



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Texas CONFERENCE NEWS

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United Methodist Church
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January 2012

Friday Registration

Roy Hall Building
3:00-5:00pm
Resources and Book Sales
Displays
Hospitality

Friday Evening
Dinner
Worship
Fellowship

Late Registration
8:00-9:00pm

Saturday
Greet the Day
Breakfast for Over-nighters

Saturday Registration

Roy Hall Building
7:30-8:45am
Program Resources-
Learning resource room/Displays
Hospitality

Gathering in Song
8:45-9:00am

Guest Speaker
Focus Groups Meet

Lunch Noon
Service Center (12:30-1:00pm)

Focus Groups Meet
1:00-2:15pm

Communion
2:30pm
Sending Forth

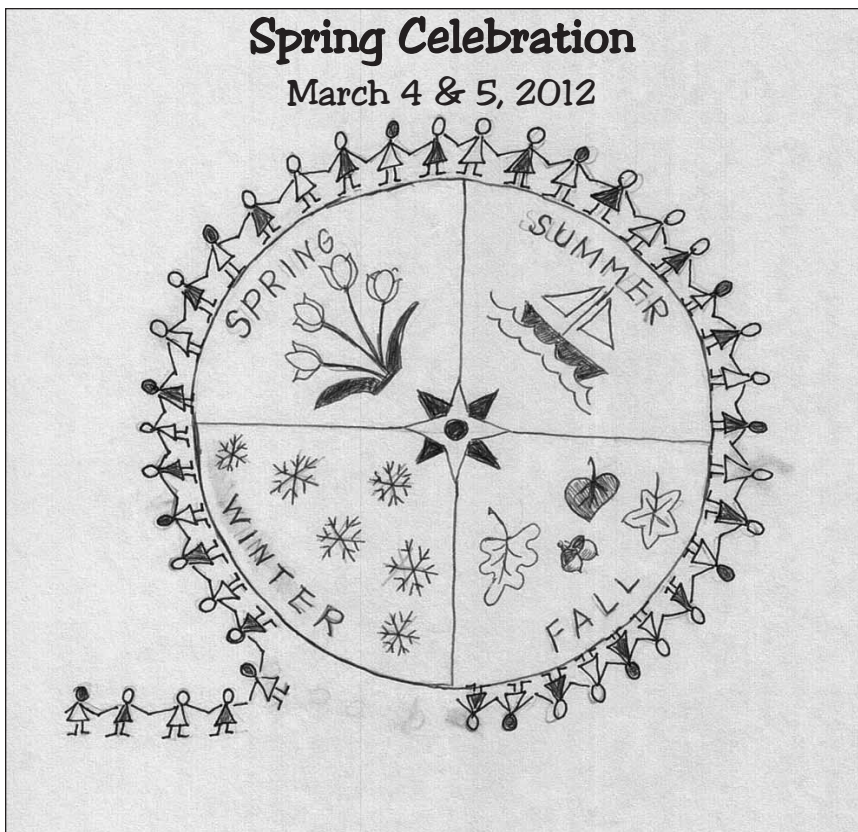
In Remembrance Service

celebrates the lives of United
Methodist Women that have
gone before us.

District Spiritual Growth Coordinators
have the opportunity to decorate "In
Remembrance" tables for their
District's honored deceased members.

Spring Celebration

March 4 & 5, 2012



The logo is designed by Betty A. Iles from Woodcrest UMC, Lumberton, which is in the Southeast District. Betty says "The circle represents our earth and the unending cycle of the seasons. The small figures circle the earth and represent those women who over the centuries, worked, and continue to work to fulfill their mission of improving conditions of women everywhere while bringing God's Word to them."

Spiritual Growth Retreat

Lakeview Conference Center

Palestine, Texas

**Women for all Seasons:
Strengthening &
Rebuilding
with the Community.**

Theme Song

"Hymn of Promise"

Theme Scripture

Ecclastises 3:1-8

Back by Popular Demand
Musicians

Reggie Clemons
and
Gregg Wiggers

Registration form page 3

Guest Speaker

Rev Cynthia Harvey



Reverend Cynthia Fierro Harvey is deputy secretary of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) of the General Board of Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church. She oversees programs that range from international development and hospital revitalization to long-term disaster recovery and ministry with the poor.

"Serving UMCOR is indeed a great privilege," says Rev Harvey. "It is a task I do not take lightly, but receive humbly. To serve people around the world on behalf of the United Methodist Church and to bring hope to those most vulnerable is a remarkable blessing."

