



# Metro Media

The voice for the United Methodist Women of the Metro District,  
Western North Carolina Conference.

## Greetings UMW Sisters!

2021 is more than halfway done and we are finally seeing the beginnings of a return to “normal”.

We have several conference and district events coming up in 2021. Some are highlighted in this issue of the newsletter. Virtual meetings and some hybrid meetings—virtual and in-person—are being offered. Please mark your calendars and take advantage of all the upcoming opportunities.

- WNCC UMW Mission u to be held on-line in July and August. Information is found at [www.wnccumw.org](http://www.wnccumw.org)
- Metro District UMW Annual Celebration, August 28
- WNCC UMW Annual Celebration, September 11-12
- UBUNTU Day of Service, October 9
- Metro District UMW Leadership Development, November 20

Thank you for your support and prayers over the past year and a half. Please know that your district team has been praying for you as well. We are here to support you and look forward to meeting with you in person and/or virtually. Together, we all continue to live our mission of Faith, Hope and Love in Action!

Lynda Morris  
Metro District President  
[lfmorrisap@aol.com](mailto:lfmorrisap@aol.com)

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## Metro UMW & WNCC UMW Calendar

Please save these dates

### Various Dates July/August

WNCC UMW Mission u  
Virtual Meeting

### August 28

Metro District Annual Celebration  
St. Stephen UMC, 6800 Sardis Rd,  
Charlotte, NC  
In- person and virtual

### September 11-12

WNCC UMW Annual Celebration  
Virtual Meeting

### October 2

UBUNTU

### November 20

Metro District Local Officers  
Virtual Meeting  
Leadership Development Day sponsored by  
WNCC UMW 10:00 am



# Metro District 2021 Annual Celebration

**Saturday, August 28 10:00 am – 12:00pm**

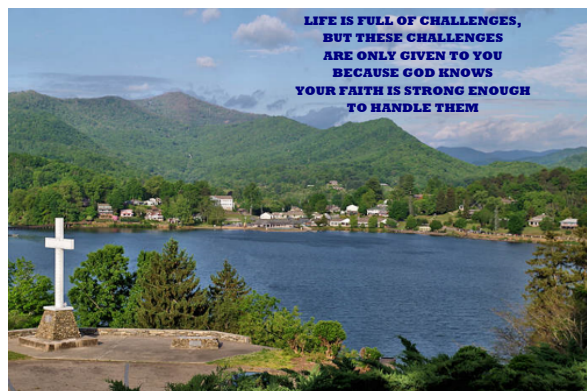
**St. Stephen United Methodist Church**

**6800 Sardis Road, Charlotte, NC**

**In person or on-line**

**Featured Speaker: The Reverend Holly McKim, Hudson United Methodist Church will bring our message: ‘Faithfully Meeting Challenges.’**

**Registration Link : [District Events](#) | [WNCC United Methodist Women \(wnccumw.org\)](#).**



What a blessing that the Metro District Annual Celebration returns in 2021 as an in-person event!! This opportunity comes with fewer restrictions which we welcome to achieve cautious progress. Neither the traditional breakfast nor the displays are possible this year, however, the Gift in Memory and Gift to Mission cards will be available for purchase.

Registration is open! While there is no registration fee, we ask that each attendee, whether in person or on-line, register for the event indicating either in-person or virtual attendance. This process will ensure that all on-line attendees receive the link for virtual viewing. Here’s the link to the registration form. [District Events](#) | [WNCC United Methodist Women \(wnccumw.org\)](#). Scroll down to the Metro District yellow rectangle; Zoom Support is available in the line green square on the right side of the page.

## **Donations**

Love Offerings and Legacy Fund Donations may be made in three ways: baskets at the Sanctuary entrance for in-person attendees, online, or mail to Kim Shafer, P. O. Box 480638, Charlotte, NC 28269, postmarked before November 25, 2021. Please clearly mark on the memo line the check designation: District Love Offering and/or Legacy Fund.

## **Hand-On Project**

The Hands-on Project will be School Supplies for either the Alliance Center for Education (AC4Ed, formerly Bethlehem Center) or a school of your unit’s choice.

Each unit is responsible for researching items needed, collecting those items, and making delivery arrangements to the chosen site. Donations may be taken to a site between now and the opening of school\* or the Annual Celebration. Consult AC4Ed or the chosen school’s website for Supply Lists.

