



United
Women
in Faith

Newsletter

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2022

Prayer Retreat and Memorial Service

"A Journey of Happiness"

Live and In-person—April 30th

PROGRAM LEADER: Janet Reep Morgan, Past President

PLACE: First Dallas UMC, 301 W. Main, Dallas NC 28034

TIME: 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM

HOST: Vickie Boyd

There is **No Registration Fee for this event.** Please register as soon as possible by email at cvdcomm@gmail.com or by regular mail to: Gwen Perkins 2646 Jacobs Rd. Gastonia, NC



A LOVE OFFERING

will be taken in Memory of those members that we lost in 2021. Please use the form below with your offering.

Love Offering in Memory of:

Given By: Name _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit/Church Name _____

You may bring your memorial donation with you to the Prayer Retreat/Memorial Service or mail directly to the treasurer at: Gaye Dagenhart, 29 31st Ave. Court NE Hickory, NC 28092 TOTAL AMOUNT DONATED _____



President's Note

Because I am a United Methodist Woman, I love to read the books on the Reading Program List. There are memorable and stimulating choices, as well as educational and heart-warming reads. When Others Shuddered is one of these. I want to share a brief look from page 175.

At her school for Negro girls in Dayton, Florida, after 2 hard years of getting students, furniture and a building, Mary McLeod Bethune was overseeing 250 students and 4 teachers. Her school was a success, but some did not like her efforts to teach Negroes.

“Mary argued that they should be pleased that the people serving them were well-educated - they did better work. One night, the school was visited by the KKK. They came in darkness, wearing hoods, carrying guns and riding horses, terrorizing the neighborhood while warning Negroes not to vote.

Although her girls were frightened Mary stood firm. She ordered the lights across the campus be turned on, shining brightly so the angry men could not hide. She told her students to sing. Quietly at first, and then more boldly, following Mary's lead, they sang: “Be not dismayed, whate're betide, God will take care of you.” ‘We sang them right off campus,’ said Mary, ‘and the next day we all voted, too.’ “

This book relates more brave women, the subtitle states eight women who refused to give up. Well worth reading, because it tells us how, even in adversity, every one of these women leaned on God and He was there to help them through.

That's our model for getting through these days of virus and turmoil. I want more units to get back to reading as before, and we'll do the mission work and come to in person gatherings. I hope to see you at the First Dallas United Methodist Church for the Prayer Retreat where the past President Janet Reep-Morgan will lead us in “A Journey of Happiness”. We will also have the annual Memorial Service for the sisters we lost this past year.

Ever Hopeful,
Janet Bjork-Colton



Frequently Asked Questions on United Women in Faith

Why are we taking a new operating name?

The name United Methodist Women was adopted in 1972, signaling a change not only in the life of the church but in the lives of women and how they could organize for mission.

Over the past 50 years, we have experienced vast change in how women live their lives and choose to engage the world in faith as well as great changes in the life of the church.

It is time to adopt a name that reflects how women are living and engaging their faith in today's realities.

Our new name is part of an overall move to refresh our organization that includes a new look, new feel and new and improved programs. We will be able to better nurture our current members while welcoming into our sisterhood new women who want to put their love in action. The new operating name is also welcoming to women whose local churches may choose to align with another denomination or who are already members of other denominations.

Are we still a part of The United Methodist Church?

Yes! We are still the only official women's organization of The United Methodist Church and our corporate name will remain United Methodist Women.

How were these decisions made?

As part of our strategic planning guided by the Board of Directors, and the Program Advisory Group (PAG), we have conducted an enormous amount of research over the past five years. The new name, programs and program innovations are fruits of that research along with prayerful efforts to discern the times for our organization. The member-elected United Methodist Women Board of Directors, along with input from the PAG, has guided the organization throughout this process.

We've conducted surveys, focus groups and interviews with more than 24,000 United Methodists and women of other denominations and Christian traditions. The changes and programs are data informed and tested to address the needs and life stages of current and future members.

Will these changes impact me and my local unit?

All of our traditional structures on the conference, district and local levels—circles included— remain intact. These new tools and programs are **additional** options available to you and your unit to help you better nurture current members, recruit new members into the organization and manage your unit's finances.

United Women in Faith has a mission statement. What about our Purpose?

The Purpose for the local church remains the Purpose as it appears in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* 2016 (§256.5.3). The core of our work remains the same: changing the world through faith, hope and love in action. The United Women in Faith mission statement—written by board executive committee members, PAG representatives and assigned staff—is a refreshed expression our core principles.



Can we remain members, stay connected and join another local unit if our church leaves The United Methodist Church?

