



United
Women
in Faith

Florida Conference
of The United Methodist Church

49th Annual Meeting

MOVING FORWARD IN
FAITH



"Let Your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you" Proverbs 4:25 (NIV)

Saturday, November 19, 2022
First United Methodist Church
72 Lake Morton Drive
Lakeland, FL 33801

PURPOSE

United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

PROPOSITO

Mujeres Unidas en la Fe será una comunidad cuyo propósito es conocer a Dios y experimentar libertad en la totalidad de sus vidas mediante Jesucristo; desarrollar un compañerismo creativo y de apoyo, y ampliar los conceptos de misión mediante la participación en los ministerios globales de la iglesia.

BI

Fanm Ini Nan Lafwa yo se yon kominote fanm ki gen pou BI konnen Bondye epi fè eksperyans nan Jezi Kri kon yon moun tout bon, pou devlope yon lespri fratènel pou youn ede lòt, epi pou gaye lide misyon nan jan yo patisipe nan gran misyon tout legliz la.

연합감리교회 여성교회 목적문

연합감리교회 여성교회는 여성의 공동체로, 그 목적은 하나님을 알고, 예수 그리스도를 통하여 온전한 인간으로서 자유를 체험하며, 창의적이고 상호 협력하는 친교를 도모하며, 교회의 세계 선교에 동참함으로써 선교에 대한 이해를 넓히는데 있다.

Florida Conference United Women in Faith Forty-Ninth Annual Meeting

Deaconess *Judith Pierre-Okerson*, Ph.D., Conference President Presiding

9:45 a.m. GATHER TO SING *Lyn Sears*

9:55 a.m. PROCESSIONAL HYMN “*We Are Marching to Zion*” UMH No. 733

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/PURPOSE

Dr. Pierre-Okerson

SPECIAL GREETINGS

Meredith Kehler, Unit President, First United Methodist Church-Lakeland
Alice Williams and/or *Derrick Scott III*, Co-Lay Leaders, Florida Annual Conference
Reverend *David McEntire*, Senior Pastor, First United Methodist Church-Lakeland
Bishop *Kenneth Carter*, Florida Conference Area Bishop via Zoom

DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

Ethel Ewing, Member, Conference Committee on Nominations

SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 4:25

English – *Annie Woods*, Member, Conference Committee on Nominations
Creole – *Cilianne Louis*, Member, Conference Committee on Nominations
Spanish – *Maria Escobales*, Member, United Women in Faith, Gulf Central District
Korean – *Julie Yo*, Member, United Women in Faith, Gulf Central District

INVOCATION

Reverend *David McEntire*

MEMORIAL SERVICE

“*Dawning of A New Day*”

A Tribute to *Ressie Mae Bass*, former Conference President

TELLING OUR MISSION STORIES PAST AND PRESENT

THROUGH GIVING

Donna Spear, Conference Treasurer

THROUGH ACTIONS

Edith Zewadski-Bricker, Conference Social Action Liaison

BUILDING THE NEXT 150 YEARS’ MISSION STORIES

Pamela Sue Davis, Chair, Conference Legacy Committee

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Dr. Judith Pierre-Okerson

SPEAKER

Sally Vonner, Transformation Officer
United Women in Faith, National Office

LUNCH

1:15 p.m. – SONG

“Turn in UP”

Lyn Sears

NEW WINESKIN CELEBRATION

Ruth Fleurimond, Member, United Women in Faith, South West District
Jennifer Noel, Member, Program Advisory Group, National Organization

BUSINESS MEETING

Dr. Pierre-Okerson, Presiding

INSTALLATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS CLASS OF 2026

Sally Vonner

CELEBRATING THE LOCAL UNITS’ ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2021-2022

Jackie Brooks, Conference Secretary for Program Resources

LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

2023 Haitian Convocation

Michelene Charles, Member, United Women in Faith, South East District

2023 Mission u

Linda Parrish, Dean, Mission u

2024 Southeastern Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting

Kay Roach, Vice President
Southeastern Jurisdiction United Women in Faith

HYMN -

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

No. 618 UMH

COMMUNION SERVICE

MEDITATION

Reverend *Debbie Keller Allen*, South West District Superintendent
and United Women in Faith Cabinet Liaison

COMMUNION CELEBRANTS

Reverend *Debbie Keller Allen* and *David McEntire*

SENDING FORTH

Dr. Judith Pierre-Okerson

OUR SPECIAL GUESTS...