### **\*First days of School:**

August 11: Rowan County

August 17: Cabarrus County

August 23: Iredell-Statesville,  
Stanly, and Union Counties

August 25: Mecklenburg County

Remember to send Nancy Litton, [nailskate@gmail.com](mailto:nailskate@gmail.com), the number and value of items donated from the Hands-On Project and, to track your Unit’s project expenditures for end-of-year mission dollar reporting.

Continues next page

## Event Safety Guidelines

St. Stephen lifted restrictions on in-person attendance limits, socially distanced seating, and mask requirements for all guests. However, in-person participants **who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to continue to wear a mask during the event.**

We look forward to worshipping together, enjoying inspirational music, and receiving our uplifting message.

Blessings,

Nancy Ward  
Vice President  
[nward001@carolina.rr.com](mailto:nward001@carolina.rr.com)  
704 681-4779

## Spiritual Growth

What a wonderful and spirit-filled Praise Worship and Memorial Service the Metro District had on Saturday, April 24, 2021. The event theme was **J.O.Y** – “Jesus, Others, Yourself” and featured moving words and uplifting music. Guest speaker The Rev. Jan Brittan, pastor of Williamson’s Chapel United Methodist Church, spoke on “Why Bother the Woman”, based on Matthew 26:10.

The Williamson’s Chapel Praise Team provided the excellent music for the event which was an inspiration to all. I send a special thank you to the ladies from Williamson’s Chapel for their assistance in making the event possible. The service was open for in-person and online attendance and we are grateful to all who attended in either format.

If you were unable to attend the event this year, please consider and plan to join us in 2022. The tentative date is Saturday, April 23. Mark your



calendar now and watch for updates in the newsletter and/or the <https://wnccumw.org> website.

Kay Jones

Spiritual Growth Coordinator  
k328jonez@gmail.com  
704-720-0864 (h) 704-467-7597 (c)

## Treasurer

Peace in Christ to you all. Again, we have successfully demonstrated our dedication to others through our second quarter 2021 remittance giving as shown in the table.

These funds have a significant positive effect on women, children, and youth. We have five National Mission Institutions in our conference alone. Sign up for the WNCCUMW e-news email to learn more about the Mission Institutions we support.

In addition to giving spiritually to the United Methodist Women, you are encouraged to also support the United Methodist Women Legacy Fund to keep our organization strong and viable for the next 150 years. Supporting the Legacy Fund endowment campaign ensures that 91% or more of undesignated giving received by National goes to missions and not to

organization expenses. We take great pride in being fiscally responsible and being a volunteer community of Women in Christ.

Pledge to Mission	\$17,886.50
Special Mission Recognition	570.00
Gift to Mission	1,002.89
Gift in Memory	455.00
World Thank Offering	2,922.00
Call to Prayer and Self-Denial	1,648.00
The Legacy Fund	2,845.01
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,329.40</b>

Together in Missions,

Kim Shafer - Metro District Treasurer  
[kimshafermetroumw@outlook.com](mailto:kimshafermetroumw@outlook.com)

### Ways to Give to the Legacy Fund



As a permanently invested endowment, The Legacy Endowment Fund will forever be a source of income for United Methodist Women, providing the assurance that United Methodist Women can provide the life-affirming, compassionate care and support that heals, restores, and empowers populations of women, children and youth in the years and decades to come.

There are multiple ways for you to support the Legacy Fund:

- Make a gift through your local unit United Methodist Women
- Use our Western North Carolina Conference Legacy Commitment form, available on our conference site [www.wnccumw.org/legacyfund](http://www.wnccumw.org/legacyfund)
- Online on the national office site at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/legacyfund)
- By phone to 800-278-7771 between the hours 8 am – 6 pm ET, M-F
- By check to United Methodist Women, Treasurer's Office, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10115, add "Legacy Fund" in memo
- Other methods include gifts of stock, life insurance, bequests, or other planned giving. If you are interested in making a gift like this, contact the national office at 800-278-27771

## Nominations

Below is the slate of Metro District Executive Committee officers for 2022. This slate of ladies will be voted on during our Annual Celebration on August 28. We hope that you will be able to take part in the celebration. All nominees have agreed to further the goals of the United Methodist Women in the next year. In addition to these names, the Nominations Committee is also accepting nominations from the floor. If you would like to recommend someone for a position on the Executive Committee, please use the form on the next page.

