From Your President...

Setting aside time for God and for yourself is essential to being a whole person through Jesus Christ.

As women, and especially as United Methodist Women, we are usually focusing our attention on ways to care for others. How is it going with you in caring for yourself as a child of God? One practice I always admired about Jesus is after he spent time taking care of others, he went away on his own to have quality self-time with God. He knew he couldn’t handle his mission without that respite and reflective time. I see it as Jesus way of checking in with God to make sure he was staying on the right track and to keep from burning himself out. How well are we following Jesus example?

One of my favorite ways to spend quality time with God is to be involved in nature, whether it is working in my backyard garden, taking a walk through the woods, going to the beach or up to the mountains. Being with God’s creation brings me closer to Him and renews my spirit. It is a vital way to commune with God.

Going on a journey as Jesus and his disciples often did can give us a new perspective on people we have never encountered before and an opportunity to appreciate them as also being God’s children. It can be refreshing to observe and communicate with people who may have different ways of doing things. Maybe we can learn something by taking time away to experience God in a different situation. Allowing ourselves to break away from the regular routine can be an opportunity to experience God and God’s kingdom in new ways that can be of great benefit to all.

During this vacation season I pray that you have a chance to grow more as a whole person in the way Jesus Christ wants us to grow by being kind to yourself. You are also important to God!

Take care,

Kathy
News From Our Units

We, the members of the Old Bethel United Methodist Women Organization, are aware of the fact that U. M. Women are a supportive, inclusive, Christian membership organization where women grow spiritually, develop leaders, and serve to create a world in which all women, children and youth thrive and grow.

We are also aware of the fact that the U. M. Women nurture one another in the community and support U.S. and international projects and partners that improve the lives of women, children, and youth with their prayers, volunteers, advocacy efforts and financial gifts.

Thus, we would like to share with you some of the many services we as Old Bethel U. M. women are rendering. We are volunteers in the community by becoming members of School Boards, commissions, and YWCA Boards of Directors just to name a few.

We are chairpersons and members of church boards and committees such as the church council, nurture, outreach and witness committees. We serve as Lay Leaders, Bible Study Leaders, directors of Sunday school and Vacation Bible School and Lay members to Annual conference.

We tutor students (elementary, middle, and high school); visit the sick and shut-ins, give them flowers, pray for them, and have encouraging conversations with them to help brighten their days.

We sponsor a Stay at Home Tea which benefits the church financially. We collect tabs from soda cans to benefit the Medical University of S.C. Hospital. We sponsor a Christmas Social to help financially support church programs. We have a Prayer Breakfast yearly with local and church representatives offering prayers for global peace and humanity, again just to name a few.

We, the Old Bethel U.M. Women, strive to keep up with the purpose of the U.M. Women tradition and purpose, and maintain their commitment.

President: Claudia McKinney
Communication Committee Coordinators: Willie S. James and Alma Davis
LOCAL PRESIDENT’S REPORT FOR DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING 2017
Reporting Period: September 1, 2016 – August 31, 2017 (Send by September 2, 2017)

Unit _____________________________    President ______________________________

MEMBERSHIP: Number of Members in Unit __________ Number of Circles ________

CONTRIBUTIONS: (Treasurers will continue to send information as directed.)
Amounts given in each of the five channels of Mission Giving: 1. Pledge to Mission __________
2. Special Mission Recognition (minimum $40) _______ 3. Gift to Mission (minimum $5) ______
4. Gift in Memory (minimum $5) __________ 5. World Thank Offering __________
Amounts given to Five State Missions (to receive gold seal on Five Star certificate):
1. Bethlehem Columbia ____________ 2. Spartanburg Bethlehem Center ____________
5. Wallace Family Life Center ($5 per member) ____________

PARTICIPATION: (number of members attending each event)
District Events: Annual Meeting 2016 ________, Sickle Cell Run/Walk 2016 ________,
  Officers’ Training 2017 ________, Mini Mission u 2017 ________,
  Day Apart Spiritual Growth Retreat 2017 (St. Simons Island) ________,
  International Luncheon ________

State Conference Events: Annual Meeting 2016 ________, Legislative Day 2017 ________,
  Spiritual Growth Retreat 2017 ________, Conference Mission Trip (Washington, D.C.) ______,
  Come Together, Be Together 2017 ________, Mission u 2017 ________

MISSION EDUCATION / MISSION TODAY:
Reading Program participants ________ (Send report to Kelli Walker, Program Resources.)
Response subscriptions ________, # of programs used from 2016 Program Book ________,
Prayer Calendar used at meetings? ________, Charter for Racial Justice utilized? ________,
Mission study used? ________, New World Outlook subscriptions ________
(Mission Today Reports sent to Susan Brooks, Education & Interpretation.)
(Diamond Unit Reports sent to Martha Sass, Social Action.)

DECEASED MEMBERS: ________ (Send names to Angela Pickney-Hall, Spiritual Growth.)

CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDREN: Any participation in local public schools? ________

List unit mission projects:

List Social Action activities/events:

Please send completed report to: Kathy Roys 107 Hickory Trace Dr., Goose Creek, SC 29445
Do you have something that you want announced or published in the newsletter? Please send your information to cdumwcommunications@yahoo.com

Next Publication: September 1st
Deadline for Submitting Articles: August 15th


For participants, Mission u is an opportunity to study current issues impacting society based on current mission study topics with particular attention to the responsibilities of women in fulfilling the mission work of the church. Participants grow in understanding the mission of the church in the current world context; conference events are open to members and non-members of United Methodist Women. Mission u events also include:

- Worship & singing
- Interest Groups around current issues
- Mission Projects
- Audiovisual presentations
- Fellowship events

MISSION TODAY ACTION FORM

Unit President______________________________________________Date____________
Unit_Name_____________________________________Number of members in unit________

Units, which include all circles, must complete at least 10 of the following items.

All units must complete #1.

Your unit

____1. Made and met its Pledge to Mission.

____2. Used the Prayer Calendar at each General Membership Meeting of the unit to pray for people in mission and for our mission work with women, children and youth.

____3. Added at least one or more members to its roll.

____4. Had at least one member who subscribes to Response Magazine.

____5. Had at least one member (other than a conference or district officer) attend Mission u and/or a district or local mission study.

____6. Had at least one member (other than a conference or district officer) attend the District Annual Meeting.

____7. Had at least one member (other than a conference or district officer) attend the Conference Annual Meeting.

____8. Had at least two members who wrote to at least five people listed in the Prayer Calendar at least once during the year.

____9. Participated in the Campaign for Children.

____10. Is a Five Star Unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving.

____11. Had at least one person complete one of the plans in the Reading Program.

____12. Invited a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one unit meeting during the year.

Your unit, circle, or subgroup

____13. Included a Response Moment where an article from Response Magazine was lifted up as a way to tell the mission story in at least three meetings.

____14. Had at least two programs from the Program Book.

____15. Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least two ways.