Rev Harvey had direct experience of disaster relief and recovery work following both the 2010 earthquake in Haiti and the US Gulf Coast hurricanes between 2005 and 2008. Also, Memorial Drive UMC a 7000-member congregation in Houston, Texas, which she served for 12 years as executive associate pastor, quickly mobilized a ministry of service when masses of Hurricane Katrina survivors sought refuge in that city.

Rev Harvey has international experience in health ministries through a partnership program of the Texas Annual Conference and the Cote d'Ivoire Annual Conference in West Africa. In 2008 she helped coordinate the distribution of almost a million mosquito nets in an effort to stem the spread of malaria.

A member of the Texas Annual Conference of the UMC, Rev Harvey was ordained an elder in 2001. She served two years as director of the conference's Center for Missional Excellence and was a member of the cabinet. Rev Harvey is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin. She earned her Masters of Divinity from SMU, Perkins School of Theology. She is married to Dean, and they have a daughter, Elizabeth Grace.

United Methodist Women is 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

Focus Groups Women for all Seasons:

Nurturing through the Seasons

Rev. Merle Matthews (Matt) Idom, Jr.

Rev. Matt Idom is currently the Superintendent of Lakeview Methodist Conference Center. Before coming to Lakeview, he had served at Bear Creek UMC, White Oak UMC, DeKalb/Hubbard's Chapel UMC, First UMW at Jacksonville, Williams Memorial UMC at Texarkana and First UMC at Bryan. Matt has held leadership roles in the Texas Annual Conference as Chair of Communications; Chair of Clergy Retreat, Board of Ordained Ministry; Communication Coordinator, mission to Tomsk, Siberia; Chair of Conference Camping Ministry; Lon Morris College, Board of Directors; and Lakeview Methodist Conference Center, Board of Directors.

Matt graduated from Pine Tree High School at Longview in 1974 and from Lon Morris College, AA, Jacksonville, Texas in 1976. In 1978, he received a BS in Mass Communications at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas. He graduated in 1982 from Perkins School of Theology, SMU in Dallas, Texas with a Masters of Theology. Matt has two children, a son Benjamin Carter who is an Associate Producer for American Idol, and a daughter, Bailey Kay who is an elementary art teacher in the Mansfield ISD. Also, Matt is a superb gumbo chef, trainer of great dogs, and spinner of tall tails.



Restorative Justice through the Seasons

Rev. Marvin Hood



Pastor Marvin is the founding pastor of Newgate Fellowship United Methodist Church in Northwest Houston, Texas. He is a graduate of Sam Houston State University and Lee College. He attended the Samaritan Center of Pastoral Counseling. He attends Perkins School of Theology and is a national speaker and workshop facilitator on Restorative Justice.

Pastor Marvin has served in various capacities of Restorative Justice. His passion for justice, healing and recovery for the broken is evidenced by his tireless efforts to carry the gospel message of redemption, forgiveness and hope into prisons and jails locally as well as nationally. His message of Restorative Justice serves offenders, victims of crime and correctional professionals. He is married to Bonita Hood and resides in Cypress, Texas. He likes to recite words from "A.W. Tozer," "God can't use a man until he has hurt him real bad."

Healing through the Seasons

Dr. B. J. Lee

Dr. B. J. Lee is from the University UMC in Austin and has served in her local unit of UMW as President, Nominations Chair, and Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach. She is currently on the GBGM's UMW and UMC Restorative Justice Team and previously was chair of the Southwest Texas Conference Board of Church and Society's Task Force on Israel and Palestine, and was a UMW delegate to the Detention Watch Network. Dr. Lee's interest in Social Justice focuses on immigration issues. She has been a college/university teacher and has given several seminars on environmental subjects. Dr. Lee's 30 year career was in the environmental field. Her other interests are UMW, reading, travel and bird watching.



Together through the Seasons

Mireya Ollavian



Mireya has appeared on talk-shows and women's morning programs to speak on psychological issues of interest to women. Mireya has over 4 years experience teaching undergraduate courses in Bolivia where she is certified to teach as a higher education professor and licensed to practice Clinical Psychology. She was Children's Director at St. Luke's UMC Houston (Gethsemane Campus) from March 2009 to December 2010 and taught Spanish (her native language) Bible classes for children's parents. Mireya has recently volunteered in Bolivia with CERNIQUEM Hospital for burned children raising money to equip an operating room and building a playground and garden. She has also helped with the building of a Senior Home for the disadvantaged senior population and fundraised money to build houses to help disadvantaged families in Bolivia. Mireya serves on Hispanic Committee (Methodist leaders) and has trained Bolivian Methodist Pastors.

