



Mary and Martha Mail Circle

August 2016

United Methodist Women
Christ United Methodist Church
Mobile Alabama

A Purpose Filled Community

Adapted from the Program Book
A Call to Community

Read John 14:18–26

Our text finds Jesus saying good-bye to his worldly community. Like one-year-olds left alone with a babysitter for the first time, the disciples were terrified. Jesus was trying to prepare them for his impending death; instead of being comforted, they were greatly confused. The disciples understood Jesus would be leaving them, but when he added, “I am coming for you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will” (18b, 19), they were bewildered. Jesus’ assurance of returning to them was worth about as much as the parent trying to convince her one-year-old not to cry because she would return in a few hours. How could Jesus leave the disciples and still be seen by them? Some things are beyond understanding and belief; seeing is often the only way to comprehend and believe. Members of Jesus’ earthly community would see him again in two ways: first after his resurrection and second through the Holy Spirit.

What’s one thing Jesus said that you didn’t understand and believe until you experienced it?

Why is it that only those who believed in Jesus would see him (19a)? The world didn’t believe in Jesus while he walked the earth, why would they believe in him after his death and resurrection? Believing in Jesus meant believing he was the Son of God; God sent him to earth; Jesus was in God, and God in Jesus. Jewish officials dismissed Jesus, saying he was possessed by a demon or out of his mind (John 10:20) and a blasphemer (John 10:33). Many believed in the miracles he performed because they witnessed them, but they didn’t know what to make of them—surely the miracles did not prove Jesus was sent from God, nor that God was in him. Others sought Jesus for what he could do for them, like he was some kind of Santa Claus.

Exactly what do you believe about Jesus and why?

(Continued on page 3)



Why Am I a member of United Methodist Women

by Mary Anne Bemis

Why am I a member of a women’s circle at Christ United Methodist Church? I had to think about this for awhile. My parents were always involved in church as

long as I can remember. Their service to their church and community continued daily wherever we lived. Opportunities of service is where I will start.

Participating on the Women’s Conference Committee has given me a lasting experience of how a group of 15 women can work as one for a seamless presentation to women of our community the opportunity to refresh or become a Christ filled individual.

Power of prayer is another experience of service that has become very real in my life. Seeing answered prayers, feeling God’s presence when laying hands on someone who needs His healing touch, and bowing down in His presence crying for reconciliation in our lives, churches, communities and nation.

Prayer meetings for the last eight months for Beth Moore conference coming August 26-27 at Mitchell Center, has widen my world to issues facing women in our community. Preconference leadership training, “You Lead training” will be on August 25-26 for anyone wanting to network through workshop sessions covering diverse women topics and resources in our community. I highly recommend attending.

Lastly, joining the online Mary and Martha Mail Circle has been a connection to Methodist women across the world, and mission minded women. Drawing a group of women who do not have time to physically attend a circle but want connection. Many opportunities of service are available. This circle fit my style and need for expressing service to others.

I hope you find your circle of service for Christ!

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

- AUG 1 Sierra Leone United Methodist
 AUG 2 Deaconess Ginny Moore
 AUG 3 Deaconess Valerie Mossman-Celestin
 AUG 4 Deaconess Amanda Mountain
 AUG 5 Timothy Boyle
 AUG 6 Nancy Augusta Carew
 AUG 7 Jeanne Ntambo.
 AUG 8 Nkemba Ndjungu
 AUG 9 Agricultural Missions, Inc.
 AUG 10 Home Missioner J. Jamison Brunk
 AUG 11 Global scholarships
 AUG 12 Deaconess Marcia Florkey
 AUG 13 David Paye Guinkpa
 Shay Bruton
 Angel Dahlgren
 AUG 14 Deaconess Fay Flanary
 AUG 15 Alexandra Castro,
 AUG 16 Pro-Literacy
 AUG 17 Bolivia: Senior adults.
 AUG 18 Guatemala: Organic gardens
 AUG 19 Juanita Arrieta
 AUG 20 Ediberto Lopez-Rodriguez
 AUG 21 Susannah Wesley Center, Honolulu, Hawaii
 AUG 22 Claudette Mora
 AUG 23 Deaconess Sandi Hortman
 AUG 24 Alan-Michael Allis.
 AUG 25 Guatemala: health care education
 AUG 26 John Yambasu
 AUG 27 Clifford Robinson
 AUG 28 Susanna Wesley Center, East Prairie, MO
 AUG 29 United Methodist Church of Zimbabwe
 AUG 30 Regional Missionary Catherine Mudime Akale
 AUG 31 Hye-In Lee

Saturday, August 13, 2016
10am-2pm

**Mission Study - Created for
Happiness**

**Toulminville-Warren Street United
Methodist Church**

**A 14 passenger bus from CUMC is
filling fast. Let me know if you need
a seat reserved for you.**

[Vera Moore](#)



Happy Birthday - August 31!

Hye-In Lee

Hye-in is a Global Mission Fellow of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, serving a two-year term of service. She was commissioned in July 2014.

