



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

MARY AND MARTHA MAIL CIRCLE UMW

Christ United Methodist Church - Mobile, Alabama

HAPPY NEW YEAR JANUARY 2015

The U in UMW

by Vera Moore

I began thinking about writing this Pledge Month lead story by saying U are the U in UMW but since I'm really not up to date on texting language, I've decided to stick with **YOU**.

Of course, we know U in UMW is for United but we are not truly united unless each member takes seriously the responsibilities of membership. Each woman when she agrees to have her name listed in the Yearbook as a circle member is therefore a member of United Methodist Women. In the column to the right are basic responsibilities as a member of United Methodist Women in a check box format. Check as you complete each item:

Pray

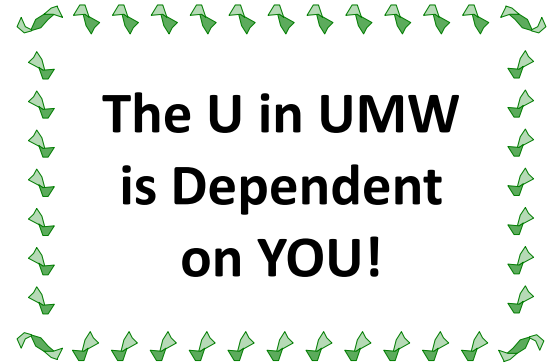
The first item of our purpose is "to know God." To know God we must spend time in prayer. We prayerfully accepted membership in United Methodist Women and we continue to strengthen this relationship by regularly renewing our belief that we are fulfilling God's call on our lives to continue serving through this community of women.

Through Christ

As we "experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ" we give ourselves to the care of others. We pray for one another, your concerns are our concerns and our concerns are yours.

Develop

Through our community of women we share in the development of each other. By accepting leadership roles we help one another to grow. One member has accepted the responsibility of sending birthday greetings to each of us. Another weekly provides unique focuses for our prayers. Another keeps the website. It should be that each member has a unique role to play, a unique talent to use, a gift to share with all us. What will you personally give to the Mail Circle in 2015.



**The U in UMW
is Dependent
on YOU!**

- Pray daily for United Methodist missionaries and mission projects.
- Pray daily for member of the Mail Circle
- Pray daily for CSports teams
- Pray daily as directed by the Weekly Prayer Focus
- Respond to communications received from the Mail Circle Coordinator
- Communicate and become friends with UMW members, e-mail, Facebook, phone, etc.
- Accept responsibility for one area of leadership in UMW
- Contribute financially or otherwise.

To remain a member of the Mail Circle, you must make a contribution each year. This need not be money, but might be baked goods for the annual UMW Bake Sale, Soup Sale, contribution to Service Projects, or other. Make your pledge to contribute using the form on page 4.

(Continued on page 3)

Selections From the Prayer Calendar + *Mary and Martha Birthdays*

- Jan 1 Mary Melvin (D)
- Jan 2 Kenya: Methodist Women's Fellowship
- Jan 3 Alaska Child and Family
- Jan 4 Michael Airgood (M)
- Jan 5 Afghanistan: Community based health
- Jan 6 Africa: Aviation assistance program
Faye Sellers
- Jan 7 Romeo Del Rosario (M)
- Jan 8 Sierra Leone: Skills training for girls & women
- Jan 9 Gwen Gibson (M)
- Jan 10 Eun Ha Choi (M)
Kelly Rushing
- Jan 11 Charles Jack (HM)
- Jan 12 Cornelia Wieck (M)
- Jan 13 Lisa Bachman (D)
- Jan 14 Minnie Wright (D)
- Jan 15 Joseph Chan (M)
Mary Anne Bemis
- Jan 16 Meridith Whitaker (CCW)
- Jan 17 Bennett College: Greensboro, NC
Nancy Bell
- Jan 18 Margaret Jane Kies (M)
- Jan 19 Gaston Ntambo (M)
- Jan 20 Pinetown: Phakamisa Wandering Teachers
- Jan 21 Sue Wolfe (D)
- Jan 22 Eun Mi Cho (D)
- Jan 23 Zimbabwe: Murewa Day Care
- Jan 24 Bethlehem Center, Spartanburg, SC
- Jan 25 Hee Cho Om (D)
- Jan 26 Marilyn Chan (M)
Kim Johnson
- Jan 27 Claudia Genung (M)
- Jan 28 Mary Lou Edens (D)
- Jan 29 Janet Lahr Lewis (M)
- Jan 30 Joshua Kyeremeh (M)
- Jan 31 Linda Frank (D)

Response Moments *Responsively Yours: Living a Legacy*

Not long ago I spoke with a United Methodist Women leader who is retired from intelligence work in the U.S. military. She told me about growing up in a small farming community. "How did you get from a small farm town to international intelligence?" I asked. She paused, then responded: "My mother's participation in United Methodist Women. It meant that we grew up with an awareness of the world and our responsibilities."



I've heard the same sentiment from many women from many walks of life. United Methodist Women helps inform and shape their lives. Our legacy grows exponentially each time a member puts her faith, hope and love into action.

Throughout our history, United Methodist Women and its predecessor organizations brought women together in small groups to grow in faith, to learn about their own needs and potential and to teach others about their potential, reaching out to marginalized neighbors in their communities and around the world.

Our spiritual foundation and the knowledge that we are powerful disciples of Christ is the fertile ground on which God calls us to action. It's really no surprise that schools, clinics and community centers are part of our legacy and ongoing commitment. Our foremothers organized to end foot binding in China and we organize to end domestic violence and human trafficking today.

