

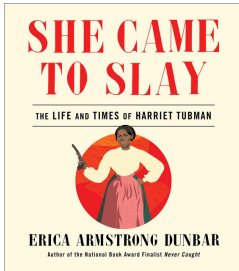


United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

# NORTHERN PIEDMONT DISTRICT United Methodist Women QUARTERLY NEWS

FIRST QUARTER 2022

## Joint Book Study About Harriet Tubman Coming Soon



**Please Save the Date: Saturday, February 5, 2022 | 10:00-11:30 a.m. via Zoom | *She Came to Slay: The Life & Times of Harriet Tubman***

WELCOME to 2022! **One of the Northern Piedmont District's goals this year is to have quarterly book studies from the United Methodist Women reading list.** *She Came to Slay* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar is a story for youth about the life of Harriet Tubman. The author presents a fresh take on Harriet Tubman by blending biography, illustrations, photos and engaging sidebars that illuminate the life of Tubman as never before.

This is a joint book study with the Blue Ridge District on Saturday, February 5, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Sandra Williamson, Northern Piedmont District President, is the study leader. **Register by visiting [wncumw.org/districtevents](http://wncumw.org/districtevents) and scrolling to the Northern Piedmont box.** This book is available for free on [the Libby app by Overdrive](#) or at a public library. I was able to download the audio version. Remember, if you order books from Amazon, visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and select "United Methodist Women" as your charitable organization. Amazon will donate 0.5% to United Methodist Women. More to come on future book study dates.

In 2021, I had the opportunity to attend and thoroughly enjoyed a book study led by Lily Pierce, District Communications Coordinator, about the book *We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now: The Global Uprising Against Poverty Wages* by Annelise Orleck.

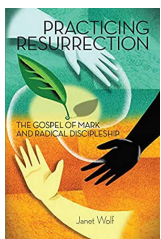
**There are many titles of interest on the reading program list this year: *The Girl with Seven Names*, the story of one woman's struggles to escape from North Korea; *Hidden Figures*, the untold story of the African-American women who helped win the race to space; *Becoming* by Michelle Obama; and *Moment of Lift* by Melinda Gates.**

Please visit [unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram) for more information.

Peace!  
Cheryl Little  
District SPR



## District Mission Study: Ministering to "The Least of These"

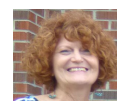


**Please Save the Date: Saturday, March 19, 2022 | 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. via Zoom | *Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark & Radical Discipleship* by Janet Wolf**

We will begin at 10 a.m. and finish at approx. 2:30 p.m., taking a 30 minute lunch break at about 12 noon. **[Click here to register](#) or call/email Rynn, Sandra or another District officer (pg. 6).**

Rev. Dr. Otto D. Harris, III will lead our study. **I had the pleasure of taking this class at Mission u two years ago, and it was one of the best programs I have attended! Reading the book may be helpful but is not required to participate.** We learned applicable, everyday ways to be in Mission with "the least of these." I made friends with some great women from Memorial UMC in High Point, and we went on to do a combined Mission project in High Point with UMW members from my home church, Gideon Grove UMC in Stokesdale. Hope to see you there!

Rynn McGee-Pierce,  
District MEI



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# Mark Your Calendar

## 2022 Calendar Northern Piedmont United Methodist Women Events

### »» UPCOMING EVENTS

#### District and Conference Events

Assembly 2022 info:  
[wnccumw.org/assembly2022](http://wnccumw.org/assembly2022)

