“Fortieth Annual Meeting Celebration”

On October 6, 2012, the gavel will sound for the Fortieth Annual Meeting of the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women. United Methodist Women from across the conference will celebrate this special occasion with “All Things Made New” at Snellville UMC.

We are honored to have Reverend Jasmine Rose Smothers as our Speaker. Rev. Jasmine is a multigenerational United Methodist Woman and a dynamic young Preacher who will have a message for all who attend the meeting.

Reverend Jasmine is the Associate Director of Connectional Ministries of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. She is a church consultant and the staff liaison for the Conference Ministry Teams. Prior to joining the Team in the Office of Connectional Ministries Rev. Jasmine was the Senior Associate at Atlanta first UMC. She has served as the Associate Pastor at Powder Springs First UMC as the Youth Director and St. Paul UMC I Marietta, GA.

Rev. Jasmine is a native of Atlanta, GA and a graduate of Spelman where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. She earned a Master of Divinity degree from Emory University’s Candler School of Theology. Rev. Jasmine is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. 

Come one, come all to hear Rev. Jasmine’s message and to celebrate our achievements at our Fortieth Annual meeting. We are asking you to please bring Layette Kits for our mission project. I urge you to encourage your local units and districts to attend.

We expect to exceed our past attendance record because God is doing a new thing to transform lives through our mission work. You can find the registration form included in this publication or on our online website (www.ngumw.org). We look forward to seeing you at 8:30 AM for registration and 9:30AM for the meeting.

Let’s praise God and share with others lives being transformed and experiences things made new through your service for others.

---

**Message from the Vice President**

By Tryphenia Speed
NGC UMW
Vice President

The things announced in the past –look- they’ve already happened, but I’m declaring new things. Before they even appear, I tell you about them. Isaiah 42:9

As declared in the scripture, the announcement was made last October “but I am declaring new things,” started in 2012 as United Methodist Women engaged in work for women, children and youth worldwide. The 20-30-40 Something Event was held at Korean UMC in the Atlanta Roswell District... the first conference Event hosted by the Korean church. This is the first time I attended the General Conference in Tampa, Florida as a visitor to participate in a rally for justices. We were blessed to have 78 people from North Georgia in attendance at the Southeastern Jurisdiction in Birmingham, AL. This is also the first time we had district wide work experiences. The twelve District Presidents shared their work experience with us at the UMW breakfast during the Annual conference in June. The Cooperative Christian Mission Education Event closing communion service was led by Rev. Jonathan Holston who was the first Bishop elected at the Southeastern Jurisdiction meeting at Lake Junaluska. We will hear more about “All Things Made New.” at our Annual Meeting at Snellville UMC.
WHAT’S “NEW” WITH UNITED METHODIST WOMEN?

By Deloris Carhee
NGC UMW President

I am excited about the changes made in the United Methodist Women’s (UMW) organization that will give us flexibility to do new things and transform lives through our mission work. There have been many changes within the UMW organization over the last 30 years of my life and as a result I have been blessed. With changes come new ideas to share our PURPOSE and make disciples for Jesus Christ.

As you know the General Conference was held in Tampa, Florida on April 23rd – May 4th. Women’s Division (national policymaking body for UMW) had several proposals that were approved. The Women’s Division (national policy making body for UMW) name was changed to United Methodist Women, Inc. The United Methodist Women, Inc. and General Board of Global Ministries were structurally separated within the United Methodist Church to concentrate on new and existing areas of mission.

Someone asked, “How did the approved changes affect UMW local units?” There were no changes in the Discipline except the name change. Due to some changes on the District and Conference levels, we are encouraging the local units to be creative and flexible in their planning programs for ministry to attract and meet the needs of ALL women, children and youth. We plan to have a task force in place by the end of the year with people who can help implement new ideas for ministry.

I am also happy to share the good news and celebrations in the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women. The women have done an outstanding job in “seeing the world through the eyes of their baptism.” Please read some of the officer’s report in this Reflector to hear how God has blessed us through; your sacrificial giving for abused children, senior citizens, after school programs and college students; hands on projects; participation in the rally against private prisons and immigration detention at General Conference; support others through your prayers and your service.

Congratulations to Bishop Jonathan Holston. We were blessed and honored with his presence and participation in our Cooperative Christian Mission Education Event (July 12- 14) a week before he was elected Bishop. Congratulations to Tonya Murphy and Grace Pyen who were voted to be Board of Directors for our national policymaking body in the UMW organization.

