



Mary and Martha Mail Circle

July 2016

United Methodist Women
Christ United Methodist Church
Mobile Alabama

Southeastern Jurisdiction United Methodist Women meets every four years for the purpose of electing officers, reflecting on the past quadrennium and setting goals for the new quadrennium and other jurisdictional business.



Is there **A Fresh Wind Blowing** in the lives of women at Christ United?

By Mary Anne Bemis

The theme used at the June 2016 Southeastern Jurisdiction Meeting of United Methodist Women, **A Fresh Wind Blowing** based on the scripture,

"The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." John 3:8

The 2016 SEJ meeting was held June 3-5 in Charleston, South Carolina. 700+ United Methodist Women attended. Betty Helms, Alabama-West Florida Conference, was elected SEJ President and began her term immediately upon election. Clara Ester, of our own Mobile District, was elected to the Board of Directors, United Methodist Women.

Speakers and Bible study leaders, using the theme "A Fresh Wind Blowing," encouraged and challenged us spiritually and emotionally with words from John 3.

Debbie Bell, Mobile District President United Methodist Women, in her report to the district membership notes that she has placed an asterisk by one goal in particular - Technology is the communication journey/requirement challenging us in the next four years.

South Carolina United Methodist Women, the host conference, wonderfully exhibited true Southern hospitality including Charleston Chews and other delightful goodies, as well as valuable information, in the SEJ bags.

I have been a privileged participant with a group of Mobile women "Prayer Leadership Team" for the Beth Moore conference coming August 26-27 to the Mitchell Center on USA campus. Our first meeting was December 1st. There continually is a **Fresh Wind blowing** in those prayer meetings! I have witnessed the **Holy Spirit** moving in the different places of worship that we have met at. Powerful, Humbling, and Moaning prayers for the women of Mobile County and surrounding areas were experienced even in our Sanctuary one evening. It was an anointing!

To quote Living Proof Live Ministries, "Every Seat has a Story." What is your story?

A list of issues facing the women today: Religion not relationship, Racism not One Body, Teen Suicide no one hears their silent cries for help, Abortion of the unborn, First Responders who become the victims, and Domestic Violence in our homes unseen. Oh what pain the Earth is filled with! Yet, we found Hope in Jesus and He sent the **Holy Spirit** to be Powerful in presence during these meetings. The comfort in petitioning our Holy Father that He is in control! The movement of the **Holy Spirit** was evident in this place.

At one meeting, I was in a group praying for healing. The leader's prayer included her testimony of God's healing hand on her life over 40 years ago of cancer which she was told she wouldn't see her two boys grow up and her husband would have to do that alone. But God had another plan. She now has seen



Additional [PHOTOS](#) from the 2016 SEJ Meeting

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

- JUL 1 Sara Flores Quinones (M)
 JUL 2 Deborah Dornon (M)
 JUL 3 Mary Winslow (D)
 JUL 4 Randy Joe Hildebrant (CCW/S)
 JUL 5 Yuko Boyle (M)
 JUL 6 Mark Zimmerman (M)
 Glenda Contos
 JUL 7 Israel: peace and reconciliation
 JUL 8 Elizabeth Graham (D/S)
 JUL 9 Debbie Pittman (D)
 JUL 10 Robinson School, San Juan, Puerto Rico
 JUL 11 **Portugal: Methodist Women's Federation**
 JUL 12 Koni Purscell (CCW/S)
 JUL 13 Pamela Domer (D)
 JUL 14 Sun Lae Kim (M)
 JUL 15 Cynthia Ceballos (M)
 Kelli Dye
 JUL 16 Pat Goss (D)
 JUL 17 Deirdre Zimmerman (M)
 JUL 18 Laura Curry (D)
 Blair Parrett
 JUL 19 Britt Gilmore (M)
 JUL 20 Daria Hofer (M)
 JUL 21 Carol Barton (S)
 JUL 22 Andrew Donaldson (M)
 Patsy Adams
 JUL 23 Tyrone LaValley (M)
 JUL 24 Colleen Caldwell (D)
 JUL 25 Russia: Grace United Methodist Church
 JUL 26 Nepal: Milijuli Samaj
 JUL 27 Elfie Grace Tangunan (GMF Intl)
 JUL 28 Israel: aid for the Palestinian people
 JUL 29 Thailand: orphans with HIV
 JUL 30 Mei Yan Lam (M)
 Renea Burns
 JUL 31 Beverly Barte (M)

From The Prayer Calendar:

In November 2014, we started another detention ministry at Gants Khodag Detention Center. We have been ministering to the people by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. We are reminded of Matthew 25:31-46 as we minister to the people who sit in the detention center. May God continue to work in our lives to build up God's kingdom.
 - Sun Lae Kim, General Board of Global Ministries missionary, Mongolia.