- February 5**      **District Book Study #1 – She Came to Slay**  
10-11:30 am via Zoom (Register online at the Conference website.)  
Other book studies will be announced.
- March 19**      **Mission Study – “Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship”-via Zoom**  
Study Leader: **Rev. Dr. Otto Harris, Pastor of St. Marks (Charlotte) and member of the Bishop’s Extended Cabinet**  
10am – 2:30 pm, with a break for lunch; registration will be online
- May 14**      **Spiritual Renewal Gathering (formerly the district Prayer Breakfast)**  
10am – 12noon (in-person if Covid-19 allows)
- May 20-22**      **United Methodist Women Assembly: TURN IT UP!**  
Orlando, Florida (Registration is now open. A virtual attendance option is available.)
- June 9-11**      **Spiritual Growth Retreat – Lake Junaluska**  
Theme: “Come to the Water”
- July 14-17**      **Mission u – Pfeiffer University (depending on Covid-19 status)**  
Luke 13: A Transformative Biblical Curriculum for Adults, Youth and Children
- August 27**      **NP District Annual Celebration –Location TBD**  
10am – 12 noon registration begins at 9am  
Program is followed by a District Walk for Mission
- September 9-11**      **Conference Annual Celebration—Lake Junaluska**  
Theme: “Turn It Up!”
- October**      **Ubuntu Days of Service** (Select your own day and activity. Report it to the District.)
- November 6**      **Northern Piedmont Local Unit Officers’ Training; – Location TBD**

**FYI** Every link in this newsletter is clickable from the PDF version!

\*\*\*Please see pg. 6 for an important note on newsletter mailings & Nurturing Partners.\*\*\*

## Looking Forward to an Action-Packed Year!

Happy New Year and welcome to the beginning of another exciting year in United Methodist Women! This year, 2022, holds great promise for Northern Piedmont District UMW as we seek ways to put love into action for women, children and youth. **We are looking ahead to a tremendously inspiring Mission study, enlightening book studies, a spirit-filled time together at our Spiritual Renewal Gathering (formerly our Prayer Breakfast), energizing and rewarding walks for mission, an uplifting District Annual Celebration, mission projects galore and a really meaningful training event for local unit officers!** Whew!! I'd better take a break; I don't want you to get tired just thinking about our plans for the year! (Be sure to check out the 2022 calendar of events located elsewhere in this newsletter.)

First and foremost, I want each of us to remember that in all that we plan and in all that we do, we must keep Jesus at the center of our focus. We are who we are, and we do what we do, because JESUS CHRIST IS LORD! **Whether we meet in person (as we plan to do for some events) or whether we meet online for a virtual event, Christ is ever present and always calling us to put His love into action.** This District has a lot planned for the year, and so does the Conference UMW. Your local unit may have a full calendar, too, but we UMW are up to the tasks we assign ourselves when we keep all things centered in Christ. "[We] can do all things through Christ who strengthens [us]." (Phil. 4:13, paraphrased) And if your local units want or need some assistance from your District Team, just ask! A list of Nurturing Partners will be available soon. Contact Tiffany Alston for assistance.

**A very warm and special "thank you" goes out to each unit president who has submitted her reports for 2021. Just in case I haven't received yours yet, please get them to me as soon as possible.** I want to be able to share with the Conference officers all the wonderful things our units have done this past year. Even in the midst of a pandemic and social isolation during much of the last two years, Northern Piedmont UMW continued to be faithful to its Mission work and you deserve the recognition (even if you don't seek it out).

My prayer for 2022 is that you will keep up the good work for Christ, that our community health measures will continue to improve, and that as we all stick to personal safe health practices, we can meet again face-to-face in our work for women, children and youth, here at home and around the world.

Blessings,  
Sandrea Williamson  
District President



## 2022: A Year for Revitalization

Hello and Happy New Year, Northern Piedmont United Methodist Women!

It is so hard to believe a year has passed, but here we are again, starting a new year with new beginnings, changes and challenges.

**My name is Constance (Connie) Holland and if you do not already know, I am the new Treasurer for the Northern Piedmont District.** I look forward to the challenge and the opportunity to serve in this capacity.

Thanks to all of you for making Mission possible through your generous giving in 2021!

The following is a list of units that contributed to all five Channels of Mission Giving:

Archdale	Hinshaw	Pleasant Union
Bethel, Archdale	Holmes Grove	Prospect
Bethlehem, Climax	Hopewell	Raleigh's Crossroads
Celia Phelps	Laughlin Memorial	Shiloh
Centenary, Stoneville	Lebanon	Spring Hill
Christ	Madison	St. John, Eden
College Place	Mayodan	St. Matthews
Collins Grove	Mizpah	St. Stephens
Eden	Mt. Pisgah	Tabernacle
First, Randleman	New Goshen	Welch Memorial
Gideon Grove	New Salem	West Market Street
Glencoe	Newlyn Street	Zion Hill
Groometown	Pleasant Hill	



*cont. on  
next page*

## Changes for 2022

Here we are in a new year, and I'm hopeful for a new beginning! I'm prayerful that all of our United Methodist Women members were able to spend time with family and friends during the holidays and will be able to return to our church sanctuaries soon.