### 2022 Proposed Slate of Metro District Officers

In accordance with the Standing Rules and Constitution of the United Methodist Women, the Committee on Nominations submits the nominees below for office on the Metro District Executive Committee for 2022.

**\*\*PRESIDENT** (2022) – Nancy Ward, Matthews

**\*\*VICE PRESIDENT** (2022 – 2023) -TBA

**SECRETARY** (2021 - 2022) – Debbie Eudy, Memorial Charlotte

**TREASURER** (2021 – 2022) – Kim Shafer, Hickory Grove

**\*\*MISSION, EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION** (2022-2023) Sylvia Sekle-Dueh, Hickory Grove

**\*\*SPIRITUAL GROWTH** (2022 – 2023) TBA

**SOCIAL ACTION** (2022 - 2023) Loretta Wilson, Hickory Grove

**MEMBERSHIP NURTURE OUTREACH** (2021 - 2022) – Martha Hyler, Harrisburg

**PROGRAM RESOURCES** (2021 - 2022) – Sheila Barrell, Westford

**COMMUNICATIONS** (2021 - 2022) – Delta Sonderman, Providence

### **Nominations – (4-year terms or less if filling in a Class/4 Classes/5 to 11 total members needed)**

<b>Class of 2022</b>	<b>Class of 2023</b>	<b>Class of 2024</b>	<b>Class of 2025</b>
Linda Davidson, Chair	Kelly McKinnon	Judy Cline	TBA

\*\* New Nomination



**Metro District United Methodist Women  
Form for Nominations from the Floor  
2021 Annual Meeting  
Submission Deadline: August 14, 2021**

The United Methodist Women's bylaws allow for nominations from the floor. Please use this form for nominations from the floor for this year's Annual meeting and election on August 28. If you plan to make a nomination for more than one office, you must complete a form for each person.

All nominations from the floor must be received by Linda Davidson, Metro District Nominations Chair at [Linda.davidson@duke-energy.com](mailto:Linda.davidson@duke-energy.com), using this form by 11:59 pm on Saturday, August 14, 2021.

1. For which office is your nomination?

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2. Nominee's Contact Information Name:

Address:

City/Town:

State/Province:

Zip/Postal Code:

Email Address:

Home Phone Number:

Cell Phone Number:

Work Phone Number:

3. Please identify the age range of the nominee:

18-30 years   31-40 years   41-50 years   51-65 years   66-70 years   71 years and over

4. Please identify the ethnicity/race of the nominee. Choose all that apply.

- African  African American or Black  Asian-American or Asian  Caribbean  Caucasian or White
- Hispanic or Latina
- Native American  Pacific Islander
- Please write in your own preferred description

5. Please identify the local church to which the nominee belongs:

Local Church:

6. Nominator Contact Information Name: (Let us know who YOU are)

Address:

City/Town:

State/Province:

Zip/Postal Code:

Email Address:

Phone:

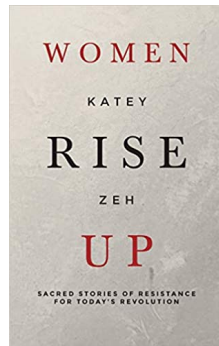


United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

## Program Resources

Have you ever wondered how women in Bible times survived? “Women Rise Up: Sacred stories of Resistance for Today’s Revolution” by Katey Zeh is just the book for now. Women like Hannah, Ruth and many other Old and New Testament women are good examples for us today in our struggles to be recognized and valued for our innate worth in a world “gone crazy”. This book is mentioned under “Social Action” section of books available for our 2021-2022 Reading Program.



A book under “Nurturing Community” is “Dangling: I May Have Cancer, but Cancer Doesn’t Have Me!” by Amy Carr. “This is a personal story about how sometimes God teaches life-changing lessons that we otherwise

would not have learned.” I believe that this statement covers other painful situations we may find ourselves in. Many other chronic health issues can be included, but if we are in touch with God and receptive to his word we can find peace, acceptance and even healing!



Be sure to share your books with others in your Circles, Senior groups, and in your church and beyond. Only God knows who we touch by sharing our resources.

