

DISTRICT DOINGS



Athens-Elberton District United Methodist Women

Late Winter/Early Spring

2014

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year, Sisters in Christ.

As we begin 2014, with a theme of "Making it Happen" let us look forward to a great year in the Athens-Elberton District. As I reflect on the past year I give thanks and praise to our Lord Jesus Christ for all of you. I especially thank the district officers who are serving again this year for their love and dedication to the United Methodist Women and our district. We have several that have chosen to take other responsibilities, we thank them for the service given to our district. We have a new board member, Kate Finch, who will be serving as our Historian. Thank you so much for answering the call.

In my studies this week, Ephesians 6:10-18 has been on my heart and I ask you to read the scripture. Be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. We must do this every morning to be able to face the day. With this armor we can face all that confronts us in our daily lives. If we gird our loins with truth, put on the breastplate of righteousness, shod our feet with the preparation of peace, take up the shield of faith, put on the helmet of salvation we can "Make it Happen".

We had our first district board meeting in January and it was decided that our District Service Project would be to assist Tuckston United Methodist Women in completing school bags, by filling them with the items furnished and getting them ready to ship to

UMCOR. We will be filling 50 bags, and this event will take place after our Lenten Day Apart service at Princeton United Methodist Church on March 15th. Lunch will be furnished for the volunteers that stay and assist with the project. We have the sandwiches being made by one of the units, we do need chips, cookies and drinks. If your unit can assist with this please contact me at (706) 202-8873 or at abp30677@yahoo.com. If your unit is unable to assist with the project and would like to give a donation that would be great also. This would help with the shipping of the school bags.

As we go into 2014 the opportunities are endless. We cannot be involved in everything, but do commit now to expanding your concept of mission in 2014. The conference will be having "Faith, Fun and Everyone Event" on March 8th at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in McDonough, GA. We will have the opportunity to enjoy one another's company, and to learn more about mission opportunities closer to home and how we can be involved. The workshops focus on Spiritual Growth as well as financial planning, hands on mission, and prayer beads.

The 19th quadrennial Assembly of United Methodist Women, will be April 25-27, 2014 at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, Ky. If you are interested in going please contact me.

Stay strong and protected, be blessed, and be a blessing.

Esther Porter, District President

THE TREASURER'S CENTS...

I hope you found the **2014 District Officers' Training Event** in November 2013 helpful. We had an informative meeting at Tuckston United Methodist Church. There was new information to share about the new treasurers' forms and manual in keeping with our theme for this year **"Making It Happen."** If you were not able to attend the training and would like to receive the new forms and manual, please contact me at kaebrown4@gmail.com or call at 706-296-3483. These new forms help make your job as Treasurer much easier.

I am pleased to report that the Athens-Elberton District gifts to missions through all channels of giving were excellent and our District not only met but exceeded its pledge to the Conference. **THANK YOU for Making It Happen!!**

We will not have a separate sacrificial giving this year but the Conference asks that you consider extra supplemental giving to our National Mission Institutions

in North Georgia with your quarterly pledge remittances.

I look forward to seeing you March 15th at **Lenten Day Apart** at Princeton United Methodist Church in Athens. I will have **Gift to Missions cards** available at the Resources table. This is a wonderful way to celebrate a special occasion or honor a special person with a gift to missions. The minimum cost is \$5.00 per card and proceeds go to missions.

Blessings,
Kae Brown, District Treasurer
706-296-3483
kaebrown4@gmail.com.



Easter is just around the corner, and I know we are still feeling the cold weather. So put **March 15, 2014** on your calendar for a day apart from your busy world. Spend some time having some coffee and treats, visiting with a friend. Enjoy the special time of worship we have planned for just a time like this. Set this Easter season apart to spend time with God and your fellow sisters in Christ.

Reverend Diane Shedd will be giving our message and Princeton United Methodist Church is hosting our event. So drop whatever you are doing and come out and enjoy the morning.

Let's get ready to celebrate the season together.

