

# DISTRICT DOINGS



## Athens-Elberton District United Methodist Women

Late Summer/Early Fall

2014

### **GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

This past month I had the opportunity and privilege of speaking with so many of the unit presidents and what a joy it was to hear some of the mission work going on in our district by our United Methodist Women. Thank you so much for your servanthood to our Lord by the efforts you put forth in your community, district, and conference. As you know together we make a difference, so thank you again. I am so proud to be a part of this wonderful organization of Christian women.

I would like to share this bit of information about the UMW Reading Program knowing that books can get expensive; I was told that some of the books are available at the public library. It is worth checking your local library to see if they have any of the books which interest you.

As we come toward the end of the year I would like to encourage you to make an effort to attend our Athens-Elberton District UMW Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 19 at St. James UMC in Athens. Also, the UMW North Georgia Conference Annual Meeting is Saturday, October 4. It will be held in our own Athens-Elberton District at Bethlehem UMC in Bethlehem. I do hope we can have a great many ladies who will attend from the Athens-Elberton District.

**We do need assistance with food for breakfast items for the Conference Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 4 at Bethlehem UMC. If your unit can assist please contact me @ 706-202-8873. There usually are 350 persons or more attending the meeting each year.**

Please remember to keep all the United Methodist Women in your prayers.

One of God's promises: Jeremiah 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"*.

Be Blessed and Be a Blessing!

**Esther Porter**

**District President**

Email: [abp30677@yahoo.com](mailto:abp30677@yahoo.com)



.....you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8 (NIV)

## THE TREASURER'S CENTS...

The 2014 UMW award year just closed July 31 and our district will have twenty Rainbow Women and fourteen Minute Women recognized at the Annual Meeting.

Our District candle for missions will burn for 23 minutes and 15 seconds during the candleburning ceremony and we will have thirteen Five Star Plus Units and one Five Minute Unit recognized this year.

Now that the Rainbow Women program has been phased out, it is extremely important for Local Treasurers to encourage members to give to the channels of giving which are:

- pledge to missions
- special mission recognition (pins honoring anyone of your choosing)
- gift in memory (cards)
- gift to missions (cards)
- world thank offering
- candleburning in honor / in memory

Our District participated in a local Ubuntu Day of Service making and filling 51 UMCOR school bags following our Lenten Day Apart service on March 15 at Tuckston UMC. We paid postage for each bag, purchased fabric for making some of the school bags, and gave a donation to UMCOR with funds donated by the units. Thanks to all who helped make this project happen!

I look forward to seeing you at upcoming UMW events – **Mini-Missions** at Winder 1<sup>st</sup> UMC on Saturday, September 20, **UMW Conference Annual Meeting** on Saturday, October 4 at Bethlehem UMC in Bethlehem, Georgia, and **District Annual Meeting** on Sunday, October 19 at St. James UMC in Athens.

Thank you for your commitment to the purpose of United Methodist Women and for making 2014 the success it was! *"...their JOY was so great that they were extremely generous in their giving..."*

II Corinthians 8:2

**Please note that my mailing address has changed** – not due to a move but due to US Postal Service changes. My new city and zip code are Watkinsville 30677. See the full address below.

Blessings,

**Kae Brown**

**District Treasurer**

**706-296-3483**

**Email: [kaebrown4@gmail.com](mailto:kaebrown4@gmail.com).**

**(1908 Orchard Circle, Watkinsville, GA 30677)**

## 2014 United Methodist Women District and Conference Calendar

(Athens-Elberton District Events in **BOLD**)

<b>Saturday, September 20, 2014</b>	<b>Mini Mission Event</b>	<b>Winder First UMC, Winder</b>
Saturday, October 4, 2014	UMW Annual Meeting	Bethlehem UMC, Bethlehem
<b>Sunday, October 19, 2014</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b>	<b>St. James UMC, Athens</b>
Saturday, November 1, 2014	Leadership Development	Smyrna UMC, Smyrna
<b>Saturday, November 15, 2014</b>	<b>District Leadership Training</b>	<b>Young Harris UMC, Athens</b>

