

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – LOUISIANA CONFERENCE AUGUST 2015 NEWSLETTER

Dr. Barbara Ferguson, President

Website: umwla.org

*Thanking God for an outstanding Mission u-
And looking forward to Annual Meeting!!*

Mission u, held last month at the Wesley Center, was especially outstanding!

- Dean Laura Salguero set the tone and the pace! Lovingkindness abounded along being educated on numerous social issues calling for our advocacy.
- Carrie Roy, Assistant Dean, was right there being the wind beneath the wings of our dean – and with her own sweet, sweet spirit!
- Kathleen Conrad, Youth Leader for the second year, led this enthusiastic group of youth who were not only an integral part of Mission u, but were the leaders of Friday's event.

The leadership of **Laura, Carrie and Kathleen** lifted up our Mission u to new heights! Lots of fellowship, worshipping, mission activities, education and good food and company!

Plan ahead for our next event: Annual Meeting

Theme: "Behold! Our Mission: A Call to Service"

The dates are Friday, October 9th through Saturday, October 10th in Lake Charles.

Friday:

- Registration and lite lunch from 11:15 am – 12:45 pm
- Convening of Business Meeting at St. Luke Simpson: 1:00 pm
- Banquet at 6:00 pm at Holiday Inn and Suites in Lake Charles

Saturday:

- Continental Breakfast from 8:00- 9:30 am
- Reconvening with hands-on Mission Activities
- Communion and Closing
- Bag lunch and participation in various leadership trainings.

For more information and registration, go to our website: umwla.org

Lots of events

There are lots of UMW events including the Jurisdiction Meeting in April 2016 and the National UMW Seminar.

Our Leadership Team plans to attend as many events as we can and we encourage you to attend, also. But, our Leadership Team is committed foremost to serving you. That is where we spend the majority of our time, talents and funds --- and that is what is required of us under the UMW National Constitution.

We serve in two areas – How are we doing?

1. *Coordinate the mission and education emphases in the Conference*

We are doing well in this area. Our three statewide events are focused on education and mission. We circulate the location of our events – holding them in different districts - so at least one event is close to you every few years. Our attendance is good at all events.

2. *Support and develop Local Units*

We are still not doing well in this area. Only one-third of Louisiana's United Methodist Churches have UMW Local Units. All of the Local Units listed in the Directory are not active Local Units as we learned when we compared our Membership Report with the Directory. Some of the Local Units are being carried in our Directory that have not made a Pledge in years. We are correcting this now.

Congratulations to Lake Charles District, which had the highest percentage of Local Units in 2014!!

United Methodist Women – Number of Local Units in 2014			
District	No. of United Methodist Churches	No. of Local Units	% of Local Units
Acadiana	79	27	34%
Baton Rouge	86	25	29%
Lake Charles	65	34	52%
Monroe	100	20	20%
New Orleans	77	24	31%
Shreveport	100	38	38%
Total	507	168	33%

Lots of Love,

Barbara Ferguson

And, don't forget to visit our website that is updated regularly: umwla.org