

Welcome back, Ladies and Clergy, from a beautiful summer! I hope your units have been active, serving women, children and youth around your community and around the world. We have a busy fall and winter coming up and I am sure you will want to let all the ladies in our district know what you are up to. There are many activities, as well, that need our support!

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

**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, Leesburg)**

**January 21, 2017...Membership Event (need church)**



Purple Door Breakfast for Harbor House is Oct. 19. Breakfast is free, but this is a fundraising event. Oct. is Domestic Violence Awareness month.

<https://www.harborhousefl.com/give-help/get-involved/events/purple-door-breakfast-2/>

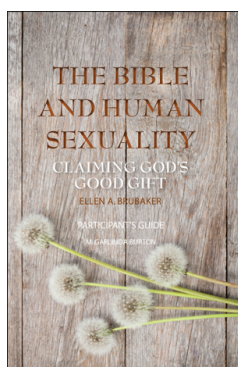
**Newsletter for the East Central District Florida United Methodist Women**

**United Methodist Women ~ "You will know them by their fruit" Matthew 7:20**

**August 2016**



East Central District  
United Methodist Women

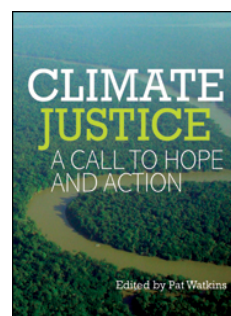


### MISSION STUDIES SAMPLER

Saturday, September 17, 2016  
Time: 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Sanlando United Methodist Church  
1890 W State Road 434, Longwood 32750

Continental breakfast will be provided.

Pattern of Attendance: ALL (Adults, youth children)



Spiritual Growth: The Bible & Human Sexuality  
Social Issue: Climate Justice  
Geographic: Latin America



Childcare will be provided *by reservation only*.  
(Infants through 7 years old)

**Childcare reservation deadline: Friday, September 9th.**

**Event RSVP deadline: Tuesday, September 13th.**

Come to hear about the interesting studies that many of us had a privilege to take part in. Each unit should have a person who will be responsible for entering your membership numbers in the conference data base. We will be sharing the process with you.

Please respond to Linda Gustafson how many from your unit will be attending.  
Email: [Lindag65@cfl.rr.com](mailto:Lindag65@cfl.rr.com)

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## Call to Action: RETREAT!

(Submitted by Pam Anders UMW V.P. @ FUMC, Clermont)

Not to withdraw, as from danger **BUT** to reflect in a safe, quiet place for a period of contemplation or meditation; to draw closer to our Lord. The participating members of FUMC, Clermont at the 2015 Mission u class: "Created for Happiness" returned with a definite **Call to Action** in mind before the mission study became a reality! Why not present the study in a form of a RETREAT and invite the women of other churches in the community to join us? The "Retreat" idea

was presented to the Leadership Team as an overnighner at the Florida United Methodist Life Enrichment Center (LEC) in Fruitland Park, using the Created for Happiness text as the foundation for the agenda. There was an overwhelming "Let's do it!" Call to action before the actual study? God does work in mysterious ways!



A core committee was formed and ideas began to fly. Since a sizable financial, nonrefundable deposit was required to reserve rooms and meeting accommodations, the committee began small, thinking we could surely get 25 women to attend. Oh ye of little faith!

Under the leadership and enduring faith of Retreat Coordinator, Beth Knight, recent graduate of Asbury Theological Seminary with a Master's Degree in Pastoral Counseling, the core committee planned and implemented an exciting agenda, which included "running from rest," sacred liturgical dancers, praying with the body at the outdoor prayer labyrinth, relaxing lullaby yoga, mini presentations on "Created for Happiness, playful photo booth to capture the moment, etc. Invitational flyers were sent to local churches to join us May 20th for the Retreat.

How pleased we were that there were 49 at our very first RETREAT, which included participants from 5 other churches! Everyone went home with their own homemade finger prayer labyrinths to remember this very special occasion. Evaluations were very positive; wanting more and for longer. Already our United Methodist Women members are thinking "Climate Justice" might fit the bill for the 2017 Retreat. If you are interested in having a copy of the retreat schedule contact Cathy D'heron at [bdheron@aol.com](mailto:bdheron@aol.com).



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## **Oreta Haines Legacy**

(Submitted by her friend, Mary Lou Abel)

Oreta was a member of FUMC, Clermont for 62 years. For 50 years she was in charge of setting up for communion at the 8 AM service. You would see her in the church choir and performing with the hand bell choir. She organized a group at the church called SPARKS (Senior People Are Real Keen Servants.) She was a member of United Methodist Women for more than 40 years. During that time she and a friend organized summer luncheons when the United Methodist Women Circles were not meeting monthly. Oreta was an integral part of setting up and implementing the annual United Methodist Women rummage sale. With her seamstress skills she cut out bears, sewed front to back so other United Methodist Women members could stuff them and deliver to children in the local hospital. Oreta joined her Lord and Savior May 30, 2009. A few things have evolved somewhat over time: now the group is METS (Meeting, Eating, Traveling Seniors,) attendance at summer luncheons grown by leaps and bounds, Annual Holiday Bazaar rather than rummage sale and Christmas stockings for Dec. babies to go home in! Her servanthood philosophy aptly described in this poem she left for us. Thank you, Oreta, for paving the way for others in United Methodist Women to serve for the glory of the Lord.