God Bless You and Keep You Safe.

Sheila Barrell  
Program Resources  
704-788-4130 (please leave a message)

## Communications

*Metro Media* is the Metro District’s communication link to the district’s member units in the Western NC Conference. Four times a year this newsletter informs, connects, and encourages faith, hope, and love in action. Your district Executive Committee is here to support you with resources, training and events that exemplify the United Methodist Women purpose. The many aspects of United Methodist Women are represented in the newsletter, as we feature opportunities for spiritual growth, outreach, and leadership.

Your help is needed to assure that this newsletter is reaching the right people and that it contains the information you need. All unit presidents are encouraged to share *Metro Media* with your members. Pastors who don’t have an active unit in their church are asked to pass copies of this newsletter to the women in your congregations. The programs, events,

studies, and mission events are not exclusive to United Methodist Women members, and you may have congregants who might be interested in participating in our activities. If you or someone you know would like to receive the newsletter, please let me know.

We also want to hear from you as to how the *Metro Media* can better support your units. Please share your ideas for articles, recommendations for stories you’d like to read or suggestions on making this newsletter more valuable to your members. We welcome your input and feedback.

Blessings,  
Delta Sonderman  
Communications  
[deltasson@gmail.com](mailto:deltasson@gmail.com)

# Mission u 2021

## Two Mission Studies, Various Dates / Times



If you are Passionate about mission, love to learn and enjoy engaging with others, **then Mission u is right for you!**  
**Check out the possibilities and join us!**

### **Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living Into the Church's Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship**

In Jesus' own words, he came to bring good news to the poor, release the captives, restore sight to the blind, and to let the oppressed go free. What is the responsibility of the church to follow Christ's example in word and deed? While these times might feel particularly turbulent, society has always confronted the church with challenging issues where she has had to discern how God was calling her. The church's track record in these moments is far from perfect. The purpose of this study is to help the church and its members discern our call and bear witness to the will of God for a more just world. You can purchase the study book for \$10 at either the United Methodist Women Mission Resources store or on Amazon. **Use this link to learn more:**  
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/bearing-witness-in-the-kin-dom>

Study Leader: Amy Coles, Assistant to the Bishop

July 15-18

Thursday, 6 pm – 8 pm

Friday, 6 pm – 8 pm

Saturday, 10 am – 1 pm

Sunday, 3pm - 5pm

No class size limit, on-line via Zoom

### **Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools** **Multiple times in July and August**

Despite increased attention to the mass and over-incarceration of black men, the plight of criminalized black women and girls is overlooked, underreported and under analyzed. Monique W. Morris' Pushout shows how even with obstacles, stigmas, stereotypes and despair, black girls still find ways to breathe remarkable dignity into their lives in classrooms, juvenile facilities and beyond, and challenges the rest of us to do the same. Multiple Study Leaders. You can purchase the study book at Amazon. It is also available for Kindle. **Use this link to learn more**  
<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/pushout-the-criminalization-of-black-girls-in-schools>

Full time classes (choose one)

July 19-22 – Mon-Thurs 6 – 8pm

Study Leaders: Carolyn Payne and Rev. Leon Morrow

July 23-25 – Friday, 6 pm – 8 pm,

Saturday, 10 am-2 pm, Sunday, 3 pm – 5 pm. Study Leaders: Renee Hayes and The Honorable Denise S. Hartsfield

One day overview classes (choose one)

July 31 – Saturday, 10 am – 2:30 pm,

Study Leaders: Joyce Irby and Kathy Fitzjefferies

August 1 – Sunday, 3 pm- 7:30 pm, Study Leaders: Laquetta Barbee and Renee Hayes

All classes limited to 35 persons, on-line via Zoom



# 2021 UMW Metro District Officers

## **President (2020-2021)**

Lynda Morris (St Stephen)  
2539 Winterbrooke Dr  
Matthews, NC 28105  
704-847-2521/704-619-2013  
[lfmorrisap@aol.com](mailto:lfmorrisap@aol.com)

## **Vice President (2021-2022)**

Nancy Ward (Matthews)  
4003 Colton Ridge Dr.  
Indian Trail, NC 28079  
704-681-4779  
[Nward001@carolina.rr.com](mailto:Nward001@carolina.rr.com)