PLEASE SEE OUR SPECIAL PAGE IN THIS ISSUE ON LENTEN DAY APART – HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

Beth Beeson, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

ATHENS-ELBERTON DISTRICT UMW

LENTEN DAY APART AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

Saturday, March 15, 2014 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Princeton United Methodist Church

2390 South Lumpkin Street – Athens, GA (<http://www.princetonumcathensga.org/>)

The 2014 Theme is “***MAKING IT HAPPEN***”

Guest Speaker: ***REVEREND DIANE SHEDD***



REVEREND SHEDD IS ASSOCIATE PASTOR AT VALDOSTA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Registration and Fellowship – 9:00 a.m.

(Program Resources, Reading Program Books Available For Purchase)

Worship – 10:00 a.m.

(District Service Project to follow Lenten Day Apart Service. Please see Esther Porter’s “Greetings from the President” for details.)

For more info, please contact Beth Beeson, District Spiritual Growth Coordinator

at 706-899-0055 or bcsatt@aol.com



Looking forward to seeing you on Saturday, March 15th for Lenten Day Apart!

2014 United Methodist Women District and Conference Calendar (Athens-Elberton District Events in **BOLD**)

March 8, 2014	Faith, Fun, Everyone (Formerly 20-30-40 Something)	Wesley Chapel UMC, McDonough
March 15, 2014	Lenten Day Apart District Work Day Following Service	Princeton UMC, Athens
April, 2014	Ubuntu Service Day (Mission Work Experience)	(To be determined in each District)
April 25-27, 2014	UMW Assembly	Louisville, Kentucky
May 3, 2014	Executive Committee Meeting	Antioch UMC, Nicholson
June 10 -12, 2014	NGC Annual Conference	Classic Center, Athens
June 11, 2014	UMW Breakfast	Classic Center, Athens
July 17-19, 2014	Mission "u"	Athens First UMC
September 20, 2014	Mini Mission Event	Winder First UMC, Winder
October 4, 2014	UMW Annual Meeting	Bethlehem UMC
October 19, 2014	Annual Meeting	St. James UMC, Athens
November 1, 2014	Leadership Development	Smyrna UMC
November 15, 2014	District Leadership Training	Young Harris UMC, Athens



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.



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

LOCAL UNIT NEWS FROM ACROSS THE DISTRICT...

LOVE in ACTION

CHAPELWOOD UNITED METHODIST WOMEN, held a very **SUCCESSFUL SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER**, Sunday, February 9, in the Fellowship Hall. It was **AN OLIVE GARDEN EXPERIENCE!** Ladies of the church donated their favorite recipes of spaghetti sauce and delicious desserts. Church members enjoyed second helpings while helping to brighten the faces of the less fortunate. **DONATIONS will be used to support Athens Area Missions for Women, Youth, and Children.**



PRINCETON UNITED METHODIST WOMEN OFFICERS for 2014 were installed by Athens-Elberton District President of United Methodist Women, Esther Porter. The 2014 officers are left to right: Carolyn Dial-treasurer, Mary Nelson-secretary, Esther Porter- district president, Pam Davis- president, and Rita Parr- vice president.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN A SPECIAL HOLY LAND TOUR OPPORTUNITY



We are going to the Holy Land with educational opportunities 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. Our 10-day trip departs on January 12, 2015. For more info, please contact Anita Dean at: ahhweber@gmail.com or phone Anita at 706-850-0113. **BOOK EARLY FOR AVAILABLE DISCOUNTS!**



START A READING PROGRAM!

If your **unit** does not participate in the **United Methodist Women's Reading Program** you are missing a great opportunity to learn more about mission around the world. You may read from the **Reading Program Plans from 2010-2014** book lists. Participating in Reading Program is one of the criteria for becoming a **Mission Today Unit**. If your unit already participates in the Reading Program, your unit is challenged to increase the level of participation. The Reading Program consists of **Four Plans**. Does your unit have books from the 2010-2014 lists that you are willing to lend to other Athens-Elberton District UMW units? If so, please contact Anita Dean. Remember adult readers can read youth program books for credit. If you read a youth book to a group, then your unit may count all the people, young and old in the group as readers.

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.

