



# MARY AND MARTHA MAIL CIRCLE

Christ United Methodist Church - Mobile, Alabama

## MEMBERSHIP MONTH

AUGUST 2015

### Member Involvement

- Circle Coordinator  
Vera Moore
- Birthday Cards to MMM Circle  
Patsy Adams
- Birthday Cards to Missionaries  
Melissa Motes
- Weekly Prayer Focus  
Norma Spiller
- Children's Sabbath Planning  
Notalisa Whiting
- Get Well Cards MMM Circle  
Glenda Contos
- UMCOR Health Kits  
Glenda Contos
- Bake Sale Workers  
Dawn Seese  
Glenda Contos
- Bake Sale Bakers  
Dawn Seese  
Glenda Contos  
Melissa Motes  
Angel Dahlgren
- Bake Sale Posters  
Kerry Cohen
- Safe Haven Workers  
Glenda Contos
- Soup Sale Workers  
Glenda Contos
- Soup Makers for Soup Sale  
Glenda Contos
- Crafters  
Nancy Bell & Vera Moore
- Cookies for Homecoming  
Glenda Contos  
Norma Spiller

*Please let us know if some have volunteered and not been listed.*



August is a good month to invite a friend, a daughter, a niece, etc., to become a part of United Methodist Women. In particular, it would be good to invite a younger woman. If you know a young woman who is awesome, bold, brave, compassionate, courageous, daring, limitless, loving or unstoppable she will fit right in!

By becoming a member in August, the new member will have opportunity to take advantage of the learning opportunities during the fall and we'll have the privilege of including their name in the 2016 CUMW Yearbook.

We, of course, would love to have these new members in the Mail

### PURPOSE

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.

Circle but please, if you know they have time for meetings and enjoy getting together with other women, give them the information on the other circles:

**Esther Circle** | 2nd Tuesday @ 9:45 a.m. | Christ UMC Parlor

**Lydia Circle** | 2nd Friday @ 10:00 a.m. | Christ Center

**Crossroads Circle** | 4th Tuesday @ 5:30p.m. | Christ UMC Parlor

For the **Mail Circle** direct your prospective member to our [website](#) where they will find what we are all about. Of course, you are welcome to direct any questions to the [Circle Coordinator, Vera Moore](#)

Once a woman has accepted your invitation to membership, [e-mail](#) the name and e-ddress and we'll follow up.

### Copy and e-mail this invitation to prospective members:

I think you would find being a part of United Methodist Women fulfilling. I am a member of the Mary and Martha Mail Circle and would love to see you included. There are other circles, meeting at various times, who would also welcome you. Let me know if you are interested and I'll give additional instructions.



## Re-Center and Refresh for the Future

by Yvette Moore

Like the cycles of fashion and trends, organizations that stand through time refresh their basics to move into their future, said General Secretary Harriett Jane Olson addressing the organization's program advisory group gathering at the Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, Tenn., March 6-8.

Yesterday's pedal pushers are today's capris, and everything old is new again. United Methodist Women and the church can both take a cue from this as they seek creativity to move forward, she said.

"When we talk about organizations that we love and movements we want to see continue, the matter is more serious than these trends, of course, ...but organizations that exist over time must re-center and refresh themselves," she said. "These efforts in which leaders think again about the purpose of the organization, when the church restates the core understandings of how we relate to God and the world, could be a pivotal moment."

Or not, she said. Despite good intentions and lots of energy, some organizations never make the significant changes necessary to remain vital, Ms. Olson said. Characteristics of those that do, however, include clarity about how their new visions, statements and purposes reflect longtime commitments and core values. This kind of clarity can inspire members to engage in new ways and nonmembers to join in the movement, she said.

"I want to remind you that United Methodist Women's Purpose statement was not written in 1869," she said. "The committee that worked on this came together in 1972, and asked, 'What are our core values? What is it that we want to carry into the future?'"

Likewise, United Methodist Women's new vision statement — "Turning faith, hope and love into action" — and newly developed rubrics to measure the impact of programs and new structures all build on the organization's longtime values and commitments, she said. Organizations that thrive over time also build strategies, enlist partners and adopt new practices — all things United Methodist Women is taking steps toward, she said.