Sally Vonner (she/her) is a woman of faith and purpose as a leader, mother, sister, and friend to many. She is on staff at the national office of United Women in Faith. As the Transformation Officer she coordinates the organization's strategic focus and ongoing vision to positively impact the lives of women, children, and youth. As a longtime United Women in Faith member, she puts her faith, hope and love into action daily.

Sally has served other areas of the United Methodist Church (UMC) leading women's retreats, as jurisdictional conference delegate or alternate (2008, 2016, 2020), immigration assistance and reform, community development and dismantling racism at jurisdiction and conference levels. Presently serves on the boards of The Wesley campus ministry at Texas A&M Commerce (as alum) and the New York Justice For Our Neighbors.

She is a graduate of SMU/Perkins School of Theology with a M.Div. and Women's Studies Certification. She previously served as the Associate Director of Connectional Ministries for the North Texas Conference. Sally is a member of First UMC Grand Prairie (TX). She enjoys spending time with her young adult children, Wesley and Lessie, reading and traveling.



Rev. Debbie Keller Allen was born on Castle AFB in California and grew up in eastern Hillsborough County, Florida. She is a certified spiritual director and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree in Spiritual Direction from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

Rev. Allen has been in pastoral ministry in the Florida Conference for 21 years, having served at several churches including Community UMC in Fruitland Park, where she co-pastored with her husband. She has also served on many district and Conference committees including as chair of the North Central DCOM, Florida Conference Residents in Ministry Program, and the Conference Relations Committee and as vice-chair of the Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. She was also elected as a member of the Florida Conference Delegation.

Bishop Ken Carter appointed Rev. Allen to serve as the South West District Superintendent beginning July 1st, 2022, where she is serving 79 local churches in a geographical area that stretches from Bradenton and Sarasota to Marco Island. Rev. Allen serves as the Cabinet Liaison for the Florida Conference United Women in Faith.

Rev. Allen and her husband Daryl have been married for 22 years and are the parents of three boys. She enjoys hiking, kayaking, reading, yoga, spending time with her family and pets, and trying her hand at gardening.



Reverend David McEntire has served local churches since 1981. He served 5 years as Senior Pastor of the First UMC in Fort Pierce and 13 years as Senior Pastor of The United Methodist Church of the Palm Beaches. Since 2007, Rev. McEntire has been appointed as the Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church of Lakeland.

Rev. McEntire earned a Bachelor of Art degree in Psychology and Religion from Florida State University and a Master of Divinity Degree from Duke University.

He has served on numerous boards and agencies such as Florida Conference Council on Ministries and Executive Committee, Florida United Methodist Children's Home Board of Trustees, and Board Chairman, Florida Conference Board of Ordained Ministry. Florida Conference Board of Trustees, board chairperson. Florida ministries, board chairperson. - Florida Southern College



Conference Board of Camps and Retreat Board of Trustees, Duke University Divinity Board of Trustees. Duke University Divinity School Advisory Board. He was a delegate to six

Jurisdictional Conference and two General Conferences.

Rev. McEntire has been married to Nancy Curran McEntire for 46 years and they have three children.

IN MEMORIAM



Atlantic Central – 0
North East – 15

East Central – 17
North West – 11

Gulf Central – 48
South East – 21

North Central – 7
South West - 16

**FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
Proposed Budget for 2023**

MISSION GIVING PLEDGE	250,000
PLEDGE TO SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION	2,500
ADMINISTRATION & MEMBERSHP DEVELOPMENT	
Church Women United	500
Florida Impact	500
Children's Advocacy	1,000
Districts' Administration & Membership Development	37,435
Conference / District Leadership Development *	7,500
Florida Conference Mission u	55,000
Spiritual Enrichment Retreat	11,000
Conference Annual Meeting	13,000
Scholarships to Retreat and Conference Annual Meeting	5,000
Goals and Evaluations *	2,500
Multicultural Programming	2,000
Committee on Nominations	900
UMC Annual Conference	3,000
Special Mission Recognition pins, Gift to Mission cards, Gifts in Memory	800
<i>Genesis</i> Newsletter	2,500
Conference Directories	200
Committee Meetings	4,000
Literature / Handbooks	800
Technology Expenses	600
Operating Expenses	1,400
Audit	500
Contingency	1,000
Assembly / Southeastern Jurisdiction Meeting **	5,000
Assembly Offering	
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	156,135
TOTAL BUDGET	\$ 408,635

