

The Mission Echo



MARCH 2015

Upcoming Events

**Spring Days of Service
March 23-25**

**Spiritual Growth Retreat
May 1-2, 2-3**

**Come Together, Be Together
May 16**

**Mission u
July 23-25**

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President

Marlene Spencer

It is hard to believe that it is now 2015. Where did 2014 go? I feel humbly honored as I begin my first year as President. I am conscious of the fact that the only way I can return the honor you have bestowed upon me is to live up to your expectations and our great Organization. To succeed in this, I will need your participation and prayers.

I have been thinking of how busy I am and that I am constantly on the run. Sometimes I feel overwhelmed and I really want to slow down but I enjoy doing what I do. Most of my busyness is doing church activities or things related, so when I really feel overwhelmed, I know that I need to take time to be quiet. I go to His Word to find the peace that I need so I can continue.

This past November, seven of us from South Carolina Conference attended the LDD (Leadership Development Days), held in Tempe, Arizona from Nov 21-23 by the National United Methodist Women (UMW). It was a weekend full of worship, workshops, and training on equipping leaders to go back to their Conferences and be effective leaders in every position. What a blessing it was to see all the United Methodist Women (UMW) ladies from our different conferences come together to learn more about their offices. There was a lot to learn and *it* was a learning experience for all of us – those facilitating as well as the ones being trained. We can definitely learn from each other. At least I felt I did. The President's workshop was spent with Harriett J. Olson, CEO who talked about the plans for *The 150th Anniversary of UMW* which will culminate in 2019. Her discussion included the establishment of an Endowment Fund. *From 2015 to 2019, all United Methodist Women members are invited to participate in an organization-wide campaign to grow the Legacy Fund, an endowed fund that already exists at the national office. When the campaign is finished, interest generated by the Legacy Fund will permanently support the work of United Methodist Women.* These designated funds will operate the core functions of UMW and support our program of Missions (we will hear more about Planned Gifts and Major Gifts later).

As we look ahead to future events, I pray that you will find ways to be inspired, enthusiastic and on fire for God, United Methodist Women and the mission work we do in Christ's name. We have already done much and yet there remains more work to be done. Many are the hands, hearts and heads needed to accomplish this great work, so get out and let others know that they can join in! Be excited for a brand new year of mission. We are blessed to be a blessing and may that blessing shine forth in all that you say and do to the glory of God.

I challenge each of you to be a light in an increasingly dark world. Come and join us this year at the many different events: Legislative Day, Spiritual Life Retreat at Lake Junaluska, Come Together/Be Together, Mission u and Annual Meeting. You will be renewed, energized and lifted up by spending time with your sisters. May we always show our Faith, Hope and Love in Action. Be blessed and feel God's love each day.

Education & Interpretation

Sue Owens



MISSIONS R US

January 24th was a cold day in Spartanburg, but our hearts were soon warmed by the event that was about to take place. United Methodist Women from the District gathered together at Trinity UMC for the very first Killingsworth Circle of Friends Event. What a day it was! Rev. Diane Moseley talked about the history and purpose of Killingsworth, one of the five mission projects that United Methodist Women support in our Conference. The highlight of the day for me was being able to sit at the table with a 57-year-old woman, presently a resident there, and hearing her story about how Killingsworth was working to change her life. There were other residents who were sitting at other tables who also shared their stories at their tables. We can read articles in various publications that mean a lot, but being able to interact with women whose lives are impacted so greatly by an organization that we support makes it even more real. The Killingsworth Circle of Friends Events will come to your District in the future. The Florence District will host one in March. When the Event comes to your District, mark it on your calendar and go. It will be invaluable for your understanding of how Killingsworth reaches out to women in need. Hear what these women have to tell us. Hear how we can make a difference in the lives of women, one at a time.

