

**Atlanta Marietta
District
Reach Out
Newsletter**



Summer 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE June 2013

Hello to all Atlanta Marietta District United Methodist Women!

June is already here, and the year is flying by! I hope that all of you are having a great year so far in your local unit of United Methodist Women as you are “Doing a New Thing” in support of our purpose as we are in mission to women, children, and youth.

Thanks so much to all of you for your participation in our AMAR District Hands-On Mission Project this spring. I have heard about so many wonderful projects that have been carried out including UMCOR School Kits, UMCOR Layette Kits, etc. Many of you collected items for Bethlehem Senior Center in Atlanta and visited the center to deliver the items and to help serve lunch. Some of you took desserts and served them to the seniors as you visited and played games with them. I had the privilege of visiting Bethlehem Senior Center with several members of our Executive Team. What a great time we all had as we worked together to serve and visit with the seniors! Thanks to everyone for your participation!

On April 28, 2013, our Atlanta Marietta District UMW Executive Team met at Powers Ferry United Methodist Church. We had some great reports from our members, and we worked on some exciting plans for upcoming events. Our treasurer, Nadine Lacy, presented our budget and discussed finances for our district. Thanks to all of our officers for their service to our AMAR District!

The Spiritual Growth Retreat which was held at Simpsonwood Retreat Center on May 3-4, 2013, was outstanding. Bishop Violet Fisher challenged all of us with her inspiring messages. Our Hands-On Mission Project was assembling School Kits and Layette Kits for United Methodist Committee on Relief. We had several ladies in attendance from our district. Everyone had a great time in spite of the rainy, soggy weather.

Many of our AMAR UMW members will be attending our North Georgia UMC Annual Conference in Athens, Georgia, from June 11-13. The UMW breakfast will be held on

Wednesday, June 12, at 7:00. We are looking forward to hearing reports of the great work that is being carried out by the United Methodist Women in the North Georgia Conference.

Thanks so much to all of you for your help and your participation in the Hands-On Mission Project for Annual Conference this year!! Your extreme generosity and your fervent participation in this project are greatly appreciated! Our district was asked to bring 30-45 gallon size trash bags for the UMCOR Cleaning Buckets that will be assembled by those attending the Annual Conference. Attendees will donate \$5.00 and will receive a bucket which they will fill with cleaning supplies to be distributed by United Methodist Committee on Relief as needed during natural disasters, etc. Thank you again for your hard work on this important project!

Have you registered yet for the 2013 Mission u to be held at Athens First UMC in Athens, Georgia, on July 19-20, 2013? Please register now by going on the website at www.ngumw.org to get further information about registration. You can also contact Ann Orr at 706-937-3353. The Spiritual Growth study is: The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly
The Geographic study is: The Roma of Europe
The Social Issue study is: Poverty
We hope that many of you will be able to attend this exciting and informative event.

On September 21, 2013, we will have our AMAR UMW 20-30-40 EVERYBODY! event at Smyrna First UMC. Please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. Fran White, our Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator, is making great plans for a very fun-filled, exciting day. Be sure to register and to bring several people with you!

DATES TO REMEMBER

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|--------------------|--|
| July 19-20, 2013 | Mission u Event at Athens First UMC |
| September 21, 2013 | AMAR District 20-30-40 EVERYBODY! Event at Smyrna First UMC |
| October 5, 2013 | North GA Conference UMW Annual Meeting at Douglasville First UMC |
| October 20, 2013 | AMAR UMW District Annual Meeting at Acworth UMC |
| November 9, 2013 | AMAR District UMW Leadership Training at St. Andrew UMC |

April 25-27, 2014 United Methodist Women's Assembly in Louisville, KY

Thank you so much for all of your service and dedication to United Methodist Women. We are looking forward to seeing you at our district and conference events. Please let me know if you have questions or need any assistance.

May God bless you in all that you do!

Carolyn Lee Wilson
President, Atlanta Marietta District UMW
770-427-6840
CLW770@bellsouth.net

Vice President's Message

Summertime can be very busy, but it is also one of the best times to make some time for rest. In our pastor's Summer Break sermon series, in daily devotional materials, in random articles and posts, I find that I am not the only one in need of rest. That can be physical rest, rest in safe community, and, ultimately, rest in the Lord.