## **Secretary (2021-2022)**

Debbie Eudy (Memorial-Charlotte)  
806 Eaglewood Ave  
Charlotte, NC 28212  
704-563-7195/704-759-4477  
[Snakcak3655@yahoo.com](mailto:Snakcak3655@yahoo.com)

## **Treasurer (2021-2022)**

Kim Shafer (Hickory Grove)  
PO Box 480638  
Charlotte, NC 28269-5305  
704-599-9206  
[kimshafermetroumw@outlook.com](mailto:kimshafermetroumw@outlook.com)

## **ME&I (2021-2022) (Interim)**

Nancy Litton (Trinity-Kannapolis)  
152 Tammy Court  
Kannapolis, NC 28083  
704-938-5803/704-794-7930  
[nailskate@gmail.com](mailto:nailskate@gmail.com)

## **Spiritual Growth (2020-2021)**

Kay Jones (Cold Springs)  
3011 Fairmead Dr  
Concord, NC 28025  
704-720-0864/704-467-7597  
[k328jonez@gmail.com](mailto:k328jonez@gmail.com)

## **Social Action (2020-2021)**

Sylvia Sekle-Dueh (Hickory Grove)  
212 Hunslet Circle  
Charlotte, NC 28206  
704-606-5557  
[dueh1409@gmail.com](mailto:dueh1409@gmail.com)

## **MN&O (2021-2022)**

Martha Hyler (Harrisburg)  
910 Lamar Rd  
Concord, NC 28025  
704-781-5505  
[mkhyler@gmail.com](mailto:mkhyler@gmail.com)

## **Program Resources (2021-2022) (Interim)**

Sheila Barrell (Westford)  
PO Box 877  
Concord, NC 28026  
704-305-4490/704-788-4130  
[Jsbarrell3@gmail.com](mailto:Jsbarrell3@gmail.com)

## **Communications (2021-2022)**

Delta Sonderman (Providence)  
4308 Emory Ln  
Charlotte, NC 28211  
704-302-3600  
[deltasson@gmail.com](mailto:deltasson@gmail.com)

## **Parliamentarian**

Donna Varner (St Stephen)  
4105-B Bannockburn Pl  
Charlotte, NC 28211  
704-779-9798  
[Donnak1130@yahoo.com](mailto:Donnak1130@yahoo.com)

## **Historian**

Sylvia Casey (Simpson-Gillespie)  
7009 Summer Pl  
Charlotte, NC 28213  
704-596-3578  
[scasey@carolina.rr.com](mailto:scasey@carolina.rr.com)

## **Conference Advisor**

Jatana Royster (Hickory Grove)  
8227 Laurel Oak Ct  
Harrisburg, NC 28075  
704-454-5333  
[Jatanaroyster@gmail.com](mailto:Jatanaroyster@gmail.com)

## **Nominations**

Linda Davidson (2022)  
6201 Spring Garden Ln  
Charlotte, NC 28213  
(Simpson-Gillespie)  
704-281-9565  
[Linda.davidson@duke-energy.com](mailto:Linda.davidson@duke-energy.com)

Debbie Williams (2022)  
2321 Brenly Ct  
Charlotte, NC 28269  
(South Tryon)  
704-712-9062  
[Debwm126@gmail.com](mailto:Debwm126@gmail.com)

Kelly McKinnon (2023)  
5729 Brookfield Pointe Dr.  
Charlotte, NC 28216  
(South Tryon)  
336-209-2038  
[vkelly.mckinnon@gmail.com](mailto:vkelly.mckinnon@gmail.com)

Judy Cline (2024)  
5215 Club View Dr.  
Concord, NC 28025  
(Royal Oaks)  
704-785-8027  
[jblacline@gmail.com](mailto:jblacline@gmail.com)

[Jamie Stirewalt \(2024\)](#)  
2676 Woodcrest Dr SW  
Concord, NC 28027  
(Roberta)  
980-521-7985  
[ejstirewalt@gmail.com](mailto:ejstirewalt@gmail.com)

[Updated: 1/20/2021](#)