We have a new website (www.ngumw.org). Thanks to Rev. Dr. Jacqui Rose Tucker for your challenge to make this happen and Michael Murphy McCarthy for designing the website.

My cup runneth over because I mentioned only a few things to celebrate what you have done. We have many mission opportunities to make things New and transform lives every day.

Thank you and to God be the Glory!

“See the former things have come to pass and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.” Isaiah 42:9

Blessings, Peace and Love,
Deloris

---

response magazine

Do you receive response? If not, then now is the perfect time to start your subscription.

The price of a one-year subscription is $24; a two-year subscription is if $45.

With every subscription your getting:
- Engaging Bible studies
- Spiritual growth reflections
- Inspiring stories of faith and hometown mission
- Stories of ministries with women, children & youth
- Insight on challenging issues of the day from a Christian women’s perspective
- Faith-based action ideas

---

Annual Meeting
Registration is now available online at www.ngumw.org
The deadline is
September 16th
Doris Paul PURPOSE Award

Doris Paul exemplified what it means to be a United Methodist Woman. She not only supported the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women, she lived it. Because of a generous gift by her husband, Carl Paul, The North Georgia Conference UMW will share the legacy of Doris’ Special Mission Recognition pins to honor women in the conference who have followed in her footsteps.

Living out the PURPOSE, these lay/clergy women will have demonstrated the PURPOSE:

Being a part of a community of women: she will be a supportive member of UMW on the local level. She will avail herself of the opportunities to be involved in UMW on the District and Conference levels and beyond.

Knowing God: she will be a person who continues to grow in faith and mature in her Christian walk. She will witness to others through leading bible study, mission studies and other spiritual growth activities.

Experiencing freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ: she will accept new challenges and be open to stepping into new leadership positions which glorify God and allow her to reach toward her full potential in the church and community.

Developing a creative supportive fellowship: she will mentor young women in the PURPOSE of UMW and will actively seek out ways to involve women at various stages of their lives in the life of the organization. She will place special emphasis on remembering the contributions of those who have gone before or “telling the story of United Methodist Women.”

Expanding concepts of mission: She will support the ministries of the General Board of Global Ministries locally, nationally and internationally.

If you know of someone who fulfills the PURPOSE and would like to submit her name for consideration, please send the name of this individual and her qualifications to Deloris Carhee, President NGC UMW, 892 Cascade Crossing, Atlanta, GA 30331 prior to Annual Meeting.

Learning and Doing Emphasized at Mission Education

Alice Smith
Assistant Dean
CCMEE

Over 180 people – adults, youth and children – attended the Cooperative Christian Mission Education Event July 12-14 at Simpsonwood to learn more about two critically important issues today – immigration as a biblical theme and poverty.

The poverty study was taught by two women – Cande Taylor of Wesley Community Centers and Michelle Cornstassiel of Action Ministries – who work with people on a daily basis who are struggling with poverty issues. Cande works with older adults and Michelle with families in their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.

Five “Immigration and the Bible” classes were offered, including one in the Korean language taught by Grace Kim and one in the Spanish language taught by the Rev. Juan Quintanilla. The three English-language classes were taught by the Rev. Eric Powell, the Rev. Bert Mathews and Mary Anne Brannon.

Again this year Sue and Terry Raymond were the leaders of the children’s study, which also focused on poverty, and the Rev. Tonya Lawrence led the youth study on Haiti.

Every person attending the event – including each child and youth – was asked to make a commitment to three things they will do in the coming year to extend biblical hospitality to immigrants and to people living in poverty. Although an action component has always been part of CCMEE, it was strongly emphasized this year to ensure that those who attended the event became “doers “in addition to being “learners.”

Rounding out the study leaders were Greg Gray, who led the music, and the Rev. Yvette Massey, who led the Bible study focusing on poverty. The Rev. Jonathan Holston was scheduled to lead an adult study on Haiti, but it was canceled because of low enrollment. However, Holston was present at CCMEE, which took place the week before his election as a bishop in the UMC – just one indication of the importance he places on mission.

CCMEE is jointly sponsored by the North Georgia Conference UMW and the North Georgia Conference’s Missions/Global Ministries Committee. Pat Bell served as dean, Ann Orr as registrar, and Elaine Mathews as business manager.
BOOKS SPUR US TO ACTION

By Eloise Sykes
Secretary of Program Resources
NGC UMW

We have closed out another year of reading with the United Methodist Women. Now is the time to look toward the new year. Set your goal for the plan you’d like to reach in 2013, make a list of books you would like to read, purchase your books and begin your reading.

