



Spring 2012

United Methodist Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

Hi-Flyer

Atlanta Decatur Oxford District

North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women

Message from our President

Greetings ADOX District, This is a time of self evaluation, repentance, confession and fasting in preparation for the 40 days of the Lent Season. How do you prepare to grow closer to God? Do you do everything in Jesus' name? Are you listening to the voice of our Lord as He guides us? This is a time to refine the process and strip away the flaws and distractions that hinder our intimacy with Jesus. We carry our cross daily. As we continue to grow spiritually, "we are made new".

As United Methodist Women, we continue to up hold our theme "ALL THINGS MADE NEW," as we seek to fulfill our goals set for 2012:

1. Work on district mission outreach, studies and reading program, aiming to become a 5 star unit.
2. Write a report for the *Hi Flyer* sharing information about the mission projects of your local units.
3. Organize a youth mission outreach with focus on a youth study through the Mission Education Event.
4. Join with the Bishop in using the daily reading plan that is made available through the Conference web site. The plan asks the average reader to spend about 15 minutes a day to read through the entire bible in one year.
5. Have a special program to invite new members during March membership drive month,

In February we supported the children in crisis by participating in the Bearable Hugs campaign. These stuffed animals were donated to DeKalb, Fulton, Newton and Rockdale Counties. They will be handed out to children receiving care at pediatric facilities, women's shelters, law enforcement agencies and other children organization in these counties. Stuffed animals can help calm a child involved in a tense domestic situation, a hospital stay or an emergency room situation.

March is women's month; it is our goal to highlight the women in our churches and for them to tell their stories. We must get our stories out to build a stronger UMW organization.

We are an organization that supports the needs of women, children and youth. With God's help we will continue to strive to meet that goal.

Juanita Mullins
President



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Coming Events for ADOX UMW in 2012

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| March 10 | 20-30-40 Something Event, Korean Church of ATL |
| March 18 | District Day Apart, Allgood Road UMC |
| April 21 | Executive Board, Dodd Sterling UMC |
| June 1-2 | SE Jurisdictional Quad. Meeting, Birmingham, Ala. |
| June 12-14 | North Georgia UMC Annual Conference |
| June 13 | NGCUMW Breakfast, Classic Center, Athens |
| July 12-14 | Cooperative Mission Education Event, Simpsonwood |
| August 18 | Executive Board, Allen Memorial UMC |
| September 15 | Fall Retreat, Covington 1st UMC |
| October 6 | NGCUMW Annual Meeting, Snellville UMC |
| October 28 | Annual Meeting, Kelley Chapel UMC |
| November 17 | Officer Training & Mini Mission Study, Conyers 1st |
| December 1 | Executive Board, Grace Covington |

ADOX UMW Presidents Breakfast

By Alma Garrette, ADOX UMW Vice President

The United Methodist Women of Columbia Drive United Methodist Church were delighted to host this year's Presidents' Breakfast. We had the pleasure of having our own District Superintendent, Sharma Lewis, along with seventy-three women from around the Atlanta Decatur Oxford District. After fellowship and a delicious breakfast, Juanita Mullins, President opened the business portion of the meeting. Rev. Lewis praised the work being done by the District United Methodist Women in missions, while asking us to continue doing what we have been doing to spread God's word and love to all.

During the introduction phase of the meeting, we had women from units all over the Atlanta Decatur Oxford District introduce themselves and tell what they did in their home church. Not only were the presidents there, but also vice president's, secretaries and some treasurers from the various units attended. We will continue this practice of inviting all local UMW officers to our future meetings.

Some important items were then discussed: What is needed to be a Five Star Unit, the Special 6 for 6 Supplemental Giving for March, A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, and the Membership Drive to be done during the month of March. Special emphasis was placed on our calendar for the year (see page 1 of this newsletter). Following reports by the ADOX UMW officers, the meeting concluded with door prizes being awarded to two lucky winners. Maxine Grant, Secretary, led us in reading the Litany.

"ALL THINGS MADE NEW" - An overview of 2012 Mission Studies

By Jackie Evans, NGC Education & Interpretation Coordinator

The Cooperative Christian Mission Education Event will be held July 12th - 14th. The studies offered are listed below with a short synopsis of each.

