

February 2008

Issue 1



# The Call

Tennessee Conference United Methodist Women

## Reaching for the Stars

Joyce Clark

Reaching for the stars" is our Membership Theme. One of my favorite hymns for Epiphany is "We Three Kings". The chorus reads: O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light. As 2008 begins, the Tennessee Conference United Methodist Women seek the guidance of God's star as it leads us in making mission happen.

Star of wonder - United Methodist Women have been involved in missions with Women, Children and Youth for 138 years. Many did not think that the women who started raising money to send girls to school and give medical treatment to women and children around the world could really get the work done. After 138 years, people still wonder how so much work is done with the money received by United Methodist Women. Could it be like that "star of wonder" - God's guidance!! Star of light - visiting around the Tennessee Conference I see so many "Stars of light". The local units of the Tennessee Conference light up faces of children by sharing time, money and love with those in need.

Perfect light - God's light is always perfect. It is up to each of us to let God's guidance lead us in our ministries in 2008.

The Tennessee Conference United Methodist Women will make "Mission Possible" in the following ways in 2008.

- \* **Our Birthday Dollars for 2008** will be sent to **Red Bird Mission**.
- \* The offering at the **Spiritual Life Retreat 2008** will be for Miriam's Promise. (Miriam's Promise provides education, counseling, home studies, placement, and post-placement services for couples wanting to adopt.)
- \* **Christian Mission Event** offering will be **Mission Giving**
- \* The offering at our **Annual Meeting 2008** will go to **Bethlehem Centers of Nashville**. (BCN promotes self-reliance and positive life choices for children, teens, adults, seniors and families in Middle Tennessee by delivering and advocating quality programs and services. Empowering families to build better lives, and better communities.)
- \* Extra mile giving **Sadie Tillman Scholarship Fund** at Martin Methodist.

Come and join the United Methodist Women of the Tennessee Conference as we "Reach for the Stars" with God's light to guide us.

**Remember to check our web site.**

<http://www.gbgn-umc.org/tnconfumw/>

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## Is Your Newsletter Lost?

Berta Perkins, Editor

It is difficult to keep updated records of all current local, district and conference officers. If you are getting The Call and are no longer an officer, please let me know whom the correct recipient should be. Our aim is to send The Call to each President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman of each circle in all local units.

When you get The Call, please pass it along to others in your unit or circle. Make as many copies as you need or take time in your meetings to give out information about upcoming events, which would be important to all members. Don't assume that everyone knows what is happening on conference level. The more informed we are, the better we can function as the United Methodist Women. **Let's make this the best year ever.**

5520 Saddlewood Lane, Brentwood, TN 37027 Phone: 615-373-2915 E-mail: fhp3032@aol.com

## The Icing on the Cake

Joy Lewter

Education & Interpretation

Finance Interpretation: The Icing on the Cake is the title of a program in the 2008 program book, Publish Glad Tidings! This program tells us that Cake Icing is sweet and good but if we were to eat the whole can, we would be sick and not be able to eat the cake. Gail Losch, the author, makes the comparison of the un-iced cake as Mission Giving and icing as designated giving. Special projects are great, sweet like icing. But without the cake, mission giving, there is no purpose for the icing. United Methodist Women are all about missions and we give our money knowing that as a need arises Mission Giving funds need to be ready for that need. I hope that all of the UMW units will consider having a program using "Financial Interpretation: The Icing on the Cake". This program, along with others in the 2008 Program Book will help members understand the work that needs to be done and understand how programs and projects can be funded and improved.

Mission Today forms are on the Tennessee Conference UMW website. I hope you will look there: [www.gbgm-umc.org/tnconfumw](http://www.gbgm-umc.org/tnconfumw), and print those forms for your use. Remember local reports are due to the district officers of August 15. 2008 Mission Today reports will record activities beginning Jan. 1, 2008 and activities to be completed by Dec., 2008. The form asks the dates that activities were accomplished or are planned to be accomplished. Other reports, that local units are to send to district officers, are the

After receiving last years Mission Today reports, I realized that two problem areas are the requirements for "Charter for Racial Justice" and "Children's Sabbath". Let me suggest that you look to the web site for resources for programs on the "Charter for Racial Justice". And, I have been told that some units have a hard time scheduling a Sunday for Children's Sabbath and that some pastors or children's coordinators have not wanted UMW members to help with this Sunday. Let me remind you that Children's Sabbath is not the same thing as a Children's Sunday where the children perform or conduct the service. Children's Sabbath is a time when we learn about living conditions of children and problems that children experience, like information on state government web sites or getting a book from UNICEF. If there can not be a special Sunday set aside, this information could be given to the congregation in a bulletin insert or newsletter article. Resources from the county health departments, Department of Family Services or adoption agencies could be used to gather information or have persons from these agencies to speak. I am sure there are many other opportunities for Children's Sabbath, just use your creativity.

