

# CROSS TIES

Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women

Aug 28, 2013 Volume I, Issue I

## LINDA'S LETTERS



**Wow! Autumn is fast approaching. I know we'll all be glad to have a reprieve from the heat of summer. Fall is a time for getting together again, renewing friendships, electing 2014 UMW officers, adopting the 2014 Budget and planning local, district and conference mission projects and gatherings.**

I always look forward to the Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women's Autumn Gathering. This year it will be on October 5<sup>th</sup> at Genesis UMC in Fort Worth. Barbara Greene, CTC UMW Vice-President, has organized an excellent day for us with inspiring speakers and music plus so much more. Be sure to gather your UMW friends, register ahead of time and come for a great day! The United Methodist Women of Genesis UMC are anticipating your arrival with open arms.

District officers for 2013 and 2014 plan on attending an evening of Leadership Development on Friday, Oct. 4, at Genesis UMC. We'll begin at 5:30pm with dinner while we enjoy fellowship.

## Annual Autumn Gathering

41<sup>st</sup> Annual Autumn  
Gathering, October 5,  
2013

"Serving with Open  
Hands"

(Open Handed, His Command)

Come out for an exhilarating day to hear two guest speakers. Our morning speaker will be Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks who is, among other things, committed to the health and welfare of the people, not only in Tarrant County Precinct One, but in Texas. Our afternoon program speaker will be our Bishop Michael Lowry who will make our live take on new spiritual significant by hearing what he has to say that day. Come and enjoy good music, dance, singing and fellowship. Bring your friends, clergy and relatives. This will be a

wonderful day.

Remember District Officers, on Friday evening October 4, 2013 we will have District Officer Leadership Development Training for all district officers. The training will be at Genesis UMC. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. for our evening meal and program. At 7:00 p.m. classes will begin. More information will be provided in the future.

Barbara Greene  
Program Chair

Communication, an important aspect of life for all of us, is the topic for the next part of the evening led by Dr. Paul King, Chair of the Communications Department at TCU. Lastly, we'll meet in separate areas for our Leadership Development for our offices, including specific ideas for your District Officer Leadership Development for the Local UMW Officers. Please let your district presidents know if you plan to attend by Sept. 27.

"Make It Happen" is the theme of the 2014 United Methodist Women's Assembly in Louisville, KY, April 25 - 27, 2014 with an Ubuntu Day of Service on April 24. You can register online now on our website [ctcumw.org](http://ctcumw.org) or at [www.assembly2014.org](http://www.assembly2014.org). If you have a prayer shawl ministry or would like to make baby blankets, they will be accepted before March 1 and many will be displayed at Assembly. Look at the assembly website for more information. But be sure to register before November 30 because the registration fee goes up after that. Remember that together we can "Make It Happen!"

Mission u was held in 3 locations this August for your convenience. The planning team for Mission u did a great job organizing the three events and the United Methodist Women of Genesis UMC in Fort Worth and First UMC Temple exemplified the most gracious hospitality. The study leaders were wonderful and reminded each of us to continue to work for justice. The children and youth had an exciting time too.

I was truly blessed to take part in the UMW June mission trip to the UMCOR Sager-Brown Depot in Baldwin, LA with 17 other missionaries. For a whole week we worked, worshiped, shopped, ate and played chicken-foot together. Great mission work and blessings abounded. I hope next year you'll be able to participate in one or both of the CTC UMW mission trips to either Cookson, OK in June or to McCurdy Ministries in Espanola, NM in Oct. of 2014.

Continue to study, ready your Bible, pray, love one another and be in mission each day. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

# 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Autumn Gathering

Central Texas Conference

United Methodist Women

Save the date ..... October 5, 2013

Note the time ..... 10:00 A.M – 2:30 P.M.

And the Place ..... Genesis United Methodist Church,  
7635 S. Hulen St., Fort Worth, TX. 76133



Serving with Open Hands  
(Open Handed, His Command)

Keynote Speakers: Roy C. Brooks,  
(Tarrant County Commissioner)

Bishop Mike Lowry, afternoon program

Registration Deadline: September 28, 2013

For more information go on line at: [ctcumc.org](http://ctcumc.org)

Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women

## 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Autumn Gathering

Genesis United Methodist Church

7635 S. Hulen St., Fort Worth, TX. 76133 817-292-4551

**Saturday, October 5, 2013**

Registration begins 9:00, Gathering 9:45, Meeting 10:00, Dismissal 2:30

Serving with Open Hands

(Open Handed, His Command)

**Keynote speakers: Roy C. Brooks**

(Tarrant County Commissioner)

**Bishop Mike Lowry, afternoon program**

**Registration Deadline September 28, 2013**

You may register on line at: [ctcumw.org](http://ctcumw.org), email or make a payment at door

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Mail Reservation Form and a Check for \$15.00(made out to CTC UMW) to

LeOneita Jefferson, 1717 Ellington Dr., Fort Worth, TX. 76112, 817-457-0350

Childcare will be provided @ 9:00. Please list children attending. Bring a sack lunch for each child.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Please inform us about special needs or other needed information

Directions to the church: <http://www.genesisumc.com/templates/system/details.asp?id=41478&pid=937296>

## Treasurer's Report

In the Summer 2013 Treasurer's Newsletter quoted Martha S. Knight, UMW Treasurer of the National Office of United Methodist Women ~ "As ever, United Methodist Women remain the most dedicated givers! In spite of continued economic woes, member gave with strength of purpose to our collective mission with women, children and youth." (Spring 2013 UMW Board Meeting)

The Conference Income Report of giving for 2012 is available on the UMW website ( <http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umw/> ). Please review it when you have an opportunity. Although Central Texas Conference only paid \$180,000 of our \$190,000 pledge our total giving to pledge plus other mission giving exceeded \$190,000. Thanks for all of your payments!