**2014 ATHENS-ELBERTON DISTRICT UMW ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014**

**ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
111 WESTLAKE DRIVE - ATHENS, GEORGIA**



**REVEREND DEE DEE LAWSON**

**The Reverend Dee Dee Lawson**, *having the time of her life caught up in God's divine adventure, has served at United Methodist churches in: Stone Mountain, Loganville, Covington, Cartersville, and currently Princeton UMC in Athens.* Her areas of ministry have included: lead pastor, pastor of contemporary worship, congregational care, evangelism, missions, Bible studies, youth ministries and church administrator. Dee Dee holds a Bachelor's degree in Biblical Education from Beulah Heights University (Atlanta, GA) and a Masters of Divinity degree from Gammon Theological Seminary (ITC-Atlanta, GA). Prior to answering the call to ministry, Dee Dee worked twenty years for Seiko Corporation, where she held a number of leadership positions in sales, marketing, customer service, human resources, technology, and purchasing. Reverend Lawson grew up in a Navy family and spent her early years living in the Southeast and in Puerto Rico, her mother's native country. By her teenage years the family had settled in Decatur, GA. She and husband Gary Collins, a native Georgian and line foreman for Georgia Power, have four grown children: Jennifer, Bo, Chancey, and Tanner. In her spare time, Dee Dee enjoys water skiing, riding her bicycle, or just enjoying God's beautiful earth.

**Annual Meeting** is also the time when we recognize all the hard work that your local units have done in the name of United Methodist Women. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Haugen at **706-367-9984** or **[khaugen@windstream.net](mailto:khaugen@windstream.net)**. **THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2:00 P.M. WITH GATHERING AND REGISTRATION; FOLLOWED BY THE PROGRAM AT 3:00 P.M.**

***Looking forward to seeing you on October 19<sup>th</sup> at St. James UMC!!***

**You ARE Invited to Join and Participate in  
The Athens-Elberton District UMW Mini-Mission Event  
Saturday, September 20, 2014  
Winder First United Methodist Church - Winder, Georgia**

**A SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT THIS YEAR WILL BE A CHILDREN'S STUDY ALONG WITH THE OVERVIEW OF THE ADULT STUDIES.  
The Studies include:**



**Spiritual Growth: How Is It With Your Soul? - Led by Sara Worden** who has served in numerous leadership positions in her local church as well as on the district and conference levels. Sara has been a member of the United Methodist Women and its predecessor organization for over 50 years where she has served at the local, district, and conference levels. She has a heart for mission and is very much involved in her local church, Marietta First UMC. Currently, she serves on the UMC Housing and Homeless Council of the North Georgia Conference.

**Geographic Study: The Roma of Europe - Led by Kate Finch** one of our own from the Athens-Elberton District. Kate and her husband, Aubrey are retired educators who are active members at Tuckston UMC in Athens. Kate has served in numerous leadership positions at the local church and district levels with United Methodist Women and the United Methodist Church. She and Aubrey have four children and 12 grandchildren.

**Social Issue Study: The Church and People with Disabilities: Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy - Led by Jean Bouts** a wife, mother, and a retired math teacher. Jean joined the United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women when she was around 25 years old. Jean has held numerous positions in her local church, Wesley Way UMC in McDonough, and at the district level. Currently, she is in her fourth year as the Griffin UMW District Treasurer. Jean and her husband, Brian are the parents of two children; Jennifer, first born is married and their second child, Bruce is moderately retarded and continues to be a challenge. Jean loves the *Serenity Prayer: God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the Courage to change those things I can, and the Wisdom to know the difference.*

**The Study for Elementary Children, Welcoming Persons with Disabilities into Our Lives will be led by Lynne Wheeler, Athens-Elberton District UMW Mission Coordinator: Education and Interpretation.**

**A NURSERY WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN. SEPTEMBER 7, 2014 IS THE DEADLINE TO REGISTER CHILDREN FOR THE STUDY AND/OR NURSERY. PLEASE INCLUDE AGES AND GRADE LEVELS OF YOUR CHILDREN WHEN YOU CONTACT LYNNE WHEELER AT [wheelert@windstream.net](mailto:wheelert@windstream.net) OR BY PHONE 706-757-2667**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR:  
Mini-Mission Event – Saturday, September 20, 2014 @ Winder First UMC  
Gathering & Registration 9:00 A. M. - Program will follow at 10:00 A. M.**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT WINDER 1<sup>ST</sup> UMC SEPTEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>!**

## YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN A SPECIAL HOLY LAND TOUR OPPORTUNITY



*with educational opportunities for all in*

**January 2015!** Tuckston United Methodist Church members and hostess Anita Dean will be touring the Holy Land with Reverend Diane Shedd and members of the Valdosta First United Methodist Church. The 10-day trip departs on January 12, 2015. For more info, please contact Anita Dean at: [ahhweber@gmail.com](mailto:ahhweber@gmail.com) or phone Anita at 706-850-0113.

