



Mary and Martha Mail Circle

JUNE 2018

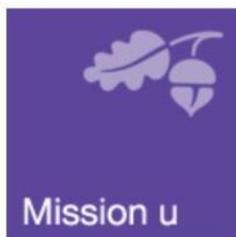
United Methodist Women
Christ United Methodist Church
Mobile Alabama

What is Mission u?

Mission u is a unique learning experience where attendees gain insight into local and global issues through engaging study, community building and dynamic worship. Mission u brings together

women, men, youth and children to explore the implications of our Christian faith in today's contexts.

Participants engage with topics related to spiritual growth, a geographic area and a current issue, leaving each Mission u better equipped to set faith into action and to lead the mission studies themselves in local or district settings.



A Dozen Reasons

Mail Circle Members should attend Mission u:

- 1) 2018 school will be near to us - Pensacola.
- 2) Grow spiritually.
- 3) Expand mission vision.
- 4) Take action.
- 5) Opportunity to represent CUMW at AWF event.
- 6) Study current events in depth.
- 7) Invitation to take a Priddy Pal with you.
- 8) Invitation to take a best friend with you.
- 9) Invitation to take your spouse with you.
- 10) Better know your United Methodist Church.
- 11) Support Joyce Genz, leader of one of the studies.
- 12) Support Debbie Bell, AWF UMW president.

Mission Studies 2018

Spiritual Growth: *Embracing Wholeness*

Chapter 1 begins the text with the theological and biblical foundation for our covenantal relationship with creation and moves forward into our community, our relationships and our very selves. Each chapter explores both our personal and corporate responsibilities to those around us and addresses current issues, such as climate change, social responsibility and justice concerns.

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Debbie and Friends Do Columbus!

My Assembly 2018 experiences involved waiting for shuttle buses, waiting for misplaced registration confirmation but I am really glad I made it to

the 150th Celebration of United Methodist Women. I am so glad my long drive to and from included each of your smiling faces. I'm glad the waiting in line helped me calm down so I could observe the many faces of United Methodist Women, in Celebration!

- Debbie Bell

Beautiful bus, long ride but what a wonderful way to connect with each other. Enjoyed classes and sessions and the wonderful ice cream restaurant downstairs.....and the hamburgers.

- Joan Simmons

My favorite part of Assembly was the Gathering music with some of my favorite hymns and the musical/dance routines from the various cultures. I also enjoyed and benefitted from some of the presenters. All in all, to me, Assembly was well-worth enduring the bus trip and some aspects I might have preferred to have been done differently. My hats off to the planners. I'm thankful.

- Marsha Clayton

We assembledbecause we must. It was great talking to UMW and learning about issues. I was tired but felt so affirmed after recuperation I am committed to be BOLD and to honor our UMW Pledge.

- Jay Locker

I was energized by the theme, The Power of Bold. I am more motivated to speak out for the changes we need

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Selections From the Prayer Calendar
+ Mary and Martha Birthdays

- JUN 1 Desiree Segura-April (M).
 JUN 2 Abdenour Ait-Abdelmalek (M).
 JUN 3 Devorah Anne Umipig-Julian (M).
 JUN 4 Florence Kaying Kanyimb (M).
 JUN 5 Veronica Apecena (M).
 JUN 6 Umba Ilunga Kalangwa (M).
 JUN 7 Ann Farris (DHMR).
 JUN 8 Global. Bread for the World.
 JUN 9 Donna Baker (M).
 JUN 10 Neighborhood House, Wilmington, Delaware.
 JUN 11 Becky Warnock (DHMR).
 JUN 12 Helen Roberts-Evans (M)
 JUN 13 Program Development for Bible Women Initiative.
 JUN 14 Global. Children, Poverty and Violence.
 JUN 15 Dong Min Seo (M).
 JUN 16 Connie Lynn Di Leo (M).
 JUN 17 Taleah Edmonds (CCW).
 JUN 18 Women in Higher Education Initiative.
 JUN 19 Nancy Robinson (M).
 JUN 20 Maternal and Child Health Initiative.
 JUN 21 John Calhoun (M).
 JUN 22 Cindy Moon (M).
 JUN 23 Hector Laporta (M).
 Alicia Golemon
 JUN 24 Wendy Putka (DHMR).
 JUN 25 Ellen Dizon (DHMR).
 JUN 26 Lebanon. World Student Christian Federation.
 JUN 27 Lilian Cotto (REPM).
 JUN 28 Gail Quigg (M).
 JUN 29 Global. E-Readers for Theological Education.
 JUN 30 Tresor Selenga Kumugo (GMF US-2).

