FROM YOUR PRESIDENT.....

We're right in the middle of preparing for the Blessing of the Inlet. What a wonderful time this is in our Church. I hope you all are involved. It's a time for hard work and a lot of fun. This is the 20th year for the "Blessing," and I have been involved for the last 10. What memories I have!

One that stands out in my mind was one of storms and rain. I was so worried that all of our hard work would be ruined. While trying to get the water off the top of the tent (by using a broom handle), I was saying "Rain go away. Stop raining." A good friend put his hand on my shoulder and said "Sue, you do not control the weather." That was when I realized how right he was. Who really was in control? We are doing His work for love and benefit of the church and our community. And, of course, our love of God. Please join us and feel the "blessing" we receive from this wonderful event. That's the true blessing.

See ya Saturday!
Sue

THEMRE HERE—

The beautiful Belin Memorial UMC wood plaques have arrived! Look for the UMW table at the Blessing of the Inlet to purchase—great cost of $20.

REMINDER

The Belin UMW Reading Program’s

The UMW Book Conversations begin

Thursday, April 28, 10:00 AM

in the Family Life Center Library

Next Conversation

Monday, June 20, 6:30 PM
SUPPORT THE UMW BOOTHs AT THE BLESSING OF THE INLET

MIRACLE SEEKERS CIRCLE

- Bring baked goods to FLC on Friday, May 6, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- Please - NO items that need refrigeration.
- Come on Friday to help price and prepare items for sale.
- Sign up to work the booth.

GRACE CIRCLE

- Bring gently used books to the FLC center for sale.
- See if your neighbors might have books to contribute.
- Offer to collect and take them to FLC.
- Sign up to work the booth.

FRANCES WILSON CIRCLE

- Help cut strawberries on Friday, May 6, 9:00 AM until finished.
- Bring knife, bowl, and apron.
- Come on Friday to slice pound cake.
- Sign up to work the booth.

UMW FUNDRAISER: ALL CIRCLES

- Spread the word!
- Shop at the booth!
Spring flowers blossom in April despite the rain. Walks in the garden remind us of the many paths of life we can tread even muddy paths we may need to walk. The books you choose to read this month will hopefully expand your knowledge and show you the daily life paths you will follow in the weeks ahead that bring you the joys of this season of renewal.

"Show Me Your Ways, O Lord, Teach me Your paths." - PSALM 25:4

“I will Instruct you and Teach you in the Way you should go.” - PSALM 32:8.

**Topics you might want to read about:**

**(Social Action):** *Cured But Not Healed: How to Experience Deeper Faith on Your Journey with God* by the Reverend Kymberley Clemons-Jones

The contents of this book discuss ways to develop a better relationship with your creator. The author’s words and Bible study will both challenge you and encourage you as you read. After taking the action to read the text of this book you may find yourself in a newly engaged relationship with God and walking a path that deepens your faith.

**(Social Action):** *The White Umbrella: Walking with Survivors of Sex Trafficking* by Mary Frances Bowley

During 2015, Belin UMW sponsored a seminar on the topic of Human Trafficking. As we read Ms. Bowley’s book, we learn more about the “muddy path” that children have been forced to walk even within our neighborhoods, towns, and communities. Thankfully, there are people who have come alongside them to hold the white umbrella of protection and purity over them as they change to a path to restoration. Throughout this book’s pages you will learn what actions were taken to provide a “white umbrella” to protect these children.

**REMEMBER: THE BELIN CHURCH UMW READING PROGRAM 2016 GOAL:**

Each UMW member reads at least one book from the UMW Book Cart by September 30, 2016. To learn more about the reading plan options, pick-up a reading program brochure from the book cart or contact Diane Lewis, Belin UMW Resource Secretary (843-215-6724 or DianeLewis@sccoast.net).

The Belin UMW Reading Program’s *UMW Book Conversations* .... begin Thursday, April 28, 10:00 AM in the Family Life Center Library.

This informal discussion group provides an opportunity for Belin UMW members (as well as other interested church women) to gather and share their UMW book reading experiences. Please join me on April 28 for this first of four (4) one-hour UMW book conversations during 2016. Together we will learn and exchange smiles!

If you cannot join us on April 28, I hope to see you at our next scheduled *UMW Book Conversation*.... Monday June 20 at 6:30 PM.