I wish for you a wonderful year as your unit works in God's world, helping women, children and youth.

## District Events in 2008

### Clarksville District

- Mar. 1 Spiritual Day Apart at Waverly UMC from 9am-12pm
- Apr. 26 District Mission Study at Hilldale UMC in Clarksville from 9am -2pm  
All three mission studies will be offered on this day. Pre-registration by March 17 is necessary
- Aug. 17 Intergenerational Event at Ft. Donelson UMC in Dover from 2-4pm
- Oct. 25 District Annual Meeting at Dickson UMC in Dickson from 9am-12pm

### Columbia District

- Feb. 16 District Executive Meeting 10am
- Feb. 16 Faith Lift at Centerville 2 pm
- Apr. 19 Partners in Mission at Ebenezer 6 pm
- Sept. 20 District Annual Meeting and Leadership Training at Hohenwald

### Cookeville District

- Feb. 2 Training for local unit officers. Mission Fair at Algood UMC at 9 am
- Mar. 29 Spiritual Growth Mission Study - Music and Mission at Cookeville 9 am
- Apr. 19 Day Apart 9:30 am Location to be announced
- Oct. 25 District Annual Meeting 9:30 am Location to be announced

### Cumberland District

- Feb. 2 District Local Unit Officer Training at Cook UMC
- Apr. 19 District Mission Study at Hermitage UMC & Executive Team Meeting
- Oct. 25 District Annual Meeting at Old Hickory UMC & Executive Team Meeting

### Murfreesboro District

- Feb. 20 Mission Study - Mission and Music, Lynchburg UMC
- Mar. 15 Day Apart, Hillsboro UMC
- May 17 Mission Study - Israel and Palestine, Lock's Kedron UMC
- Nov. 1 District Annual Meeting, Winchester UMC

### Nashville District

- Apr. 19 District Spring Meeting - Belle Meade UMC
- June 28 District Mission Study - East End UMC
- Sept. 27 District Fall Meeting - Forest Hills UMC

### Pulaski District

- Mar. 29 Spring Meeting and Local Officer Training - Horsecreek Sanctuary - 9:00 a m
- Aug 16 Mission Education Event - Coleman Memorial UMC 9:00 a m
- Oct. 18 District Fall Meeting - Waynesboro First UMC - 9:00 a m

**Your 2008 Mission Resource Catalog will be arriving soon.**

**Visit [www.missionresourcecenter.org](http://www.missionresourcecenter.org)**

**Call 1-800-305-9857**

## Intergenerational Event - March 8, 2008

Margaret Boyd, Vice President

You are "Called by Name" to come share in a day of hands on outreach at Bethlehem Centers of Nashville (BCN). We will have our Tennessee Conference United Methodist Women Intergenerational meeting there on March 8 from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

We will divide into four work groups that will be working on different projects:

1. Outside group doing gardening and clean-up work
2. Thrift Store (Shopping Bag)
3. Food Bank
4. Other inside work to be announced

All ages are encouraged to come and this is a day you can invite husbands and children to come also. Those of you who will be working outside should bring work gloves and maybe some gardening implements to supplement what they have there.

We will check in between 8:30 and 9:00 a. m. in the gymnasium and have a few moments of reflection and instruction at 9:00 before going with our respective groups. We will break for lunch at noon and then continue until 2:00 p.m.

BCN is in need of baby wipes, diapers, crayons and toys for their childcare program so we are asking our UMW ladies to help out by bringing one or more of those item.

There is a dedicated parking lot at BCN and bus parking is available on 15th Avenue side. Directions are as follows to Bethlehem Centers of Nashville, 1417 Charlotte Ave, Nashville, TN.

### **From Clarksville - I-24 - Take I-65S toward Huntsville/I-40W/Memphis**

Merge onto I-40E/I-65S toward Huntsville/Knoxville

Take Exit 209 - Charlotte Avenue - Merge onto 14th Ave. N

Turn right at Charlotte Ave. - BCN on Left - one block

### **From Hendersonville, Goodlettsville**

I-65 - Take I-65S toward Huntsville/I-40W/Memphis

Follow the above directions for Clarksville starting with Exit 209

### **From Pulaski, Columbia, Franklin**

I-65N - Merge onto I-40W/I-65N toward Louisville/Memphis

Take Exit 209 - Charlotte Ave. - Merge onto 13th Ave. North

Turn left at Charlotte Ave. Bethlehem Centers of Nashville on left - one block

### **From Cookeville, Crossville, Lebanon, Mt. Juliet**

I-40 - I-40W/I-65N toward Louisville/Memphis

Follow the above directions for Pulaski etc. starting with Exit 209

### **From Murfreesboro - I-24W - I-40W/I-65N toward Louisville/Memphis**

Follow the above directions for Pulaski, etc. starting with Exit 209

Remember our web site: [www.gbmg-umc.org/tnconfumw/](http://www.gbmg-umc.org/tnconfumw/)

