain a free copy of Genesis at the new Florida Conference UMW website: www.flconfumw.org.

Spiritual Growth:



Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark & Radical Discipleship M3331 \$10

This spiritual growth study presents this well-known Gospel of Mark through voices and experiences that are often relegated to the margins. In five chapters, the study examines different passages in Mark and challenges readers to discover what radical discipleship looks like in their context.

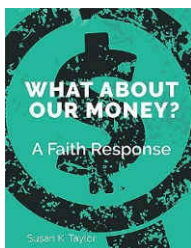
Special Study:



Women United for Change: 150 Years in Mission M3326 \$10

Distinguished scholar of United Methodist Studies Ellen Blue invites us to explore and celebrate the history of United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations. As Blue says, "Women have done some of the most important ministry the church has ever accomplished." As our 150th anniversary approaches, United Methodist Women's ability to address the needs of women, children, and youth has grown tremendously. We can step out with creative ministries because the women who came before us laid a strong foundation for us to build upon.

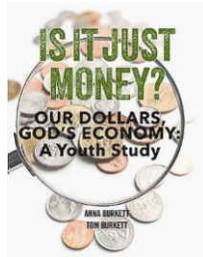
Issue Study:



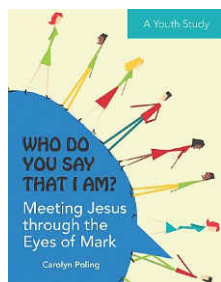
What About Our Money? M3310 \$10

Most of us would rather talk about politics or death or pretty much anything else before we talk about money. What About Our Money? A Faith Response explores how we understand money within the context of our faith. This discussion and our own awareness of how we relate to money can actually help free us from many of the financial dilemmas we face.

Youth Study: **Is It Just Money \$10 M3311**



Is It Just Money? Our Dollars, God's Economy is designed to engage youth in an exploration of money as it relates to faith and justice. This collection of activities and discussions will provide you, the study leader, with resources to help youth deepen their understanding of the complex questions that surround making, having, giving, and using money. The habits and perspectives they develop as young people will guide their relationship to personal resources for years to come.

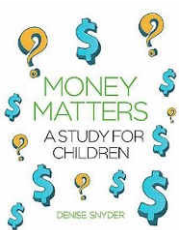


Youth Study:

Who Do You Say That I Am?

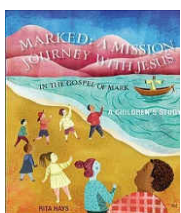
Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark M3329 \$10

The study guides youth through the Gospel of Mark, helping them to define who Jesus is to them, who he says he is in scripture, and how this impacts how we live our lives.



Children's Study: **Money Matters, A Study For Children M3312 \$10**

Money Matters endeavors to teach children about the concept of money, the importance of generosity, and how God intends for us to use money as an expression of love for others. Participants will develop an understanding of the origins and purpose of money; learn about giving from biblical examples; explore the concept of intentional giving and how we can use our resources to be a part of God's plan; and understand the importance of being content with what we have.



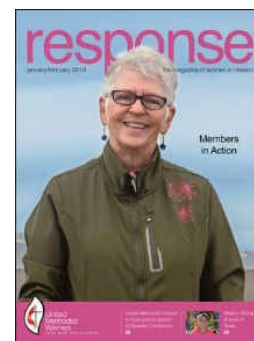
Children's Study **Marked: A Mission Journey with Jesus M3330 \$10**

Children ages five to twelve are invited on a journey where they will discover the power of God through this fast-paced Gospel of Mark. You can download a *FREE* BOOKMARK from the website.

response: is the official magazine of United Methodist Women. Its goals are to educate for mission, to interpret the Purpose of United Methodist Women and to strengthen the organization!

Digital Only Subscription: 1 year (6 issues) \$20 2 years (12 issues) \$38

U.S. Print Subscription: 1 year (6 issues) \$24 2 years (12 issues) \$45





Greetings Florida Conference Ladies!

MISSION u and MISSION STUDY BOOKS....As of this writing, do you know we are exactly, to the day, six months away from Mission u 2019! I know, you're probably thinking that is several months away, and you would be correct. However, now is the time to start making plans to attend. It is also the time to prepare to decide what study you want to take and purchasing the mission study books.

As many of you know, the Reading Program has changed. Reading books can no longer be purchased through Mission Resources. You can order through Amazon, Cokesbury, or visit your local library. Program Books, Prayer Calendars, UMW Bibles, Handbooks AND Mission Study books, however, can still be purchased through Mission Resources. Keep in mind, these are purchases and NO returns are allowed.

This year, when you register for Mission u, you will be given a few options for purchasing mission study books. "How can I do this, you ask?" It's very simple. 1) Place your order on your own by contacting Mission Resources. To cut down on shipping costs, you may want to order multiple copies for your unit. 2) Place your order when you register to attend Mission u and submit your \$10 per book. (there will be a section on the form asking what book(s) and how many you want the Conference SPR to order (the Registrar will give the Conference SPR the lists and she will place the orders and have them ready for you when you arrive at Mission u or 3) Purchase your order when you arrive at Mission u for \$15 per book. Choose the option that works best for you and your unit/district.

NEW YEAR, NEW LOOK... Have you visited the Florida Conference website lately? If so, you might be noticing that it looks different. That's because we've updated the site with new design, new features, and new content. We hope you like what you see, and easily find the information you are looking for. The website is: www.flconfumw.org

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at: shelleydavidson.umw@gmail.com or at 863-599-9070.

Happy Reading!