Local units can purchase books and members can check them out for reading. Don’t forget that featured books from each of the Mission Emphasis can be purchased at a discount price from Mission Resource and/or at a district or conference event. Reading will spur us to action. Some report they have started new recycling programs, donated funds to organizations to help with special causes, and learned so many new things after reading books on the reading program list.

“Jacqueline Rose, Vice President, ACPK District reported on the 6th book review hosted by the United Methodist Women of Warren Memorial United Methodist Church on June 30th. Jackie Sykes, ACPK past president was the facilitator for the book, Rediscovering Values, A Guide for Economic and Moral Recovery by Jim Wallis. The book challenges us to find some moral clarity in these times of economic uncertainty and begin to build a moral recovery by returning to our faith values. Jackie led an animated discussion as many of the women recalled their childhood upbringing and how over the years we’ve moved away from the basic values we were taught.”

The next book review will be September 29th. The book is The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. Warren Memorial will continue to host book reviews from the UMW Reading list through 2013. The book reviews will include books from all categories. The reviews will be held the fifth Saturday of each month. Contact Eloise Sykes, sykes340@att.net, for more information or to RSVP.

A book review is one way to really put the Reading Program’s purpose into action. It’s a fun and informative way to complete the reading program requirements, and a great way to, not only participate in the reading program, but to stay connected with our sisters through the district. The book review is open to male and female, all ages. Learning together brings unity and spurs action.

UMW, if you do not have a local unit, you can still participate in the reading program. If you have moved into an area without a unit, continue to read and submit your report to the local Secretary of Program Resources or continue to read with your old group and report your reading to them.

We give Thanks to God for the many opportunities available through the Reading Program.

NOMINATIONS

By Cathy White
Chairperson Nominations Committee
NGC UMW

The Committee on Nominations has prayerfully worked very hard this year as in years past seeking out new Leaders. We have prayed for United Methodist Women that have answered the called to Spiritual Leadership, and their commitment to mission. The United Methodist Women is a group of Christian Women with many gifts who are unified by the Spirit. We participate in God’s mission in all areas of life through the District, Conference and Global Ministries of the church. We are a team united together living out our faith by involvement, creativity and seeking out opportunities to participate in the United Methodist Women organization.

I would like to thank the Nominations Committee for their prayers, hours of hard work, phone calls and numerous e-mails. It has been my pleasure to work with the members of this committee and may God bless each one: Lynne Wheeler, Memoree Emerson, Irene Davis, Betty Bush, Lucille Campbell, Lee Namkoong.

We are always looking for women with a heart for missions. If you are interested in working with other dedicated woman, please give me a call. I would love to talk with you and get you connected with our team and find a place for you to serve as an officer on the Conference team.

Please contact me at: cbewhite
From your Secretary

Diane Boatwright
NGC UMW
Secretary

What an exciting time we had at CCMEE this year at Simpsonwood. I must say I really enjoyed the Mission studies this year. I do hope everyone is planning to attend one of these studies in their district. You will be truly blessed.

It is that time of the year again when I, as secretary, will start gathering information for the 2013 Yearbook/Directory. I do hope you have your new officers elected or have it scheduled on your calendar for this month. It would be great to have everyone’s report sent in on time this year. I would also like to encourage all of the district secretaries to have their president do a roster of all the new officers and each local unit in the district as soon as possible and send it to me.

I am saddened and will miss everyone, as this is my last year as secretary. I hope to see everyone at the Annual Meeting, October 6th at Snellville UMC. Until then may God bless you!

$6 FOR 6... A SUCCESS!!

By Elaine Matthews
NGC UMW
Treasurer

Congratulations to all the units that gave to the sacrificial giving to help organizations in North Georgia. Together, we each gave $6 and raised $15,016.37 to divide among the six mission institutions. Each institution received a check for $2,502.73! These institutions not only need financial support but they need volunteers as well. Consider planning a time for your unit to go out to the institution near you and helping out.

2011 Pledge Met!

North Georgia United Methodist Women received an award at the recent Regional School for Meeting and Exceeding their 2011 pledge. This award is for you because you are the reason we made it. Even with the recent economy, you realize how important the mission of UMW is and how our dollars make a difference for Women, Children and Youth in this country and around the world. Thank you for being studious to your pledge and keeping the mission alive!