## 2021 Metro District UMW Nurturing Partners

<b>Church</b>	<b>Partner</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Partner</b>
Aldersgate	Debbie Eudy	Mill Grove (Indian Trail)	Nancy Ward
Assurance	Kim Shafer	Morrows Chapel	Judy Cline
Bethpage	Judy Cline	Mount Mitchell	Nancy Litton
Broad Street	Lynda Morris	Mount Olivet	Martha Hyler
Calvary	Kelly McKinnon	Mount Pleasant	Lynda Morris
Centenary	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh	Myers Park	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh
Center	Kay Jones	North Davidson	Linda Davidson
Central (Charlotte)	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh	North Kannapolis	Judy Cline
Central (Concord)	Jatana Royster	Oak Grove (Char)	Donna Varner
Central ( Mooresville)	Kim Shafer	Oak Grove (CG)	Kim Shafer
Christ	Kim Shafer	Pineville	Nancy Ward
Cokesbury	Sylvia Sekle-Dueh	Pleasant Grove	Donna Varner
Cold Springs	Martha Hyler	Providence	Lynda Morris
Commonwealth	Debbie Eudy	Roberta	Jatana Royster
Covenant	Donna Varner	Rock Grove	Jamie Stirewalt
Davidson	Lynda Morris	Rocky Mount	Kim Shafer
Dilworth	Delta Sonderman	Rocky Ridge	Kay Jones
Epworth	Nancy Litton	Royal Oaks	Martha Hyler
Fair View	Lynda Morris	Simpson-Gillespie	Kelly McKinnon
Faith ( Mooresville)	Jamie Stirewalt	South Tryon	Sylvia Casey
First (China Grove)	Jamie Stirewalt	SouthPark	Donna Varner
First Hmong	Kim Shafer	St Andrews	Debbie Eudy
Forest Hill	Kay Jones	St Francis	Delta Sonderman
Friendship	Martha Hyler	St Marks	Sylvia Casey
Harrisburg	Nancy Ward	St Paul ( Mooresville)	Lynda Morris
Hickory Grove	Linda Davidson	St Stephen	Debbie Eudy
Hunters Chapel	Linda Davidson	Thrift	Debbie Eudy
Huntersville	Linda Davidson	Trinity (Charlotte)	Donna Varner
Indian Trail	Nancy Ward	Trinity (Kannapolis)	Jamie Stirewalt
Jackson Park	Judy Cline	Vanderburg	Lynda Morris
Matthews	Delta Sonderman	Westford	Kay Jones
Memorial (Charlotte)	Delta Sonderman	Williamsons Chapel	Kim Shafer
Memorial (Kannapolis)	Jamie Stirewalt	Woodlawn Community	Delta Sonderman
Midway	Nancy Litton	Zion	Nancy Ward

Your Metro Nurturing Partners are here to help. Please welcome them when they call or visit, and feel free to contact your Partner, or any of the Metro Officers with your questions, ideas or concerns.

# Light Up Our Spirits

with Faith & Hope so Love IS Action

## 2021 Virtual Annual Celebration

**September 11, 2021 - 2:00pm** – *Special Guest Speaker, Business Session, District Celebration*

**September 12, 2021 - 2:00pm** – *President's Message, Memorial Service*  
**ONLINE - Via Zoom**

Special Guest Speaker: Cindy Johnson, Deaconess, Rio Texas Conference  
President's Message: Julia Willis, Conference President

## Virtual Annual Celebration 2021 Registration:

Online Registration OPENS August 10, 2021:

We invite you to participate in and give generously to our **2021 Conference Love Offering, A Gift to Mission in honor of our members' Faithful Commitment to Mission Giving, through good times and pandemic times**

## Our Western NC Conference 2020-21 Goals

- Raise awareness and build relationships with United Methodist Women mission in our conference
- Raise awareness and promote personal advocacy for our two United Methodist Women priority issues
  - Climate Justice
  - Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration
- Building relationships, supporting, and encouraging local units in living out our Purpose during a pandemic and beyond
- Achieve our Conference Financial Goal
- Continue to live out our Purpose as we move into the NEXT 150 Years of United Methodist Women in Mission

United Methodist Women  
Metro District of the UMC  
(WNCC)  
2539 Winterbrooke Dr.  
Matthews, NC 28105



WORDS OF WISDOM: **Know God!** **Develop** relationships! **Expand** your vision!  
United Methodist Women make it our **PURPOSE!**

