



Claudette Demuth

*Written by: Kimberly Ballard*

*Photo by: Amber Stricklin*

**Bloom Where You Are Planted** -- A needlepoint plaque bearing this modern proverb based on I Corinthians 7:2 hangs in Claudette DeMuth's home and reflects her lifelong philosophy. Born and raised in a small town in Middle Tennessee, Claudette now takes pleasure in the tranquility of Gunter'sville where she is the marketing director for Marshall Medical Centers and outgoing chair of the Lake Gunter'sville Chamber of Commerce. Active in her church, United Way, and the Cancer Society, wherever she goes, Claudette genuinely abides in the calling to which she was called.

**You have deep connections to the Lake Gunter'sville Chamber of Commerce as the immediate outgoing chair.** Yes, and my husband Grant, is the Director of Economic Development. We both love Gunter'sville. It is a remarkable place to live with this beautiful lake. It is all about the water; everywhere you look there is boating, skiing, and world class fishing.

**You spent 15 years in Kansas City. How did you adjust coming back to small town living?**

We love it for the same reasons some people do not, everyone knows everyone else, and chances are, they know a lot about you, too. Wherever you go, you run into people you know and they call you by name. It is a very welcoming atmosphere where you never feel like an outsider. I loved Kansas City, too. There are some great aspects to living in big cities. You have to flourish wherever you are. That is why I always say, bloom where you are planted.

**Tell me about the Girl's Bible Study.**

I lead a Bible Study group for high school girls every Thursday morning at 6:30 a.m. at McDonalds. We are in our eleventh year and what used to be a small group has grown in popularity. Considering how early in the morning we meet, we have a great turnout to discuss faith and life issues every young girl faces. I feel strongly about passing along the blessings I have experienced in life.

**Do you have time for any hobbies?**

That is a very funny question. I so enjoy my work with the church, the Chamber, the community, and the hospital, that they are like hobbies to me, but Grant and I both collect and sell antique prints and engravings. We used to have a shop called Graceful Traditions over in Huntsville, but we aren't really taking on any new customers right now.

**You are a dog lover?**

Cooper is our Wheaten Terrorist... I mean Terrier. Yes, he is a very important member of the family!

**How long have you been with Marshall Medical Centers?**

Five years and I absolutely love it. I get to promote the best medical facility in Marshall County. They have a team of excellent physicians who are doing great work. MMC is a place where you see miracles happen every day. ■