Yearend October 31st

2012 giving is going strong and there is just one quarter left. As of today we are on track to meet our pledge for 2011 of $311,000. The 2012 yearend is October 31st. Local treasurers will need to get their final 2012 remittance to their District Treasurer by October 31st to count for their 2012 pledge. Let’s keep mission work strong and exceed our 2012 pledge!!!

SUPPLEMENTAL GIVING

First Quarter
Global Health Action

Second Quarter
New Bethlehem Community Center

Third Quarter
Wesley Community Centers

Fourth Quarter
Murphy Harpst Children’s Centers
Christmas Love Offering
Clark Atlanta University & Paine College
Every Day of the Year
World Thank Offering

2012 Calendar of Events

October 6 Annual Meeting
Snellville UMC

Nov. 3 Officer Update/Leadership Training
Central UMC

Nov. 16-18 LTE—Women’s Division
St. Louis, MO
SHOW LOVE AND COMPASSION

By Patricia Bell
NGC UMW
Spiritual Growth

All Things Made New

is the theme for the North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women and truly God is making a change in our conference. First, Deloris Carhee, Tryphenia Speed, Eloise Sykes AND Tonya Murphy were featured in response magazine representing our stance on changing the private prison and immigration laws to become more humane.

Next, the Annual Conference adopted a resolution for Georgia to repeal its laws on immigration.

Then, we studied Haiti, Immigration and the Bible, as well as Poverty as our Mission Studies for 2012. What if you were born poor in Haiti, experienced the earthquake, and wanted to start a new life in the United States but were turned away because you entered the United States illegally, but chose to enter anyway? Georgia has one of many immigration laws that do not consider the individual but looks at the impact on a particular group of people as unwanted and lawless. God reminds us that, “If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing” (1 Corinthians 13:3).

But I ask you to consider love in the equation. What if you came from a country and your situation in your homeland was of dire poverty? What would you do to ensure that you could make a positive difference by making a move for a new and better life? Would you seize the opportunity at all cost? I am not attempting to make the case for everyone, just for the one that is before you and help share the immigration story? 1 Corinthians 13:8 says, “Love never fails.” Love does not fail, but man does. God continues by saying, “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love” (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Which new thing are you willing to support or are you supporting the law that encourages poverty and loss of dignity to God’s children? Poverty could happen to each of us and there may come a time when we will become like the immigrant (moving to a new job/state/community/country). What would you want someone to do for you? Show love and compassion to all you encounter. The next time it might be you, because things are changing in the United States of America.

INFORMED THROUGH EDUCATION

By Jackie Evans
NGC UMW
Education & Interpretation

The Southeastern Jurisdictional Quadrennial Meeting held in Birmingham, Alabama on June 1 & 2 was a wonderful experience. The new officers for SEJ Leadership Team and Women’s Division were elected.

After this meeting, the North Georgia Conference Officers journeyed to Montgomery, Alabama to attend the South Atlantic Regional School of Christian Mission. We attended classes for the new mission studies which were taught at the Cooperative Christian Mission Education Event. The studies for this year are: Haiti, Immigration in the Bible and Poverty.

“HAITI” was one of last year’s studies and this year’s also. Its focus is to encourage on-going exchanges of cultural understanding, mutual respect, and mission partnership between the people of the United Methodist Church and people of God in Haiti.

“IMMIGRATION IN THE BIBLE” seeks to enable the participant to examine what it is to be a sojourner and to live up to the biblical mandate of hospitality for “the stranger” and aliens in our midst.

“POVERTY” is a human rights issue with grave impact on women and children.

I hope you attended the Event, July 12th – 14th at Simpsonwood Retreat Center. If so, then you were truly blessed with the knowledge that you received from these engaging studies.

REMEMBER: Knowledge is power and spiritual knowledge is spiritual power.

Be blessed and have a safe summer!

The Reflector is now available online at www.ngumw.org.

We are including District Newsletters on the website. District Communications Coordinators send them to Ann Orr at lapco48@catt.com.
CALL TO ACTION

Betty Hrisak
NGC UMW
Social Action Coordinator

Our 2012 mission studies, Poverty, Immigration and Haiti call us to action. Needs are great and each of us can make a difference by our actions.

Poverty shall be my focus. I was privileged to take part in the Poverty Mission Study in June in Montgomery, Al. The text, Poverty was edited by Jack A. Keller, Jr. I will share some of his major emphasizes.