Cash flow continues to be a challenge to the National Office due to the greatest % of UMW's Mission Giving being received in the October to December quarter, and the majority of that being received in December. During the past four years, on average, we have received the greatest portion of the yearly pledges in the second half of the year. In the current economic climate, we are thankful for the support and continued generosity of United Methodist Women. And know if we work collectively, we can design a strategy to get all payments to UMW in a more timely fashion.

We are very thankful for the support and continued generosity of United Methodist Women. Money raised under the banner of United Methodist Women should be used for mission with women, children and youth. Local unit budget consists of three main categories" Pledge to Mission, Administration and Membership Development and Mission Locally. There is no "right" proportion of the budget for each of the three categories. Traditionally, sixty percent of the budget is for the Pledge to Mission. Some units find this too small, while others find it too large. The final decision rests with the local unit itself.

Reminder: A unit should keep in its treasury only the minimum amount necessary to carry it into a new year until members' mission pledges and gifts begin coming in. Saving for a "rainy day" is not good plan since TODAY is a "rainy day" for thousands of women, children and youth for whom our mission money offers hope.

Have you seen the new Gift in Mission Cards? New Birthday and Thinking of You cards are now in stock at the Mission Resource Center. Look for them at your district and conference meetings.

Our pledge for 2013 is \$180,000 to mission giving. Pledges, Special Mission Recognitions, Gift to Mission cards, Gift in Memory cards, and World Thank Offerings are the five areas through which our district and conference pledges are met. To date, we have met approximately 22% of that pledge.

Again, we thank you for all your support of United Methodist Women and mission giving.

Press on, In Jesus' Name,



### **Make It Happen: Faith, Hope and Love in Action**

At the 2014 Assembly, we will celebrate, share sisterhood and remind one another how faith hope and love in action turns the impossible into reality every day. In more than 100 workshops women will help one another reach new heights in spiritual growth; develop leadership skills; cultivate new ways to strengthen our mission work; and learn more about environmental sustainability and best practices for incorporating these principles into our daily lives when we return home.

### **Early Registration for Assembly 2014**

Women from around the country, mission partners from across the globe and even different faith backgrounds are planning to be present at the 19th quadrennial Assembly of United Methodist Women, April 25-27, at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, Ky. [Early online registration](#) opened Aug. 1 and will continue until Nov. 30.

### **Incentive Plans for Groups Attending Assembly**

While planning your trip, be aware of the incentive plans designed to make it easier for groups to come to Assembly. [The Youth and Young Person Group Rate](#) waives registration fees for leaders who bring 10 or more young women 35 years old and under. [The New to Assembly Group Incentive Rate](#) waives the registration fee for the first 200 women who register 10 new persons to Assembly.

### **Come Early: April 24, 2014**

You may want to come a day earlier, April 24, to be a part of the [Ubuntu Day of Service](#) within and around the Louisville, Ky., area. A Limitless reunion will also take place April 24 for the young women and allies who attended the Limitless: Redefine Tomorrow event in August 2012. Opportunities for new young women to join Limitless will be offered throughout Assembly.



## Conference Officer Nominees



President - Linda Hutchings

Vice President - Barbara Greene\*

Secretary - Donna Hughlett

Treasurer - Betty Foster\*

Membership, Nurture & Outreach - Marsha Pennington

Social Action - Darlene Alfred

Education & Interpretation - \*

Spiritual Growth - \*

Communications - Jennifer Higgins

Secretary of Program Resources - Billie Ray

Committee on Nominations

Jody Johnson, Chair, Class of 2015

Lydia Atkins, Class of 2015

Barbara Woods, Class of 2014

Margaret Blanton, Class of 2015

Paulette Terrell, Class of 2015

Cathy Williams, Class of 2015

\*, Class of 2016

The empty spaces are still to be filled and the \* names are the ones to be elected this year.



## Communicator's Corner



By Monday, September 16, the Central Texas Conference United Methodist Women will have a Facebook page and a Yahoo group. These should make communication across the conference more timely. Please look for the Facebook page on Monday and "Like" it.

For those who are not on Facebook, but have email, we will use the Yahoo group as a means of communication. This group will be moderated in order to keep discussions on topic and related to UMW interests. The Yahoo group will allow us to ask questions and get ideas on programming at a local level, send out information about different districts and conference events and activities, and allow us to follow other local units from within the conference.

If you have any questions or other ideas on how to increase communication across the conference, please feel free to contact me at 817-690-2720 or email me at k4j@sbcglobal.net.

Love and Hugs,

Jennifer Higgins