Happy Birthday - July 14

Sun Lae Kim



Sun Lae Kim, missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, serves with the United Methodist Mission in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

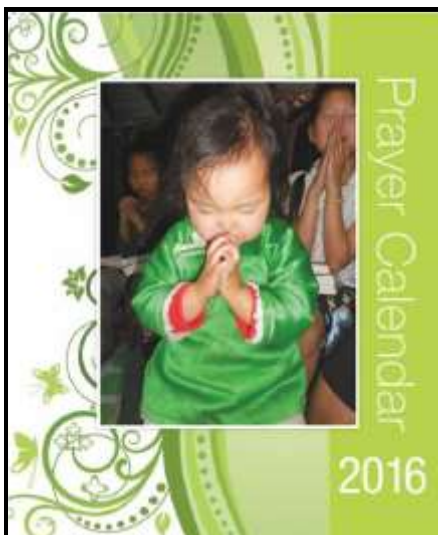
Ms. Kim was born in the Republic of Korea into a Buddhist family. When she was 13, her mother became a Christian and a year later she, too, gave her life to Jesus Christ. She is today a citizen of the United States

and has strong historical links to the General Board of Global Ministries. She went to Mongolia in a special service category in 2002 and was a missionary in Russia from 1993 to 1998.

Sun Lae's home congregation is the Korean Community United Methodist Church of Englewood, New Jersey, in the Greater New Jersey Annual Conference. She worked and studied in the Philippines in 1982. Sun Lae can speak and read Korean, Mongolian, Russian, and English.

Her contacts with missionaries led to the conviction that she, too, could enter mission service, to utilize her skills on behalf of the Gospel and to serve people in the name of Jesus. Sun Lae directed her education toward such service, receiving a Master of Theology degree from the East Asia Graduate School of Theology in the Philippines, a Master of Arts degree from Scarritt Graduate School (Nashville, Tennessee), and a master's degree in Biblical literature from Faith Theological Seminary, New York.

In Mongolia, Sun Lae focuses on congregational development and outreach ministries in the thriving United Methodist Mission based around the city of Ulaanbaatar. The mission includes a literacy program, Christian education, worship at the detention center, a community outreach program and church development.



"As Jesus Christ became a human being to serve the people in the world, I'd like to be in solidarity with people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I feel a sense of urgency to serve in mission to bring God's love and peace in the world today."

Note: The cover photo on the Prayer Calendar 2016 is by Sun Lae Kim.



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her boys grown, married and five grandchildren! A prayer warrior, leader in Christian Ministries and a sister in Christ! As she spoke her testimony the ***Fresh Hot Wind*** settled on our group. I mean physically the room had been cold and yet I felt I was standing around a fire! Powerful healing was taking place right then! God had selected her for this time and place!

I know when I reach out to my sisters in Christ, we can make a difference in each other's life, now we need to look with open eyes to the women outside our circles and bring them into the circle of warmth from the "***Fire***" Jesus has sent each of us when we said yes to Jesus! We are the hope for many.

I end with this quote from [Responsively Yours June 2016](#) by Harriett Jane Olson:

"United Methodist Women, we are called to notice one another, to notice who is not yet at the table and to notice the needs of women, children and youth. The discipline of noticing will help us see God's hand at work and our invitation to be part of God's work.

May we not only notice, but may we respond with faith, hope and love in action."



Responsively Yours

by Harriett Jane Olson

A year ago I was writing about a mass shooting at Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Before that it was a shooting at a Jewish community center and one at a Sikh temple and an attack on an Amish schoolhouse. Now we are grieving and denouncing an attack on a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that took place during a celebration of Pride and Latino/a/x heritage.

It is right and proper to denounce and grieve. These attacks have killed and wounded our brothers and sisters. They have torn at the fabric of families, communities and networks of friends. Each one is unique, unspeakably painful and creates ripples of fear.

However, as a society we must stop seeing them as isolated incidents and come to grips with the fact that the United States of today is a violent place. In the new resolution passed at General Conference 2016, Speaking Out for Compassion: Transforming the Context of Hate in the United States, United Methodist Women brought to The United Methodist Church a cry for the denomination to take a stand "challenging the climate of distrust, distortion of truth and fear, shifting the conversation to our common future."

Racism, economic stress, anger and disrespect have combined in ways that have turned us against each other in this country. The fear and rancor following each incident tempts us to retreat to a posture of self-protection rather than finding the hope and the conviction that is needed to galvanize new work for change.