Our Christian Bible addresses poverty and the poor. We learn:

- Poverty is not a natural condition.
- God doesn’t tolerate oppression of the poor.
- God gave the Israelites a land gift which broke their cycle of poverty.

What does our Methodist founder, John Wesley teach concerning poverty and the poor? John Wesley called everyone to a lifestyle of diligence, frugality and extravagant generosity. This sums to getting, saving and giving all one can to the poor. Wesley believed that spending money on luxuries while others lacked necessities was robbing God. He believed that poverty from unemployment was caused by unjust policies and practices. Further, he believed that one should not use money for foolish desires, desires to gratify the flesh or pride of life. In essence, one should live simply.

Today, United Methodist congregations are mostly middle class. Some believe that Methodism must focus on the poor or become a dead sect. Since 2008 one of our churches four focus areas has been ministry with the poor. Wesley certainly would be an advocate of this stand and action.

Websites which may help with better understanding of poverty include:

- www.irp.wise.edu
- www.stanford.edu/group/scspi
- www.npc.umich.edu
- www.rupi.org
- www.nccp.org

Who are the poor? The poor can be persons who are poor in spirit because their life’s focus is materialism. Learning to be joyful in living simply might become their goal as well as becoming responsible consumers. Other poor can be actually poverty or not having life’s basic necessities. The most basic goal for many is the need for sufficient food.

The May/June 2012 issue of “New World Outlook” is all about poverty. This issue details UMCOR’s work in many places. Workers help persons see what they possess and show them opportunities where they can use their talents and resources to benefit themselves. Many ways and locations where Methodist are involved in alleviating hunger and poverty are highlighted. Read to discover what UMCOR’s SA&D Program is and how you can support it.

Bread of the World is one organization desiring to end world hunger. It is a Christian voice that advocates for decision makers to end hunger here and elsewhere. Letter writing to congressmen has proven effective in getting them to vote for programs that aid and assist the hungry poor. Elaine Davies may be contacted at 404-247-9467 for presentations on hunger and poverty. She also teaches letter writing.

How can we as United Methodist Women put our faith in action as advocates desiring to alleviate poverty? Some suggestions by Jack Keller include: mission giving to persons and organizations that promote micro loans to women and fair trade support, UMCOR’s fair trade coffee project which attests that workers and growers have not been exploited, find and actively take part in local community networks promoting fair trade, food justice and economic justice.

check out the fair trade project – Blessings Basket – may inspire you, and when giving gifts, check out fair trade options.

By making our voices heard to our congressional representatives we can help end hunger in our time. Let’s let the voice of North Georgia’s United Methodist Women be heard. Let’s shout! End hunger now by making United States laws fair and compassionate for those in need!

U. S. Congressional Contact Information:

U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

U. S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Capitol Switchboard (202) 224 – 3121

“Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the orphan. Fight for the rights of widows.” Isaiah 1:17

Dare to act for others,
Betty Hrisak
ehrisak@bellsouth.net
770 971-1665

http://www.ngumw.org
Cooperative Christian Mission Education Event in Pictures

MISSIONS

EDUCATION

LOVE IN ACTION
District Presidents at UMW Breakfast during Annual Conference. They each told about their district “Work Day Experience.”

Margaret Watson proudly wears her UMW shirt along with Deloris Carhee and Rev. Jackqui Tucker

Grace Pyen, Gloria Gilmore, Jennifer Hansen (missionary) and Tonya Murphy

North GA Conference delegates at SEJ

School Bag assembly at Annual Conference
The opening lines from Charles Dickens’ *A Tale of Two Cities* aptly describes the history of New Bethlehem Community Center..."IT WAS the best of times, it was the worst of times... it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us..."

Less than 50 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, the Bethlehem Community Center sprouted its bold roots in Augusta, Georgia, just across the river from South Carolina where many slaves were traded to plantation owners across the South. Nevertheless, the Women’s Missionary Council of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South and particularly, the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church, forged directly and forcefully against the tide, to ensure that even those who were former slaves and considered the least in our society were provided with the basic things in life.

In the early years, many sacrificed personal wealth and sold precious jewelry to ensure that the Center had what was needed...a community building, gymnasium, and activity building. One might think that these acts of benevolence would ensure a grand future for Augusta’s Bethlehem Center. However, leaner times were on the horizon and periods when funding was almost non-existent. The mission did not change but the economy and society changed in an assortment of interesting and unpredictable ways. We weathered World War I and II, the Great Depression, social unrest of the 60s, the Vietnam War, the Augusta riots, and a host of other economic, political, social and internal events that directly affected our operations. Yet, the Bethlehem Community Center stood the test of time.

