



Trumpet Sound~



Greetings from your new and humble (at least I will try to be) servant. Greetings for the year 2016!

As we start the year together I would like us all to be as mission-minded as the ladies were so many years before us.

Our former District President, Lynn Campbell, and I attended a Conference team meeting in December on goal setting. We will share these goals with you in the upcoming local training event in Apopka. To obtain these goals, we must remember they first should be God's goals in order for us to achieve them. Some things about me you should know: I try to live my life by the Bible verses that come from Matthew 25:34-46. Reading and Quilting are my two passions. I hope I can incorporate these as we move forward in the coming year. Most of all my wish for this team is to start early and encourage our own units about the importance of attending the District Events. We can start doing that on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at Apopka when we hold leadership training for the local elected leadership.

My suggestion, for our first goal is: Together, we use **we and not "I"**.

May God be with us all!

Linda Gustafson, President, East Central District United Methodist Women

MARK YOUR CALENDARS SO YOU DON'T MISS THESE IMPORTANT DATES:

January 23, 2016...EC District UMW Local Leadership Training (FUMC Apopka)

April 16, 2016...Spring Day Apart (Grace UMC, Lake Mary)

July 7-10, 2016...Mission u (Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach)

September 17, 2016...Mission Studies Sampler (Sanlando UMC, Longwood)

October 22, 2016...District Annual Meeting (First Winter Garden)

November 5, 2016...Conference Annual Meeting (LEC)

**East Central District United Methodist Women
LOCAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

Saturday, January 23, 2016

from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

at First United Methodist Church of Apopka

201 S. Park Avenue, Apopka, FL

Training available for:

President, Vice President,

Secretary, Treasurer,

Secretary of Program Resources,

Chair of Committee on Nominations,

Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach

PLEASE send the number of attendees to Linda Gustafson ASAP

By email: lindag65@cfl.rr.com or by calling: 407-877-3099



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Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God is being offered by St. Luke's United Methodist Women at St. Luke's UMC, 4851 S. Apopka-Vineland Road, Orlando, FL 32819. The class will meet weekly for 4 weeks beginning January 12. You may choose Tuesday at 10-11:30 a.m. in Room C 205 or Wednesday, January 13, at 6:30-8 pm in Room B 202. A few books are available at \$10 each. All are invited and welcome, even if you miss the first session. You may sign up online at st.lukes.org/adults or just come. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Letter of Encouragement to Bear Lake UMW: Encouragement for All

Hopefully, for 2016 we can encourage the handful of women at Bear Lake to be more involved in the work of United Methodist Women. To be more involved is getting out of our comfort zones, seeing what other units are doing, attending unit, district and conference events and learning what United Methodist Women's mission work is all about. Every United Methodist Women's event that I attend affords me lifelong knowledge and spiritual growth. I am blessed to be a part of this great organization called United Methodist Women.

Our church family at Bear Lake has an ongoing annual bazaar for local mission projects. All the women of the church are involved in this event. Local mission is good, but as we all know, United Methodist Women's mission monies go over and above the call of giving locally. We give globally, to support women, children and youth **who are the least among them.** (**Proverbs 3:27** - We are encouraged not to hold goods back from those who are in need when we have the power to give).

As a small unit in number, we are disheartened when we do not have enough members to fill our slate of officers, and we want to quit. Quitting should not be an option. I have learned that since United Methodist Women have restructured the organization, we have the flexibility to do more with small numbers now. We just need to be more creative with **God's time**, not ours. We can be more intentional with our gifts and services.

As we continue this journey together, let us work a little harder this year than last year. God bless my sisters!

Veronica Aiken, President, Bear Lake United Methodist Women

2015 LOCAL MEMBERSHIP CENSUS

Due Date: January 15, 2016

We want to COUNT YOU IN!

Presidents received copies of the census form at the District Annual Meeting in October.

Please be sure to return your completed form immediately to:

Joyce Waldon Bright

3491 Colwyn Court

Orlando, FL 32812-5968

ec.umwvp@yahoo.com

Fax: [407-380-2480](tel:407-380-2480)

Newsletter for the East Central District Florida United Methodist Women

January 2016



Trumpet Sound~



Committee on Nominations (CON) Corner

Here we are with a New Year stretching ahead of us.....

How shall we get through it? With God's help!

What will we do in the New Year? Glorify God!

What tools do we have to utilize? Faith, Hope and Love! (in Action????)

Another great tool is our United Methodist Women's Response Magazine!!!!

I urge you to subscribe or borrow a copy of January's issue and carefully look and read all the way through it. Get together with a friend or another member of United Methodist Women and share together! Look on page 37, titled "listen" This is a great article- Identity: how we define ourselves? So many times we overlook what God has made of us!!!!

Another reason to share this with someone else - others might see interests, values, or talents in us that we are not realizing or using. At whatever age or stage of our life that we think we are, let us pray hard and open ourselves to what God has waiting for us, right here and now!!!!

