

COSROW – RUTH GYNTHYER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Commission on the Status and Role of Women (COSROW) was established by the 1976 General Conference due to efforts of the Women's Division. Its purpose is to encourage the full and equitable participation of women in the life of the church. (As one woman observed, "I'd like to be able to do more for my church than bake cookies and teach children's Sunday School.")

The AL.-W. FL Conference COSROW has instituted several initiatives to encourage women's leadership and to recognize their contributions. In 1992 COSROW established the Alice Lee Award, named for one of the actively dedicated women of our Conference, which recognizes women who have been barrier-breakers and bridge builders toward women's participation in church and community. This award is presented at Annual Conference. Also at Annual Conference COSROW sponsors a breakfast at which a scholarship is presented to a woman who is a student in a Methodist seminary. COSROW also monitors Annual Conference proceedings and nominations reports for inclusiveness.

Early on COSROW began annual retreats at Blue Lake which feature women leaders addressing issues of interest to women. In the 1970's and '80 there were many people in our Conference who had never heard a woman preach! The 2011 retreat will be Jan. 22-23 and will feature a panel of women leaders who will provide information about the 2012 General Conference, the issues and election process it involves.

In 2009 the women gathered at the event voted to begin a **laity scholarship** to encourage women who **had not been to a COSROW event** to attend. This scholarship was named in honor of Ruth Gynther, a former chair of COSROW.

Applications for this scholarship are now being sought. If you or someone you know would like to be considered to have the cost of her attendance at the event at Blue Lake Assembly Jan. 22-23, 2012 covered by this scholarship, please submit the following form to Lynn Hamric, 14398 Lake Wildwood Drive, Cottdale, AL 35453, **no later than January 10, 2012.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Church/District _____

Age: 15-30 () 31-40 () 41-50 () 51-60 () 61-70 () Over 70 ()

1. What would you like to get from such an event _____

_____?
2. How I feel I could help advance women and the church by participating in a COSROW event _____
_____.