I hope you have received information on the Spring Days of Service for 2015. If you are unable to attend Rural Mission from March 23-25, please make plans to go to one of our other mission projects and volunteer some time to do whatever needs to be done. In order for your service to be put to best use, please call ahead to one of missions and plan a time to go. Bring your unit, your circle, your family, or your friends. Our mission projects need our help. If one of our mission projects is not in your area, go to a food bank or a soup kitchen and volunteer your services. There are needs in every community. We need to open our eyes to see them, open our hands to help them, and open our hearts to love them.

As part of Annual Conference this year, an emphasis will be on **One Million Hours of Service** to children and education. Details are being worked out as I write this. Look for instructions on how to log in the hours you spend working with children and/or education. What you do at Rural Mission or other projects may be able to be counted.

There have been a couple of personnel changes at two of our mission projects. Whitney Chisholm is now the Executive Director at the Columbia Bethlehem Community Center. Bessie Geiger, who was serving as Interim Director, has returned to her position as Assistant Executive Director at the Center. Upon the resignation of Corina Esaw, the Acting Director of Wallace Family Life Center is Antoinette Balfour. We wish to welcome these ladies with open arms and hearts.

Due to limited space in this Mission Echo, I will not be able to include the wants list for our mission projects. However, I will be sending these lists to your District Education and Interpretation Coordinators for inclusion in your District newsletters. Please look for them.

And from Recycling Central...I have contacted Ronald McDonald Houses. Pull tabs from other **aluminum** cans are also acceptable—not just soda cans. If you use a magnet and the pull tab sticks to it, we cannot use it. Unfortunately, Campbell soup tabs are metal and can't be used. These aluminum pull tabs are used by the Ronald McDonald House where they are taken. If you don't have one near you, get the tabs to me and I will take them to Greenville.

Missions R Us. What are you going to do about it?



Vice President

Cathy Ford

Your SCCUMW Program Committee has met and preparations are well underway for our **43rd Annual Meeting**. The **Anderson District** will host this event at **Bethesda United Methodist Church** in **Powdersville** on **October 23-24**. I trust you have your calendars firmly marked to spend those days with your beautiful SCCUMW friends and family.

Our theme is **Welcomed by God, Welcoming All** from our 2014-2015 Program Book. Our keynote speaker is **Rev. Telley Lynette Gadson** of St Mark in Taylors. This inspiring lady was featured as the front page story of the January 2015 Advocate. You won't want to miss our Bible study led by Anderson District Superintendent **Rev. Susan Leonard-Ray**. A large Resource Room and displays from our five mission projects will provide learning and shopping opportunities. Many workshops and new fun activities are being planned.

We have been reading your evaluations and are busy implementing your wishes. Our Friday evening will end earlier, no late night workshops. The workshops will take place on Friday afternoon. Everyone is invited to wear an item of clothing with their church name or logo on Saturday. Thank you to whoever offered this great idea on their evaluation!

We will share more details closer to the event date. Just know that this is where you will want to be on Friday and Saturday October 23 and 24th.

I look forward to seeing you at Lake Junaluska for our Spiritual Growth Retreat and at St. Marks in Taylors for our Come Together Be Together event. Your hugs, smiles and prayers sustain me. I look forward to sharing mine with you. See you soon!

1Corinthians 13:2...and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

Mission u is for You: From Ages 12 to 102

If you are 12 to 102 there is something special for you at this year's Mission u, UMW's in-depth mission study event. This year youth (girls) ages 12-17 will have their own three day Mission u study, "Latin America: People, Faith and Culture," on campus with the adults. The adult studies are "Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God" which all adults will have; "Latin America: People and Faith;" and "The Church and People with Disabilities" with many study leaders returning. Mission u, is an in depth mission learning experience for sure, but it is so much more. This is a time to become very informed about two of three mission studies offered, a time to fellowship and have fun with members from all over the state, a time to be part of hands on mission projects, a time to experience dorm life at Spartanburg Methodist College, and a time to find out more about the missions in S. C. and nationally as well as the role of United Methodist Women in mission. Laurel Jean Walden will return as musician and song leader. Check her out on You Tube. So if you are between 12 and 102, mark your calendars for Thursday, July 23 through Saturday, July 25 ending about 2:00 p.m. Details and registration forms are in this issue of *Mission Echo* and online at www.umcsc.org/umw or call Rebecca Rochester, Dean Mission u, at 864-466-6981. Schedule, study leaders and exciting details about Mission u 2015 will be in the next issue of the *Mission Echo*.