I encourage all of us to schedule, yes schedule, some time for rest for our spirits as well as for our bodies. As we drove home from vacation I found myself getting worked up about whether anyone would come to our June unit meeting. The hostess was ready, planning for us on top of other commitments. Would anyone come? Would anyone bother? Did it matter if we met? As has happened repeatedly this year, my tired negativity was healed as one after another the nine gals arrived. They carried with them trash bags for annual conference, diapers for the Violence Center, and materials to assemble into birthing kits destined for Haiti. They carried with them the need for sisterhood in Christ, for a safe place to unburden their hearts and to share their joys. They carried with them the need to laugh in a faith filled perspective. I was so glad we met. Yes, it mattered. It matters when we seek to bring our groups together to serve. It also matters very much that we come together to rest in the Lord.

Schedule some time for yourself to rest this summer, too. I find that if I don't schedule time to rest and play, it does not happen. There is still room at Mission U, and time to schedule 20,30,40 Everybody in September. You might rest there. When you catch yourself resting, stop and identify the feeling. Let's find ways to make it happen more often for ourselves and for our groups. Thanks. Best wishes.

Sylvia Robertson, Vice President

Treasurer

Whew! Our second quarter remittances are done and filed away. Thank you all for the great job you have done with your Unit's support of our many mission efforts. You are all so appreciated.

I will be sending out your Unit's status as far as your giving by the first of July. Our third quarter is a different kind of quarter since it is only 2 months. We need to do this in order to get all the names in for the Conference book. If you need to know your status before you receive yours, please feel free to call or email and I will be glad to help. Many of you have already achieved 5 star plus status which is wonderful. If any of you have questions about what you need to accomplish to do this, please call or email me.

I thank God for each of you because there is so much need right in our backyard these days and I am so glad that as United Methodist Women, we can stand together and help these situations.

As I have said before, I love serving as your District treasurer since I get to work with you wonderful ladies. Remember, I am always here if you need information or I can help you in anyway.

Blessings,

Nadine Lacy, District Treasurer

Historian

Please send me pictures or updates on what your UMW Unit is doing. I cannot maintain the history of the District without your help. The Conference Historian has three goals set for this year. The first was to select someone from our District to honor. I chose Louise Young and Sandra Clarke. A book was made of all the Districts honorees and distributed at the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Simpsonwood in May.

The second one is a poster for the UMW Breakfast. The only pictures I have to put on the poster are the ones I took.

I would like to include all the units. We will have do something toward the end of year. I am not sure what it will be. I'm reasonably sure it will require pictures and stories. So please help with your information.

Evelynn Herring
Atlanta Marietta Historian
herringe@charter.net
1401 Dogwood Circle SE
Smyrna, GA 30080
770 435 3048

Education & Interpretation

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer with the inevitable change in schedules with children or grandchildren around. If you're planning vacations, I hope you will have safe travel and wonderful times that will give you memories for years to come.

One event coming up, of course, is the Mission U event in Athens. I hope many of you have already registered and are looking forward to a terrific study. There are many good studies this year:

Spiritual Growth: The Call: Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly;

Geographic: The Roma of Europe;

and Social Issue: Poverty.

These are all wonderful studies with fantastic study leaders. This will be my sixth year going. I'm looking forward to the study and seeing many familiar faces. For those who are going, I would appreciate your feedback on the study you attended.

I had the privilege of attending Annual Conference in Athens June 11-- 13. One of the highlights for me was the report of the United Methodist Women by Conference UMW President, Sue Raymond. As Sue listed the many things UMW has done or been a part of this past year, I was very proud to be a part of this wonderful organization that does so much for women and children. She mentioned how we collect soup labels, box tops and pull tabs that directly benefit many. Each one of you should be proud of the part you play. Each time you clip a label, box top or save a pull tab, know that you are making a difference.

God bless each and every one of you as you continue to do the wonderful work of UMW.

