



The Messenger's Flame

Montgomery District Women in Faith

District Officers

President

Marsha Clayton

Vice-President

Margaret Stephens

Secretary

Carolyn Davis

Treasurer

Jill Farris

Social Action

TBA

Communications

Carolyn Davis

**Membership Nurture
& Outreach**

Mable Lawrence

**Education &
Interpretation**

Carla Lumpkin

Spiritual Growth

Jill Lowman

Nominations

Gloria Jean Williams

Nominations Member

Mattie Baker



Greetings on behalf of our **newly formed Montgomery District** membership formed out of merged units from Demopolis, Montgomery-Opelika, and Montgomery-Prattville.

We are now 26 units strong and are so blessed to come together for God's good works. We look forward to this "new wine" from "old wineskins" at this time when United Methodist Women as an organization of women nationally is making changes. We will hear more about these changes, and this "rebranding" later. While we may have a new name with expanded programming and more inclusivity, our basic mission will remain the same: to help bring peace and justice to and to advocate for women, children, and youth, and to help bring love and justice to a needy world.

At this time, we have just completed our first district-wide event for 2022, District Annual Day on March 19, 2022, at Dalraida UMC in Montgomery. Our guest speaker was **Katy Wrona**, UW Conference Vice President, who spoke on the topic of "Where Do You Find Peace?" UW Conference Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator, **Kristine Jones** shared some aspects of "Rebranding": the new organization name, "**United Women in Faith**", the new emblem, the new website-uwfaith.org as well as what is/and is not changing. **Celeste Eubanks**, a Deaconess in the church conference graced us with 2 beautifully rendered songs.

We were hosted in good fashion by the ladies of Dalraida UW. Each officer of the district was in attendance/represented. All in all, we had a fruitful meeting. It was a time of uniting, renewal, remembrance, and growth. Montgomery District United Women in Faith is on a path toward greater achievement by serving in the mission field and working, praying, and learning together, sharing our multiplied talents and abilities. We look forward to sharing our journey with all the AWF Conference United Women in Faith members.

We also gathered recently for UW **Conference Annual Day** at Marianna 1st UMC in Marianna, Florida. Those of you who were not able to attend missed a very uplifting and informative event. **Bishop and Mrs. Graves, Betty Helms**, representing Southeastern Jurisdiction, and **DS Mike Pearson** were among the guests. **Rev Ashley Davis**, Director of Connectional Ministries, was the guest speaker for the morning worship and communion service. She shared how the peace of Christ calls us into service and empowers us, leads us to open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

We're on a good path. May God bless all our efforts to make this a more loving, caring, and just world. I look forward to journeying with you all as we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us through 2022.

Marsha Clayton, District President



**Vice-President
Margaret Stephens**



United
Women
in Faith

Welcome to a rebirth of United Methodist Women as United Women of Faith. We are the same wonderful group of women as before, but with a new spring outfit and a resurrection, message to draw still others to join us. Everyone needs a new look now and then! I was very excited this morning as I explored our new website at uwfaith.org.

That's uwfaith.org "We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation," our website asserts. "Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children, and youth." We show up every day. What are you doing this day, this week, to fulfill this mission of love, service, and advocacy?!

As you get acquainted with the new website, which I urge you to do, you can watch an introductory video and/or explore easy-to-access subject areas such as **Action Faith Sisterhood**.

I opened Action and learned a lot. Did you know that we support U.S. projects and nearly 90 national mission institutions? Globally, we work with international partners "that focus on impacting poverty through enhancing the capabilities of local women leaders and supporting economic development programs to provide women with the tools required to make positive, measurable change in their communities."

Our advocacy focus areas for this year are **Just Energy 4 All And Ending Mass Incarceration & Criminalization of Communities of Color**. To get started, you can open sites on Climate Justice and Racial Justice. When I first explored uwfaith.org about a month ago, I was directed to add the app Mighty Works to facilitate using the website. I found that app easy to add. I am almost certain that it's free.

Also, I signed up to receive daily messages from United Women in Faith across the country. You can share ideas and receive resources. Please let me know your experiences, good and frustrating, as you explore and use the new website. My email and my phone number are below.