Geographical Study - Haiti: Challenges and Hope. This study is an overview of the cultures that shaped Haiti's past and the ongoing legacy of colonialism, along with glimpse into the heart and soul of Haiti's people and the impact of the devastating January 12th earthquake in 2010.

Spiritual Growth - Immigration in the Bible: This study relates to key insights from biblical texts. The story of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar, *Genesis* (Chapters 12-16); The story of Joseph and the migration of Joseph's father Jacob and his family to Egypt, (*Genesis* 37-47); The story of Women and Migration, (*Ruth* Chapters 1-2.)

Social Issue - Poverty: Poverty is a human rights issue with grave impact on women and children. This mission study is designed to help participants recognize and claim for themselves the connections between Scripture, church tradition, compassion for the poor, social outreach and social justice.

UMW News from North Georgia Conference and National Office

The Conference UMW mission projects this year will be **school bags** and **layette kits**. School bag contents will be collected at the North Georgia Annual Conference in June. Our district has been asked to contribute 1000 boxes of 24 count crayons and 100 school bags. You may bring your contributions to our District Day Apart meeting on March 18th, or send them by your Conference delegate to the Conference in Athens in June. For instructions about making the school bags, go to <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umcor/media/reliefsupplypdfsimages/schoolbagpattern.gif>

"The **Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering** in 2012 will enable national mission institutions and international institutions to help the marginalized and the poor, the physically challenged and others, especially women children and youth, who don't have access to information technology that will improve their quality of life. Projects such as computer literacy, information technology training, English as a second language classes, and career enhancement and job-seeking skills will be supported."

Go to <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umw/give/grants/calltoprayer/> for more information

"The **North Georgia Conference UMW** is asking each woman to give \$6.00 as a **Sacrificial Donation** in March 2012. The money will go to our six Mission Institutions in North Georgia: 1. Clark-Atlanta University 2. Global Health Action 3. Murphy-Harpst Children's Center 4. New Bethlehem Community Center 5. Paine College 6. Wesley Community Centers. Please consider a special program at your Unit Meeting in March 2012 to lift up this Sacrificial Giving of \$1 per institution per member or \$6 per person over and above your pledge to missions. Money should be sent to your District Treasurer with your quarterly remittance."

See the winter 2011 issue of *The Reflector* for more information.

News from around the ADOX District

The **UMW at Philadelphia United Methodist Church** in Conyers has started a pray blanket ministry that provides blankets to people who are having chemo or radiation treatments. They pray over each blanket before they send it and enclose a laminated card with a Bible verse and their name. This blanket ministry began last year and they have gotten a wonderful response from it. They are a mission oriented group. They collect women's clothes for Project Renewal which is a battered women's shelter. For the Trinity Soup Kitchen, they collect men's clothes, baby clothes, baby food, and diapers. They are discussing plans now to collect school items for a nearby elementary school. Every year at Christmas, they are able to give money to three elementary schools that have poorer populations to help with needs they may have. Starting in November each year, they also collect hats and gloves to give to two elementary schools.

ADOX UMW members responded to the Division of Child Support Services' request for teddy bears and other stuffed animals for children as part of their "**Bearable Hugs for Georgia's Children**" campaign. If you took pictures of the bears your church collected, please send them to ADOX UMW President Juanita Mullins to display at the Annual Conference.

The United Methodist Women at **Grace (Covington)** have been blessed this year. They have participated in Disciple Bible Study, Wednesday night Bible study, Sunday School, and Read through the Bible with the Bishop as they develop their personal relationship with God. They attended the Conference Mission Education Event and Spiritual Growth experience at Simpsonwood and participated in ADOX District and Conference meetings. This past year, they also hosted the December ADOX UMW Executive Meeting and the Presidents' Breakfast. They helped distribute birthing kits to local churches on the District and prepared school kits for the conference annual meeting. The women also supported their local youth. They gave a donation to each graduating high school and college senior at Grace. At Christmas, they adopted a family headed by a grandmother who is taking care of her 8 grandchildren while their mother is incarcerated. These children range in ages from infancy to 11 years old. They encourage youth to become involved in their ministry. Two youth at Grace are acting as the Grace UMW Historian this year. Grace UMW women thank God for Jayla Ores and Jadah Hardeman as they work to write the History of the UMW at Grace.