Yes. United Methodist Church membership has never been required for United Methodist Women membership. Bylaws changes allow for women to be involved and be leaders in our organization even if they become affiliated with another denomination. Our new name captures this inclusivity.

Where can I learn about all of the changes underway in our organization? **response** articles and other free downloadable resources available on the e-store under Member Resources will give you an overview of the changes underway.

What do these changes have to do with “new wineskins?”

United Methodist Women—now United Women in Faith—is again saying yes to being part of what God is doing in the 21st century by creating new ways for women today to gather for faith, sisterhood and action for women, children, and youth.

In other words, we are making new wine and new wineskins to fulfill our role in God’s mission today. We tap Jesus’ use of the metaphor in Mark 2:22 to explain the need for change to help us share with members the new tools, programs, and exciting changes on the horizon for our organization.

What new tools and programs are coming?

The new tools and programs that will rollout throughout 2022 include:

A new, easier to navigate website. The new website will have a homepage designed to pique the interest of women new to our organization and start them on a journey to membership. The homepage will also include a special portal where members can log in to access resources specially designed for them.

Templates for Soul Care retreats. A pilot member recruitment program will be debuted through which current members invite nonmember friends to themed retreats specially designed to nurture our bodies, minds and souls.

Innovations to Mission u. Beginning in 2022, Mission u will be introducing new curricula each year—one for children, one for youth and one for adults—all focused on a shared biblical theme that incorporates spiritual growth, contemporary issues and how these show up in various geographic areas. The new Mission u curricula will be more accessible and adaptable for use in small groups, local churches, vacation Bible schools, retreats and other settings. Through these vibrant, relevant, justice-oriented and biblically centered curricula, Mission u will continue its commitment to learning together for the transformation of the world and expand its impact.

A new national membership option. This option will enable women to join our sisterhood via our new website. They will learn about and be able to participate in programs and events online or in person. Of course, on-line options and resources will also be available to existing members who already participate in circles and units.

More targeted giving options. Members and nonmembers alike want more options to target their financial gifts to specific programs areas such as Spiritual Growth, National Mission Institutions or international work.



United Women in Faith

New tools for conference and district treasurers. New tools, like Vanco Faith, will be available to enable treasurers to manage, collect and distribute conference and district finances electronically.

Innovations in the Leadership Development Days programs.

New and improved resources:

Mighty Networks, an exciting new online platform where members can connect, and engage new resources like the Program Resource and Mission u curricula.

The Daily Prayer Guide, an updated replacement of the Prayer Calendar, which offers opportunities for daily devotion and connection.

What does the rebranding have to do with these changes?

Brand is a term most often associated today with commercial marketing, but in reality, everyone has a brand. Brand is just a term to describe what people can expect to experience when they encounter you. “Branding” are the things we do—our look, our actions, our messages—that help let people know who we are and what we consistently deliver.

Rebranding United Methodist Women means we are clarifying the way we tell our story and updating our programs, resources and outreach efforts so that it is easier to see who we are. The research showed us that our values, our commitments, and the work we do in the world is attractive to many women who are not yet members, including women of diverse ages, racial ethnicities, cultural backgrounds and life stages. Our welcoming new brand will highlight who we are.



Editor’s Message



The United Methodist Women is now United Women in Faith. I hope that the “Frequently Asked Questions” article was of help to all of you. If you still have questions about the change—go to:

wncumw.org/united-methodist-women-is-now-united-women-in-faith/

Also, a video called The Future of United Methodist Women explains the reasons for the change and can be found on YouTube at:

youtube.com/watch?v=wDdtobrdA7w&t=1s

If you have trouble finding it, please email me at : cvdcomm@gmail.com or text me at 704-300-9553 and I will send you the link.

Hope you have a Joy Filled Easter, Gwen Perkins, CVD Communications Coordinator



Treasurers Report

Dear Catawba Valley District Treasurers:

We have had some awesome meetings and achieved much this quarter. I look forward to seeing you again at Lake Junaluska for our Conference Spiritual Growth meeting.

For first quarter we had \$4,388.59 given in undesignated funds. Other giving was as follows: Prayer and Self-Denial, \$223; Bethlehem Summer Program (Charlotte), \$100; and the Legacy Fund, \$186.76. Several remittances were received too late for me to post them in first quarter. That was probably my fault for getting my letter to you so late. I'm already working on this quarter's letter so that should not be a problem again.