Registration Form for March 8, 2008

Please fill out the registration form below and send to Judy Vecchione, Brick Church Pike, Goodlettsville, TN 37072 by March 3rd. We need to know how many we are having for each group. Registration is \$10.00 for adults. Children 7 and under, registration is \$5.00.

I John 3:17-18(NIV) If anyone.....sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear Children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

Philippians 2:3-4 tells us to look out for one another. God ministers to others through us when we serve those in need. The Lord is calling each of us by name to do our part in feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and providing for the needy. Help us to respond to others' needs, even, when it is not convenient.

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Registration for Intergenerational Event - March 8, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Work group interested in:

1. Gardening, clean up - outside \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Thrift Store \_\_\_\_\_

3. Food Bank \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Other inside work \_\_\_\_\_

\$10 enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ \$5 enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

Send before March 3 to: Judy Vecchione, 503 Brick Church Pk., Goodlettsville, TN 37072

## Conference Contacts for 2008

**President**

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**Dorothea Woods Class of 2009**

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(615) 895-3112  
E-mail dotwoods@comcast.net

**Gwendolyn Smith-Sales Class of 2009**

1264 Timberwood Dr., Gallatin, TN 37066  
(615) 452-6670  
E-mail gwen.sales@MNPS.org

**Helen Noffsinger Class of 2011**

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(615) 898-0301  
E-mail hgwn5@bellsouth.net

**Asieren R. Boyce Class 2011**

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E-mail arboyce@bellsouth.net

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**Vice President**

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**Treasurer**

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**Education & Interpretation Coordinator**

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**Secretary of Program Resources**

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**Glenda Smith Class of 2009**

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(615) 826-1887

**Millie Hansen Class of 2010**

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E-mail ehansen@igiles.net

**Karel Geller Class of 2011**

365 Grandview Dr., Sparta, TN 38583  
(931) 935-3440

**Dean, Mission Education Event**

Jerlean Bass  
4965 Alexia Dr., Antioch, TN 37013  
(615) 833-3533

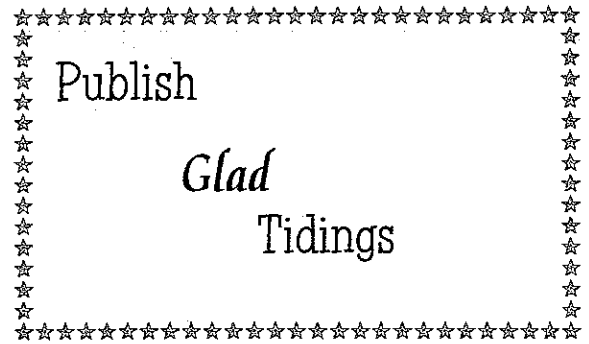
**Women's Division Director**

Kimi Brown  
1670 Sunset Rd, Brentwood, TN 37027  
(615) 776-2671

**The Conference Calendar**

- March 8\* Intergenerational Event  
Bethlehem Centers of Nashville
- March 17-18 Holy Week (Easter March 23)
- April 4-6 Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial  
Hampton, VA
- June 21-24 South Atlantic Regional School  
KY Wesleyan College Owensboro, KY
- July 16-19\* Christian Mission Education Event  
Scarritt Bennett
- Sept. 12-14\* Spiritual Enrichment Retreat  
United Methodist Assembly Grounds  
Beersheba Springs, TN
- October 11\* Annual Meeting - Columbia First
- Nov. 21-23 Conference Elected Officer Leadership  
Training - St. Louis, MO

\*Registration Required-Conference-wide event



**The Call** is mailed four times a year to the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer & Circle Leaders in each local unit. Please make sure a list of these current officers has been sent to the editor. **Please copy and distribute.**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PSRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
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NASHVILLE TN  
PERMIT NO. 125

*Tennessee Conference United Methodist Women*

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**Intergenerational Event  
March 8, 2008  
Registration Form Enclosed**

HELEN JOHNSON 413  
721 MCCARLEY AVE  
MADISON TN 37115-4139