On March 18th **Cedar Grove UMC** will be celebrating their 184th year. For the occasion, the Esther Dorcas Circle of UMW will dedicate a room in their Family Life Activity Center in memory of Rev. Dr. Renita Thomas. "Because of her passion for UMW," UMW President Valerie Wilson said, "we were able to form a strong and effective unit that supports our district, our church, and our community."

Rev. Eric Powell, Pastor of Wesley Chapel UMC in Elberton, will lead the UMW Study "The Journey: Coming Out on the Side of Grace" at **Decatur First UMC** in the church fellowship hall on Tuesday mornings (April 10, May 8, June 19, and July 10) from 11 to noon. They invite all interested UMW members in the District to join them.

When the 2011 year came to a close, the United Methodist Women of **East Lake United Methodist Church** were reasonably pleased with their accomplishments during the last quarter. During their Women's Day Program in October, they honored one of their own, Lay Leader, Ms. Linda McWhorter by sending a gift to Missions in her name. Staying close to their purpose in December, they contributed plus-size personal items to the Women's Day Shelter and contributed children's items to Our House for infant and homeless children. To round out the last quarter of 2011, their unit had dinner at the Blue Willow restaurant in Social Circle, GA. There were over 25 women and spouses in attendance along with their Pastor and his lovely wife.

On January 22, 2012, during their morning worship service, the United Methodist Women of **Bowen UMC** started the year off by adhering to the 2012 theme "All Things Made New." New officers were installed by Jacqueline Evans, North Georgia Conference Education and Interpretation Coordinator. The program "Here I Am Lord, Use Me" was very meaningful and spirit-filled. Each officer pledged to support, serve and uphold the practices and principles of the United Methodist Women. The service ended with the officers and congregation standing together reciting the Purpose of United Methodist Women.

Can You Help?

Snellville UMW would like to invite all the UMW units in our district to consider supporting the **Red Bird Mission School** by saving Box tops for Education and Campbell's and Tyson A+ labels. This is an easy way to support the 90th year of educating children of the Cumberland Mountains. Sandra Stowe, Patti Meister and Ileen Meggison of Snellville UMC visited Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY last fall. The school's mission is to nurture every student to realize her, or his, God-given capacity for learning and service, living the motto "Enter to Learn. Leave to Serve". Red Bird Mission is an institution of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church within the Red Bird Missionary Conference. Labels and Box tops can be mail to: Red Bird Mission School, 15420 S. Hwy 66, Beverly, KY 40913. For more information, go to www.rbmission.org.

Action Ministries' new **Smart Lunch, Smart Kid** program connects kids who receive free or reduced-price lunches during the school year with nutritious meals during the summer months. For more information about this program, go to <http://www.actionministries.net/SmartLunchSmartKid/index.html>

Please send news about your local UMW unit for the summer issue of the *Hi-Flyer* to Marie Nitschke at marienitschke@comcast.net or 152 Willow Lane, Decatur, GA 30030 by **July 1st**.



North Georgia Conference
United Methodist Women
Annual Breakfast

Annual Conference
Classic Center
Athens, Georgia

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

TIME: 7:00 am to 8:00 am

Cost: \$15.00—Deadline—June 1, 2012

*(See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare; Isaiah 42:9 NRSV)*

Please Print

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Church _____ District _____

Make checks payable to NGCUMW. No refunds will be available. Mail registration form and check to:
Elaine Mathews, Treasurer
324 North Rhodes St.
Union Point, GA 30669
706-486-4400

Please reserve _____ seats for me at the UMW Annual Breakfast, Wednesday, June 13, 2012.

Reservations are for: Myself ____ Guest ____ Myself and Guest (s) ____

| | | |
|-------------------|----|-------|
| Cost per Ticket | \$ | 15.00 |
| Number of Tickets | X | _____ |
| Total Cost | \$ | _____ |

Enclosed is check # _____ in the amount of \$ _____

To ensure NGC UMW has the correct information, please list all attendee(s).

NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER.

Visit our website: www.ngumw.org