"We must build the capacity of United Methodist Women for engaging new members," Ms. Olson

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Harriett J. Olson, General Secretary, United Methodist Women, at the program advisory group meeting, March 2014.

said. "It doesn't mean we have to do more, but we must build the capacity, the space in which we can act—and friends, that's work we all must do. It's not the job of the staff of the Membership and Leadership Development section to bring more members, it's all of our work."

For United Methodist Women, she said, the purpose of all this action is to be fit to follow God's movement in the world.

"There are times when God is at work in powerful ways and organizations are able to open themselves up to the movement of the Spirit in such a way that God uses them in ways that no one but God could have expected," she said. "This could be a time when God is about to work in unpredictable ways."

Citing income inequality, debt, collapse of the ladder of work and education to transcend the boundaries of class, Ms. Olson said that we are experiencing changes in the ways that governments, corporations and social movements work that are more significant in this decade than any other since the Civil Rights Movement.

"I am praying, and I invite you to pray with me, that United Methodist Women will be engaged in work that draws us into this change, that we can continue to build spiritual strength and willingness to act," she said. "It is an amazing privilege to be able to stop and listen to how God is at work. God is leading, and we are in it together. At the end of the day, it might just be that everything old is new again."

## Family Detention

United Methodist Women's position on family detention and the causes of migration from Latin America and Mexico

Extracted from an article by [Harriett Jane Olson](#)

*On July 24, 2015, the U.S. District Court in California issued a ruling on whether a Supreme Court case known as the "Flores" decision is applicable to the current detention of children in family detention centers. The decision rules that the U.S. administration's family detention program violates parts of the 1997 Flores agreement on detaining child migrants, and that families should be released as quickly as possible. Below is our position on the current causes of migration from Latin America and Mexico.*

United Methodist Women, a U.S. faith-based women's organization of over 800,000 members, has been engaged in partnerships in Central America and Mexico for over 100 years. When families and children began crossing the border last summer in large numbers, our members responded. They opened shelters in churches, prepared meals, provided clothing and supported legal support. We are well aware that this is a systemic problem. Members have mobilized this year to end family detention and to educate about the root causes of the refugee crisis.

### Why People Come

Women and children coming to our borders from Central America are fleeing poverty, crime and violence at home. The enormous numbers of cases in which applicants have established "credible fear" show that they fled for their lives. Central America faces a "perfect storm" of poverty and hunger, lack of jobs, weak state institutions, and alliances between transnational crime and drug trafficking organizations and local gangs.

The complete article and additional information may be found at [unitedmethodistwomen.org](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org)

### Family Detention is Not the Answer

We should not be turning away asylum seekers nor should we be incarcerating women and children. The U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child has stated that "The detention of a child because of their or their parents' migration status constitutes a child rights violation and always contravenes the principle of the best interests of the child. In this light, States should expeditiously and completely cease the detention of children on the basis of their immigration status." States have thus been called upon to expeditiously and completely cease the immigration detention of children and their parents in the best interests of the child and allow children to remain with their family members and/or guardians. Not only is this international law, this is also U.S. law. The Flores Settlement Agreement makes it clear that children should not be detained indefinitely.

They also should not be separated from their mothers.

United Methodist Women joins with faith groups in affirming that reforms to current family detention policies are inadequate. Family detention is immoral, illegal and must end. We call for programs that foster genuine human security in Central America as well as policies that embrace refugee and asylum seekers.



Debbie Bell, left, President, and others of Mobile District United Methodist Women Mission Team pose 7/18/2015 in support of [#FreeFamilies](#) [#EndFamilyDetention](#)

### Service Projects 2015

Your involvement with service projects will be published here as you report them to us and shared with CUMW treasurer, combined with others from CUMC and throughout the organization.

- Mobile Inner City Mission - purchased Boston Butt
- Walk MS - Kim Johnson walked for her mother.
- Cakes for Celebrate Recovery monthly
- Food for grieving families
- Ronald McDonald House
- Hopeful project bags
- Organ Fund
- Camp Rap-A-Hope
- Cookies for Homecoming
- Magazines to nursing and assisted living homes

*Please let us know when you are involved in any service or community project.*

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  
e-mail - [vmoores4474@gmail.com](mailto:vmoores4474@gmail.com)