*Diane Lewis*
Belin UMW Resource Secretary
**MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH**

**GERMAN GOMEZ**

Birthday: May 22

Address: 67 Cedar Bend
Centerville, AL 35042

German Gomez is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church assigned as pastor to San Juan Mission in Clanton, Alabama, through the National Plan for Hispanic and Latino Ministries. Some of German's responsibilities include being the pastor of mission, jail ministry, social work, and mission development. “I have a calling to preaching, teaching, and discipling,” German reflects. Previously, he taught Sunday School classes at the Centreville UMC in Centreville, AL, where he is a member.

German shares thoughts with us on his mission experience and how he sees God moving through his ministry: "When I see families change through the work of the Holy Spirit; when I go to the jail and preach and see the change the Lord brings to the prisoners, and when the prisoners leave the prison the Holy Spirit brings them to the church."

Born in Cuitlahuac in Veracruz, Mexico, German is married to Leticia Gomez. They have three children: Aarendy, born in 1989, Irais, born in 1990, and Aaron, born in 1997.

Quarterly, the national office of UMW publishes a short, very informative newsletter. Go to unitedmethodistwomen.org/umwnews to sign up for a free subscription. Follow the work of UMW in the United States and abroad!

For more information, or help in getting a subscription, call or e-mail Betty Mar Little (843-651-4422 and bmlittle2@aol.com).
BELIN UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
MINUTES, BOARD MEETING
MARCH 23, 2016

The UMW Board met in the Family Life Center at 1:30 PM. Attending: President, Sue Walters; Vice President, Susan Malechekski; Treasurer, Dottie Burnham; Secretary, Jo Bendick; Frances Wilson Circle, Sue Carreiro and Nancy Heinz; Grace Circle, Peg Otterberg; Miracle Seekers Circle, Iva Coker; and Resource Secretary, Diane Lewis.

Dottie gave us a devotion on change from Jeremiah 29:11. She said a bend in the road is not the end of the road unless you fail to make the turn.

Our cares and prayers were for Jan McEachren’s leg to heal, Sue C. having surgery Monday, Rodney and Jan and Sue’s sons personal battle with alcohol.

Secretary’s Report
Minutes were read and approved from January’s meeting.

Resource Secretary’s Report
Diane Lewis thanked each circle for giving her time to explain and encourage the UMW reading program. On April 28, she will have a “book conversation time” for more involvement in the reading program.

Circle Reports
- Frances Wilson Circle is still waiting on arrival of their books for the new Bible study of “21 Most Effective Prayers in the Bible.” The Circle will be giving to Baby Express.
- Miracle Seekers Circle reported on their successful Lenten lunch and is planning for the BOI bake sale.
- Grace Circle is now collecting books for the BOI and they must be dropped off in the lobby of the FLC.

Old Business
Sue Carreiro reported that the Belin wooden church plaques have been shipped and we decided to sell them at the Blessing of the Inlet under the Bake Sale tent. The board discussed where the profit should go and decided that half would go the land fund and the other half would go to the UMW.

New Business
- President Sue Walters said she has received many thank you cards for our donations including Epworth and Ola McBee and many more.
- She also reported the Cluster meeting in Georgetown was short but sweet. They mentioned that an online circle had been started.
- Landscaping around the Inlet cross was discussed and a drawing was passed around. Bricks will be sold for $150.
- Discussion of BOI will be continued at our next meeting.

President Sue Walters closed us with prayer and our benediction.

Closing: *May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another.*

Next meeting will be **Wednesday, April 27 at 1:30 PM** in Family Life Center.

Respectfully Submitted
Jo Bendick, Secretary
2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 28............................. UMW Book Conversations, 10:00 AM, FLC
May 7 .............................. Blessing of the Inlet, Belin UMC Campus
May 21 ............................. Come Together, Be Together, TBD
June 20 ............................ UMW Book Conversation, 6:30 PM, FLC
August 1-5......................... Preparation for Belin UMW Yard Sale, FLC
August 6 ........................... Belin UMW Yard Sale, FLC
September 9-11 .................... Tri-District Retreat, Springmaid Resort, MB
November 5 ....................... BBQ, Bazaar, and Bake Sale, FLC
October 8 ......................... District Annual Meeting
October 21-22 ..................... Conference Annual Meeting, Bethany UMC, Summerville
December 3 ...................... UMW Annual Christmas Luncheon, Austin’s Ocean One, Litchfield Inn, P.I.

