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Cindy Hall – President

Happy New (UMW) Year

And so we begin another year as United Methodist Women, supporting missions that help women and children from Zebulon, GA to Zimbabwe and every place in between. It takes up so much of our time, doesn't it? Meetings, conferences, meetings, retreats, meetings, dinners and more meetings. But it is important work. We can't let ourselves lose sight of just how important the work of United Methodist Women is. We are a connectional church, meaning all of our churches can do so much more together than we can alone, and it is the same with UMW.

We sometimes don't think further than our district or even our local unit. We should remind ourselves of the impact we have when we combine our efforts with all the local units in every district and conference. This fact sheet from our North Georgia Conference treasurer gives a thumbnail sketch of our combined efforts. Read and share with your unit. It's something to be proud of and I look forward to the LaGrange District doing our part for another year. Let's make it a good one!

Grace and Peace,

Cindy Hall

National Mission Institutions of United Methodist Women

FACT SHEET

- Your Pledge to Mission **supports nearly 100 National Mission Institutions** across the United States, including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
- From your mission dollars, the National Office of United Methodist Women commit approximately **\$3 million annually to support mission institutions** programs through financial gifts, special grants, technical assistance and training opportunities.
- Approximately two-thirds of the mission institutions **are housed in facilities owned and maintained by the national office.**

- Mission institutions empower women, care for children, educate and build youth, care for the neglected, advocate for social justice issues, create economic opportunities and change neighborhoods.

Categories of National Mission institutions: o Community Centers

o Residential Treatment Centers

o Schools

o Colleges

o Women's Residences

o Mission Complex

For additional information on National Mission Institutions including a full list of National Mission Institutions and the mission map, visit <http://new.gbgbm-umc.org/umw/programs/nmi/>

Nikki Williams – Vice President

Spring has sprung and fall is on its way. As we prepare our hearts and mind for harvest let's be reminded how we can come together as a unit. A unit of women focused on being a community of women, knowing God, developing a creative and supportive fellowship and expanding the concept of mission.

We invite you to attend Faith, Fun and Everyone on Saturday, September 16, 2017. This event will be held at Pine Mountain First United Methodist Church from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Join us to learn about financial literacy with the class entitled "*Are You Ready for the Unexpected?*" lead by Gail O'Neal. Carol Hamric will lead us in "The Prodigal Returns Home". To get our blood pumping and adrenaline jumping, yours truly will present nutrition facts and tips and lead Zumba/Line Dancing. If you have not already registered, please email Benita Epps at benitaepps@yahoo.com the number in attendance from your unit. The registration deadline of September 9, 2017 is fast approaching.

Upcoming Events

North GA Conference Annual meeting is Sunday, Oct. 7, 2017 at Griffin First UMC in Griffin, GA. The meeting is from 9:30am to 2:00pm and Rev. Hyemin Na is the speaker.

LaGrange District annual meeting is Sunday, October 15, 2017 at 2:30pm and Rev. Susan Landry is the guest speaker.

Leadership Development/Executive Meeting

Nov 4, 2017

Ousley UMC, ADOX

I also ask that each unit president please send your contact information to lgrumwcomm@outlook.com. There are many email's that are being returned as invalid.

Be Blessed!

Benita Epps - Treasurer

The United Methodist Women's 2016 - 2017 year ended June 30th. Therefore, all remittances that were sent in by June 30th will be included in our conference awards booklet at the annual meeting in October. Thank you for being timely in sending your remittances.

The LaGrange District Pledge to Mission for 2017 was \$16,000. Our Total Giving was \$18,698.00. Thank you for your donations. We reported \$2,703.84 in Designated Gifts and \$15,994.16 in Undesignated Gifts. The breakdown by quarters is given below:

QUARTER	DATES	UNDESIGNATED GIFTS	DESIGNATED GIFTS
1 ST	August 1 – September 30, 2016	\$2,915.00	\$947.18
2 ND	October 1 – December 31, 2016	\$2,019.16	\$76.00
3 RD	January 1 – March 31, 2017	\$6,470.00	\$1,160.66
4 TH	April 1 – June 30, 2017	\$4,590.00	\$520.00

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ISSUE 14

LAGRANGE DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 2017

Our Supplemental Giving for the first two quarters for 2018 are:

1ST QUARTER	July 1 – September 30, 2017	Murphy Harpst Children’s Centers, Polk County
2ND QUARTER	October 1 – December 31, 2017	CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY, ATLANTA

Remember to always complete a Remittance Form and mail it along with a check **made payable to *LaGrange District UMW*** to:

Benita L. Epps
P. O. Box 968
LaGrange, GA 30241
(706) 333-1972 benitaepps@yahoo.com

Nancy Ricciardi – Membership, Nurture and Outreach

Don’t forget to like our facebook page.