The reality is that the shooters in all the places mentioned and in movie theaters and schools and Arizona parking lots and military bases and workplaces and elsewhere are also children of God. It's hard to remember this in the face of such violence and hate. We call them loners, terrorists, radicalized white supremacists, and a variety of other names that attempt to distinguish them from ourselves. These people are also our brothers. The shooters were also residents and citizens who needed mental health care, decent work, supportive community. They did not need access to high capacity assault weapons or to be empowered by culture that fosters hate.

The name-calling, line-drawing and blaming that has displaced discourse in our political arenas, our communities and even in some places in our church is toxic. These horrible massacres by should wake us up. It is time to change. It's time to construct opportunities for real dialogue. Listen especially to persons who are not like us and who see the world differently. Eliminate access to high-capacity assault rifles. Provide affordable access to effective mental health care. Nurture community and persistently address every expression of racism and religious bigotry.

United Methodist Women, our work on the Charter of Racial Justice, and our work to resist growing income inequality and criminalization of communities of color is needed now more than ever. I implore you to participate in training opportunities, find resources on our website and in the Reading Program work together to assess needs and find the next place where God is calling you to work in your communities and across the country. Throughout the life of our organization United Methodist Women members have risen to the challenge of some of our most difficult issues. This is still our call and God is able.



Lynn Hamric recommends:



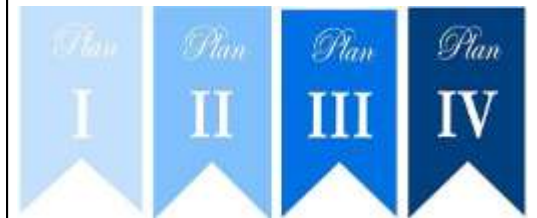
Calling all Mail Circle members to # THE PREACHER!

That # is not a hashtag but a pound sign!

Sunday, July 3, 2016, The Reverend Dr. Rob Couch will be introduced to the congregation. For many this is a welcome back as we have known and loved the Couch Family for many years.

It is customary in some congregations to “pound” the new preacher by taking pounds of food to the family. We are asked, rather than filling the Couch’s pantry, to drop off canned fruits or vegetables for our Lifegate Ministry in designated locations or the Hospitality Room as you give a warm welcome to the Couch Family.

Sunday, July 10, Rev. Rob will begin a 4-week sermon series, Red Letter Mission. We eagerly await the series and anticipate it will draw attention to the quotes of Jesus in our red letter Bibles. This will be fitting continuation of Rev. Jeff’s 37 years of sermons and particularly the June 26 message when he shared, “It is all about Jesus!”



Books you’ve completed from United Methodist Women Reading Program 2016 must be reported to

[Vera Moore](#) by July 31, 2016

This is follow up to our [Virtual Meeting October 2015](#).

Service Projects

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

- ☛ Shay Bruton - Camp Rap-A-Hope
- ☛ Tips 20% to Service Persons - Renea Burns
- ☛ Magazines to Nursing Homes - Patsy Adams
- ☛ Ryan LaSource - Bone Marrow Transplant \$ - Vera Moore
- ☛ Medicines to Victory Health - Patsy Adams
- ☛ Day of Giving - In Memory Miss Alma Bryant \$ - Vera.
- ☛ Camp Rap-A-Hope - \$ - Vera Moore
- ☛ RCRC \$ - Vera
- ☛ Breast Cancer walk in Mobile - Mary Anne Bemis
- ☛

Member Involvement

Beginning anew in this New Year 2016

Your involvement will be published here as you accept responsibility

- ☛ Weekly Prayer Focus - Norma Spiller
- ☛ Members Cards - Patsy Adams
- ☛ Missionary Cards- Melissa Motes
- ☛ Circle Coordinator - Vera Moore
- ☛ Reception April 24 - Faye Sellers
- ☛ Bake Sale Workers - Glenda Contos
- ☛ Bake Sale Bakers - Glenda Contos, Sheila Hare
- ☛ Bake Sale Contributor - Vera Moore
- ☛ April 24 Celebration Workers - Faye Sellers, Melissa Motes, and Mary Anne Bemis.
- ☛ April 24 Celebration Bakers - Angel Dahlgren, Blair Parrett, Dawn Seese, Donna Alexander, Mary Anne Bemis, and Shay Bruton.
- ☛ Monthly Reflections - Mary Anne Bemis
- ☛ AWF UMW President - Lynn Harmic
- ☛ ...
- ☛ ...
- ☛ ...

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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