Columbia Bethlehem Community Center

803-807-9582 cbccommunitycenter@gmail.com

Our children's clothes closet provides clothing, mainly new, to children in need. We collect socks, underclothes, pants/jeans, shirts, belts, hats/gloves, etc.

Every item distributed through the Children's Clothes Closet is donated. **A special thanks to Wesley United Methodist and Shandon United Methodist for their recent donations.** Donated items are greatly appreciated and make a good service project for your group or organization.

Feel free to drop your donations off at the center during our normal business hours.

From dealing with peer pressure and bullying, to juggling packed schedules, children today have more on their plates than ever before. While the advancement of technology helps us to improve our daily lives, it also creates many distractions for our young people. Add to this fact that many kids now live in homes where both parents need to work, and you can see why kids today have to try harder to excel than previous generations.

If your child is struggling in school, we can help. Starting February 18, the Bethlehem Community Center will be open every Monday and Wednesday from 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m. for after school tutoring. For now, the program is only open to K - 2nd grade.

Volunteer are needed for one-on-one attention to children during tutoring hours.

South Carolina United Methodist Women Spring Days of Service March, 2015

Rather than traveling outside our state to work at other projects this year let's concentrate our time and efforts right here in South Carolina. Let's get women to all five of our projects to help in the specific needs requested by our directors and then share our stories with other women who participated when we gather for Mission U.

Our main event will be a three day work camp experience at Rural Mission, John's Island SC. Arrangements have been made for us to travel there on the morning of Monday March 23rd and be there until early afternoon Wednesday March 25th. Each of us will be responsible for arranging our own transportation and lodging (information about recommended lodging attached). Work being arranged for us includes yard work, cleaning, office work and painting. Our registration fee includes \$50 per person for materials to be purchased there (supporting the economy there and keeping us from having to transport materials), \$40 for meals on the site and \$10 for a portion of the registration fee. The complete schedule is attached.

If you can't travel to John's Island then pick another project and go there for a day. Each participating group can make arrangements with the staff of one of our projects and set up a time, place and activity. Tasks that need to be done include planting garden plots, weeding, painting, cleaning, reading with children and much more. The projects might have other days that would be better for them than March 23-25. In fact Columbia Bethlehem Center would prefer to have people there on Saturday March 28th – a good choice for women whose schedules don't allow for weekday opportunities. Contact information for each project is below.

Columbia Bethlehem Center
Whitney Chisholm, Executive Coordinator
344 McRae Street, Columbia, 29240
803.807.9582
cbcommunitycenter@gmail.com

Bethlehem Center, Spartanburg
Patrena Mims, Executive Director
397 Highland Avenue, 29304
864.582.7158
bethlehemcenter@charter.net

Killingsworth, Inc.
Rev. Diane Moseley, Executive Director
1831 Pendleton Street, Columbia, 29201
803.771.6359
corrie6359@aol.com
Ask to speak with Becky Roberts

Wallace Family Life Center
Antoinette Balfour, Acting Director
574 Old Wire Road, Wallace, 29596
843.479.7991
wallace@bellsouth.net

Information for Work Days at Rural Mission March 23-25, 2015

Three day Schedule

Participants travel to site on morning of 23rd and have lunch before arrival

1:00 PM – Opening Worship and Commissioning –
Overview of Rural Mission's history, ministries and mission
2:00 PM – Go to work sites and plan/begin work projects
5:00 – End work for day
Dinner and Fellowship
Return to motel