2022 will be, what I believe to be, a wonderful reinvention of United Methodist Women. **As announced at our Leadership Development Day training in October, in 2022 we will see new resource materials, more online training and classes and a new United Methodist Women Handbook.** This handbook will be presented for approval at the 2022 General Conference in August. It will be important to familiarize yourself with this new handbook which will be detailing membership changes dealing with the separation of churches from our Conference. There is a copy available for order now but it will not be a final version until after approval.

**Our beloved Prayer Calendar has a new name, new focus and new purpose.** In 2022, it becomes the United Methodist Women Daily Prayer Guide and will serve as a daily devotional resource for prayers and Mission reflection for us as individuals. The Prayer Guide can be ordered at [umwmissionresources.org](http://umwmissionresources.org)

**Mission u's focus in 2022 will be on one study of Luke 13 for adults, youth and children.** This comes as a "response to a devastating pandemic, a divisive political climate and economic turmoil." This study will help us understand how we can better serve our communities, if we tend to their needs with a multitude of small actions, with the hope of activating a community's healing and renewal.

**A new newsletter titled Thrive from our National Office in New York has already emailed out its first issue in November.** Its focus is for inspiring ideas to nurture your mind, body and spirit in regards to exercise, what we eat and how we better manage our stress. You can join the distribution list by emailing Jenn Krueger, [jkrueger@unitedmethodistwomen.org](mailto:jkrueger@unitedmethodistwomen.org).

**Soul Care Retreats will be scheduled to emphasize self-care and spiritual care.** Personally, I love retreats! More information to come in the new year.

There will also be new ways to participate including online membership and new websites. Be sure to watch for announcements and share this with your membership. I am very excited about the changes we are going to see and believe that they will be embraced by our members. See you in the new year!



## 2022: A Year for Revitalization cont.

Jean Carter  
District Vice President



And thanks to all of you who contributed to Mission Giving for a total of **\$71,092.61**, which is almost 71% of our \$100,000 pledge.

Our District's total giving in 2021 was **\$83,461.78**, which included all undesignated and designated giving as well as the Legacy Fund.

**Our 2022 financial goal is that "Each unit will meet or exceed its pre-pandemic Mission Giving."** We all realize how much inflation has increased the cost of everything. To remain in Mission as we have in the past, each of us must do our part by increasing our pledge. If your unit has not yet sent in your pledge form for 2022, please have your treasurer enclose it with your unit's first quarter remittance. Remember that to meet the first criteria for becoming a Mission Today Unit, a pledge must be made and met.

I look forward to serving, meeting, and working with all of you. **God has a successful revitalization planned for the United Methodist Women. Let us work hard to help Him accomplish it!**



Blessings,  
Connie Holland  
District Treasurer

United Methodist Women News is a free 8-page newspaper published by the United Methodist Women National Office highlighting recent events and issues happening within the organization and its members. [Click here to sign up!](#)



## Step Up & Reach Out



**Rockingham County Help for Homeless**, 110 N. Franklin Street, Madison, 336-548-9533

- Paper products
- Toiletries
- Cleaning supplies

### Room at the Inn

(shelter for pregnant women and their children), 734 Park Ave. Greensboro, 336-275-9566

- Gently used baby clothes
- Maternity clothes
- Adult shampoo & toiletries
- NEW: gently used dishes & towels

### Local outreach programs

### YWCA Family Shelter

1807 E. Wendover Ave. Greensboro, 336-333-0175

- New or like-new twin-sized comforters
- New pillows
- Bleach, hand soap & lotion
- Haircare products for people of color
- SERVE: Sign up to provide dinner to residents (call and speak to Deb)