Blessings,
Lynda Teague
Education & Interpretation

Social Action- ADULT (ELDERLY) ABUSE

Saturday, June 15, 2013, was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. On that day communities all over the world was encouraged to sponsor events to highlight the growing tragic issue of elderly abuse. The U.S. Administration on aging estimates that as many as 5 million seniors are abused or neglected a year in the United States. More information on this issue is to be found on www.ncea.aoa.gov or Cobb Police. Any suspicious activities pertaining to this which would create doubt or awareness should be reported immediately to authorities(police).

After reading of this alarming problem I thought of my day of volunteering at the Bethlehem Senior Center in South Metro area. The area in which the building for this center and the building

itself reminded me of what I saw in Russia. The facility included a kitchen which was outdated and old but functional and in which we left our cookies there to be served later. The surprise was after we left the kitchen we entered a large room which was well lighted where much activity was taking place by the seniors, some were having conversations, others were playing different types of games and the feeling of togetherness was there with a very strong feeling.

The mixture of the gender was dominated by women, just a few men, a total of 40 in all. Our job as volunteers was to circulate around among the group with conversation. What I found out on this day was that this was a COUNTRY CLUB setting to them and they were HAPPY and Eager to come to this place each day.

Our next job was to serve lunch. It was mandatory that I wear hair net and plastic gloves. The BLACK hair net made my gray hair more obvious but in serving the lunch to these elderly people I felt like a teenager. (I hope there are not any pictures of me circulating or on Face book.)

At the end of the day we played games of finding the most books in the Bible based on a story and how many beans were in a special container. A special good bye and hugs were the final event before leaving this group of gracious people and we felt like no elderly abuse existed among this group, only good. The Volunteers had an uplifting feeling and hopefully joy was given to those elders.

Shirley McDurmont
Social Action

Upcoming Event at Bethany UMC

You're invited to an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Bethany United Methodist Church on July 14th from 3 to 5 P.M. We are having homemade ice cream and cookies and an opportunity to get to know each other as we fellowship around tables. We are using a beach theme so dress casually. If you would like to participate in our "white elephant gift" exchange, bring a gift that costs no more than \$5.00. This can be something you already have at home but don't need or you can buy a \$5.00 gift.

Bethany is having this afternoon to invite women of the church who are not members of the United Methodist Women for a time of getting to know each other. We thought it would be nice to have district officers and others who have been involved in UMW to be with us also.

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE ALL OF YOU JOIN US. Please let me or Diane Roberts know if you can join us.

Diane can be reached at 770-948-4841 or roberts428792@bellsouth.net and my cell phone # is 404-625-0480 or you can respond to this email. I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Athens next week at Annual Conference.

Louise Young

"Shine the Spotlight on Outstanding UMW Units."

Leland Qwest UMW

Leland Qwest UMC is delighted to have two United Methodist Women circles, The Friendship Circle and The Women of Grace. These wonderful groups of women ages range from twenty and up. We meet once a month as a circle and once a quarter as a unit. We take pride as a unit to fulfill our mission for Jesus Christ. Recently the Friendship Circle who has "Awesome Afternoon Time", met for lunch to wrap 200 silverware for the Must Ministries with a special bow attached. They also recently visited the Bethlehem Center to present 10 Walmart gift cards for special usage for the seniors. Both circles enjoy writing to our retired missionaries and reading books for the Reading Program. As a unit we make it a priority to read the Prayer Calendar, Response Magazines, the program book and most importantly meet our pledge to mission. Leland Qwest United Methodist Women are dedicated active women of God 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. We have so much in store for our growth towards mission for Jesus Christ. Please be in prayer for us as we continue to pray for you.

Tamara Askew

Leland Qwest UMW President

Marietta FUMC

Our Marietta FUMC ladies started the year with a treat at our first unit meeting with Suzanna Wesley (Roberta Gates) jumping into the future to visit and tell us about her life. Suzanna taught and encouraged her children to read so she wanted to emphasize the importance of our Reading Program to our women. In connection with this program, we collected children's books to distribute to The Atlanta Day Shelter, MUST, and Murphy Harpst. We were also delighted to host the Atlanta Marietta Haiti Mission Study in February.