Tuesday - Breakfast at hotel

9:00 – 12:00 - Work on project
12:15 – lunch
1:30 – 5:00 Work
5:00 – 6:30 Dinner
7:00 – Worship and Fellowship

Wednesday – Breakfast at hotel – check out

9:00 – 12:00 – work
12:00 Lunch
1:00 – 1:30 Closing Worship
1:45 Depart for Home

.South Carolina Conference United Methodist Women
Work Trip, Rural Mission
March 23-25, 2015
Registration Form

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ SC Zip_____

Phone_____ Alternate Phone_____

Email_____

Church_____ District_____

Emergency Contact and relationship_____

Phone_____ Alternate Phone_____

Check one – Three Day Event _____ or One Day Event_____

You will need to arrange your own transportation and lodging if needed – see lodging recommendation below

Cost per participant 1. \$100.00 for 3 Day Event and \$55.00 for 1 Day Event (includes food, supplies and registration)
2. Travel cost (arranged by participant)
3. Lodging cost

Please make a copy of this form and then send form along with the appropriate fee to me at the address below by March 1st. Checks should be payable to SCC UMW. Feel free to contact me with questions.

Jane Scott, 780 Charlotte Thompson School Road, Camden, SC 29020

803.425.9121(H), 803.463.9121 (C), jrscott780@att.net

Directions to Rural Mission will be sent with acknowledgement of payment.

Lodging recommendation:

Comfort Inn and Suites, (Comfort Suites West of the Ashley), 2080 Savannah Highway.

Phone 843.769.9850, Rate is \$119.99 + tax per night per room. Breakfast is free.

Total cost per person

1. \$100 to Rural Mission (\$10 for a portion of registration fee, \$40 for food for dinner March 23, lunch and dinner March 24 and lunch March 25, \$50 for supplies)

2. Travel

Portion of motel cost (Approximately \$280 per room divided by number in room)

One Day Alternative at Rural Mission

If you are not able to participate all three days at Rural Mission you may come for Tuesday March 24th only. Cost will be \$55 (\$10 registration, \$20 for food and \$25 for supplies)

2015 SC Conference UMW Mission u
Theme: “Created for Happiness”
Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg, SC
Thursday, July 23- Saturday, 25, 2015

Dean: Rebecca Rochester 864-466-6981 Billsauto4u@aol.com	Assistant Dean: Ann Alexander 803-222-4958 mhaall5@bellsouth.net	Registrar: Betty Swinton 843-845-1971 swint723@aol.com
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IMPORTANT – GENERAL INFORMATION – (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

Youth/Chaperone Covenant and Consent Forms: Youth participant must complete registration form, covenant and parental consent form, information and covenant form for adult chaperones. These forms must be mailed together. Registration is incomplete until all forms are received by the Registrar. Forms are located on the web at umcsc.org/umw or may be secured from the Registrar.

Registration: Thursday afternoon from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. & 6-6:45p.m. – Ellis Hall Atrium

First-Timers’ Orientation: Thursday, 3:00-3:45 p.m. Ellis Hall

Opening Plenary: Thursday 4:00

Offering: An offering for Missions will be received at the Friday evening session.

Housing: Resident participants will be housed in college dormitories. Bring bed and bath linens, bath mat, soap, warm blanket or spread for a single bed, pillow, coat hangers, alarm clock, comfortable clothes, walking shoes, hat, flashlight, umbrella, rain gear, Bible, pens, notebooks, trash bags, jacket or sweater, and other items necessary for your comfort away from home. Classrooms and dorm rooms may be cold—bring appropriate linens and clothing.

Additional Cost: There will be an extra charge of \$50 if you arrive on Wednesday evening.

