



MARY AND MARTHA MAIL CIRCLE

Christ United Methodist Church - Mobile, Alabama

November 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
Notalsia 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.

World Thank Offering

Judy Vajgrt, Lydia Circle, will be presenting the entire World Thank Offering program at the General Meeting Sunday, November 8, 2015. These thoughts are given in order to prepare our hearts to receive the program.

As women organized for mission what do these verses mean to us?

Add your own thoughts ~

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

- ~ Father, you are here as well as in Heaven.
- ~ I look forward to when I shall be in Heaven.
- ~ Your name is not kept Holy here.
- ~ Father, I hold your name high.
- ~
- ~

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

- ~ How wonderful to see your kingdom on earth
- ~ How great to see Your will done
- ~ Am I doing your will?
- ~
- ~

Give us this day our daily bread.

- ~ You give me more than bread.
- ~ You give me meat and dessert.
- ~ You give me a closet full of clothes.
- ~ You give me shelter.
- ~ You give me mobility.
- ~ You give me friends.
- ~
- ~

Give Thanks.
Give Now.



And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

- ~ Give me power when I am tempted.
- ~ Protect me from myself.
- ~ Let me see the important things.
- ~ Hide from me the trivia which distracts me.
- ~ Let me see the important things.
- ~ Your kingdom is so vast.
- ~ Your people are so complicated.
- ~ Let me be loving to all your kingdom.
- ~ Let me show Your love to all Your people.
- ~ Give me the power to do your will.
- ~ Give me a grateful heart
- ~ Let me know the glory of Thanksgiving
- ~ Let me show the glory of true thanksgiving.
- ~ May all I do be to Your glory.
- ~
- ~

Thoughts on our calling

We are called as women, as Christians, as United Methodist Women to enable others to have the same song in their hearts as we do. But ladies we have gotten a "bit slack" in our commitment to mission. In many arenas, it's all "about me, what I do, how I feel, and how I'm holier than thy!"

We need to take courage from the readings of Hebrews 10:32-39.

by Marva Usher-Kerr, executive for membership, national office, United Methodist Women.

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

- NOV 1 Wesley House Community Center, Knoxville TN
 NOV 2 Sandra Kaye Raasch (M)
 NOV 3 Elaine La Van (US-2)
 NOV 4 Hebert Junker-Silva (NPHLM)
 NOV 5 Mary Ellen Kilmer (D)
 NOV 6 Spain: Seminary scholarships
 NOV 7 Evana Lewis (D)
NOV 8 Denise Walling (D)
 NOV 9 Jean Claude Maleka (M)
 NOV 10 April English (MI)
 NOV 11 Diane Hassell (D)
 NOV 12 Sri Lanka: Institute of Nature Farming
 NOV 13 Tanzania: Ilula Orphan Program
 NOV 14 Albert Willicor (M)
 NOV 15 Roció Bárcenas Jáuregui (M)
 NOV 16 Emma Cantor (RM)
 NOV 17 Fiji: Weavers: Support to women theologians
 NOV 18 Maria Greathouse (M)
 NOV 19 Marissa Isaac-Torres (M)
 NOV 20 Carol Clay Mann (D)
 Notalsia Whiting
 NOV 21 Sherrie Buehl (D)
 NOV 22 Richmond Williams (M)
 NOV 23 India: Organization for Rural Loan Development
 NOV 24 William Llanos Zúñiga (M)
 Kim Doss
 NOV 25 Elmira Sellu (RM)
 NOV 26 Thailand: Thailand Mission Initiative
 NOV 27 David Johnson (US-2)
 NOV 28 Sarah McKay (US-2)
 NOV 29 Eumin Kim (M)
 NOV 30 Lester Dornon (M)

**November 8 - United Methodist Women
Sunday & General Meeting**

Catered lunch at noon

In Christ Center Hospitality Room

Program - World Thank Offering - Lydia Circle

- Hostess - Crossroads Circle
- Prayer Calendar - Mail Circle
- Response - Esther Circle
- Community Building - Lydia Circle

**Missionary of the Month - Denise K. Walling
Happy Birthday - November 8**

Denise K. Walling grew up on a dairy farm in southern Minnesota; it was there she first learned to serve. Baptized and confirmed in the former American Lutheran Church, she became a United Methodist when she began attending the church across the street from the campus of the University of Minnesota – Duluth.



After college, she married and moved to Upstate New York where she raised her family.



Commissioned as a Deaconess in 2011, her present ministry is to the Upper New York Annual Conference as Christian Educator for Mission Outreach and Evangelism. Currently she serves two local churches as an adult education leader and group facilitator. She is also a night chaplain at a local hospital.



Denise writes, "Reflecting on my journey and call I rest on the idea of being marked at the time of my baptism – claimed by God to nurture and walk beside others as they listen to, and discern God's call on their lives."

Responsively Yours: Through the Eyes of Faith

by Harriett Jane Olson

The United Methodist Church is getting ready for General Conference 2016. General Conference is the only entity that can speak for The United Methodist Church. Bishops, clergy, laity and the Judicial Council interpret and respond, but General Conference speaks for the Church.