* 2-year budget cycle

** Balance carries over to following year

Financial Report: January through December 31, 2021

MISSION GIVING	Received	Disbursed	Remaining
Pledge to Mission	212,335.49	212,335.49	-
Special Mission Recognition	19,170.00	19,530.00	(360.00)
Gift to Mission	15,951.85	15,406.85	545.00
Gift in Memory	10,617.00	10,612.00	5.00
World Thank Offering	21,190.65	21,190.65	-
Total Mission Giving	279,264.99	279,074.99	190.00

DESIGNATED GIVING			
Call to Prayer	13,056.78	13,056.78	-
UWF Projects	1,036.65	1,036.78	-
FCUWF Scholarship Fund	559.04		559.04
Total Designated Giving	14,652.47	14,093.43	559.04

Above amounts include giving through National website

	2021 Budget	Received	Disbursed	Remaining
Conference Pledge	325,000.00	279,074.99	279,074.99	45,925.01
SEJ Pledge	3,250.00		3,250.00	-
Admin. & Membership Development				
Church Women United (CWU)	500.00		500.00	-
Florida Impact	500.00		500.00	-
Children's Advocacy & CWU	2,000.00			2,000.00
District's Admin. & Membership Dev't	47,024.50		22,945.00	24,079.50
Conf./District Leadership Development	7,500.00			7,500.00
Mission u	60,000.00	225.00	19,307.30	40,917.70
Mission u Leadership Update	5,000.00			5,000.00
Spiritual Retreat	10,000.00	1,717.26	260.00	11,457.26
Conference Annual Meeting	12,000.00	420.30	3,015.49	9,404.81
Goals & Evaluations Meeting	3,000.00	7,000.00	2,228.94	7,771.06
Multicultural Programming	3,000.00	320.21		3,320.21
Scholarships: Retreat & CAM	5,000.00		100.00	4,900.00
Committee on Nominations	900.00			900.00
United Methodist Church Annual Conf.	2,500.00			2,500.00
SMR, GTM, GIM	500.00		440.00	60.00
Genesis newsletter	2,500.00		3,127.00	(627.00)
Conference Directory	500.00		17.25	482.75
Committee Meetings	10,000.00			10,000.00
Literature: Samplers, Handbooks	1,100.00			1,100.00
Technology Expenses	600.00		480.94	119.06
Operating Expenses	1,200.00		1,182.52	17.48
Audit	500.00		200.00	300.00
Contingency	1,000.00		38.00	962.00
Assembly/SEJ	5,000.00	10,000.00	3,528.00	11,472.00*
Total A&MD	181,824.50	19,682.77	57,870.44	143,636.83

* Balance carries over to following year

CELEBRATING THE LOCAL UNITS


NEW UNIT

Shalom House of Grace, *South East District*

READING PROGRAM

Number of Reported Readers Per District

DISTRICT	PLAN I	PLAN II	PLAN III	PLAN IV
Atlantic Central	28	9	8	4
East Central	27	8	8	5
Gulf Central	19	7	4	5
North Central	12	6	3	5
North East	8	11	5	-
North West	4	1	1	-
South East	18	2	-	-
South West	10	8	2	2



MISSION TODAY UNITS

Number Reported Per District

DISTRICT	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	PARTICIPATION
Atlantic Central	-	-	-	
East Central	-	-	7	5
Gulf Central	2	3	-	
North Central	-	6	2	
North East	-	-	-	
North West	-	4	-	
South East	4	2	3	
South West	2	6	-	

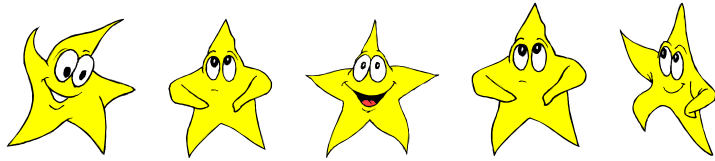
MISSION STUDIES

Women United For Change: 150 years in Mission
East Central

Push Out: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools
North Central
South West

Finding Peace in an Anxious World
Gulf Central
North Central

Bearing Witness for the Kin-dom
East Central
Gulf Central
South East
South West



Five Star Units

Units that gave in all five categories of Mission Giving and increased pledge.

And

Rainbow Givers – 2021



Individuals that gave in all five categories of Mission Giving.