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Season of Transformational Growth

Jackie Hall Broussard



Jackie Hall Broussard teaches leaders to see opportunities for Transformational Growth. Jackie's clients cover more than 50 different industries in 110 countries, including Major and Gas companies, Stewart & Stevenson, Cooper Power Systems, and CenterPoint Energy, as well as many other industry leaders. Her team's work has been funded by corporations, foundations and governmental agencies.

She has been ranked as one of the top 10 businesswomen in Houston, receiving the "Women on the Move" Award. Jackie's business expertise spreads beyond Great Ideas Company and its clients. She served on the boards of Texas Executive Women and Foxshire Center, where she helped nonprofits leverage their relationships and integrate changes into their operations. She also has served on the boards of The Weather Museum and the Baylor College of Medicine Institutional Review Board for Human Clinical Trials. She earned an M.B.A. in Marketing and Management from the University of St. Thomas, as well as a B.S. in Psychology from Texas A&M University. She is a native of Angelina County, Texas. She lives in Houston with Jules, her Cajun husband, and Gigi, her loyal Swiss Mountain Dog, known for her YouTube Training Video

Bible Study through the Seasons

Elder Debra Brown



Elder Debra Brown is currently the Senior Pastor at Grace United Methodist Church in Huntsville, Texas. She is the mother of two adult sons and one grandson all in the surrounding Texas area. She is compassionate about working for social justice for all.

Debra was born in Cleveland, Ohio and moved to Houston, TX in 1976 and later joined Windsor Village United Methodist Church. While at Windsor she was active in the choir and Sunday school as a teacher, a secretary, and finally the Superintendent. Debra was a communion steward, and she worked on various boards and ministries in the church and facilitated groups and training which included domestic violence awareness. She founded *The Door of Hope*, a group for women that have been victims of incest, rape or have been sexually abused. Debra accepted the call into the ministry in 1999 and became a pastor 6 years ago. Her education background includes a Masters of Divinity in 2007 from Southern Methodist University - Perkins School of Theology; Masters of Social Work in 1997 from the University of Houston Graduate School of Social Work; licensed in August 1997; and Bachelor of Art Social Work in 1996 from Texas Southern University

Missions through the Season

Melissa Wilkins Brigman



Melissa is the Director of Missions at Marvin United Methodist Church in Tyler, where she has served the past 19 years. A graduate of Centenary College with a degree in Christian Education, Melissa has served as a Director of Christian Education in Methodist churches in Shreveport, Texarkana and Lufkin before coming to Tyler.

Melissa has served as the Chair of the Texas Conference Division of Missions, Chair of the Texas Conference Russia Initiative and on numerous boards and agencies. She has participated in over 60 mission trips, both national and international. She has received numerous awards from community and conference groups for her dedication to serving others. Melissa is married to George Brigman, and they have a grown son named Yuri.

Prayer through the Season

Rev. Dr. Todd Jordan



Dr. Todd Jordan is currently the pastor of First United Methodist Church in Caldwell where he has been serving for five years. In his 14 years of ministry he has served appointments in Port Arthur and Beaumont. Todd received his Bachelors Degree in Theatre in 1992, earned his Masters of Divinity from Drew Theological School in 1997, and recently completed his Doctor of Ministry from Perkins School of Theology at SMU in 2011. Todd has been married to Stefanie for 11 wonderful years, and they have a seven year old son, Spencer, and a newborn daughter, Skylar.



President's Message

My Sisters in Christ,

God is good all the time! And all the time God is good.

My first year as your Conference President has proved to be very challenging, in a good way, educational and rewarding. I have the privilege of working with dedicated, devoted Godly women who make my job easier.

We had a successful Spring Celebration, Cooperative School of Christian Mission, Mission project at Annual Conference, and Annual meeting.

I had the opportunity to go to New York for the Women's Division Annual Meeting. Nobel Peace Prize recipient Leymah Gbowee was our guest speaker. Ms. Gbowee shared with us that her faith was a constant source of strength for her during the women's peace movement and still today, our faith is at the center of our experience as United Methodist Women. Our faith is our core identity, the key to our becoming whole persons, and the key to our ability to see ourselves and the world as God would have us see. As United Methodist Women we "Know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ." Our theme for 2012 is "Where do we go from here?" Take a Walk with Christ. Putting Christ first and walking with Him there is no where to go but UP!