Refund Policy: Requests must be submitted to the Registrar via email by July 1, 2015. **Remember that registrations are transferrable if you need to cancel. NO REFUNDS AFTER July 1, 2015**

Keys: The key deposit is \$10 and is refundable at checkout. **THERE WILL BE A \$100.00 CHARGE FOR LOST KEYS– NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Textbooks: You may purchase in advance by ordering toll free from the Mission Resource Center 1-800-305-9857 or the Resource Room on campus, open during registration. For information about each of the 2015 studies visit: www.umwmissionresource.org

Craft Room: Please bring handmade crafts to be sold in Ellis Hall as soon as you get to campus. Proceeds will be divided among the five South Carolina Mission Projects.

Walking Problems? Don’t Worry! Golf carts will be available to get you from place to place on campus. The drivers are fun, experienced, willing and ready!

Child Care: No childcare will be offered. Insurance does not cover children less than 12 years of age.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 30, 2015 – After June 30, 2015, please add a late fee of \$10.00.

2015 Mission u Registration Form

July 23-25-Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg, South Carolina

Theme: Created For Happiness

Please print clearly



Name: _____ Suitemate _____

Address: _____

Email address _____ Phone: _____

Please provide email address if you wish for confirmation to be sent electronically:

____ Under 40 ____ Youth ____ Attending first time ____ Conference Officer ____ District Officer
____ Clergy ____ Missionary ____ Day Participant ____ Youth Chaperone

****Please Check All That Apply****

Special Needs: Please help us address and meet your needs by listing them on the back of this form (If you have a physical condition that requires our consideration for classroom, campus, or dorm; also please indicate dietary needs.)

Emergency Contact: _____ Contact Number _____

All Adult Participants will take the Spiritual Growth study "Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God" and will also take either of the following courses. Please indicate your choice below. (Registrations received by June 15 will guarantee your choice.)

____ Geographic Study: Latin America People and Faith ____ Issue Study: The Church and People with Disabilities
____ Please indicate here if you took The Church and People with Disabilities study last year.

For Youth Only: Youth Study: Latin America: Places, Culture, and Faith

____ Age ____ Date of Birth ____ Grade to enter school in the fall

Name of Chaperone: _____ Cell phone: _____

Youth registration, chaperone registration and additional required forms must be mailed together.

Are you interested in participating in a plenary? ____ Yes Are you interested in driving a golf cart? ____ Yes

Mail completed form with payment to: Betty Swinton - SCCUMW Mission u - P. O. Box 723 - Dillon, SC 29536

Adult Resident: \$140.00 * Day Student: \$80.00 * Youth Resident: \$100.00 Amount Enclosed: _____

****Registration Deadline is June 30, 2015****

****Suitemate registration forms must be mailed together****

****Please See General Information Sheet for more details about the event****

Membership Nurture & Outreach

Gladys Lemon



“Come Together Be Together”

Once again we are looking forward to a day of fun and enrichment as the time of Come Together Be Together draws near. This is a special time for the South Carolina Conference of United Methodist Women. We meet after Mother’s Day and before the SC Annual Conference to have some fun, to let our hair down or put it up, just come!

This year we will fellowship at St. Marks UMC in Taylors, South Carolina in the Greenville District. The Membership, Nurture and Outreach Committee has met to plan for a dynamic speaker, meaningful worship and enlightening workshops.

Mark your calendar for a day of fun on May 16th. Our theme is “Welcomed By God: Welcoming All”. Our speaker for the event will be Freida Stroble, who has an awesome message she wants to share with us. We are busy securing workshop leaders and planning a full day of fun and fellowship, we just need you to bring your daughters, bring your mothers, and bring your sisters.

Our mission emphasis will be “Elder Baskets” which the Limitless Team will collect and assemble. As you make preparations to come, grab your fun hat and any flower accessory you choose and check out the list of contents for the Elder Baskets and bring those too. We are going to have a great time together and we can’t wait to see you there.

The registration form is located in this edition of the Mission Echo so register early and sign up for one of our workshops.

ELDER BASKETS

The baskets are a round or square laundry basket (the dollar store variety works very well).

The baskets are filled with non-perishable food, household, and personal items.