I received several more Pledge to Mission forms from the units but there are a few still outstanding. It is critical that you send me your pledge amount if you expect to receive a certificate for Giving in All Five Channels or as a Mission Today Unit. You have to pledge and meet that pledge to achieve either one. You should have a really good estimate of what your giving is going to be for the year by now.

I'm available to meet with your units to discuss the Five Channels of Giving and pledging. Just e-mail or call me to make an appointment. It would be helpful to me if it could be a daytime meeting because I don't drive at night.

Keep on Making It Happen.

Gaye Dagenhart, Treasurer
Catawba Valley District
828-381-2716
cvdtreasurer@gmail.com



Secretary's Message

Hi Everyone:

Really enjoyed our church, Pisgah in Lincolnton, hosting the 2022 Mission Study in March. It was my first mission study with Anita Fox as guest speaker. It was also the first meeting in 2 years that we were able to attend in person. What a Joy! For first time back there was a great turn out. There were 20 people in attendance. Everyone seemed to enjoy the message by Anita, and there was a lot interaction from the audience with the speaker. Looking forward to our next meeting this month, which will be the Prayer Retreat and Memorial Service on April 30th at First UMC in Dallas. Hope to see many of you there!

Kim Arrowood, CVD Secretary



Mission Today—2022

United Methodist Women, Western North Carolina Conference

Make a Difference! Become a Mission Today Unit!

The purpose of promoting a Mission Today unit is to:

Energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action. Increase contacts between units and mission personnel and mission projects so the United Methodist Women understand where their money goes. Encourage the use of mission resources through United Methodist Women. Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

What is a Unit?

A unit is any organized group of United Methodist Women within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles, which periodically get together for a unit meeting.

How Do We Become a Mission Today Unit?

In order to be recognized as a Mission Today Unit, (Gold, Silver or Bronze) UMW units must complete a number of the following criteria as indicated in text box to the left. Activities conducted between January 1 – December 31 of the reporting year will be recognized at annual meetings/Annual Celebration in the following year. This is an ongoing program, so strive to become a Mission Today Unit!

Mission Today Criteria:

Gold: Complete 10 criteria:
6 with asterisks (*)
and 4 other. **

Silver: Complete 8 criteria:
4 with asterisks (*)
and 4 other. **

Bronze: Complete 6 criteria:
4 with asterisks (*)
and 2 other. **

** Note: "Other" may also include items with asterisks (*).

Criteria:

- *1. The unit will make a Pledge to Mission.
- *2. The unit will use the Prayer Guide at each general meeting or circle meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and our mission work with women, children and youth. A new Prayer Guide is printed annually and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center. Prayer Guide entries are posted on our UMW website and Face Book page.
- *3. The unit will use at least two programs from the Program Book during the year. A new Program Book is printed every year and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center.
- *4. The unit or circle will conduct or participate in at least one mission study each year. Contact your district or conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation to learn what the studies are for each year. (If members of your unit attend all 4 sessions of a conference Mission u or your District Mission Study and your unit takes an action growing out of the study, Gift to Mission, ministry related to the study, etc., your unit will meet this criterion, virtual or in person).
- *5. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to **response** (1 member subscribing with units less than 15 members; local unit subscription may count as one.) Order information is printed at bottom of page 2. \$24.00 for a one-year print subscription (includes digital subscription); \$20.00 for a one-year digital only subscription.
- *6. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least two ways during the year. Possibilities are:
 - a. Have members read and discuss books and articles about other races and cultures;
 - b. Sponsor or attend an interethnic event between two or more units;
 - c. Intentionally recruit women of other ethnic groups to be members and officers of the unit;
 - d. Use the Resources for Racial Justice available on our conference website on the "Downloads Available" page under "Mission Resources".
 - e. Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, low-income programs, civil rights, etc.

If you are a "Justice Today" unit, you have met these criteria. See "Downloads Available" on conference website.