CIRCLE NOTES

FRANCES WILSON CIRCLE will meet on May 9 (Monday after the Blessing of the Inlet). We will be discussing how the strawberry shortcake booth went and what we can do to improve it for next year. We do not have a mission this month after all the hard work involved to get ready for the BOI and supporting the other circles. We will be selling our new fundraiser (Belin Church plaque) at the Blessing and will continue to sell them this year. We voted that half of the money will be going to UMW’s missions projects and the other half to help pay down the land debt. They are a wooden replica of our beautiful church and the cost is $20. We pray that you will support this very important fundraiser and purchase one. We will also be attending different church functions this year to sell the plaques, so please do not miss out on buying one….or two!!

We are starting our new Bible study - The 21 Most Effective Prayers in the Bible. Dolores Claus will be our facilitator, and we will be taking turns in facilitating future lessons. We hope and pray our precious Bible study leader, Marcia Massey will be able to return occasionally to lead.

We will be announcing our new mission project for June and, hopefully, resume our luncheons in the Inlet soon. We have been missing our luncheon fellowships….we have been busy these past few months. Please come and join us soon.

Circle co-leaders: Sue Carreiro (843-357-3533) and Nancy Heintz (843-947-0873)

GRACE CIRCLE met Monday, April 4 at the home of Susan Payne. We are currently collecting books and storing them in one of the stores in the Inlet Square Mall. We are going several times a week to sort the books already received for the Book Nook at the Blessing of the Inlet. Our Circle is purchasing a brick for the Memorial Garden at the Inlet Cross.

Our next meeting is on Monday, May 2 at the home of Peg Otterberg. We will be making our final preparations for the book sale and we hope to see you at the Blessing!

Circle leader: Peg Otterberg (843-651-2688)

MIRACLE SEEKERS CIRCLE met Tuesday, April 5, in the Family Life Center. Our Circle will be responsible for the Bake Sale table at the Blessing of the Inlet. Everyone who is able was asked to bake their favorite goodies, and be at the FLC at 9:00 AM on Friday, May 6 to help price baked goods. A work schedule for Friday and Saturday will be sent to Circle members. Joan Howard led an interesting discussion of Chapter 9 of Bad Girls of the Bible. Sara Frances Way provided refreshments. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 3.

Guests are always welcome to join our meeting for fun and fellowship.
UMW OFFICERS

President .......................................................... Sue Walters (843-357-4777)
Vice President ............................................... Susan Malachefski (843-215-5369)
Secretary ............................................................. Jo Bendick (843-215-7097)
Treasurer ............................................................ Dottie Burnham (803-261-7354)
Resources Secretary ....................................... Diane Lewis (843-215-6724)
Newsletter ...... Betty Mar Little (843-651-4422) / Fran Wesner (843-236-2982)

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

A request has come to publish Donna Marzolf’s recipe for lace cookies. Many of us have enjoyed them at various meals at the church. So, we thought we would print a favorite recipe each month in News and Notes. We only ask that you share your favorite recipe with us by submitting in writing to either Betty Mar Little (bmlittle2@aol.com) or Fran Wesner (franza6@aol.com). We would love to hear from you. We want to thank Donna for contributing the first recipe and for giving us the idea to have a recipe of the month. We have many excellent cooks and bakers in our Church, and we’re looking forward to hearing from you. Bon appetit!

Lace Cookies

1/2 lb. butter (2 sticks)  1 tsp. vanilla
1 lb. brown sugar  1 tsp. salt
1 egg  3 cups quick Quaker Oats

Put parchment paper on cookie sheets. Form dough into marble-size balls, leaving ample space for the cookies to spread out as they bake. Bake at 350 degrees for 8-10 minutes. They are ready to come out when they are golden brown and bubbly. When done, slide paper off the sheets onto cooling racks. Wait 3-4 minutes to remove cookies from paper to allow them to set up.

News and Notes is an informal UMW newsletter and is distributed the 15th of each month. Deadline to submit your Circle information/pictures is the 9th and should be emailed to Fran Wesner (franza6@aol.com) or Betty Mar Little (bmlittle2@aol.com).