**BOOK EARLY FOR AVAILABLE DISCOUNTS!**



### READING PROGRAM NEWS!

The Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work. *Interested?* For more information on the **UMW Reading Program** please contact Anita Dean at **706-850-0113** or by email at [ahhweber@charter.net](mailto:ahhweber@charter.net).

**Look for and pay a visit to the Program Resources (Reading Program) table at the Mini-Mission Event, September 20 and the District Annual Meeting, October 19.**



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.

## 2014 DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Esther Porter	1111 Summit Circle, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-0699	<a href="mailto:abp30677@yahoo.com">abp30677@yahoo.com</a>
Vice President	Dr. Kay Haugen	131 Ridgewood Lane, Jefferson, GA 30549	706-367-9984	<a href="mailto:khaugen@windstream.net">khaugen@windstream.net</a>
Secretary	Kim Griffith	151 Middleton Place, Athens, GA 30606	706-202-2189	<a href="mailto:kimgriffith@bellsouth.net">kimgriffith@bellsouth.net</a>
Treasurer	Kae Brown	1908 Orchard Circle, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-296-3483	<a href="mailto:Kaebrown4@gmail.net">Kaebrown4@gmail.net</a>
Spiritual Growth	Beth Beeson	112 Summerplace Drive, Winterville, GA 30683	706-899-0055	<a href="mailto:bcsastt@aol.com">bcsastt@aol.com</a>
Program Resources	Anita Dean	235 Woodgrove Drive, Athens, GA 30605	706-850-0114	<a href="mailto:ahhweber@charter.net">ahhweber@charter.net</a>
Membership, Nurture, & Outreach	Shirley Breedlove	1865 Nunnally Farm Rd, Monroe, GA 30655	770-267-6842	<a href="mailto:Breedlove6842@windstream.net">Breedlove6842@windstream.net</a>
Social Action	Lynn Flanagan	1701 Union Church Rd, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-7582	<a href="mailto:dl_flanagan@yahoo.com">dl_flanagan@yahoo.com</a>
Education & Interpretation	Lynne Wheeler	2274 Old Kings Bridge Rd, Nicholson, GA 30565	706-757-2667	<a href="mailto:wheelert@windstream.net">wheelert@windstream.net</a>
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Communications	Pam Ward	141 Rabbit Run Road, Nicholson, GA 30565	706-757-2531	<a href="mailto:pward@uga.edu">pward@uga.edu</a>
Historian	Kate Finch	P. O. Box 515, Lexington, GA 30648-0515	706-743-3586	<a href="mailto:kacefin@aol.com">kacefin@aol.com</a>
<b>COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:</b>				
Chair	Betty Sartain	7298 Hwy 29 N, Danielsville, GA 30633	706-795-2047	<a href="mailto:maxbetsartain2004@yahoo.com">maxbetsartain2004@yahoo.com</a>
Committee Members	Helen Jordan	1021 Travis Drive, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-6951	<a href="mailto:hjordan@uga.edu">hjordan@uga.edu</a>
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<b>ZONE LEADERS:</b>				
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The ***District Doings*** newsletter is a publication of the Athens-Elberton District United Methodist Women. Its goal is to keep units at the local/congregation level informed about opportunities for living out the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women as well as upcoming events in the district and conference. It is published quarterly and emailed to all unit leaders, unit members, and former District Officers per request. It is also emailed to the local UMC district office, and North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women leaders. All articles and/or photographs for publication should be directed to [pward@uga.edu](mailto:pward@uga.edu) or Pam Ward, 141 Rabbit Run Road, Nicholson, GA 30565.



The next issue of *District Doings* will be published Friday, October 17, 2014. Articles and/or photos are due on or before Friday, October 10, 2014.