### **Methodist Women**

We are the Methodist Women, we are part of a band.....  
Of dedicated women in Methodist churches all across the land.

We were once call "Missionary Society;" missions are a big part of our plan,  
Not only locally but also in foreign lands.

We sometimes meet as a total group, but we have small groups of your choice.  
Here you hear interesting programs and in discussion you're allowed to voice.

We are always willing and able to fill most any need....  
That the church has to offer...especially when they put on a big feed.

Each year from the congregation we honor people who do more than their part....  
To keep things running smoothly, and it comes from a willing heart.

We are dedicated workers; we also have a lot of fun.  
I think all the members will agree, the Rummage Sale counts as number one.

We are a vital part of the Church; we've earned our place in the sun.  
I'm sure God is looking down from heaven and saying, "Methodist Women, well done".

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[\*\*August 2016\*\*](#)



To all Treasurers:

Please mail or e-mail me your pledges for year 2016. I have some of them but not all.  
Also if you know what your pledge will be the year 2017, please send it.

I still have some cards that have been ordered but not received. I am working getting all back orders completed. Please let me know if you have ordered pin and have not received them. Thank you for your help in this matter.

God Bless all.

Maryann Murray

maryann2936@aol.com



### MISSION U BRINGS SMILES TO FUMC, CLERMONT United Methodist Women MEMBERS

L. to R: Cathy D'heron, Sharon Kowalski, Celeste Hicks, Janet Blume, Lorna Broersma, Jan Becherer and Noelene McCall. Not pictured: Wanda Cahuaya, commuter. This group is already making plans for their "Climate Justice" mission study in their community. At the September 28th United Methodist Women /People of Faith Program at FUMC, Clermont "climate justice" tips will be integrated into the program. Janet, Jan and Noelene were "first-timers" and eager to return to next summer's Mission u. All attending extend a "Ya'll join us next year at Mission u for: beneficial subjects, improving quality of life, spiritual growth, and wonderful fellowship!"

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“Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people,”  
Ephesians 6:7 NIV  
<http://bible.com/111/eph.6.7.niv>

This verse spoke to me. One morning I found myself and another friend from Community of Faith UMC in Davenport, driving to the EC District United Methodist Women's Annual Meeting in 2013. We wanted to learn more about the District. Well, Jesus had a different way he wanted me to learn -- HE wanted me to participate by being involved on the Committee on Nominations! When someone up front called out for a volunteer, it wasn't my plan to get involved, but my hand went up! All of a sudden there was clapping and I was asked to come up front. Afterward they got my name and number. I am in my 3rd year of serving. I have made connections with a lot of new sisters in Christ who have serving hearts – some have served many positions because so many of us are not sure about being involved. I would like to encourage you, you know who you are – maybe you're ready to try something different. Go ahead, send us a note. A few meetings, some calls and a whole lot of new friends. You can make a difference!

Diane Abresky, member of EC District Committee on Nominations

Contact us:

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First United Methodist Church, Winter Garden, FL

## *Women's Retreat* (for all ages)

With ML Morlock

August 26-27      \$12 (includes lunch)

**Fri. Aug. 26-6:30p**-Doors open/check in. 7:00p-worship and message

**Sat. Aug. 27-9:00a-3:00p**-Worship, fun, message, lunch, and more!

To register call: 407-656-1135\* Nursery available by reservation.

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So, you've been hoping, praying and asking the Lord for something in particular (answers about your future or direction, a career change, a stronger marriage, singleness, a healing, a prodigal child to come to know the Lord) and you still don't have answers. What if after months or many years of faithful prayer, your prayer **STILL** goes unanswered?

During these times, God doesn't just seem distant: He seems inattentive, uncooperative, and sometimes even late. What do we do with seasons like this? People tell us to pray more. They even tell us to have more faith. But what does the Bible say?

With great humor, music and fun ML Morlock will take you on a journey exploring the lives of three men from the New Testament also wondering when God would move in their situation. ML will help you gain a whole new outlook for the next time you ask "When God?" Intrigued? . . . You should be. . . Come to the Women's Retreat!

We are looking for a new cover page for our facebook page. Do you have a neat, interesting photo of your unit? Email it to [SNagy0464@gmail.com](mailto:SNagy0464@gmail.com) and we will take a look at it!

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