In HIS Service, *Mattie*

**Spring Celebration 2012 Registration Meals and Housing
Select two Focus Groups & Please Read Carefully**

Send one form for each person (child or adult) attending. You may make photocopies. Campers and commuters must also preregister. Dorm residents should bring bed and bath linens, pillow, flashlight. Everyone pays in advance. *No refunds for missed events.* **Any special dietary needs should be discussed with Lakeview ahead of time. Phone number: 903 538-2711. Do you need handicap access? _____ (see instructions below)**

Name _____ Badge Name _____ Address _____ City _____ TX, zip _____

Church _____ District _____ E-Mail _____ Phone () _____ Emergency Contact _____

Emergency phone _____ Physicians Name and Phone _____ Medical Insurance _____ # _____

Policy Holder _____ Date of last tetanus shot _____ List allergies, special conditions, restrictions, medications on an attached sheet. *In case of emergency, I give permission to the physician selected by the camp to hospitalize, secure proper treatment for, and order injection, anesthesia, or surgery for the person named above.*

Adult Participant Signature Required

****SIGNATURES REQUIRED for Children under 18**

**Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian **Printed Name of Parent or Guardian **Accompanying adult if under 18. **Child's printed name

**If under 18, fill in the following: Age: _____ Birth Date _____ Grade Completed _____ Special Learning or physical needs? _____ If Yes (Attach Sheet)

Choose two Focus Groups: Bible Study-Elder Debra Brown Mission through the Seasons-Melissa Brigman
 Season of Transformational Growth-Jackie Broussard Prayer through the Seasons-Rev. Dr. Todd Jordan
 Healing through the Seasons-Dr. B. J. Lee Nurturing through the Seasons-Rev. Matt Idom
 Restorative Justice through the Seasons-Rev Marvin Hood Together through the Seasons-Mireya Ollavian

Registration Received Before February 18

Dorm: **Asbury** (if not requesting First Class Housing)
 Adult (Friday overnight, Friday Dinner thru Saturday lunch) \$59
 Adult (*Late arrival* Friday overnight *no dinner* thru Sat.lunch) \$48
 Child-10 and under (Fri. overnight thru Sat. lunch) \$28

**If not staying in Asbury
 Add additional \$10 for DOUBLE or
 \$25 for SINGLE OCCUPANCY.**

for Overnight First Class Housing

Circle to indicate first class housing preference options

Family Life Center Pasadena Housing Fair Village

Adult (Saturday only, includes lunch) \$18

Child (10&under) Saturday only (includes lunch & childcare) \$11

Registration Received after February 18

Dorm: **Asbury** (if not requesting First Class Housing)
 Adult (Friday overnight, Friday Dinner thru Saturday Lunch) \$69
 Adult (Friday overnight thru Sat. lunch, (*Late Arrival*)) \$58
 Adult (Saturday only, includes lunch) \$28

**If not staying in Asbury
 Add additional \$10 for DOUBLE or
 \$25 for SINGLE OCCUPANCY.**

for Overnight First Class Housing

Circle to indicate first class housing preference options
 Family Life Center Pasadena Housing Fair Village

Additional \$15 will be added to this late registration rate if you walk in without preregistering.

Dinner on Friday evening not available for Walk-Ins.

So that proper childcare can be provided, we cannot accept registration for children after the February 18 deadline.

MAIL EARLY - BEFORE February 15

Clip out Registration Form
 Send with check(s) payable to
 Texas Conference UMW.

Mail form and check(s) to:
 Debra and Peter Wroblewski,
 1059 Bimham Woods,
 Pasadena, Tx 77503.

Debra's e mail:
 mstex7@yahoo.com
 Phone 281-658-5801

Those who mail together stay together.
 Additional registration forms may be printed from website:

www.txconfumw.org
**To arrange for handicap access call
 Debra or Peter
 281-658-5801**

Please Note

If you cannot attend after you have registered, try to find someone to take your place and notify the registrar.

If you cannot find someone to take your place, you can request a refund in writing to the registrar by February 18.

If you wait until you get to Lakeview to register, the cafeteria has a problem preparing extra food.

A \$15 walk-in fee will be assessed for those who come without prior registration.

Please register and MAIL early before February 18

Bits of Information

Please Note

In order to assure adequate care and to assist us in complying with the Conference Safe Sanctuary policy, children must be registered by February 18

Need additional registration forms? See Section Spring Celebration 2012 at the Texas Conference UMW website: www.txconfumw.org

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2
 To every thing there is a season,
 and a time to every purpose
 under the heaven:
 A time to be born, and a time to die;
 a time to plant, and a time to pluck
 up that which is planted

Seasons of Life
 Adapted from Devotional
 by Barbara Sanders
 copyrighted used by permission

*Just as there are seasons, Spring,
 Summer, Autumn, and Winter
 to the weather and surroundings,
 there are seasons of our lives.
 We each experience most of them.
 "A time to be born"*
*in the Spring of our lives, we are
 young and needful of teaching.*