On Good Friday, ten of our members prepared and served dinner at the Women's Extension. The ladies enjoyed eating and talking with one another. At our May Banquet, we recognized several people who serve God through our missions with Mission Pins, had a candle burning ceremony to remember our sisters we lost during the past year, and recognized ten new members.

Our eight circles have each taken on projects such as collecting clothes and making matching outfits for the women at The Women's Extension to wear to job interviews; making sewing kits, birthing kits, and flood buckets for UMCOR; purchasing \$5.00 gift cards from Walmart and Kroger for the Bethlehem Senior Center as part of the Hands-On Atlanta Marietta project for April; serving lunch at MUST; making Easter baskets for MUST; purchasing high chairs for a mission in Peru; donating change to Simple Needs Georgia; sending soldiers' boxes; and our newest circle is planning to serve a Sunday night supper at the Methodist Children's Home during August.

Circles vary in age and interest having programs like the World Thank Offering, reading books together for discussion, studying women of the Bible, having speakers come to talk about various mission ministries, and doing hands on activities for missions.

We are looking forward to the fall when the Redbird Mission will host a sale in our Family Life Hall on Saturday, October 12 and Sunday, October 13. They will have many beautiful crafts for sale that will benefit the artists who have made them. Everyone is welcome. We will also have our Café on that Sunday from 10:00AM-1:30PM. Proceeds from the Café help fund our End-of-Year Giving.

Cynthia Rigsby

President

Acworth UMW

Acworth UMW has been very busy this year. We have one very active Circle that meets the first Thursday night of each month at the church. We hosted a Human Trafficking program for the community that was presented by Ms. Marilee Gibson of the North Georgia Law Enforcement Training Academy in Cobb County. Several of us attended the Haiti Mission Study in February. In June, our Executive Committee Vice President, Kay Jones, attended the North Georgia Conference and she delivered the trash bags that we had collected for UMCOR.

Several of our ladies are participating in the MUST ministry lunch program, soup ministry for those who need encouragement, prayer circle, UMW Reading program, Baby Sunday certificates and AUMC Family Promise partnership. Some of our ladies have joined with our Missions team

in traveling to Murphy Harpst and serving lunch and delivering Bibles to the children and staff. We also have a group of ladies that make quilts for cancer patients.

In May, the UMW hosted a ladies luncheon. Our very own, Emily Chiravalotti, was our speaker. Emily is a young lady who has inspired all of us at our church by overcoming incredible odds by surviving an illness that almost cost her life. Emily shared with us how her faith kept her going. Our female youth worked alongside the UMW ladies serving the attendees. The UMW donated \$100 to Children's Healthcare of Atlanta in Emily's name and some funds to our youths' Mission trip account. This fellowship provided ladies of all ages the opportunity to enjoy each other's company.

In September, we will have a World Thanks Offering. Everyone is invited. More information will be posted later. Also in September, our Associate Pastor, Linda Burchall and some of our UMW and their spouses will travel to Baldwin, LA for Sager Brown.

Becky Tyler

President



2013

20-30-40-EVERYBODY EVENT

“DOING A NEW THING”

SMYRNA FIRST UMC

1315 Concord Road, S.E.

Smyrna, Georgia 30080

SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

9:00 A.M. UNTIL 1:00 P.M.

770-436-4108

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Church _____ District _____

Emergency Contact _____

Special Needs _____

Check Age Group: ____ Teen ____ 20 ____ 30 ____ 40 ____ 50+

First time attending UMW 20, 30, 40, Everybody Event? ____ Yes ____ No

Are you a guest of the District? ____ Yes ____ No

Cost \$10.00 (includes registration and lunch)

Make check payable to Atlanta Marietta District UMW.

THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 6, 2013 (NO REFUNDS)

Forward completed form with check to the Registrar:

Fran White

863 Plainville Cir., SW

Atlanta, Ga. 30331

Phone: 404-691-2564

Email: franwhite2@aol.com

Free Child Care will be provided. The child care reservation deadline is September 6, 2013. Please pack a lunch for each child.

Name _____

Age _____

Dietary Restrictions _____

Emergency Contact _____

Please check two choices below:

____ Identity Theft

____ Healthy Living

____ Human Trafficking

REGISTRATION WILL BEGIN AT 8:30 A.M.