By His divine plan, God used people over the past century to keep the doors of the first social settlement for blacks established by the United Methodist Church open. We are indeed proud of that distinction, honored by the sacrifices made, and determined to continue the legacy of service established 100 years ago. Our current programs and services include a food pantry, clothing center, senior citizen meal program, GED program, Narcotics Anonymous meetings, Computer Literacy classes, community garden, After School program, and more. Through the generosity and prayers of others we are able to stand today and continue in our mission to improve the quality of life.

**SEJ Scholarship Attendee Report**

As a "newbie" at the Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting (SEJ) on June 1 and 2 in Birmingham, I didn't know what to expect. The theme was "Feeding the Multitude". I thought that the format would be like that of UMW programs that I have attended with workshops and small group activities. Not so for SEJ; instead, nearly all sessions were plenary sessions with everyone attending. This meant that every attendee heard everything that transpired - mini-sermons, wonderful singing by everyone, including the Triumphant Quartet, the children's bell choir, and others. In some ways, SEJ resembled a hootenanny. If you know what that means, you're a woman of a certain age, and the word may conjure up warm feelings of a unified group of people joined together in energetic singing about life, love and peace. If you have no idea what that means, the important part of the definition is audience participation. In Birmingham, we sang about God's love and provenance in our lives. We also sang about being God's hands on earth to feed His people. So SEJ was inspirational and energizing.

SEJ was also educational. I learned about the work of the Jurisdiction and the miracle of electing leaders on multiple ballots. It was gratifying to observe the high esteem in which the North Georgia Conference is held, as indicated by the election of multiple directors from our conference to the Women's Division board of directors.

As Saturday drew to a close, Bishop Violet Fisher urged us to add a leaf to God's table to make room for all who would come. After attending SEJ, the familiar story of the loaves and fishes has taken on new meaning. Beyond knowing what Jesus did, we are called to offer up to him what we have in service to others.

Thanks to the North Georgia Conference for awarding me a scholarship to experience SEJ. It was a unique Christian growth experience.

Bernadette Hartfield
CONFERENCE NOMINEES FOR 2013
To be voted on at Annual Meeting October 6, 2012

First Two-Year Term

Sue Raymond—ADOX
President
3291 Garmon Drive
Loganville, GA 30052
770-972-3399
sueraymond@bellsouth.net

Jackie Evans—ADOX
Secretary
5931 Yellowwood Court
College Park, GA 30349
404-552-8354
jacquelynaevans@gmail.com

Cathy White—GRFN
Education and Interpretation
161 Cook Drive
Ellenwood, GA 30294
770-474-7912
cbwhite@bellsouth.net

Irene Davis—ADOX
Membership Nurture and Outreach
3651 Tree Bark Trail
Decatur, GA 30034
404-286-8188
miltonijr@bellsouth.net

Linda Ladd—LAGR
Secretary Program Resources
325 Ridgemont Drive
Fayetteville, GA 30215
770-460-7142
lladd941@comcast.net

Second Two-Year Term

Elaine Mathews—AGST
Treasurer
Elaine Mathews
324 North Rhodes Street
Union Point, GA 30669
706-817-3326
elainmathews@windstream.com

Members of the Committee on Nomination:
Class of 2013- 2015

Lucille Campbell, Chairperson — LAGR
160 Hiett Court
Fayetteville, GA 30214
770-460-7394 lucycampbell@comcast.net

Debora Constable—ADOX
2456 Kentwell Lane
Decatur, GA 30035
770-593-0676 villacaceres@yahoo.com

Sandra Clark — AMAR
3943 Evans Drive
Lithia Springs, GA 30122
770-948-7183 devereuxgirl@bellsouth.net

Cathy Ferguson—AGST
127 Little River Run South
Eatonton, GA 31024
478-968-0600 cathyferguson@mindstream.net

Eloise Sykes—ACPK
340 Peyton Place S W
Atlanta, GA 30311
404-691-0832 sykes340@att.net

Michelle VerSteeg—GNVS
P.O. BOX 360
Flowery Branch, GA 30542
770-965-5125 michelleversteeg@att.net

Martha Guy—LAGR
P.O. BOX 1081
Newman, GA 30263
770-251-1984 marthaguy@bellsouth.net
Global Health Action Reaches Out to China’s Left-behind Children

By Robin C. Davis, RN, MN
Executive Director, Global Health Action

The number of left-behind children continues to grow throughout China as parents become part of the increasing “floating” population, moving from the rural to the urban areas to earn a living wage for their families. Children are left behind where they are registered and eligible to attend public school.

