## UNIT REPORT : NIGERIA THE METHODIST CHURCH NIGERIA - WOMEN'S WORK

May the name of the Lord God be praised for helping us to succeed in the programmes and activities of the year 2017 by the able leadership of the National Women's Fellowship President, Nneoma Florence N. Uche and other Women leaders who assisted us to keep the flag of women's work flying.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:** This very important programme of the women came up on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 with the Theme," **AM I BEING UNFAIR TO YOU**" The programme was organized at different Headquarters of our Church and it was very successful.

**FILLING THE JAR WOMEN ASSEMBLY**: The formation of filling the jar Women assembly is aimed at bringing all female folk of Methodist Church Nigeria under the leadership of Holy Spirit for spiritual rejuvenation, strengthening of social and economic bond, which can enhance our relationship as a family. The choice of the assembly's name reminds us that through obedience to God's work, incredible testimonies accompany as many as would do the will of God in their lives. In (John 2:7) Jesus said unto them, "**fill the jars with water**" and they filled them up to the brim. The water turned into sweet wine -1<sup>st</sup> miracle.

The 2017 activities of Filling the Jar Women Assembly were as follows:-

- 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 for South South / South East at MTI Umuahia
- 15<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 for Northern zone at MCN Markurdi and
- 15<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 for Western zone at MTI Sagamu respectively.

**LEADERSHIP RETREAT FOR PRIEST AND DEACON'S WIVES 2017**: The programme had been organized annually for the wives of the ministers to support their husband ministries. They gathered at MBHS, Victoria Island, Lagos from 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 with some interesting empowerment programmes.

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BIENNIAL CONFERENCE / AWARD SERVICE:** The 45<sup>th</sup> Biennial conference held between 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 at Methodist Theological Institute Sagamu, Ogun state was well attended with the theme **"Christian Woman: Agent of God's word."** 

Typical issues affecting lives and society were discussed, prayer seminar, Evangelism outreach, singing

Competitions, Bible quiz, Award of honors were among the prominent activities to God's glory.

#### PROJECT BY THE METHODIST WOMEN IN NIGERIA

By the grace of God, the Methodist Women in Nigeria have embarked on building conference centers at four zones of the Conference area. This project will assist the Church financially, spiritually and socially when completed.

#### **UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 13 (CLIMATE CHANGE)**

During this programme on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2017 We saw God revealing His love more for us by sustaining and protecting our lives irrespective of the harsh weather in our environment. And God also helped us to maintain healthy attitude of what happened around us. We learned that climate change can be caused by the following:

- i) Destructive logging of forest
- ii) Raw sewage discharge into water bodies
- iii) Water, air and land pollutions
- iv) Oil spillage in riverine areas
- v) Land degradation with pesticides and fertilizers

We can do the following to save our environment from climatic hazards:

- 1. Plant drought resistant trees and shrubs
- 2. Install solar heated system
- 3. Use electric or push mower to cut our lawn
- 4. Insulate our homes, clean air conditioning filters and install energy efficient storm heads.

# THE SUMMARY REPORT OF 2018 ACTIVITIES FROM NIGERIA UNIIT'S WOMEN'S WORK DEPARTMENT TO WEST AFRICA AREA PRESIDENT OF METHODIST AND UNITING CHURCH WOMEN.

**Preamble:** All praise and thanks to the Immortal, Invisible and only wise God who through His infinite mercy enable us to succeed in all the programme of activities within the opening months of the year 2018. May His Name be praised forever, Amen.

### A THREE DAY PRAYER RETREAT/RE-DEDICATION OF WOMEN FELLOWSHIP ANNUALLY:

This is one of the programmes of the year organized for the women at the Local church level which commenced from Friday 26<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2018 with three days intensive prayer and fasting and was rounded up with thanksgiving and re-dedication of the Women Fellowship members throughout the Conference Area on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2018.

#### **DIAKONIA EXEUTIVE MEETING:**

There was the Diakonia Regional Executive meeting for Africa- Europe that was held between Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The programme was attended to by our Area President,

Deaconess Ibironke Oworu at Gillis Center of Edinburg in Scotland.

#### YOUTHS AND ZERO HUNGER PROGRAMME:

Methodist Church Nigeria Women in their quest in tackling the rate of unemployment and poverty in the society have embarked upon seminars, workshops, and empowerment programmes in ensuring that young people are economically engaged in skill acquisitions, agricultural activities in order to get rid of hunger and poverty. The women have started building skill acquisition centers at the four (4) zones of the Conference area.

#### WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

Women's World Day of prayer was celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2018. It was an Interdenominational programme prepared by the Christian women of Suriname with the theme, "ALL GOD'S CREATION IS VERY GOOD" (Gen.1:1-31). It was hosted by the Apostolic Church Ketu, Lagos. A brief message was delivered by Deaconess Fashola of Ireti Ogo Church on the above theme. She went on to narrate the story of God's creation and how God made women in a very special way. She cited an example on breast feeding and why God always make the breast milk warmed for the babies. She challenged the congregation to be good stewards in their different environments.

The same programme continued at MCN, Trinity Council, Tinubu on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2018 to carry along some Methodist Women who were not able to attend at the Apostolic Church the previous day.

Our National Women's Fellowship president, Nneoma Florence N. Uche who preached the sermon informed the women that the world day of prayer started as far back as 1820 in Boston and that presently we have 170 Countries of the world organizing this programme annually. The preacher also used the same theme "ALL GOD'S CREATION IS VERY GOOD" to encourage the women to always appreciate God's creation by keeping our environment clean and tidy, bringing light to our families, showing love to people, both friends and enemies and to stop being destructive to what God had created.

### WOMEN'S WORK WEEK CELEBRATION/ DAUGHTERS OF WESLEY AND GIRLS FELLOWSHIP WEEK:

The Women's work week this year began from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> with an Eucharistic service in all local Churches. Others activities within the week included Exposition on the book "PHILIPPIANS", Prayer and Fasting, road walk and Evangelism, visit to the aged, prisoners, orphanage, the sick and the less privileged. Rallies and Competitions came up on Saturday and the week was rounded up with a colorful MOTHERING SUNDAY THANKSGIVING in local churches on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. Daughters of Wesley and Girls Fellowship week commenced from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. Their week commenced with Eucharistic service at their Cathedrals. Other activities of the week included Exposition in the book of "Hosea." Street Evangelism, Sport activities, Choral Speaking, Bible quiz, Debate, Miming, Sword drill, Song Competition and special dancing steps. They also gave relief to the aged, motherless babies' home, cleaning of the village square and church yards. The week was rounded up with a thanksgiving service on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

#### BISHOPS' WIVES SUMMIT ENLARGED EXECUTIVE AND BOARD MEETING:

Under the leadership of the National Women's Fellowship President, Nneoma Florence N. Uche, a week long programme was organized at the Diocese of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State in the month of April, 2018 as follows:

- (a) Bishops' Wives Summit, between 18th and 19th April, 2018
- (b) Women's Fellowship Enlarged Executives meeting, on 20th April, 2018
- (c) Women's Work Board meeting-21st April, 2018

The above programs were very successful to God's glory.

Thanks and be blessed

Deac. Nseobong Umanah Women's Work Coordinator Nneoma Florence N. Uche Women's Fellowship President

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