As your Committee on Nominations for the East Central District, we encourage you to call on us with any questions or suggestions as to how to develop and use our abilities to fulfill our United Methodist Women's Purpose!!!!

Celeste Hicks, Chairperson Committee on Nominations

Lynn Campbell, Ladye Cox, Diane Abresky, Christine Whinstanley, Maritza Lago, Evelyn Rose

GRACE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Over the last two years, the Threads of Kindness of Grace United Methodist Women have delivered over 200 fleece items to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. The seven women crochet simple edges around the outside of the fleece blankets with donated pieces of yarn and material. Beautiful, warm, comfy covers are the final product and a comfort to the children.



Pictured from the left: Ladye Cox, Sarah Smithey and Elinor Teska, President of Grace United Methodist Women

How do your pledges add up? Nationally, to support missions, United Methodist Women give:

44 cents each second

\$26.48 every minute

\$142.40 every five minutes

\$1,589 every hour

\$38,143 each day

\$13.9 million each year

What a difference your dollar makes!



Newsletter for the East Central District Florida United Methodist Women

January 2016



Trumpet Sound~



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN of FIRST WINTER GARDEN



What an enjoyable time of laughter and fellowship we had as the United Methodist Men and United Methodist Women of First Winter Garden joined together for the first ever joint installation ceremony! Complete with candles and litany, the purposes of the two ministries were highlighted.

The Special Mission Recognition pin was presented by Pastor Rusty on behalf of our United Methodist Women's Unit to our

Director of Youth, Mrs. Greg Harford. This pin is awarded annually to a person whose contribution through service has exemplified the mission of the United Methodist Women. We salute Greg and also Harriet Grimes who was awarded a Rainbow Pin, presented by Linda Gustafson. Harriett's tireless service--frequently behind the scenes--was highlighted.

With our Pastor's vision for mission, we look forward to more combined efforts of men, women, and families. Stay tuned for our next venture.

FLAGLER BEACH UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



Pastor Jeanine Clontz on the right, installed the Flagler Beach unit officers to serve in 2016 during the annual Christmas luncheon on December 10, 2015. Pictured right to left: Pastor Jeanine; Carol Elliott, president; Alice Pickett, vice president; Bette Rountree, secretary; Betty Seubert, treasurer; Hannah Metz, secretary of program resources; Sarah Dearduff, coordinator for spiritual growth; Martha Luke, coordinator for social action; Joyce McDonald, coordinator for education; Darlene Hunter, coordinator for membership; Rita Simmons, committee on nominations chair.



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MEMBERSHIP NOTES



The Samaritan woman at the well in John 4 boldly stepped out to invite her community to Christ. She went outside of her comfort zone to invite others to meet Jesus. We, too, can reach outside of our comfortable groups of friends to invite others to join United Methodist Women.

Here we find a place to nurture faith, experience community and put faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women children and youth. (Adapted from the *United Methodist Women Handbook 2013-2016*)

Five tips on inviting new members include:

- Keeping the PURPOSE of United Methodist Women central to recruitment efforts.
- Nurturing your current membership while inviting others to join you.
- Sharing what excites YOU about United Methodist Women!
- Inviting prospective members to participate in your meetings and events.
- It may take at least five invitations before they accept. Do NOT give up!

Look for more tips in future *Trumpet Sound* issues.

We can connect with others using social media via our National sites:

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/UMWomen>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/UMWomen>

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/UMWomen>

Pinterest: <http://www.pinterest.com/UMWomen>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/UMWomen>

United Methodist Women's website: <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org>

I look forward to meeting with your unit's membership representative at our Leadership Training Event on January 23rd at First United Methodist Church in Apopka. Be sure to have her bring ideas and any questions you may have.

Your sister in God's Mission,

Joyce Waldon Bright,
Mission Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach



January 11, 2016 was National Human Trafficking Awareness Day!

It's a day to celebrate all the wonderful work being done to bring freedom to those in need around the world and in our city.

Last year, *Florida Abolitionist* served over **100 victims** and educated over **10,000 people** in our community. In 2016, we will continue to expand our work preventing human trafficking from taking place while ensuring victims receive excellent care and healing.

Human Trafficking is a **\$32 Billion** industry.
It is the fastest growing **crime** in the world.
\$ is being spent to rob people of their dignity.
We all must **act** to end this horrible crime!

8th Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Day

Saturday, January 23rd, 11 am - 4 pm

Lake Eola, downtown Orlando



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On Sunday, February 7, 2016, the Super Bowl will take place at Levi's® Stadium in Santa Clara, California. And like any big sporting event, a game like this intensifies the space where human trafficking can occur. That's why United Methodist Women has asked members to join the Intercept the Traffickers photo campaign and **open your umbrellas** to raise awareness of human trafficking. Thousands will travel to the San Francisco Bay Area to take part in Super Bowl festivities. Among the travelers will be those arriving by force, fraud, or coercion—they will not be there of their own free will but as victims of human trafficking.