In 2009, there were 211 million adults in China’s “floating population”, leaving 58 million children behind in rural areas. Lupu Township in rural Funing County of Jiangsu Province has 51,700 registered adults and over 16,000 of them have migrated to the big cities for work. They leave their children with elderly grandparents or caretakers who typically avoid talking about aspects of adolescent physical, emotional or social development.

These children are at risk for sexual and adolescent health problems associated with neglect and a lack of adult guidance and information. Schools in rural China do not have a curriculum to address these issues. Teachers must play a critical role in the lives of these children, not just as educators, but additionally as guides, counselors, and surrogate parents.

Global Health Action, an approved UMW Supplementary Gifts mission agency, and its Chinese partners: the Nanjing International Training Center (NITC) and the Jiangsu Province Family Planning Association conduct this adolescent health education program to improve information, psycho-social support, and health care for vulnerable, left-behind, rural Chinese youth. The pilot phase will reach 1,500 youth, ages 11 to 15, in two rural schools and will include a training program for teachers, peer leaders, and community members, combined with an age-appropriate educational handbook and student curriculum in Chinese on adolescent health and life skills. GHA also supports private counseling and computer rooms at school for children to talk with their parents via free video chats. Otherwise, they only see each other twice a year during short national festivals.

Founded by United Methodist leaders Dr. Ada Fort and Miss Virginia Proctor, GHA has carried out its mission for 40 years to improve the health of individuals and communities around the globe. We deeply appreciate your continued prayers and support!

For more information, contact Robin C. Davis, GHA Executive Director at: Ph: 404-634-5748; gha@globalhealthaction.org; www.globalhealthaction.org.

LBC Training Workshop October 2011
Rome-Carrollton UMW Work Day Experience at Murphy Harpst Children’s Center
April 21, 2012

Rome-Carrollton UMW members from Anna Kresge Memorial, Aragon, Bethel-Gore, Golden Memorial, Hiram First and Rome First

On April 21st the Rome-Carrollton UMW had their first District Work Day Experience. They chose to work at Murphy Harpst Children’s Center (MHCC) in their District. The Saturday morning in April found seventeen UMW ladies coming together to clean and paint at MHCC. As a result of this work day it was learned that the guest cottage if revamped could be used for visitors, interns and other uses at MHCC. With the approval of Chuck Troutman, CEO of MHCC, the UMW took on this project and with donations from interested individuals, including the MHCC Auxiliary and UMW Units in both the Rome-Carrollton and Northwest Districts the cottage was updated and furnished with four twin beds, bedding, tables, chairs, lamps, curtains, art work and much more. The UMW proving once again if a task needs doing, with God’s help a way will be found to do it.

Interfaith Children’s Movement Launches Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking Campaign to Raise Awareness in the Hospitality Industry

Interfaith Children’s Movement has launched a state-wide campaign called, “Ask before you book,” to raise awareness within the interfaith community and the hospitality industry of the commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children in Georgia. The campaign asks faith communities to pose three basic questions to potential lodging facilities prior to booking their conference, convention, meeting or other activity:

- Does your company have a formal written policy in its annual report against human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children?
- Does your company provide annual anti-human trafficking/commercial sexual exploitation of children awareness and response training for its employees?
- Does your company include anti-human trafficking/commercial sexual exploitation of children messaging in each lodging facility’s brochures?

“ICM believes that if the interfaith community begins to ask these questions, then the hospitality industry will begin to respond with a movement towards making their lodgings safer places for all children,” says Pamela Perkins Carn, coordinator of the Interfaith Children’s Movement.

Studies have shown that anywhere from 250 to 500 girls are sold for sex each month in Georgia. The average age of entry for a child into the commercial sex trade is 12 - 14 years old. A 2010 study by The Shapiro Group, reported that on average, 7,200 men knowingly or unknowingly purchase adolescent females for sex each month in Georgia.

In 2011, metropolitan Atlanta possessed the seventh largest supply of U.S. hotel rooms. “Many of our children are victimized in the hotels, motels and other lodging facilities that highlight our cities’ skylines and populate our highways and communities. The hospitality industry can play a key role in arresting the continued victimization of our children,” said Perkins Carn.