Can fruits and veggies: (about 2 of each listed): green beans, corn, fruit, mixed vegetables, soup.

Can meats: chicken, ham, tuna, salmon, beef stew **Dry goods:** beans, rice, pasta

Household: laundry detergent (powder form), dish washing liquid, toilet paper, paper towels.

Personal items: shampoo, bath soap, hand lotion, deodorant.

These baskets provide meals and comfort items to Native American senior citizens, which are vital and help

stretch an already meager Social Security check. Many thanks to all

UMW units who will help with this project!



South Carolina Conference United Methodist Women
Membership Nurture and Outreach
Come Together Be Together

Saturday May 16, 2015
“Fun for all Ages and Stages of United Methodist Women”

St. Mark United Methodist Church
911 St. Mark Road, Taylors, SC

Event Theme: Welcomed By God: Welcoming All

9:00 – 9:50 Registration

9:55 – 10:05 Centering with Music

10:05 – 11:00 Greeting/Music/Speaker

11:15 – 12:30 Workshops

12:40 – 2:00 Lunch/Sending Forth



Registration of \$20.00 postmarked by April 23, 2015. Fee includes lunch and materials.

Request for special dietary needs or child care must be received by April 23rd.

Registration fee is \$25.00 postmarked after April 23rd. Final postmark deadline is May 6th.

Checks postmarked later than May 6th will be returned.

With regrets, no on-site registration will be available.

Come with your smiles, hats and flower accessories to enjoy beautiful Greenville. Donations of personal toiletries and household supplies will be collected to support the SCUMC Native American "Elder Baskets" Mission Project!

Cut here and return bottom portion with check made payable to SCCUMW

Mail to Gladys Lemon: 304 Scotch Range Road, Summerville, SC 29483

Name _____

Address _____

Church _____ District: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Child Care: Number of Children _____ Ages _____

(Participants must bring a bag lunch for any child attending)

Please select first, second and third choice for your fun workshop!

Bible Study _____ Flower Arranging _____ Healthy Feet _____ Limitless Team At Work _____

Zumba Class _____ Health Care Class _____ Hymn Stories Class _____ Keepers of the Word _____

Secretary of Program Resources

Velva Ellerbe

I hope that your year has started off well. Don't forget to read from the reading list. We can read from the 2010-2014 lists as well as the current 2015 list. 2010-2013 Reading Program Books are on sale through the Mission Resource Center while supplies last. (www.umwmissionresources.org)

Update your calendars! We have publication dates for the following publications.

2015 Youth and Children Latin America Study- available January 15, 2015

2015 Spiritual growth study: Created for Happiness (English) book and leaders guide – January 15, 2015. Kindle version available February 23, 2015! Spanish and Korean studies available March 23, 2015!

2015 Geographic study: Latin America: People and Faith (English) book and leaders guide-available February 16, 2015. DVD available February 16, 2015. Spanish, Korean, Portuguese studies and English Kindle available March 23, 2015.

All of these study books should be available in the Resource Room at Lake Junaluska in May. The Resource Room will be right across the hall from the Lake Junaluska gift and coffee shop. See you there! You can contact me at ellerbevt@aol.com.

If you missed out, we are offering another chance to get an embroidered UMW polo shirt.

Sizes S-XL are \$20, 2X are \$22, 3X-4X are \$24. Order deadline is March 27. Shirts can be picked up in Summerville or they can be mailed for a \$5 additional charge.