Love and faith in Action,

Marge Stephens
(334) 703-8174
msueauburn89@gmail.com



Carla Lumpkin
Education and
Interpretation Coordinator



We are now well into 2022 and on our way to a great year for United Women in Faith! Our joyful gathering for Annual Day is a reassuring indication that we are and will be successful in remaining dedicated to fulfilling our UWF Purpose. We must continue to support and participate in God's plan for mission at this time. Our efforts will include education about issues and needs, spiritual growth, personal and collective dedication, and monetary giving. To those ends, the following programs will continue to be supported and encouraged.

Reading Program: We are into the second year of the 2021-2022 program, and any books read this year from the book lists from 2015-2022 are eligible for credit. Current mission study books count as two books. Two Faith Talk podcasts count as one book; three Faith Talks count as two. You may participate on the day of the Faith Talk or view it at a later time on the website*. Three movies count as one book each: Just Mercy, The Hate U Give, and Pushout. The book lists and the reporting forms can be downloaded on the website*. The reporting form includes the criteria for the four levels of the program, each of which includes reading of Response magazine.

Mission u: Mission u is scheduled on Saturday, July 23, at Aldersgate UMC in Montgomery, with an optional Ubuntu Day on Friday, July 22. Beginning this year, Mission u will utilize a new model of transformative biblical curricula each year, one for adults, one for youth, and one for children, all focusing on a shared biblical theme. The topic for this year is Luke 13. You will receive registration information later. Please plan to attend.

Mission Study: Our District has scheduled a mission study on Saturday, June 25, at 10:00 a.m. at Millbrook FUMC. The study is based on Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom, Living into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship, a book by author Darryl W. Stephens. We are in the process of obtaining a study leader. You will receive more information soon. Please join us and encourage others to come along.

Mission Today: The criteria for a Mission Today Unit are designed to further our UWF Purpose by participating in twenty activities, many of which our units are accomplished by each unit anyway during the year. Please download* the Mission Today Unit form, which lists the activities and the three levels of recognition for completion.

Mission Giving: As we meet to study and learn and participate in mission, we must keep in mind the need for continual financial support for the mission of UWF across the United States and around the world. Mission giving is the program whereby we contribute funds to support vital ministries with a primary focus on enabling positive change in the lives of women, youth, and children. To that end, these funds support almost one hundred national mission institutions in the United States, along with regional missionaries in other countries.

Thank you for each and everything you did in 2021. Let's accomplish even more in 2022. If I can help you in any way, please contact me at carlalumpkin@yahoo.com or 205-613-4537.

***The two websites that I have found helpful are:**

uwfaith.org

- (1) Faith Talks: Click "Menu", then "Podcasts"
- (2) Response magazine: Click "Menu", then "Response"
- (3) Reading Program Catalogs and Reporting Form: Click "Menu", then "Resources", then "Shop", then "Downloads & Resources"

awf-umw.org

- (1) Workbook: Click "Forms", then "Workbook 2022"
- (2) Reading Program Reports, Mission Today Units, Charter for Racial Justice, and other local unit forms: Click "Forms", then "Local Unit Forms"

Carla Lumpkin,
Education and Interpretation Coordinator
carlalumpkin@yahoo.com 205-613-4537

**Local Units who received certificates of recognition for
The 2021 year was presented at
District Annual Day March 19, 2022**

5 Star Units

Aldersgate, Auburn First, Bowen, Brundidge Catherine Revel Circle-Church Street, Chapel, Clanton First, Crawford, Dalraida, Locust Bluff, Metropolitan, Millbrook First, Montgomery First, Murphy's Chapel, Prattville First

Charter for Racial Justice

Crawford, Locust Bluff, Metropolitan, Millbrook First

Mission Today Unit

Bronze: Catherine Revel Circle-Church Street
Chapel, Dalraida, Locust Bluff, Opelika First

Silver: Clanton First Metropolitan, Millbrook First

Mission Studies

1 Study: Metropolitan

2 Studies: Aldersgate, Bowen, Clanton First, Millbrook First

3 Studies: Crawford

Reading Program

Level One:

Louise Burt, Marsha Clayton, Carolyn Davis, Ora Gillespie,
Brenda Hargrave, Pam Koons, Carla Lumpkin,

Level Two:

Joy Rogers, Reba Wooten



**Jill Lowman
Spiritual Growth Coordinator**



Greetings,

Please save the date! We are working hard on our Spiritual Enrichment Retreat which will be held on **September 10th** at Clanton First United Methodist Church. More information to come. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Hope to see you there.

