

*From*  
**SOUTHERN UNION WOMEN'S COMMISSION**  
*to*  
**SOUTHERN UNION WOMEN'S MINISTRIES**

**CONFERENCE WOMEN'S MINISTRIES DIRECTORS**

1988 - Present

The conference directors who have served the women in their conferences and have also served as members of the Southern Union Executive Committee:

**CAROLINA**

Faye Haupt  
 Sonja Eberhart  
 Ann Pendleton  
 Debbie Rapp  
 Cindy Mercer  
 Elizabeth Grisson

**FLORIDA**

Hazel Gordon  
 Patricia Shanko  
 Sheryal Vandenberghe  
 Annie Perez

**GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND** Evelyn

VandeVere  
 Beverly Holweger  
 Mary Jo Dubs

**GULF STATES**

Ramona Greek  
 Teri Haggerty  
 Peggy Fisher  
 Phyllis Eisele  
 Janice Shipbaugh

April Hobbs

Cynthia Bush

**KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE**

Sarah Miller  
 Sandy Powell  
 Helen Boskind  
 Gail McKenzie

**SOUTH ATLANTIC**

Deborah Harris  
 Carolyn Hinson  
 Sylvia Wilson  
 Rosia Parker

**SOUTH CENTRAL**

Laura Smith  
 Shirley Scott  
 Sonia Paul

Freddie Jenkins

**SOUTHEASTERN**

Vanessa Melton  
 Nicolle Brise'  
 Mithra Williams

God's Spirit continues to hover over Women's Ministries.

**1980's**

- 1984** • Dr. Norwida Marshall served as first SU Women's Commissioner.
- 1988** • One-day Women's Symposium held in Atlanta in April.  
 • First meeting of the Southern Union Women's Commission and Women's Town Hall Meeting at Collegedale, Tennessee, in October.
- 1989** • Christian Women's Retreats initiated in the Southern Union.

**1990's**

- 1990** • Work of the Women's Commission was completed.  
 • North American Division created an Office of Women's Ministries. Dr. Ramona Greek from the Southern Union was appointed as assistant director.
- 1991** • Title of Women's Commission changed to Women's Ministries. Title given those in leadership was Women's Ministries Director.
- 1993** • Abuse Awareness Seminars for local churches.  
 • Women's Ministries leaders trained during Union-wide Church Ministries Convention.  
 • First issue of new women's magazine, *Women of Spirit*, featured Southern Union women in an article.
- 1995** • "Year of the Adventist Woman" focused on women in ministry, helping women in abusive situations, and those in need of literacy.  
 • Women's Ministries voted full departmental status at the General Conference session in Utrecht, The Netherlands.
- 1997** • Union director participated in producing an ACN Training broadcast and video.
- 1998** • Southern Union directors participated in the first NAD WM Conference in Toronto, Canada.

**SOUTHERN UNION WOMEN'S MINISTRIES COMMISSIONERS AND DIRECTORS**



**Norwida Marshall\***  
 1984 -1986



**Rosa Taylor Banks\***  
 1986-1988



**Ramona Perez Greek\***  
 1988-1990



**Evelyn VandeVere**  
 1990-1997



**Ann Pendleton**  
 1997-2003



**Laura Smith**  
 2003-2018



**Shirley Scott**  
 2018-Present

\* Commissioner

**2000's**

- 2000** • Sponsored a Southern Union Women's Leadership Retreat, Nashville, TN.
- 2002** • Sponsored a Southern Union Women's Ministries Convention, Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, TN.
- 2006** • Co-sponsored and conducted GC WM Leadership Training for Georgia-Cumberland leaders through 2008.
- 2007** • Contributed financially to an orphanage in Africa "Reaching Hearts 4 Kids."  
 • Hosted a Southern High Tea for NAD WM Executive Committee, Louisville, KY.
- 2008** • Sponsored the Southern Union Women's Conference in Atlanta, GA. Major focus: "God In Shoes" Community Outreach.
- 2013** • Sponsored the "Charleston for Christ" evangelistic meeting.
- 2018** • Sponsored the SU Women's Conference in Charleston, SC.
- 2019** • Sponsored CONNECTIONS-A Convention for Women in Chattanooga, TN.
- 2019** • Established an Annual Emerging Women Leaders Scholarship Award for collegiate women attending AdventHealth, Oakwood and Southern Adventist Universities

**SUWC ADVISORS AND ASSISTANTS**



**Hazel Gordon**  
 1990-2003



**Cheryl Retzer**  
 2003-2012



**Yolanda Smith**  
 Advisor  
 2012-present



**Barbara Pierce**  
 Secretary  
 1990-2008



**Lessie Scurry**  
 Executive Asst.  
 2008-Present

**1984-2019**