Key to Prayer Calendar Abbreviations

CCW	Church and community workers
DHMR	Laypeople consecrated through UMW
GH	Global Health missionaries
GMF Intl	Global Mission Fellows, International
GMF US-2	Global Mission Fellows, United States
HM	Home missionary
M	Missionaries
REPM	Racial Ethnic Plan Missionaries
RM	Regional Missionary, UMW

Happy Birthday June 9
Donna Lee Baker



Donna Lee Baker is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church serving as a nurse in mission related to the Peter D. Weaver Congo Partnership based in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). She was commissioned in June 2015. Her husband, Jonathan, is also a missionary.

The Peter D. Weaver Congo Partnership, named for a retired bishop, is a mission collaboration of the Central Congo Episcopal Area and a network of annual conferences in the United States. It was initiated around 2002 in covenant between the Central Congo Episcopal Area and the Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference and has grown to include the Eastern Pennsylvania and Western North Carolina conferences. Its inception took place during the episcopacy of Bishop Weaver in the Philadelphia Area, which included Peninsula-Delaware.

The spiritual, emotional and physical health of the Congolese people form a priority for the episcopal area, led by Bishop David Yemba. To date, health services through the partnership have included three cataract surgery missions. The partnership conducts three feeding programs for undernourished children and adults and supports multiple medical centers throughout the episcopal area. Dental needs and HIV/AIDS education are being explored. There is no way to count the actual number of patients that have been medically assisted over the past 11 years.

Donna Baker works with church leaders and indigenous health personnel to assess the most urgent health challenges and develop responses. Particular attention is being given to more remote areas, where limited health services are available.

Donna and Jonathan Baker most recently have lived in The Villages in Florida, where she is a member of the New Covenant United Methodist Church—Lake Deaton Campus. The couple spent many years in ministry in the Peninsula-Delaware Conference, where Jonathan was a pastor. She worked in health services after completing a Baccalaureate of Nursing program at Wilmington College, Wilmington, Delaware and a Master of Science degree in Nursing at Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland. She earlier received a diploma in nursing from the Reading (Pennsylvania) Hospital School of Nursing.

Born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Donna's faith journey began in her teen years as president of her congregation's youth fellowship. She counts her first

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encounter with Christ at a youth camp during her sophomore year in high school. She met Jonathan Baker, the son of her pastor, in high school and they married while she was in college. She

became deeply involved in the ministries of the churches he pastors, especially in music—as organist, choir director, soloist and praise team director. She was introduced to the Walk to Emmaus in 1992, an experience that has deepened her prayer and devotional time.

Donna dates her call to mission to 2004 when she first visited the DRC and says: “But I was very naïve about the mission field and not passionately involved. In 2011, I was asked to lead a medical mission to Congo and it was on that journey that my heart was touched beyond comprehension: caring for patients personally, feeding the hungry children, praying and worshipping with the people. All of these experiences led me to become fervently connected to the body of Christ in Congo...I pray daily for guidance from God that will lead me to new projects and opportunities to be the hands and feet of Christ in this country that I love so deeply.”

Donna and Jonathan are the parents of two adult children with spouses and three granddaughters.

Priddy Pals

In honor of Shannon’s frequent mentions of the importance of mentoring - AWF UMW have adopted a plan named in her honor, Priddy Pals.

Every member of UMW is asked to immediately begin mentoring a young person with the purpose of bringing them into the UMW experience.

How you will mentor is up to you but some suggests are:

- ◇ Giving technical help to UMW members - that is - help with smart phone and computers.
- ◇ Reading a book from the Reading Program together with a UMW member.
- ◇ Driving members to meetings - even if you don’t need a driver.
- ◇ Proofreading newsletters and other documents prior to publication.
- ◇ And in many other ways as creative members seize the opportunity.

Be certain to let us know the name of the person you are mentoring.

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Geographic: **Missionary Conferences of the U.S.**

The Geographic Study tells the story of the three missionary conferences of The United Methodist Church: Alaska United Methodist Conference, Red Bird Missionary Conference and the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference. You will learn about the history and how each conference is founded as well as how they add to the richness of the United Methodist connection in the United States.