The Interfaith Children’s Movement (ICM) is a Georgia-based, child advocacy, non-profit founded on the conviction that people of all faiths can, and must, work together — across boundaries of religious institutions and spiritual practices — to improve the lives and well-being of all children. ICM calls upon the thousands of faith communities to put their faith in action and bring their compassion and commitment to the fight against social inequities that threaten our children’s ability to realize their potential.

More information on this campaign can be found at www.interfaithchildrensmovement.org.
Hotel Accommodations for Annual Meeting
Evergreen Marriott Conference & Resort
4021 Lakeview Dr
Stone Mountain, GA
$109.00 per night if you book by September 14th

Stone Mountain Inn
888-670-2250
1058 Robert E Lee Dr   (Be sure to mention the UMW rate)
Stone Mountain, GA
$109.00 per night if you book by September 14th

There are other places to stay, but the UMW has contracted with this for special pricing. The price is good October 5th & 6th. Stay an extra night and enjoy Snellville.

Where to Eat
Join other United Methodist Women at Snellville.
If you having lunch with us, there are several restaurants in the area.

Meeting the Needs of Women, Children and Youth

By Sue Raymond,
NGC UMW
Mission Coordinator
What a blessing to be part of such a generous, giving organization of mission minded women! I was amazed at the outpouring of love at Annual Conference that allowed us to assemble 952 School Bags for UMCOR….with many supplies left over! Then at the Mission Education Event, the children’s class helped us assemble 120 more of the School Bags. Last year we did hundreds of birthing kits, so we have been able to help bring healthy babies into the world and now we have helped them to get an education as they grow older.

At our Annual Meeting, October 6, 2012 at Snellville UMC we will have the opportunity to minister to the needs of babies between the birthing kits and school bags. At Annual Meeting we will be collecting Layette Kits, which are one kits for which UMCOR has the greatest need. The Layette Kits consist of:

6 cloth diapers pre-folded or plain diapers only no disposable diapers
2 shirts undershirts or onsies
2 wash cloths infant size only no adult wash cloths
2 gowns or sleepers
2 diaper pins must have protective plastic closures no regular safety pins
1 sweater or jacket must open from the front may be hand knitted, crocheted or sewn hooded sweatshirts are acceptable

2 receiving blankets 30" x 30" or 32" x 32" sizes recommended, no crib blankets please

This is one of the more expensive kits to assemble, which is probably why they are so in demand. The most difficult item to find is the sweater. I am told that you can use a baby sweatshirt (up to 12 month size); cut down the center front and bind it with bias tape or ribbon. You can also find a very simple pattern on the UMCOR website for sewn, crocheted or knitted sweaters. You may also use any pattern that you already have for 12 month and under sizes.

If your unit cannot complete kits, or if you have extra supplies after assembling your kits, bring the extra items to Annual Meeting and we will have an assembly line at Officer Update and Leadership Training in November.

I have really enjoyed working with you this year to promote mission projects within the conference and have been continually amazed how creative and supportive you are in helping to meet the needs of women, children and youth here in our conference and around the world. I look forward to continuing to live out our PURPOSE with you in the future.

Blessings -- Sue

Directions:
From I-285 E take Exit 33B toward Greenville.
Go 6.9 mi and take Exit 102 Beaver Run Rd (GA 378E).
Go 3.7 mi and turn left onto Lawrenceville Hwy NW (US 29N).
Go 1.3 mi and take the ramp toward GA124/ Snellville.
Go .4 mi and merge onto Ronald Reagan Pkwy S. Go 5.9 mi and turn right onto GA124/Scenic Hwy SW.
Go 1.1 mi and turn right onto Main St W (US78W)
Go .3 mi to reach the church

(These directions per mapquest)
North Georgia Conference
United Methodist Women

Annual Meeting
Snellville UMC
2428 E Main Street
Snellville, GA 30078
770-972-9360

OCTOBER 6, 2012
9:30am – 2:00 pm

Annual Meeting Agenda:
8:30am – 9:30am — Registration
9:30am – 12:00 pm — Business Meeting
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm — Lunch
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm — Awards Luncheon

Free Childcare will be provided. Deadline to reserve is September 16, 2012. Please pack a lunch for each child.

Name ____________________________ Age: ____________________________
Dietary restrictions: ____________________________
Emergency Contact: ____________________________
See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; Isaiah 42:9 NRSV