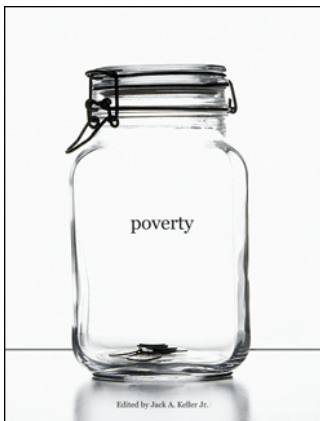
Interested? For more information on the **UMW Reading Program** please contact **Anita Dean** at **706-850-0113** or by email at ahhweber@charter.net.

IMPORTANT READING PROGRAM NEWS Beginning January 1, 2014 Mission Resources will be adding sales tax to all book orders. Many of our books are also available online at Amazon.com and other online book sellers, and some offer free shipping and used books. You may also order your books directly from Mission Resources at missionresources.org or by phone at 1-800-305-9857.

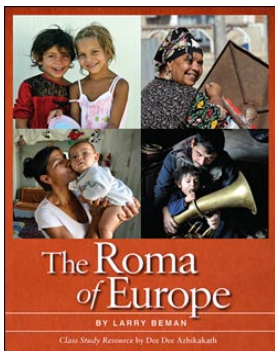
ZONE LEADER NEEDED

for the Walton/Morgan County area. It consists of 14 United Methodist Women units. If interested or know of some, please contact Mary Hansford at 706-769-5396 or mhansfor@bellsouth.net

You ARE Invited to Join and Participate in These Upcoming Mission and Spiritual Growth Studies



Antioch United Methodist Women are hosting a mission study on **Poverty** on **Friday, February 28, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Lunch provided. If interested in attending please notify Kay Haugen at 706-367-9984 or khaugen@windstream.net or Lynne Wheeler at 706-757-2667.



Chapelwood United Methodist Women are hosting a mission study on **The Roma of Europe** led by the Reverend **ERIC POWELL** on **Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** A light breakfast will be provided. Please bring a sack lunch as drinks and desserts will be provided. Please **RSVP to Carolyn Cundiff at 706-546-4705** or marycarolynandmike@gmail.com; Valerie Elder at 706-549-6135 or vnermal@att.net. **Registration 8:45 a.m.** (The study book, *The Roma of Europe*, by Larry Beman is available for \$10 from Program Resources. You may contact Anita Dean, District Program Resources at ahhweber@gmail.com 706-850-0113 to order the book or place your order at www.umwmissionresources.org.)

BECOME A MISSION TODAY UNIT

Requirements for a unit with a membership of 14 or less: Mission Today: Complete five (5) items, three (3) must be asterisk items. **Silver Mission:** Complete six (6) items, three (3) must be asterisk items. **Gold Mission:** Complete nine (9) items, five (5) must be asterisk items.

Requirements for a unit with a membership of 15 or more: Mission Today: Complete 10 items, five (5) must be asterisk items. **Silver Mission:** Complete 12 items, five (5) must be asterisk items. **Gold Mission:** Complete all 17 items.

___*1. Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting of the unit to pray for people in mission and for our mission work with women, children and youth.

___*2. The unit will make and meet its pledge to mission.

___*3. The unit will add at least two new members to its roll.

___*4. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to *Response* magazine.

___*5. The unit will have at least two programs from the program book during the year.

___*6. The unit, circle, or subgroup will conduct at least one mission study a year.

___*7. The unit will implement the charter for racial justice policies in at least two ways during the year. Some suggested plans of action: Plan a joint unit meeting with a unit of difference racial/ethnic background using programs from the program book. Develop bi-racial/cultural or multi-racial/cultural Koinonia groups. Or Hold a joint Vacation Bible School. Hold pulpit exchanges. Share joint worship services on special occasions. Encourage the church to sponsor a refugee family.

___8. At least one member of the unit (other than Conference or District officers) will attend the Conference or District Mission Education Event.

___9. At least two members (other than Conference or District officers) will attend the District or Conference Annual Meeting.