We also encourage everyone to use the **Prayer Guide** (formerly the Prayer Calendar). It is newly revamped this year and is more user-friendly.



Please keep the people affected by war and relocation in your prayers for their safety. Our hearts are with them.

Peace and Grace to all.



**Gloria Jean Williams
Nominations Chairperson**



The Montgomery District United Women in Faith
The executive team needs to fill the offices of the **Social Actions Coordinator**
and 1 additional person to serve on the nomination committee.

If you would like to serve on the Montgomery District Executive team, please contact me or one of the women on the District Executive Team. Fill out a Talent form today. You can find a talent form on the conference website awf-umw.org.

The Montgomery District Executive Team needs you!!

In His Service,
Gloria Williams, Nomination Chair.
skipind@att.net



Jill Farris
District Treasurer



Let me introduce myself. As of January 1, 2022, I am your new District Treasurer, Jill Farris. I bring my experience serving as my local unit's treasurer for 10 years and excellent training from the previous treasurer, Brenda Hargrave. I am looking forward to working with all the local unit treasurers this year.

Thank you to all the units that have sent monies in for the first quarter of this year. As of today, we have received **\$3,685.00** toward our conference goal of **\$20,675.00**. Keep up the good work and I will keep you updated with our progress.

**GIVING BY UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
MEMBERSHIP AND GIVING**

Membership in United Women in Faith is voluntary and based on each individual woman's commitment to the purpose of the organization. For most members, making a pledge to her group's Pledge to Mission, whether local or district, is a way of supporting the organization and expressing her commitment to mission. However, a pledge or financial gift is not a prerequisite for membership. It is member giving, however, that funds the total mission of United Women in Faith.



**Mable Lawrence
Membership Nurture
and Outreach**



United
Women
in Faith

On March 19th we remembered those women who have given their time and service faithfully to support women and children. We rang a bell in their memory to God be the Glory.

*⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.
Galatians 6: 7-10*



**MONTGOMERY DISTRICT
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022

- MARY PEARL HICKS
- ANNE ELIZABETH HOPKINS
- LAURA MAE COBB
- JACINTA BERRY
- LIB CAIN
- BETTY FULLER
- JOANNE RODGERS
- JOYCE COBB
- MARIE GUILLOT
- DARLENE SLATE
- JUDY PUGH
- CAROL BRAMLETT
- EDNA WILLIAMS
- PEGGY DAVIS
- GEORGETTE GRIFFITH
- DEANNA PHILLIPS KIMBROUGH
- LOIS HUCK YEAGER
- SANDRA COWIN
- WILLIE NELL AVERY
- VIOLA WRIGHT

Montgomery District & Alabama West Florida Conference
United Women in Faith Calendar 2022

JAN 15	Conference executive mission team officers AND District Presidents.	AWF-UMW Conference Executive Mission team meeting Aldersgate at Montgomery-- Officer reports due.
JAN 22	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps	Executive Mission Team Meeting Location: Metropolitan UMC - 10a.m.
FEB 19	All invited	AWF-UMW Annual Day – Marianna First United Methodist Church, Marianna, FL Time-9:00 a.m.
MARCH 19	Montgomery District UMW	Montgomery District Annual Day/Officer Training/Memorial Service - Location: Dalraida UMC 9:30 Registration Meeting at 10:00 a.m.
MAY 20-22	All invited	2022 Assembly, Orlando, FL
JUNE 12-15	ALL INVITED	Alabama West-Florida Annual Conference at the Dunn-Oliver Acadome on the campus of Alabama State University in Montgomery, AL.
JUNE 25	ALL INVITED	District-wide Mission Study – Location Millbrook UMC
JULY 16	Conference executive mission team officers, District Presidents’ and District Treasurers’	AWF-UMW Executive Mission Team Meeting at Enterprise First UMC in Enterprise AL 2023 Budget Reviews District Treasurers required to attend.
JULY 22-23	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps All Invited	Mission U – Luke 13: One Transformative Biblical Curriculum for Everyone Location: Aldersgate UMC – 6610 Vaughn Rd. – Montgomery, AL
JULY 30	District Team, Local Unit Presidents, Vice, & 2 Reps.	District Executive Mission Team Meeting –Murphy’s Chapel? 10 a.m.
SEPT 10	ALL INVITED	District Spiritual Enrichment, Election of Officers Location: Clanton 1 st UMC
OCT. 14-15	ALL INVITED	AWF-UMW Conference Spiritual Enrichment Retreat (SER) AND 2023 EX. Mission Team election & installation, Blue Lake Assembly Ground
NOV 5	Conference & District Presidents & Treasurers Meeting	Conference President and Conference Treasurer meeting with District Presidents and Treasurers Location TBA
NOV 14	ALL Local Units	United Methodist Women Day celebrations per Local Units
NOVEMBER 19	District Team, Unit Presidents, Vice, Two Reps	Executive Mission Team Meeting - Review, Evaluations, Planning, Calendar for 2023 Location: Millbrook 1 st UMC at 10 a.m.
NOVEMBER 30	Reports Due	Local Units Consolidated Report due to District President