**Castaways Thrift** (supports substance abuse programs for women), 727 Highway St. Suite A, Madison, 336-644-4185

- Gently used clothing, shoes & housewares

**Sew Loved, Inc.** Wanda Hammock, 336-514-1166, Eden  
Call for details, location and times.

- They need materials & sewing notions

### Rockingham HOPE (in old Red Cross building)

3692 NC Hwy 14, Reidsville, 336-623-2133

- Gently used blankets
- Hygiene products & toiletries
- Cleaning supplies

### Leslie's House (homeless shelter for women)

851 W. English Rd, High Point, 336-884-1039

- Ladies underwear & socks of all sizes
- Paper products
- Plastic spoons & forks
- Cleaning supplies
- New dish towels

### Do You Have Leftover Yarn?

I am collecting yarn, crochet hooks and knitting needles as well as sewing notions, sewing machines and material.

If you have items to donate, please contact me, and I will schedule a pickup.



**"Let me be when I am weary, Just a little bit more cheery,  
Think a little more of others, And a little less of me"**

Sometimes when the skies are gray, my mood can get a little gloomy. These great lyrics by Glen Campbell remind me to get out of this wintery woe-is-me slump and get busy. **The week of writing this, I found out that Room at the Inn will take gently used dishes and housewares to help the new moms set up housekeeping. With a little prompting, I was inspired to donate a lot of good Tupperware items that I just don't use much anymore.** (I can't believe that I actually have some empty space in several cabinets for the first time ever, ha ha!). Truly, I was able to let go of a lot of things because I felt that I was helping those young kids get started.

You will note that several of the needs in "Step Up, Reach Out" are for gently used items. Do your closets and cabinets need some spring cleaning? Why not donate a few things to one of those places shown or to a deserving charity in your neighborhood? I have listed a few, but there are many organizations who sponsor shelters for battered women, substance abuse programs for girls, etc. Find a program near you that speaks to your heart so it will be easier to part with your goodies. **In 2022, may each of us strive to "Think a little more of others, And a little less of me."**

P.S. I do have an organization who expressed interest in hosting a crochet class. Hopefully, we can begin once the Covid-19 numbers get lower.



Peace!  
Rynn McGee-Pierce,  
District MEI



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TBD

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**Nominations Committee Members**

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**With this first newsletter, I'm also sending the Nurturing Partner list, and I will send the local unit officer database soon** (I will ask if anyone would like their info blurred out first). PLEASE look over your unit's info to be sure it's all correct. If your unit didn't send in a year-end report, do so ASAP. This is how we can ensure we are not leaving anyone out, or worse yet, wasting potential Mission dollars sending things to the wrong people. Don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns.

Lily Pierce  
 District Communications



We need a District Social Action Coordinator for 2022. If you or someone you know can serve, contact Irish Spencer.

**Legacy Fund Information:**  
 Visit our website at [wnccumw.org/legacyfund](http://wnccumw.org/legacyfund)



**District Deaconesses**

Ruth Williamson, 336-613-1607  
 1610 Lindsay Bridge Rd.  
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Eloise Moore  
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 Greensboro, NC 27409  
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 renee.hayes1956@gmail.com



## NORTHERN PIEDMONT DISTRICT UMW GODWINKS

How does God find you during the Covid-19, Delta, and Omicron virus pandemic? Did you hear God, feel his presence and/or witnessed his intervention in a normal or an unusual circumstance? What happened to make you feel that God is in control and is with you all the time? United Methodist Women testimonies are solicited to help heal and provide HOPE to a world in crisis as well as to leave a legacy of stories for generations to come. This is our opportunity to share how God leads us during times of uncertainty and illness. Share how He strengthens "you and others you know" to overcome adversity. Consider these Godwinks as comparable to the walk through the Red Sea on dry land. As we are encouraged by past pandemic stories, what better gift can we bequeath to believers and non-believers, Our God-wink moments.