When we are being transformed, as the apostle Paul says, by the renewing of our minds (Romans 12:2), our eyes are opened—and once that happens it is very hard to shut them again. Acting for others and following God's call help us find our place within our changed understanding of the world. This can be uncomfortable, but, thankfully, we don't have to do it alone. As we engage in service, advocacy and leadership we build bonds of support and deepening faith, remembering that not even Jesus worked alone.

In so many (often unspoken) ways United Methodist Women has been a source of strength for women, a place to grow and learn and to know their worth. The world has changed since the "dark and stormy night" of our

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 1)

Support

As we communicate with one another we are essentially asking this question. We want to know where you are, what troubles you, the reason of your rejoicing, the reason for your sadness.

Not only in spiritual matters but we support each other in our individual cares. When a member faces surgery, we want to know. We want to know what we can do. We want to know when are facing any rough time. We want to know when you are troubled by anything. We want to know your successes. We want to rejoice with you when goals are met. By giving this caring support we grow closer to each other and to Jesus Christ in whose name we serve.

Expand

Mission is not only sending but receiving. As we study together the lives and tasks of missionaries today we receive the knowledge of new concepts of mission. We expand our scriptural basis for mission to actual hands on mission projects locally through McKemie Place, Dumas Wesley Community Center, to name only two of many in the Mobile area. We like to know where you are lending or giving yourself to local mission projects. Share these with us so we may accurately list the many areas our Mail Circle members are in service.

Global Ministries

As United Methodist Women we support women and men who have been commissioned and work through The General Board of Global Ministries, the mission agency of The United Methodist Church. We pray for these in our use of The Prayer Calendar and we share in the salary support of these missionaries, community workers, deaconesses, and mission interns. We totally participate in global ministries when we make our Pledge to Mission. January is the month you are called to express financially your support the Purpose of United Methodist Women. Please complete the form on page 4 as evidence that we are UNITED women with a PURPOSE.

(Continued from page 2)

founding on March 23, 1869, and the needs of women, children and youth have changed in some ways and in other ways remain the same. What hasn't changed is the need for United Methodist Women.

As our 150th anniversary approaches in 2019 we are standing strong in our legacy of personal engagement with God that is deeply entwined with mission service, passionate advocacy and mutual relationships with our sisters around the world. Actions that change lives today will be part of the legacy for the next 150 years and beyond. God calls us. The world needs us. We need to serve.

Harriett Jane Olson
General Secretary
United Methodist Women

Service Projects Beginning anew in this New Year 2015

Your involvement with service projects will be published here as you report them to us.

A Check List we hope no one will need to use but understand if you do.

- If you no longer wish to remain a member of the Mail Circle, please let us know that we should remove your name. [E-mail Circle Coordinator](#)
- We would be very happy if you are leaving us to become a member of another circle of United Methodist Women. [E-mail Circle Coordinator](#)
- If you are not able to continue membership at this time and pray you will come back at a later time. [E-mail Circle Coordinator](#)

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: Circle Coordinator
Vera Moore - 888-248-1680 or
email - vmoores4474@gmail.com

MY PLEDGE TO MISSION 2015

As a member of UMW, I celebrate and commit to supporting United Methodist Women's local, national, and global missions.

For the coming year, I pledge

\$ _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please check one to enable your Pledge to Mission to be properly recorded:

- I have enclosed a check for my total Pledge.
- I will send additional gifts Monthly.
- I will send additional gifts Quarterly.
- I will send my total Yearly Pledge later.
- I cannot give financially but will contribute in other ways.

Send your Pledge and/or check to
PHYLLIS ALLEN, CUMW TREASURER

For her mailing address, see the
CUMW Yearbook 2015
or write VMoore4474@gmail.com

When sending your check, please be certain to let Phyllis know you are a member of the
MARY AND MARTHA MAIL CIRCLE.

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.

In addition to \$, you may support United Methodist Women by accepting one or more of the following:

- Prepare Bible study for the monthly virtual meeting.
- Prepare mission stories for the virtual meeting.
- Prepare reports from mission projects.
- Attend General CUMW meetings.
- Prepare reports from General CUMW meetings.
- Prepare a special program for the virtual meeting.
- Provide items of interest for virtual meeting.
- Report your work with a local service project.
- Prepare items for Annual CUMW Bake Sale.
- Work at the Bake Sale tables.
- Prepare soup for the Annual UMW Soup Sale.
- Work at the Annual Soup Sale tables.
- Prepare items for UMCOR kits.
- Prepare items for Safe Haven.
- Serve at Safe Haven events.
- Send greeting cards to sick Mail Circle members.
- Attend CUMW Mission Study.
- Write a report of a mission study.
- Attend Mobile District Annual Day.
- Attend Mobile District Spiritual Enrichment Day.
- Maintain a Mail Circle Group on UMWOnline.org
- Maintain a Mail Circle page or group on Facebook.
- Maintain Mail Circle items on Pinterest.
- Follow unitedmethodistwomen.org.
- Follow UMCMission.org
- Follow twitter.com/UMWomen
- Follow United Methodist Women on Facebook.
- Follow www.youtube.com/user/UMWomen
- Follow www.flickr.com/photos/UMWomen
- Follow www.pinterest.com/umwomen/
- Follow www.awf-umw.org/
- Follow www.awf-umw.org/mobile.html
- Share Mail Circle items on Facebook.
- Write about Mail Circle on your Facebook page.
- Send cards and notes to missionaries.
- Visit CSports and let them know you are praying.
- Other