SHIRT ORDER FORM

SIZE _____ QUANTITY _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

Delivery Options (circle one)

Pick up in Summerville

Mail (\$5 additional charge)

Make check out to Mr. Sign

Mail to Tina Waters

303 Factors Walk

Summerville SC 29485

S-XL \$20

2x \$22

3X-4X \$24

Treasurer

Maureen Thomas

Greetings to each of you as we begin a new year of service to the least of these. Your contributions are greatly appreciated by the lives you touch. Whatever you do in the name of our Savior is a blessing to someone else. Below is a chart of our mission giving for 2014:

District	2014 Pledge	Pledge to Mission	SMR	GTM	GIM	WTO	2014 Rec'd
Anderson	35,000.00	28,614.78	2394.05	490.00	410.00	2861.68	34,770.51
Charleston	40,000.00	34,789.14	1800.00	630.00	860.00	4332.42	42,411.56
Columbia	87,340.00	71,528.05	2190.00	1016.00	775.00	5097.22	80,606.27
Florence	40,000.00	24,539.68	1085.00	440.00	360.00	1670.20	28,094.88
Greenville	30,000.00	26,770.82	1300.00	355.00	550.00	3079.49	32,055.31
Greenwood	35,000.00	24,888.62	1240.00	405.00	595.00	4444.12	31,572.74
Hartsville	39,500.00	24,189.41	1746.00	1160.00	741.00	3149.48	30,985.89
Marion	40,000.00	32,828.25	1580.00	374.00	555.00	3842.10	39,179.35
Orangeburg	34,500.00	29,185.75	2140.00	795.00	802.50	4631.77	37,555.02
Rock Hill	39,000.00	25,060.20	2000.00	565.00	535.00	3943.06	32,103.26
Spartanburg	35,000.00	23,524.50	1200.00	665.00	895.00	3240.88	29,525.38
Walterboro	25,000.00	23,178.00	1520.00	535.00	670.00	1963.45	27,866.45
Total	480,340.00	369,097.20	20,195.05	7430.00	7748.50	42,255.87	446,726.62

As you can see we did not make our Conference goal. According to our last census, there are over 16,000 ladies who are proud to be a part of the United Methodist Women. We are asking each member to donate or pledge to pay **\$1.00** more this year than last. In so doing we will make an even bigger difference to so many who depend on us to make a better life.

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Evelyn Pauling

Come To A Quiet Place and be Rejuvenated

The apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. And He said to them, "Come aside by yourselves, to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. So they departed to a deserted place in the boat by themselves (NKJV, Mark 6:30-32).

Many of us can relate to the above scriptures. The business of our everyday lives seems to never come to a halt. We master or complete one task only to begin another. But we must take time to rejuvenate or reconnect with our inner spiritual being.

Upon reading Mark 6:30-32, I was immediately drawn to why I love attending the UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska. This retreat allows me to transition from the busy routine of everyday life to a place of harmony and tranquility. It's a time in which I can block out worldly distractions and focus on the peacefulness of God. Thus, this retreat permits us to reconnect with God and allows us to see His visions for our lives. As Paul said (NRSV, Romans 12:2) "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God – What is good and acceptable, and perfect.

The beautiful scenery at Lake Junaluska is best described by its majestic crafted mountains in which a lake with calm waters are forever flowing, the atmosphere is filled with God's peacefulness and love. Therefore, it's a place where our Spiritual Growth Retreat theme "**Fill My Cup Lord; With Faith! Hope! and Love!**", can be fulfilled. As I close my eyes, I can envision the Lord rising up above us with His arm stretched wide welcoming us into his faithful loving arms showering us with hope for tomorrow. I also see us (His children) holding up our cups of brokenness, asking, Lord fill my cup, with faith, hope and love. Nothing is impossible for God.

With that being said, I would like to invite you to the lakeshore for another great SCCUMW Spiritual Growth Retreat. Come be a part of a spiritual experience that's life changing and restoring. In the past, several have left spiritually rejuvenated and equipped to better serve in local and global ministries. This retreat is filled with various worship services to enhance your spiritual growth. The scenery provides a calm and peaceful atmosphere as you overlook the mountains and the glories lakeside.