ATLANTIC CENTRAL
Coronado Community
First UMC Okeechobee
First UMC Port Lucie
Indian River
Lakeside
Tomoka

Nancy Lewis
Linda Pingrey
Helen Rose
Piper Wiles

EAST CENTRAL
Broadway
Edge Memorial
First Apopka
First Clermont
First Oviedo
First Winter Garden
Lake Helen
St. John's

Pam Anders
Karen Beagle
Janet Blume

Carolyn Dixon
Celeste Hicks
Tracey Perry
Evelyn Rose
Linda Weilandner
Diane Wells

GULF CENTRAL
Allendale
Anona
College Heights
First Dunedin
First Lakeland
First Pinellas Park
Keeney Chapel
New Hope
Oakhurst
Palma Ceia
Skycrest
St. Andrew's

June Anderson
Beverly Bottinger
Ollie Carter
Letitia Cernuda
Gloria Cozart
Kay Dahlstrom
Bunny Dutton

Gloria Emerson
Ethel Ewing
Lin Johnson
Betsy Kenas
Karen Kroeker
Judi Levan
Lorraine Mayfield-Brown
Joann Miller
Julie Ramga
Alliene Robinson
Donna Spear
Helen Sweatt
Joyce Tim
Mary Jane Trimble
Jean Vanderslice
Antoinette Washington
Christine Williams
Mary Williams

NORTH CENTRAL
Christ UMC, Leesburg
Community, Fruitland
Park
Crystal River
Dunnellon
Floral City
Gainesville First

Gainesville Trinity
Gainesville Wesley
Hawthorne First
Inverness
Melrose
Ocala St. Paul's
Williston

Jackie Blinn
Ann Bradburn
Jackie Bridges
Norma Courtney
Jane Darling
Jimmie Holt
Sandy Kramer
Betty Martin
Diane Maxwell
Ina Kay Morgan
Pricilla Princler
Joan Ricks
Diane Tilbury

NORTH EAST
Arlington

Dawn Hernandez

NORTH WEST

SOUTH EAST
Boca Raton
Burton Memorial
Coral Gables
Fulford
Hallandale
Miami Lakes
Miramar
Palm Springs
Village

Vinessa Edwards
Natacha Etienne-Joseph
Jennifer Garnes
Ruth Jean-Pierre
Sharyn Ladner
Juana Lightbourne
Rhoda Mutton
AliceMarie Noble
Judith Pierre-Okerson
Gertrude Stewart
Kim Youngblood
Edith Zewadski-Bricker

SOUTH WEST

Cape Coral First
Christ Lehigh Acres
Good Shepherd
North Naples
Trinity (Sarasota)

Shelley Davidson
Veta Daley
Linda Davies
Beth Ferris
Karen Hanlon
Gloria Heston
Melanie Lind
Lulu Lopez
Unki Reynolds
Lori Seelgen
Susan TenBroeck
SharRon Thompson
Mary Van Tol
Gilda Wilson

Report of the Committee on Nominations

The following have been nominated as members of the Committee on Nominations, Class of 2026.

Paulette Monroe has served the organization in many leadership roles as Past Florida Conference, President of the United Methodist Women, Southeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Team, Committee on Nominations, Coordinator for Children and Youth for Mission u, Dean of Mission u and as a Study Group Leader. In addition to serving the organization, she was privileged to have had the opportunity of serving as a Past Conference Lay Leader of the United Methodist Church.

Linda Rush is a United Methodist Woman from the North Central District. Linda worships at Pleasant Plain UM-Newberry, where she serves as Secretary of Church Council, choir member, works on the hospitality committee and many more. Linda served on the North Central District Committee of Nomination and Program of Resources. Linda worked in the school system for many years before retiring.

Florida Conference United Women in Faith 2022-23 Conference Leadership Team

President	Dr. Judith Pierre-Okerson
Secretary	Mary Van Tol
Treasurer	Donna Spear
Secretary of Program Resources	Jacqueline Brooks
Language Coordinators: Haitian	Natacha Etienne Joseph
Social Action Liaison	Edith Zewadski-Bricker
Dean Mission u	Linda Parrish
Director National Organization	Magdala Fleurimond
Program Advisory Member	Jennifer Noel
SEJ Vice President	Kay Roach

District Presidents

Atlantic Central	Kim Wendt
East Central	Anne Winn
Gulf Central	Shari Gillis
North Central	Jane Darling
North East	Mozelle Thomas
North West	Gwen Dixon
South East	Dr. Nora Hernandez Hendrix
South West	Veta Daley