The Super Bowl ranks second only to Thanksgiving as the day on which Americans consume the most food, and some of those who are trafficked will be serving food in restaurants or at catered parties related to the Super Bowl. Others will clean hotel rooms, wash dishes, tidy nail salons, deliver dry cleaning, or wash windows. Some will be trafficked as sex workers for escort services or in "gentlemen's" clubs.

YOU Intercept the Traffickers Photo Campaign

Yellow dots in the graphic represent players in umbrella defense formation.

To express our belief that we can help survivors of human trafficking live as whole persons, we invite you to join us by **Opening an Umbrella** to form a virtual line of defense around Levi's® Stadium, to prevent and protect those who may be victimized by human trafficking.

If you plan to be in the San Francisco Bay Area for the Super Bowl, we hope you will join us as we open umbrellas together on the streets of San Francisco and all around the Bay Area! If you aren't traveling to

Levi's Stadium® this Super Bowl season, you can still be a part of our umbrella line of defense.

What is an "umbrella" defense? It is named after the football defensive play created by New York Giants coach, Steve Owen. The innovative formation (it was 1950) enabled the Giants to shut out the then-formidable Cleveland Browns.

As writer, Cedah Mayo wrote in her poem *Umbrella Protection*:

Many lives before I have been beaten down
My spark crushed by the cruelty of mankind
My trust broken by selfish hearts
I dream of when I shall return to the land of dreams
Until then I must build my arms stronger
To hold my umbrella for longer
To protect my human me from the negativity that I face
From the human race.

Under an Umbrella, we are shielded the storm and protected from the heat.

- Our Umbrella Defense will shield trafficked women and girls from the glare of insensitive bystanders;
- Our Umbrella Defense will show that we care and encourage survivors to hold on a little longer;
- Our Umbrella Defense will form colorful ribbons of hope—hope for more beds, more money and more prosecutions;
 - Our Umbrella Defense will be a sign of Recovering Grace
 - **So, *Open Your Umbrellas!***

Let's name human trafficking as the crime that it is. Let us commit ourselves to ACTS of prevention and protection so that those who are victimized can move from trauma to thriving. Behind your umbrella chart a strategy to pass laws that prosecute the traffickers, not the victimized. Let our umbrella line of defense bear witness to the strength of survivors and to our partnership in their journey to wholeness.

Open your umbrella and take your defensive position to intercept the traffickers so that justice can reign. United Methodist Women members are called to listen to the mandate of our faith to help the vulnerable.

Between now and January 29, 2016, take a picture of your United Methodist Women's group holding

Newsletter for the East Central District Florida United Methodist Women

January 2016



Trumpet Sound~



umbrellas together with letters spelling out, "We are United Methodist Women opening umbrellas to intercept human trafficking." The photo of your umbrellas will be connected to others we receive, and you will be part of our Umbrella Line of Defense around the stadium. In your neighborhood, at church, in the grocery store, and at work, become a part of our circle of protection and prevention to intercept human trafficking.

The 800,000 members of United Methodist Women can open umbrellas that shut down the traffickers and embrace survivors. What a powerful statement of our ongoing work to say we can form the line of defense to intercept human trafficking, wherever it exists in the world! In your church, the store, at work; **Let's Open Our Umbrellas!**

United Methodist Women members, go find:

- Big umbrellas
- Small umbrellas
- Umbrellas painted by your children and grandchildren
- Umbrellas showcasing your handicraft abilities
 - Painted umbrellas
 - Designer umbrellas
 - Colorful umbrellas
 - Old umbrellas
 - New umbrellas
- Umbrellas with messages written by you

Get group photos with your United Methodist Women Umbrellas!

- Form a line of umbrellas
- Sit with an umbrella
- Children holding umbrellas
- Umbrellas in the church yard
- Dance with your umbrella
- Standing in the rain with an umbrella
- Outside in the sunshine under an umbrella
 - Umbrellas in your garden
 - Umbrellas on the beach
 - Umbrellas EVERYWHERE

Everybody can join the United Methodist Women's Umbrella Defense to intercept the traffickers!

Sharing our #UMWumbrellas photos will be a great way to show how we intercept human trafficking and will help raise awareness that this crime affects families and communities everywhere.

- Send your pictures to your conference communicators to share on conference websites and in newsletters.
- Share on social media: Tag United Methodist Women on Facebook or Twitter (@UMWomen) and use #UMWumbrellas wherever you share.
- If you would rather e-mail your digital photos, send them to the United Methodist Women [Flickr account as attachments](#). Please include caption and credit information in the body of the e-mail.

• You can **mail your physical photos to:**

Intercept the Traffickers Photos
c/o David Cherrytree
United Methodist Women
475 Riverside Drive, Room 1504
New York, NY 10115

United Methodist Women coordinates with secular as well as ecumenical partners to work against human trafficking.

Newsletter for the East Central District Florida United Methodist Women

January 2016

EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN LEADERSHIP TEAM 2016 - 2017

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