"A time to plant"
*in the Summer of our lives, we go
 about using what we have learned
 in the Spring of our lives.*

"A time to pluck up"
*Harvest times comes in the Autumn of
 life. We draw on the resources we
 have 'planted.'*

"A time to die"
*To each of us, there comes a time in
 our lives, when material things no
 longer matter. We have reached the
 end of the road - the path that leads
 to eternal life.*

**First Timers
 A Heartfelt Welcome**

**Directions to Lakeview
 Methodist Conference Center,
 Palestine Texas**

www.lakeviewmcc.org

Program Resources

Program Resources Room
 Open for book sales
 Roy Hall
 Friday 3:00-5:00pm
 Saturday 8:00-9:00am
 12:30-1:00pm

**2012 Hands on Project
 Birthing Kit
 and/or
 Layette Kit**

**2012 Calendar of Events
 Texas Conference United Methodist Women**

District Training Event	January 7	Lakeview
Conf Executive Meeting	January 7-8	Lakeview
Legislative Event	January 22-24	Austin
Spring Meeting	March 2-3	Lakeview
Charter for Racial Justice	April 28	Marvin UMC, Tyler
Charter for Racial Justice	May 26	St Paul UMC, Houston
UMC TxAnnual Conference	June 4-7	Galveston C C
UMW Conf Program Meeting	June 3	
UMW Conf Executive Meeting	June 5	
UMW Annual Luncheon	June 6?	
SC Jurisdiction Meeting	June 22-24	McMurry College
W Gulf Regional School of Mission	June 25-28	McMurry College
Coop School of Christian Mission	July 26-28	Lakeview
Conf Program Planning Meeting	August 11	Lakeview
Conference Executive Meeting	September 21	Lakeview
Fall Festival Friday Event	September 21	Lakeview
Fall Festival/Annual Meeting	September 22	Lakeview
Conference Program Meeting	September 22-23	Lakeview
Wesley Community Luncheon	September?	TBA
Leadership Training Event (LTE)	November 18-20	St. Louis, MO

2012 Texas Conference Officers

President	Mattie Ordaz	West District
Vice President	Lee Thornton	South District
Secretary	Joyce Louis	West District
Treasurer	Paulette Moore-Hall	Central North District
Communications Coordinator	Melba Spann	North District
Secretary of Program Resources	Doris Woodland	South District
Spiritual Growth	Joyce Moore	Southwest District
Social Action	Denise DuBois	West District
Education & Interpretation	Carolyn Parker	Northwest District
Membership Nurture & Outreach	Bertha White	Southeast District

Committee on Nominations
 Chairperson, Marsha Hickerson Class of 2013 CS District

Joyce Bell	Class of 2012	North District
Pat Harden	Class of 2012	North District
Hazel Mitchell	Class of 2013	CS District
Gwendolyn Young	Class of 2014	South District
Billie Blair	Class of 2015	Southwest District
Joyce Hancock	Class of 2015	East District

Representing Texas Conference in South Central Jurisdiction

Leadership Team Secretary, Stacie Hawkins
 West Gulf Coast Regional School of Mission, Doris Woodland

Delegates to SCJ meeting

Mattie Ordaz	Denise DuBois	Carolyn Parker
Paulette Moore-Hall	Doris Woodland	Melba Spann

**Nominees to Membership
 on Women's Division**

Stacie Hawkins	Joyce Moore	Lee Thornton
	alternate Thebe Worden	
	to be voted on at SCJ meeting	

Don't Forget!!!

January 7, 2012

**Important Training for
 District Officers**

Lakeview Conference Center
 Palestine, Texas

**It's Time to Register for
 Legislative Event**

January 22-24, 2012
 Doubletree Guest Suites
 303 W. 15th Street
 Austin, Texas

**Check out Texas Impact's
 website to answer your ques-
 tions and for online registration:**

**www.texasimpact.org
 or www.txconfumw.org**
people of faith working for justice

Call (512) 472-3903 or email
 outreach@texasimpact.org for
 more information.

**Save the Date
 in 2012**

**Texas Conference
 Cooperative School of
 Christian Mission**

July 26 - 28

Lakeview Conference Center
Theme

"That All May Have Life"
 John 10:10

2012 Studies:

Haiti

Poverty

*Living Sacramentally and
 Walking Justly*

If you are interested in submitting a
 logo go to

TexasConference
 United Methodist WomenWebsite
www.txconfumw.org
deadline is January 25, 2012

Hands on Mission Projects
 Sampler Classes

Texas Conferences News
 a publication of the Texas Conference
 United Methodist Women,
 Melba Spann, Editor