



Montgomery-Prattville District UMW

# The Messenger's Flame

Fall, 2009

## *District Officers*

### **President**

Bev Snyder

### **Vice President**

June Carter

### **Secretary**

Nancy Russell

### **Treasurer**

Jackie Strickland

### **Program Resources**

Reba Wooten

### **Spiritual Growth**

Sue Brassel

### **Social Action**

JoAnn Ashley

### **Communications**

Cami Hacker

### **Membership, Nurture & Outreach**

Ella Mae Eggers

### **Education & Interpretation**

Cathy Givan

### **Nominations Chair**

Kim Moore

### **Charter for Racial Justice**

Bonnie Shanks

## From the President



We had a wonderful District Annual Day at McKenzie UMC September 12. The UMW ladies put on a delicious brunch and lunch that we all enjoyed very much. We had a great turn-out and from the evaluations that were given, it was an event to be remembered. The butterfly is our district logo. Betty Helms installed our officers with a butterfly theme and the tables were decorated with flowers and butterflies with no coordination between us. Coincidence or a God thing?

Kim Moore prepared the many certificates that were presented to our members. Beth Bowdin sent certificates for Charter for Racial Justice. Congratulations to both the units and individuals who received them.

Rev. Dr. Philip McVay, our district superintendent, gave an inspiring and challenging talk. We are too often "silos" and need to remember to reach out to not only other UMW units, but to the circles within a unit. He took an SUV load of goodies for Nellie Burge - an idea that had been presented to us by Karen McVay.

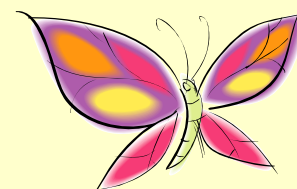
Some units have sent in their ways of "Turning the World Upside Down" in the area of food safety and related topics. They ranged from raising gardens, preserving food, recycling, studies of cooking from the past with putting together a cookbook, and a trip to Petals from the Past buying plants for landscaping their church. Let's hear from more units about what they are doing.

September 1, 2009, through August 31, 2010 is the year for counting your mission studies, reading programs, mission today activities, social actions, and racial justice. Don't wait until the end of the year and try to remember all you did - you will forget some important items. Jackie Strickland, treasurer, takes our funds by the calendar year so you have until November 15 to send in your money for 2009.

For those of you who buy Yoplait - the pink tops are back! Please turn them in to your units for forwarding to the company. Each top is worth 10 cents toward breast cancer research and must be sent in by the end of the year. Let Joann Ashley, Social Action, know how many you collect.

I'll see you at Conference Annual Day, October 31, 2009.

Bev



# **Come to the Table to Nurture, to Serve, and to Share**

## **37th Annual Day**

### **October 30-31, 2009**

**Friday check-in begins at 4 PM with dinner at 5 PM and an officer update at 6 PM.**



**Saturday check-in begins at 8:30 in the gym.**

**Please make plans to join together with women from all over our conference as we share our accomplishments and look forward to a blessed 2010.**

### **Millbrook First's Mission Event**

Onai Chitiyo, originally from Zimbabwe, was the guest speaker at a Mission Event at Millbrook First United Church sponsored by the Doris Cobb Circle. Forty-two people were in attendance from seven area churches.



Mr. Chitiyo came to the United States in 1999 and his family in 2000. After furthering his education and teaching in several states, he now teaches geography at Alabama State in Montgomery. He, his wife, Etinah, and children, Brian and Ruth, live in Elmore and are members of the Millbrook Church.

He shared many interesting facts about the country of Zimbabwe and the influence of the Methodist Church. Even though the English-speaking Zimbabwe is 95% Christian, there is a shortage of bibles for the people. As a follow-up of his presentation, it was decided that bibles and money would be collected to send to the people.

### **2010 Officer Information**

As your units install new officers for the 2010 year, please provide a list of the officers to include the position, name of officer, officer's address and telephone number, and email address, if available. This information should be sent to Cami Hacker at 1833 Norman Bridge Road, Montgomery, AL 36104 or at montprattumw@yahoo.com. If your officers are not changing from the 2009 year, please let Cami know this as well. In order to have the directory completed and ready for printing, all information should be submitted no later than Friday, December 11, 2009.

UMW Education (cont)

*Appropriation of Funds*

UMW funds are disbursed for

- Fostering growth in the Christian faith, mission education, and Christian social involvement.
- Building a supportive community among women and enabling their participation in church and society.
- Caring for the needs and concerns of women, children, and youth.

- Advocating for the oppressed and dispossessed.
- Interpreting the PURPOSE of UMW.

Some of the properties owned and supported by the UMW include

- Community Centers, Residences for Women, and Child Care Centers
- The Service Center
- The Church Center for the United Nations
- The Scarritt-Bennett Center
- Alma Matthews House

The undesignated giving of UMW accounts for the largest single source of funds for the total General Board of Global Missions budget. These undesignated funds are appropriated for the total program and operation of the Women's Division. Funds are also appropriated to other units of the General Board to continue ministries to women, children, and youth.

Next newsletter:  
Growing

United Methodist Women Assembly 2010

April 30-May 2, 2010  
St. Louis, MO

United Methodist Women assemble every four years to celebrate, to lift up, to learn, and to return to their communities better equipped for mission. Assembly 2010 has been themed: "Faith. Hope. Love in Action." Chosen because it encapsulates the 140 year history of United Methodist Women, it says everything about what is happening on the ground today, and is the momentum for decades to come. Faith. Hope. Love in Action is the energy that moves through each woman that has pledged her time for service through United Methodist Women. More information regarding Assembly workshops, exhibits, speakers and programs can be found online at [www.umwmission.org](http://www.umwmission.org). Betty Helms (334-794-2172, 334-790-8962, bhelms1@centurytel.net) is the AWF Assembly contact person. A bus is going from AWF, and a block of rooms has been reserved. Contact Betty Helms or Bev Snyder, District President, for more information.

Upcoming Events

October 31-31, 2009 ..... District Officer Update and Annual Meeting at Blue Lake

February 6, 2010 ..... Food and Faith Mission Study in the morning and District Leadership Training in the afternoon at Millbrook FUMC

February 26-27, 2010..... Tapestry in Pensacola, FL



**MONTGOMERY-PRATTVILLE DISTRICT UMW**

C/O Whitfield Memorial United Methodist  
2673 Fisk Road  
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***Purpose of the United Methodist Women***

*The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women 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.*

**Financial Reminders**



The cutoff date for the 2009 Pennies for Missions is October 10. Any money received after this date will be applied to next year's campaign.

The cutoff date for the end of year (4th quarter) reporting is November 15.

Thanks for all of your participation in the 5 star program for missions giving.

If you have questions or need any financial information, please contact the district treasurer, Jackie Strickland.