Tami Kemberling - Education and Interpretation

Again I entreat you to prayer, fellowship, learning and works. As I am preaching to the choir, I remind you as I remind myself. In James 3:13, we are reminded to show your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. I immensely enjoyed Mission “u” at Toccoa. I especially appreciate all the hard work that goes into it as planned by our conference leaders. Attending the study on Climate justice is close to my heart from the standpoint of the three R’s - recycle reduce and reuse. Reading a book from the reading program This will be remembered of her. It speaks of the miracle of a world free from hunger depends on the human community and its belief in the necessity of sharing and changing the way it deals with waste and excess. **Wage a war on waste!** There are many resources to help with frustration and helplessness, but our largest resource is prayer. Turn to our great creator and saying, “Here I am lord, send me”. The people of South Korea are praying for their neighbors the North Koreans. The world is our neighbors, connectivity is our

forte. Are we doing what we can? Do you know the starfish story, it mattered to that one! May you find peace and gentleness in your walk with God. In Christian love.

Tami Kemberling

Karen Polston - Spiritual Growth

Here we are looking at the last days of summer. Fall is approaching; this is a beautiful time of the year. We experience changes all around us. Leaves begin to change colors and the handiwork of God's creation is so evident to us. I love plants and I have a few that I have had for many years. Over this past several seasons from last winter until now, my care of them has been haphazard, to say the least. I would notice their leaves starting to wilt down and I would give them water and food. Sometimes they looked like they were done for, but with a lot of care they would come back. I noticed that when I treated my relationship with God the same way I cared for my plants, my life did not have direction to it. I was just going through the motions. There are seasons in our lives when we may feel that God is at a distance and has stepped away. Most of the time we are the ones who have distanced ourselves. Jesus tells us that He will never leave us or forsake us. Nothing can separate us from the love of God. That is a promise that will never be broken by Him. If you feel you have drifted away or you know someone who is dealing with this feeling of separation in their life, just start where you left off, rededicate yourself to Christ. It is that simple, reading your Bible, praying, spending time with God, spending time with other believers. During this past week as we have seen the destruction from Hurricane Harvey on the Gulf Coast areas, we pray for everyone whose lives has been destroyed. We pray for them as they begin a new life after Harvey. We pray for God to give them strength, courage, and peace in the coming months as they move forward in God's Grace. Let us realize His Grace is sufficient for all of us. I am looking forward to seeing you at our events this Fall.

Karen Polston, Coordinator

Announcements

We can't even begin to fully express how **THANKFUL** we are for your past support. As we celebrated our 50th Hope Harbor graduate last month, we paused in awe of the supporters it has taken to allow each lady to become free from her addiction and be reunited with her children or family. This year's Hope's Harvest is extra special. We would like to invite you to our very first Farm Style dinner. We invite you to purchase a ticket for yourself and invite your friends and family to purchase one too. It will truly be an Unforgettable Meal for an Unforgettable Cause. Thank you for your support from the bottom of our hearts.

John 12:46 "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in the darkness." There is HOPE!

Hope's Harvest 2017 Locally grown Lovingly served

Thursday October 19th

\$58 TICKET

Unforgettable Meal

For An

Unforgettable Cause

Appetizers and Silent Auction 6pm
Dinner and stories of Amazing Grace
Live Entertainment

Three Oaks Barn
197 Burgess Rd. LaGrange, GA 30241

Burks Chapel United Methodist Church, 855 Burkes Chapel Road, LaGrange, GA 30241 will hold it's annual Women's Prayer Breakfast. Mrs. Joann Russell of Louise UMC will be the guest speaker for the morning. If you are available Saturday, September 30, 2017 10:00am to 12:00pm please join us. We ask that you bring a nonperishables, diapers, baby formual item with you to the breakfast. The items will be sent to Houston, Texas to help those affected by Hurricane Harvey.