This is why agencies, annual conferences and members of the denomination work hard to prepare legislation for delegates to consider. Some legislation affects who has authority and responsibility for the work of the Church—this is found in the *Book of Discipline*. Some focus on resolutions, which serve to guide our work, found in the *Book of Resolutions*.

As United Methodist Women submits legislation, we have a particular approach to contribute. Like other United Methodists, we read the Bible and the world through eyes of faith and seek to express what it means to “do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with [our] God” (Micah 6:8). Our contribution expresses the call of God with attention to the situation of women, including the strength and power women bring as well as the needs we experience and the injustices we face globally.

Our long work with women, children, youth and families has deepened our awareness that gender, race and class overlap and intensify the barriers we face. This is why we will bring legislation to amend and readopt the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in an Interdependent Global Community, a version of which has been a signature part of our work since 1952. Our organization moved the location of the first Assembly in 1942 so that women of color and white women could be accommodated together, and we worked across church structures to develop regional Schools of Christian Mission so that we were not separated by the race-based boundaries of the Central Jurisdiction. These efforts, and many more, aligned with our work in training schools, historically black colleges and community centers and in the anti-lynching movement, which are the seedbed of the charter that is as relevant today as it was then.

Women and women’s health are at the heart of healthy families. The United Methodist Church has commended family planning to responsible Christian couples for over 50 years. Today access to birth control is being limited for rural women, poor women and women of color in the United States by efforts that are closing clinics, limiting

health care coverage and allowing pharmacists to decline to fill prescriptions. Access varies widely for women around the world affected by poverty, national policy and cultural context. In every country, access to contraception is critical to women’s health and well-being and to the emotional and economic health of families. The Responsible Parenthood resolution, also proposed for readoption, addresses these matters and also expresses The United Methodist Church’s carefully crafted position on abortion.

These are just two of the resolutions that we will be proposing. We have worked with other agencies of the church and brought our best thinking, but the beginning of the work and the lodestar of the effort is reading and interpreting the Bible and the world through the eyes of faith, giving special attention to the needs of women. In offering these resolutions to the Church we invite others to join us in committing to live justly, lovingly and humbly in the world.

*Harriett Jane Olson is General Secretary,
United Methodist Women*



General Conference will convene at the Oregon Convention Center May 10-20, 2016.

The General Conference, held every four years, is the procedure United Methodists use to revise church law. It is an opportunity to adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for churchwide programs. Any organization, clergy member or lay member of The United Methodist Church may petition the General Conference.

In 2016, United Methodist Women will move into four new priority areas for our mission work. Our petitions to General Conference will focus on continuing our existing work and build on these new priority areas, which are:

- Climate Justice
- Maternal and Child Health
- Racial and Gender Justice
- Economic Inequality

Ubuntu Journeys 2016

TEXAS AND MEXICO—MAY 4–12, 2016 “A WALK IN THE LIGHT— JOURNEY WITH US ON THE BORDER”

Come with us to serve with the women of Mexico and women living in the colonias along the U.S. side of the border near McAllen, Texas. Learn more about the current-day issues impacting life on both sides of the border between Mexico and the United States. We will have one-on-one conversations with women from both countries to learn of their past and current struggles. Together, we'll share our future hopes and dreams for our families, communities and churches. We will savor our cultures through local foods and customs as we cross not only cultural but ecumenical lines. Join us as we learn about and open our hearts to God's mission in this area.

Contact team leader **Becky Harrell** at bhinscj@yahoo.com or 830-643-9717.

ECUADOR—AUGUST 17–26, 2016 “WOMEN, FAITH AND ECOLOGY”: “MUJERES, FE Y ECOLOGÍA”

Join the journey to Ecuador—a wonderful land of incredible people and beauty. Meet with our Methodist sisters in the Sierra District's Pijal Church, the Costa District and the Tsáchila Community. Learn of their holistic relationship with the earth, their daily life. Share cultural experiences; learn of their handicrafts and Andean farming. Develop new friendships, visit cultural sites, and be prepared to laugh a lot and build networks among women of Christian faith.

Contact team leader **Christie Leininger** at christie@leiningers.com or 814-730-0007.

JAPAN—SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 9, 2016 “LISTENING WITH LOVE AND HOPE”

Travel to Tokyo and Sendai, connect with incredible Christian women involved with many mission-oriented groups along the eastern coast of Japan. Help prepare lunch at the Emmaus Center; visit with women who survived the 2011 tsunami and listen to their unbelievable journeys to recovery; visit a shelter for women where Global Justice Volunteers serve; and fellowship with women from the United Church of Christ in Japan. An opportunity will be offered for those who wish to visit historic Kyoto.

Contact team leader **Jeanie Blankenbaker** at jbumvimny@aol.com or 843-342-7092.

Ubuntu Journeys

Ubuntu: an African word and proverb meaning *"I am human because you are human."* are short-term mission opportunities for United Methodist Women members to meet and serve alongside sisters-in-mission around the world.

For additional information e-mail ubuntu@unitedmethodistwomen.org

See photos from 2015 journeys on [Flickr](#)



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 Sundays
- Magazines to nursing and assisted living homes
- Meals to family of hospitalized son
- Clothing for Children's Sabbath
- Recycling paper, glass, plastic
- Worked at the pumpkin patch

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
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e-mail - vmoore4474@gmail.com