Committee on Nominations

Chair, Class of 2023	Ester Kim
Class of 2022	Annette W. Samuels
Class of 2022	Annie Woods
Class of 2023	Paulet Royes-Neale
Class of 2024	Mary Reed
Class of 2024	Ethel Ewing
Class of 2025	Ciliane Louis
Class of 2025	Gail Donley

A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP

Board of Missions and Church Extension of The Methodist Church and Woman's Division of Christian Service

Board of Managers from the Southeastern Jurisdiction

Mrs. F. B. Godfrey 1940 – 1942, Orlando, FL

Mrs. J. T. Feaster 1942 –1943, Miami, FL

Mrs. Edwin B. White 1944 – 1952, Jacksonville, FL

Mrs. Walter H. Beckham 1952-1960, Miami, FL

Women's Society of Christian Service and Wesleyan Guild of The Methodist Church

Mrs. Lizzie Johnson, President, Florida Area of the Central Jurisdiction WSCS

Mrs. Eloise Richardson, President, South Florida District of the Central Jurisdiction WSG

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Mrs. Lizzie Johnson, President, Florida Area of the Central Jurisdiction WSCS

Mrs. Eloise Richardson, President, South Florida District of the Central Jurisdiction WSG

Mrs. Bruce Gray, Hastings, Florida Conference President 1968 – 1969

Mrs. Allen Watson, Wildwood, Florida Conference President 1970 –1972

Dollie Watkins-Crist 1972 Member of the Committee of 24 who gave us the current PURPOSE

Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church United Methodist Women Conference Presidents

Dollie Watkins-Crist: 1974 – 1977

Ann Hunter: 1978 – 1981

Ressie Mae-Bass: 1982 – 1985

Nancy Weinberg: 1986 – 1989

Dorothy Collins: 1990 – 1993

Betty Sue Mason: 1994 – 1997

Annie J Woods: 1998 – 2001

Gail-Christy Jones: 2002 – 2005

Paulette Monroe: 2006 – 2009

Nelida Morales: 2010 – 2013

Aggie Morris Reed: 2014 – 2015

Mary Kay Roach: 2016 – 2019

Judith Pierre-Okerson: 2020 –

Southeastern Jurisdiction Core Planning Group

Leonora (Lee) Hatch: President 1984 – 1988

Hilda B. Fuster CON member: 1993 –1996

Joyce Waldon-Bright, Treasurer:1993 – 1996

Roberta Lau, Member: 1997 – 2000

Betty Sue Mason. President: 2000 – 2004

Jackie Whitehouse, Member 2005 – 2008

Annie J. Woods, Vice President: 2008 – 2012

Southeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Team

Paulette Monroe, CON member 2012 – 2016

Gertrude Stewart, Secretary 2016 – 2020

Kay Roach, Vice President 2020 -

Women's Division Directors/Staff

Dollie Watkins Crist: 1977 –1980, Chair Committee on Appropriation

Nilda Hernandez: 1980 – 1984

Ressie Mae Bass:1988 – 1992 Vice President for Christian Social Relation

1992 – 2003 Executive Secretary for Membership and Administration

Leonora (Lee) Hatch :1988 – 1992

Rosita Seeber:1993 – 1995 (Resigned)

Mary Melvin:1996 – 2004

Betty Sue Mason: 2004 – 2008

Nelida Morales: 2000 – 2008

Judith Pierre-Okerson: 2008 – 2012: Chair Committee on Nominations

United Methodist Women National Organization, Directors

Judith Pierre-Okerson, 2012 – 2016: Chair Governance Committee

Magdala Edmond, 2016 –

United Methodist Women National Organization Program Advisory Group

Annabelle Bricker 2012 – 2016

Jennifer Noel 2020 -

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 11	Haitian Convocation	Ft. Pierce UMC
March 25-31	Children’s Advocacy Days	Tallahassee
April 22	Love In Action: Our Charter for Racial Justice	Zoom
June 7-10	Florida Annual Conference – UMC	Lakeland
July 14-16	Mission u Event – in person	Lake Mary
July 18, 20, 25, 27	Mission u Event - virtual	Zoom
September 8-10	Spiritual Enrichment Retreat	WWUMCC, Fruitland Park
November 4	Conference Annual Meeting	TBA



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