Issue 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.

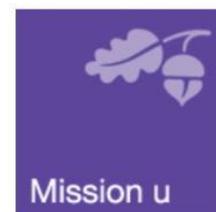
Photos from [Mission u 2017](#) will show you some of the fun from last year’s Mission u.

Download and complete the [Registration Form](#) now. You’ll be glad you did.

Mission Witness

A Volunteers-In-Mission team from Florida joined us in Congo in February and March. Seeing the impoverished conditions of the people of Wembo Nyama touched their hearts. They returned to the United States on fire to make a difference! The congregation took on a Lenten Challenge. They prayed about this situation and limited their partaken beverages to water. The money they would have spent on other beverages was designated to the Dig Well project. Not only did they raise over \$75,000, their eyes were open to the conditions of the people in Congo.

Donna Baker, Global Ministries Missionary, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo



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to make as we push for UMW priorities and for God's will to be done on earth. I have felt called to stand up for these misunderstood individuals. It bothers me that the Conference's concern seems to be more for those uncomfortable w/ homosexuality than with the ones our decisions impact.

- Ruth Gynther

I learned a lot at Assembly. I loved the music. I wish there had been emphasis on lifting us up spiritually in addition to the social issues that were focused on.

- Alice Hill

This trip to Columbus, Ohio was the most exciting, encouraging and best team builder for the conference team as well as for those of us who were just hanging on. The future looks bright for UMW. I cannot wait to get to work and grow UMW to great heights. LOVED IT!

- Julia Norton



This publication is the monthly virtual meeting of the Mary & Martha Mail Circle, United Methodist Women at Christ United Methodist Church, Mobile, Alabama. Our Circle is just like each of the other Circles of Christ UMW with the exception that we do not have monthly meetings other than by this "virtual" program, devotion, prayer calendar/concerns and Response moments. We make annual pledges to mission and participate in the projects of CUMW in all ways possible. We attend General Meetings as we are able. We constantly keep each other and each woman of UMW in our prayers.

Questions? Contact: Communications Coordinator
Vera Moore e-mail - vmoore4474@gmail.com

Member Involvement 2018

Your involvement in UMW activities will be published here as you accept responsibility

- ☛ Circle Chair - Mary Anne Bemis
- ☛ Weekly Prayer Focus - Norma Spiller
- ☛ Members Cards - Patsy Adams
- ☛ Missionary Cards - Melissa Motes
- ☛ Communications - Vera Moore
- ☛ Facebook - Mary Anne Bemis
- ☛ Church & Community - Elizabeth Ruland
- ☛ Artistic Consultant - Monique McFarland
- ☛ Virtual Meeting Article - Crystal Couch
- ☛ AWF-UMW Annual Day Program - Vera Moore
- ☛ AWF-UMW Website - Vera Moore
- ☛ Soup Sale - Maker - Faye Sellers
- ☛ Soup Sale - Donation - Vera Moore
- ☛ Soup Sale - Maker - Crystal Couch
- ☛ Soup Sale - Worker - Debbie Bell
- ☛ Teacher Support - Mary Anne & Vera
- ☛ District UMW Directory - Kim Doss
- ☛ General Meeting Feb. Mary Anne, Crystal & Faye.
- ☛ Bake Sale - contributions - Vera Moore
- ☛ AWF UMW Annual Meeting - Debbie Bell
- ☛ Citronelle Mission Study - Debbie Bell
- ☛ Bake Sale - work, bake, contribute - Debbie, Mary Anne, Faye, Melissa Elizabeth & Vera.
- ☛ Mobile Dist Annual Meeting - Debbie Bell.
- ☛ UMCOR Workshop - Debbie Bell, Norma Spiller, Mary Anne Bemis. Vera & Mary Anne gave \$s.
- ☛ Dollars given direct to CUMW treasurer - Vera, Patsy, Debbie, Mary Anne
- ☛ Assembly 2018 - Debbie Bell
- ☛ ...

Service Projects 2018

Volunteer hours are how agencies compute "values" requesting grants. Your service is valuable and should be reported here as well as your \$.

Your involvement in service projects will be published here as you report them.

- ☛ **Safe Haven** - Debbie Bell
- ☛ USA Regional Science Fair - Kelli Dye
- ☛ Church Women United - Debbie Bell
- ☛ Pat Murphy Fund - Vera Moore \$
- ☛ ...