DEFINITION: 1) A God-wink is an event or personal experience, often identified as coincidence, so astonishing that it's seen as a sign of divine intervention, especially when perceived as the answer to a prayer; 2) Messages of reassurance and encouragement from God throughout one's life to reassure an individual that s/he is on the right track (Squire D. Rushnell)

To help each unit get started read explanations about *12 Ways to see God Wink at you*: 1) Try a test; 2) Listen to messengers, and be one yourself; 3) Look for the extraordinary in the ordinary; 4) Dig into your memories; 5) Embrace hope; 6) Consider the big picture; 7) Embrace comfort; 8) Confirm that prayer works; 9) See the blessing hidden inside unanswered prayers; 10) Consider the timing; 11) Look for winks in your relationships with family; and 12) Take steps toward your dreams (Whitney Hopler). <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/see-god-wink-at-you-1417375.html>. Submit unit Godwinks to me at [hefavorsme7@triad.rr.com](mailto:hefavorsme7@triad.rr.com), and call if you have questions.

Reminder: Collection of Greensboro District, Northern Piedmont District Annual Program books since 1971 is ongoing. Please submit old copies to the district historian.



Send your units' "God-winks" to Albertina McGirt (pg. 6).

Visit [wnccumw.org](http://wnccumw.org) to learn more about Conference events, and join the District email list for more info on District events; contact Lily Pierce--pg. 6.

Assembly 2022  
**TURN IT UP!**  
Orlando, FL  
May 20-22, 2022  
Early Registration  
Sept 1-Nov 30  
\$330  
Virtual Early  
Registration Sept  
1-Nov 30 \$199  
(More info:  
[wnccumw.org/assembly2022](http://wnccumw.org/assembly2022))



## Local Unit Story: Water for Life

Submitted by Rynn McGee-Pierce, Gideon Grove UMW

Send your unit's stories and/or photos to Lily Pierce!

**At our UMW Christmas gathering, we started a new tradition whereby we each donate money for a special Mission project.** Last year (2020) we sent bees, chickens and a goat through Heifer International. It felt so good to be going above and beyond, so we decided to do it again.

This Christmas, when all was donated and tallied, we had collected over twice the amount as last year. We excitedly looked over the pamphlets and made suggestions. "How about two flocks of chickens (\$20 each), a hive of bees (\$30) and an alpaca (\$150)?" "How about a water buffalo (\$250)? It says here they can plant four times the crops with a buffalo than by hand." "What about the Hope Basket (\$50)? It includes some rabbits and some chicks!" Oh, we were having a grand time deciding how to use this money.

Then a quiet voice said, "What about water for life?" Water for life.... where is that on our pamphlet? I was stuck on chickens and bees, so where was this?

The quiet voice of our pastor spoke again. "If I make up the difference in cost, can we do Water for Life?"

Then, we all see what she is referring to at the bottom of the page. Water for Life: \$750.00. Wow! Water, something so simple that we all take for granted everyday. Immediately, we all agreed. We would need about another \$150 to do it. So we all started chipping in a little more and a little more, then the pastor added the last \$40. Water for Life! **Our little group of ten ladies sent somebody WATER for LIFE.**

I still get a lump in my throat when I think about how I felt at the moment, and **I think of this scripture from Matt 25:35-40 (paraphrased): "I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink [...] When you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters, you have done it for me."**



## Our Purpose

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

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**Happy New Year!**

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*



**response**, the magazine for United Methodist Women, includes Bible studies, opportunities for spiritual growth, mission and outreach stories, and more. It will touch your heart, stir your spirit and challenge your mind. A one year digital subscription costs \$20 for 6 issues, a one year print subscription costs \$24 for 6 issues and a one year audio subscription costs \$24 for 6 issues.