The Global Mission Fellows program takes young adults ages 20-30 out of their home environments and places them in

new contexts for two years of mission service. The program grew out of the faith and justice emphases of the historic United Methodist US-2 and Mission Intern programs. Global Mission Fellows become parts of their new local communities. They connect the church in mission across cultural and geographical boundaries. They grow in personal and social holiness and become strong young leaders working to build just communities in a peaceful world.

Hye-In is serving as a staff member and counselor in the HELP shelter, sponsored by KYOFUKAI, the Japan Christian Women's Organization. HELP was founded in 1986 to mark the 100th anniversary of KYOFUKAI. It provides support for women and children in need. A majority of the residents are fleeing violence or situations of forced prostitution, or have lost their homes. KYOFUKAI has a broad agenda of support for the human rights of women.

Hye-In is from South Korea, where she is a member of Chungdong First Methodist Church in Seoul. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the National Institute for Lifelong Education in Seoul. Hye-In has worked for the Korea Student Christian Federation and the American Methodist Korean Women's Mission Foundation.

The Bible plays a major role in Hye-In's faith journey: "I love to read the Bible every day in both good and bad times. This makes me realize that the judge of all the earth has to act justly and that the Lord hears me just as he has promised in the Word."

Jeremiah 33:2-3 is among her favorite passages: "Thus says the Lord who made the earth, the Lord who formed it to establish it—the Lord is his name: Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known." She says that knowing the Lord promises great and hidden things helps her to be calm and carry on with life with purpose.

"This helped shape my life, as I learned that the mission and ministry of Jesus is not based on how much of a reputation someone has but on the joint fellowship and trust among Christians—all for the glory of God.

"Reading the Bible, I realized that the way of God is that if our minds are renewed in Christ we will receive the power to transform the world. Jesus has already shown us the way through his own life, so I want to follow God's plan and contribute to world justice and peace."

(Continued from page 1)

Jesus' promises were conditional (23 and 24). Those who loved Jesus and kept his word by living faithfully and loving others (even the Judas Iscariots of the world) would experience the fullness of God's love. God's master plan had been and continues to be to prepare Jesus' community members to expand phenomenally, and continuously establish new faith communities and ministries that are too numerous to count. Just as God in Jesus enabled him to see with divine eyes and act miraculously, the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples. This chapter of John's Gospel mentions the Holy Spirit for the first time. Unlike Jesus, the Holy Spirit, from the Greek word *Parakletos*, which also means "Comforter," "Counselor," "Helper," can be in infinite locations simultaneously. This Spirit of Truth (17) is the revelation of the Word of God. The Spirit is how Jesus continues to live in his followers (17:20).

In John 14:12, Jesus tells his disciples, "the one who believes in me will do the works that I do, in fact, will do greater works." How have you witnessed this?

"We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God; who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. . . . In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us." These are words from my favorite affirmation of faith, "A Statement of Faith of the

United Church of Canada." In short, this is what our scripture is about: God with us through the fullness of the Trinity. We are not alone. This three-fold, divine, physically invisible community of the Creator, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, called the Trinity, is how we are empowered and never left alone. Just as human communities cluster in one location, the Trinity is a holy unit. The Trinity is so inseparable it's referred to as "three-in-one." Like many non-geographical communities, the Trinity community is united around purpose: to save us and the world from our inclination to sin; to guide and empower us to love; to transform the world; and to keep the human community and the divine community in right relationship.

Our Mail Circle Community:

Below we have linking members to special friendships. The name opposite yours is your special Mail Circle friend. Pray for her daily, communicate with her frequently, encourage her and let us know when she has a special need or has received a special blessing.

The need for these special friendships became apparent recently when a United Methodist woman was in the hospital for two weeks before we knew.

My name, Vera Moore, is not on the list as I'm odd woman out and consider myself a special friend to each of you. If you lose track of me, Norma Spiller or Patsy Adams will be able to tell you what is going on with me.

Your special friend is the name listed opposite your name on the list below:

PATSY	ADAMS	&	KIM	JOHNSON
DONNA	ALEXANDER	&	MYRA	MARTIN
NANCY	BELL	&	DAWN	SEESE
MARY ANNE	BEMIS	&	MONIQUE	MCFARLAND
SHAY	BRUTON	&	MARY	MESSER
RENEA	BURNS	&	MELISSA	MOTES
KERRY	COHEN	&	BLAIR	PARRETT
GLENDA	CONTOS	&	PATTY	PARRIS
ANGEL	DAHLGREN	&	KIM	PRATT
KIM	DOSS	&	KELLY	RUSHING
KELLI	DYE	&	GENIE	SCHNEIDER
ALICIA	GOLEMON	&	FAYE	SELLERS
LYNN	HAMRIC	&	NORMA	SPILLER
SHEILA	HARE	&	NANCY	SWAN
RUTH	HOWARD	&	NOTALSIA	WHITING



Lynn Hamric recommends:

you meet the decision making people who serve United Methodist Women on the Program Advisory Group 2017.

www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/news/pag2017

A **CORRECTION:** Last month we thought the deadline for 2016 Reading Program was July 31. Not So! See below:

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
- ☛ Cheadle Hulme Methodist Church - \$ - Vera
- ☛



CORRECTION:

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

[Vera Moore](#) by **OCTOBER 31, 2016**

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

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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