The 2015 SCCUMW Growth Spiritual Retreat will be held on May 1st - 2nd (Retreat I) and May 2nd -3th (Retreat II). The theme for this year's retreat is "Fill My Cup Lord; With Faith, Hope and Love." This year's dynamic key note speaker is Mrs. Yvette Richards, UMW National President, from Missouri. Registration form and information may be found on the South Carolina UMW website. As always be encouraged and we look forward to having our cups filled with faith, hope, and love at the lakeshore.

Wallace Family Life Center

By the time you read this, we hope to have filled the position of Executive Director. I am sure you all join the Board in wishing Ms. Corina Esaw God's blessings in her new endeavors. We are grateful to our Program Coordinator, Antoinette Balfour, for stepping in and fulfilling the duties as Interim Director. This is in addition to her own duties. New fire compliance doors, with panic bars, have been installed on all doors with outside access. Our next project is to get the inside doors up to Safe Sanctuary standards. All this is accomplished because of the wonderful support you continue to give WFLC. Another way you support is saving soup labels. We have enough labels to get 2 new computers. God bless the soup eaters!

On January 29 we started a partnership with PEAK Children's Defense Fund Afterschool Program. They provide a teacher and a teacher assistant, as well as offering training to our WFLC staff. They are on site on Mondays and Wednesdays, assisting with homework/tutoring and in addition offer Integrated Reading Curriculum.

We are so proud of the children who are in our After School program. We average 25 and it is heartwarming to see the progress that the students are making. All of our children were sponsored by one of our churches in Operation Christmas Child. Another donation was received for \$150 and this was used for other children in the community. These are only a small sampling of what is done for WFLC and I am humbled by the way you ladies (and gentlemen) answer God's call to reach out in mission.

The Annual Christmas Dinner was a great success, with 60 people in attendance. We were so thankful that a volunteer from the community helped to coordinate it.

The Center is in need of a freezer (with a lock.) Call the Center if you think you can help.

Blessings,
Garvin Gilley, SCCUMW Representative to WFLC



**National UMW President
Yvette Richards
to speak at SC Spiritual
Growth Retreat in May**

Yvette Richards is currently National President of United Methodist Women Organization and a member of the General Board of Global Ministry 2012-2016. She is a 1985 graduate of North Carolina A&T State University with a BA in Mass Communications. She received a Master's degree in Leadership Development from Walden University in 2013. Employed 27 years with State Farm Insurance Companies, she is currently a Catastrophe Service Claim Representative. She is highly involved in her career and church serving as Co-chair of the Hospitality Committee at St. James UMC and served on the Missouri Conference Value Team.

Civic communities include Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and Girls Scouts of America just to name a few.

Her leadership positions held in United Methodist Women include Missouri West Conference Membership Chair, Nominating Committee, Dean Team and Dean of Missouri Coop School of Christian Mission, West Gulf, Pacific, and South Atlantic Regional School Youth Study Leader, Retreat, Annual Meeting and Women's Day Speaker, Youth Workshop Leader at The National Gathering, Alaska Annual Conference 2006 and South Central Jurisdiction Meeting 2004, 2008, 2012. Other activities include the Teen and College/University Women Adult Consultant Team 2000-2008, workshop presenter at Leadership Development Days, Women's Division Director 2008-2012, Board Member for the General Commission on Status and Role of Women 2008-2012, Global Aids Fund Board Member 2011-2012 and General Board of Global Ministry 2011-2012.

**The South Carolina Conference
United Methodist Women**

Bethany UMC
118 W. 3rd South St.
Summerville, SC 29483



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*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.*

Like us on Facebook
"South Carolina
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Methodist Women"



We're on the
Web:
[www.umcsc.org/
umw](http://www.umcsc.org/umw)

Special Notes

**South Carolina Mission
Projects Emphasis
Months:**

FEBRUARY:
Wallace Family Life
Center, Bennettsville

APRIL:
Columbia Bethlehem Com-
munity Center

JULY:
Rural Mission
Incorporated, Johns
Island

SEPTEMBER:
Killingsworth, Columbia

NOVEMBER:
Bethlehem Center, Spartan-
burg