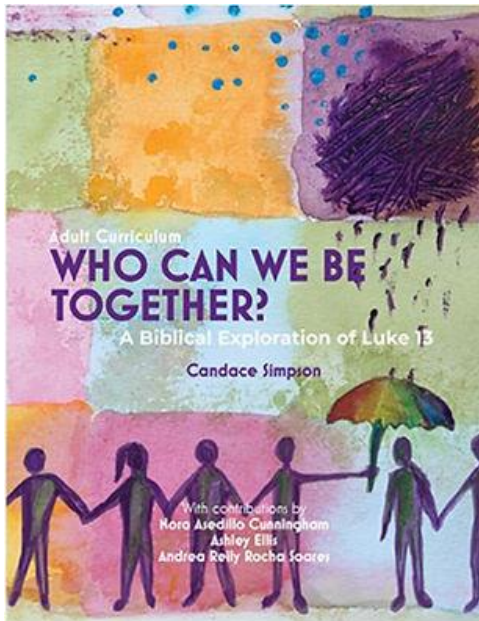
District Newsletter – The Messenger’s Flame Article Due by February 17, May 17, July 17, December 5

**2022 AWF Cooperative Mission u
July 23, 2022**

Aldersgate United Methodist Church – 6610 Vaughn Rd. – Montgomery, AL

[Mail-in Registration Form with Schedule](#)

[Online Register Here](#)



Registration Deadline:

July 11, 2022

Class fees cover: Luke 13 Study Book + mailing exp.

NOTE: A \$10 Registration fee is required.

OPTIONAL: UBUNTU DAY – Friday, July 10, 2022

1 P.M TO 4 P.M.

Prices and Schedule are on the Mail-in Form

Adults - Youth (Ages 12-16) - Children (Ages 6-11)



***Also You can join our virtual TURN IT UP!
Teatime, learn about all things Assembly, and
find out how to run your own Teatime event.***

**Scholarships Available: [PDF](#) [Excel](#)
through the conference UMW website awf-umw.org**

Annual Day March 19, 2022



Annual Day Speaker Katy Wrona
Conference Vice-president



Dalriada Local unit hosted Annual Day



Local units who received certificates for the Reading program,
Mission Today, 5 Star, Charter for Racial Justice



Jocelyn Stovall, pianist, Celeste Eubanks soloist



Chapel local unit with the most women in attendance



Conference officers in attendance
Katy Wrona, Kristine Jones, Cynthia Brown

We would love to include your unit activities and mission projects in *The Messenger's Flame*. Please submit articles and photos, if available, to cdavis854@bellsouth.net



Carolyn Davis, Communication Coordinator

United Women in Faith does not furnish lists of their elected leaders or members to individuals or agencies outside the organization unless authorized by the Executive Committee.

<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/memberresources> has some great information about how to host a virtual event, copyright and permissions for virtual events, and guidelines for filming yourself.

ALERT! . . . Are you a Subscriber?

You too can become informed of Alabama-West Florida Conference United Women in Faith events and activities by subscribing to Alert today!

You may receive a copy of the ALERT newsletter free by email. Email your request to the Conference president Debbie Bracewell at debbracewell@gmail.com and you will be added to the email list.

ALERT Newsletter is also online at www.awf-umw.org