Shelley Davidson

Secretary, Program Resources



Upcoming Unit Events

Good Shepherd United Methodist Women, 2951 Trail Dairy Circle, North Ft. Myers is hosting a UMW Sunday weekend for their Saturday 4:45pm and Sunday 8:30am & 11:00am services on Feb. 23 & 24.

Cape Coral First United Methodist Women and the church are hosting the Cape Coral Charity Car Show at Jaycee Park on Feb. 16 from 9:00a -3:00pm to benefit the Cape Coral Caring Center and UMW mission. It is located on Beach Parkway off Del Prado Blvd. There is a \$20 donation for show cars (all show cars and trucks are welcome) and a \$5.00 donation fee for parking. There will be food, vendors and entertainment as well as beautiful cars to see.

First Sebring UMC will be hosting a Mission Study, "What About Our Money?" The event is on Thursday, February 28, 9:00 am to 9:30 am registration and study beginning at 9:30 am. Free Lunch is provided. Contact Pat McShane at 863-655-5290 for information and participation count.

North Naples United Methodist Women is hosting a Rummage sale. Located at 6000 Goodlette Road N. Naples, Florida 34109



South West District Calendar 2019

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JANUARY, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">JANUARY 26 Local Unit Officers Training St John UMC, Sebring Registration:9-9:45am Program: 10-2:30 pm Lunch: \$8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>FEBRUARY, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No District Activities Scheduled</p> <p style="text-align: center;">***** *<u>MTM</u> February 23 Christ Venice UMC 10:00 am– 2pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MARCH, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">March 30 Spiritual Growth Event Wesley Memorial Ft. Myers Registration: 9-9:45am Program: 10am-2pm Lunch \$8.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>APRIL, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No District Activities Scheduled</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MAY, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">May 18 Social Justice 1/2 day Event Trinity UMC, Sarasota Registration:9-9:45am Program: 10am-12 pm ***** *<u>MTM</u> to follow District Officers only, plan for 2020 12:30– 2:30 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JUNE, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No District Activities Scheduled</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>JULY, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">July 11–14 <u>MISSION u</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Florida Southern College Lakeland</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For Scholarships contact Dis- trict President</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>AUGUST, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No District Activities Scheduled ***** *<u>MTM</u> August 17 Wesley Memorial UMC Ft. Myers 10:00 am-2pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SEPTEMBER, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">September 21 Mission Sampler Location: Port Charlotte Registration: 9-9:45am Program: 10am-2pm Lunch \$8.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>OCTOBER, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">October 19 Annual Meeting Location: TBD Registration: 9-9:45a Program: 10-2pm Lunch: \$8</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>NOVEMBER, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No District Activities Scheduled</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>DECEMBER, 2019</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">No District Activities Scheduled ***** *<u>MTM</u> Charlotte Harbor— Trinity December 14 District Officers Only 10:00 am-2pm</p>



February 23

MTM (District Officers only)

Christ Venice UMC

10 am—2 pm

February 28

Mission Study Event

Sebring First UMC, Sebring, FL 33870

9 am—2:30 pm

March 30—Census Form online DUE

March 30

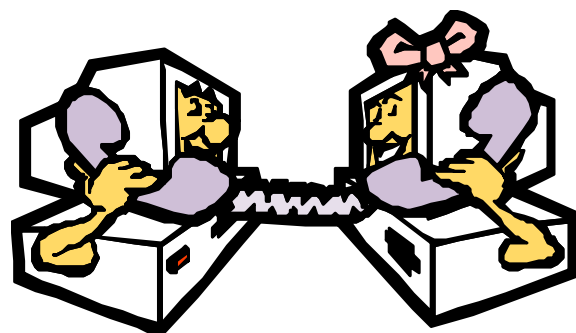
Spiritual Growth Event

Wesley Memorial, Ft. Myers

Registration: 9-9:45am

Program: 10am-2pm

Lunch \$8.00



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

A Word from Your Secretary

The District is in the process of preparing the 2019 Local Unit Directory. Please complete the unit leadership team update form (next page) and return to Gloria Heston, preferably by e-mail as soon as possible.

Gloria Heston

3918 SE 20th Ace

Cape Coral, FL 33904

Gloriaheston.umw@gmail.com

239-560-3053

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

www.southwestdistrictumw.com

www.facebook.com/southwestdistrictumw.com

Local Unit Presidents: Local Unit Presidents are asked to complete this form for the 2018 United Methodist Women census. This year is focused on gathering information that will inform the National office, Conference and District leadership on local efforts in order to plan for growth, outreach and impact.

Census Submission Deadline: **Saturday March 30, 2019.**

**<https://www.United Methodist Women.org/>
and click on Census 2019.**

The United Methodist Women will never share contact information outside the organization with-



United
Methodist
Women
WALK • HOPE • LOVE • IN ACTION

**United Methodist Women
South West District – Florida Conference
Listing of Officers for 2019 UMW Unit _____**

Mail to: District Secretary Gloria Heston, 3918 SE 20th Ave., Cape Coral, FL 33904 or

gloriaheston.umw@gmail.com

Office	Name	Address	Phone	E-mail
President				
Vice-President				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Program Resources				
Spiritual Growth				
E & I				
MN&O				
Social Action				
Communications				
Nominations				
Circle Leaders:				

*Fill out what you have. Ensure we have at least one person with an email to get the updates and news (even if they don't have an office.) If no email, designate at least 3 people (ex. President Treasurer, Secretary) to receive updates.

Need USPS mailing? _____ Yes _____ No Number of Members Jan. 1 –Dec. 31, 2018 _____

New Members added in 2018 _____ Members lost by death in 2018 _____