___10. The unit will have at least one person join the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information.

___11. Members shall write to five people listed in the prayer calendar at least twice a year.

___12. The unit will participate in the Campaign for Children in two ways. Help sponsor a church or community program related to children and youth needs. Sponsor a Children's Sabbath promoted by the Children's Defense Fund. Get involved with children in mentoring, tutoring, and "Big Sisters" programs. Write letters, email, or call a congregational representative and or others in government regarding children's issues.

___13. The unit will be a 5-Star unit contributing to all 5 channels of undesignated giving.

___14. The unit will contribute to a mission project, such as UMCOR (United Methodist Committee On Relief), RRISA (Refugee Resettlement & Immigration Services of Atlanta), or other United Methodist Women's National Mission Institutions.

___15. Each unit, circle, or subgroup meeting will include a "Response Moment" where an article from the *Response* magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.

___16. Have at least two people from the unit, circle, or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program plans and report on one of the books. Also, encourage all members to complete Plan One.

___17. The unit will have invited a District or Conference officer other than a member of that unit to one or more of the unit meetings during the year.



2014 DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Esther Porter	1111 Summit Circle, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-0699	abp30677@yahoo.com
Vice President	Dr. Kay Haugen	131 Ridgewood Lane, Jefferson, GA 30549	706-367-9984	khaugen@windstream.net
Secretary	Kim Griffith	151 Middleton Place, Athens, GA 30606	706-202-2189	kimgriffith@bellsouth.net
Treasurer	Kae Brown	1908 Orchard Circle, Bogart, GA 30622	706-296-3483	Kaebrown4@gmail.net
Spiritual Growth	Beth Beeson	112 Summerplace Drive, Winterville, GA 30683	706-899-0055	bcsastt@aol.com
Program Resources	Anita Dean	235 Woodgrove Drive, Athens, GA 30605	706-850-0114	ahhweber@charter.net
Membership, Nurture, & Outreach	Shirley Breedlove	1865 Nunnally Farm Rd, Monroe, GA 30655	770-267-6842	Breedlove6842@windstream.net
Social Action	Lynn Flanagan	1701 Union Church Rd, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-7582	dl_flanagan@yahoo.com
Education & Interpretation	Lynne Wheeler	2274 Old Kings Bridge Rd, Nicholson, GA 30565	706-757-2667	wheelert@windstream.net
Parliamentarian	Marjie Graham	219 Stonecrest Court, Athens, GA 30605	706-549-4610	marjiegraham@bellsouth.net
Communications	Pam Ward	141 Rabbit Run Road, Nicholson, GA 30565	706-757-2531	pward@uga.edu
Historian	Kate Finch	P. O. Box 515, Lexington, GA 30648-0515	706-743-3586	kacefin@aol.com
COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:				
Chair	Betty Sartain	7298 Hwy 29 N, Danielsville, GA 30633	706-795-2047	maxbetsartain2004@yahoo.com
Committee Members	Helen Jordan	1021 Travis Drive, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-6951	hjordan@uga.edu
	Gene Lissemore	175 Wildflower Dr., Social Circle, GA 30025	770-464-9385	g.lissemore@att.net
	Sandra Darnell	1330 Station Dr., Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-9379	sandra.darnell@charter.net
	Linda McClellan			
ZONE LEADERS:				
Athens Area	Mary Hansford	1742 McRee Gin Rd, Watkinsville, GA 30677	706-769-5396	mhansfor@bellsouth.net
Elberton	Luann Burgess	1571 Lightwood Rd, Hartwell, GA 30643	706-376-8860	luburgess2002@yahoo.com
Lavonia	Dr. Barbara Spurlock	22706 Hwy 59, Carnesville, GA 30521	706-335-6438	baspurlock@hotmail.com
Monroe	TBD			
Winder	Karen Martin	44 Cedar Bluff, Winder, GA 30680	770-307-0473	kmartin4452@yahoo.com
Winterville	Delores Wages	301 Virginia Lane, Hull, GA 30646	706-548-6809	reception@stanfieldair.com

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 our PURPOSE. It is published quarterly and mailed to all unit leaders, unit members and former District Officers per request, district office, and North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women leaders. All articles for publication should be directed to pward@uga.edu or Pam Ward, 141 Rabbit Run Road, Nicholson, GA 30565.



Friday, April 11, 2014