**Order Online:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/response](http://unitedmethodistwomen.org/response)

**Order by Phone:** 1-877-881-2385

**Order by Mail:** Send check with subscriber name and address to--  
**response:** Magazines With a Mission, PO Box 395, Congers, NY 10920

### Connect with United Methodist Women on Social Media



[www.facebook.com/UMWomen](http://www.facebook.com/UMWomen)  
[www.facebook.com/northernpiedmontumw](http://www.facebook.com/northernpiedmontumw)



[www.instagram.com/UMWomen](http://www.instagram.com/UMWomen)



[www.youtube.com/UMWomen](http://www.youtube.com/UMWomen)



[www.pinterest.com/UMWomen](http://www.pinterest.com/UMWomen)



[www.twitter.com/UMWomen](http://www.twitter.com/UMWomen)



[www.flickr.com/UMWomen](http://www.flickr.com/UMWomen)



Are you willing to receive your quarterly newsletter via email, reducing our carbon footprint and allowing more money to go to mission work? If so, please email our District Communications Coordinator, Lily Pierce.



**UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief)** provides cleaning, hygiene and school kits in response to disasters and other needs in the United States. They work with international partners to help them address needs in their countries. You can help them restock their kits by going to [umcor.org](http://umcor.org), hovering the mouse over "Serve" in the menu at the top, clicking "Relief Supply Network" and scrolling down to "Kit Assembly." From there, you can download instructions for each kit. You can also make a monetary donation to help buy supplies for kits by hovering over "Give." (Photo borrowed from website)



# Western North Carolina United Methodist Women 2022 Conference Events

Spiritual Growth Retreat  
“Come to the Water”

June 9-11

Lake Junaluska



Mission u  
“Luke 13”

July 14-17

Pfeiffer University



Annual Celebration  
“Turn It Up!”

September 9-11

Lake Junaluska



Ubuntu Days of Service  
“I am because you are.”

October 1, 8, & 15

Across the Conference



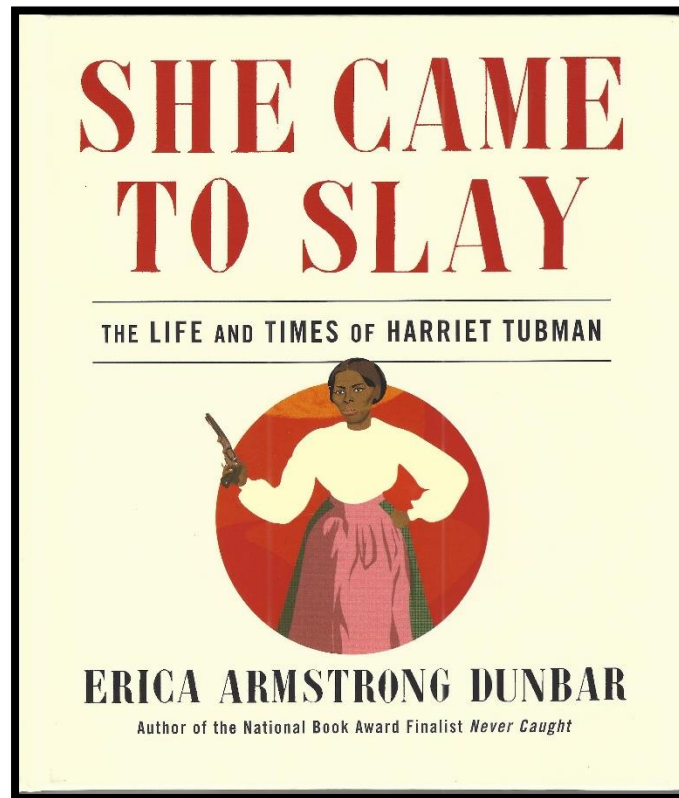
## NP District UMW Book Study #1

Please Save the Date: **Saturday, February 5, 2022!**

10:00-11:30 am via Zoom!

### **She Came to Slay: *The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman***

By Erica Armstrong Dunbar



*"The author presents a fresh take on Harriet Tubman by blending biography, illustrations, photos and engaging sidebars that illuminate the life of Tubman as never before." ~Cheryl Little, NP District Coordinator of Program Resources.*

This is a joint book study with the Blue Ridge District Book Club. The book is a youth selection from the UMW Reading Program and will count toward your reading for 2022. The facilitator for this study will be Sandra Williamson, President of the Northern Piedmont District.

To register: Go to [wnccumw.org/districtevents](http://wnccumw.org/districtevents) and scroll down to the Northern Piedmont box. You'll see the link to register for the book study there.