- *7. The unit will have a program and/or complete an action addressing one of the Social Action Priorities for the current quadrennium. These are: Climate Justice and Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration. You may find information at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/focus-issues.
- *8. The unit will add at least two new members (one member for units with less than 15 members) to its roll.
- *9. The unit will have one program from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020. Available at www.Cokesbury.com. For \$2.59 plus tax and shipping. A newer version is not yet available.
- *10. The unit will contribute to all Five Channels of Mission Giving.
- *11. The UMW Purpose will be recited at each general and/or circle meeting, including virtual meetings.
- *12. The unit will contribute \$186.90 or more to the Legacy Fund in the reporting year.
- 13. At least one member of the unit will attend Mission u and report back to the unit on the experience, virtual participation qualifies.
- 14. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will attend the district or conference annual meeting and report back to the unit about the experience, virtual participation qualifies.
- 15. The unit will have at least one person joining the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information at least three (3) times a year. Attach the issue and action that was taken to Mission Today report. socialaction@unitedmethodistwomen.org, download the form to circulate at UMW meetings.
- 16. Members will correspond with five persons listed in the Prayer Guide at least once a year.
- 17. The unit will co-sponsor, with the local church, a "Children's Sabbath". (This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children). Sabbath materials are on our national website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org type Children's Sabbath in search box.
- 18. Each unit or circle meeting will include a "response moment" where an item from response magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
- 19. The unit will sponsor one teen member (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman member (ages 18 to 39) to at least one conference event during the year.
- 20. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will attend a district Prayer Breakfast, district Day Apart, conference Spiritual Growth Retreat, or any other special district or conference event other than Ubuntu Day. Virtual participation in any of these events qualify as attending.
- 21. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will participate in an Ubuntu Day event. Units may develop their own UBUNTU event in their communities.
- 22. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will complete Plan 1 of the Reading Program and give a report to the unit on one of the books read. Type "Reading Program" in search box on website.
- 23. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year and/or for their United Methodist Women's Sunday. May be virtual. This Qualifies as a local unit visit (LUV).
- 24. The unit will add one new teen (ages 12-17 and/or one young woman (ages 18-39) circle during the year, or one new teen member (ages 12 to 17) or one new young woman member (ages 18 to 39) during the year.
- 25. 100% of the unit's active members will make a gift of at least \$18.69 to the Legacy Fund.
- 26. The 2022 Conference Financial Goal is: Each unit will meet or exceed its pre-pandemic Mission Giving.
- 27. Each unit will be responsible for supporting at least one local mission project and participate in one Conference Hands-on Mission Project during the year. The local project should be listed on your Mission Today report.

UMW Mission Resources, Website: www.umwmissionresources.org PO Box 742349, Atlanta GA 30374-2349;

Phone: 1-800-305-9857 (toll-free); Fax: (770-280-0061); email: cs@umwmissionresources.org. **Magazine Circulation (for response**

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Conference website: www.wncumw.org

Updated February 2022

READING PROGRAM

BOOKS! We have a love for them since our beginning. Mothers are encouraged to read to their child even before they are born. As a child, nothing is more important than the cloth book we drag around. Heaven forbid, we not get a bedtime story read to us! As the parent or grandparent, we want to encourage our children to read, learn, explore the world from the safety of our couch. We go to school, learn to read on our own, and then what happens?????

Reading becomes more of a chore. Think about our culture, when something happens, we “Start a New Chapter” in our lives. We “turn the page” in anticipation of what else is going to happen. The United Methodist Reading Program has been encouraged since before the 1930’s. Participants then did not have the luxury of extended travel. Instead, they saw pictures in magazines and read articles and books to learn and travel from the couch.

So in your own world, “start a New Chapter”, grab a book from the Reading List and find a comfortable chair, or poolside and do some armchair traveling. No one said it had to be as intense as Bonhoeffer. It could be one of the Children’s books. No one said you had to read alone, grab a friend and read to them. Remember the pleasure of listening to the spoken voice, using your imagination to be in the story, and growing in both your knowledge and depth of character. You never know when what you have read will be reference for a conversation you have with a friend, Church member, or even at the grocery. Don’t forget—you can put a book or 2 or 3 in an Easter Basket.



See you soon!
Anita

2022

Calendar of Events

Catawba Valley District United Women in Faith

April 30 Prayer Retreat Speaker : Janet Reep-Morgan
10AM - 12noon Place: First UMC Dallas NC

May 20—22 Assembly 2022 Orlando Florida

June 9-11 Conference Spiritual Growth Retreat Lake Junaluska

June 25th Hartsell UMC - Hickory Executive team

August 13th District Annual Meeting Speaker : Ann Aldridge
10AM - Noon place TBD

Fall Executive Team Meeting—TBD

November 5th CVD Leadership Development Day
As in past, to be started with Conference Support Team



“Come to the Water”

WNCC UMW Spiritual Growth Retreat

June 9-11, 2022

Register online Now!

Make hotel reservations by calling the Lake Junaluska reservations department at 1-800-222-4930.

(Be sure you ask for the UMW group rate.)

See you at the Lake!

Housing Information:

Terrace Hotel (2 nights lodging, 5 meals, taxes included) **Per Person:**

Single \$369.00 Double \$229.00 Triple \$197.00 Quad \$166.00

Lambuth Inn Renovated (2 nights lodging, 5 meals, taxes included) **Per Person:**

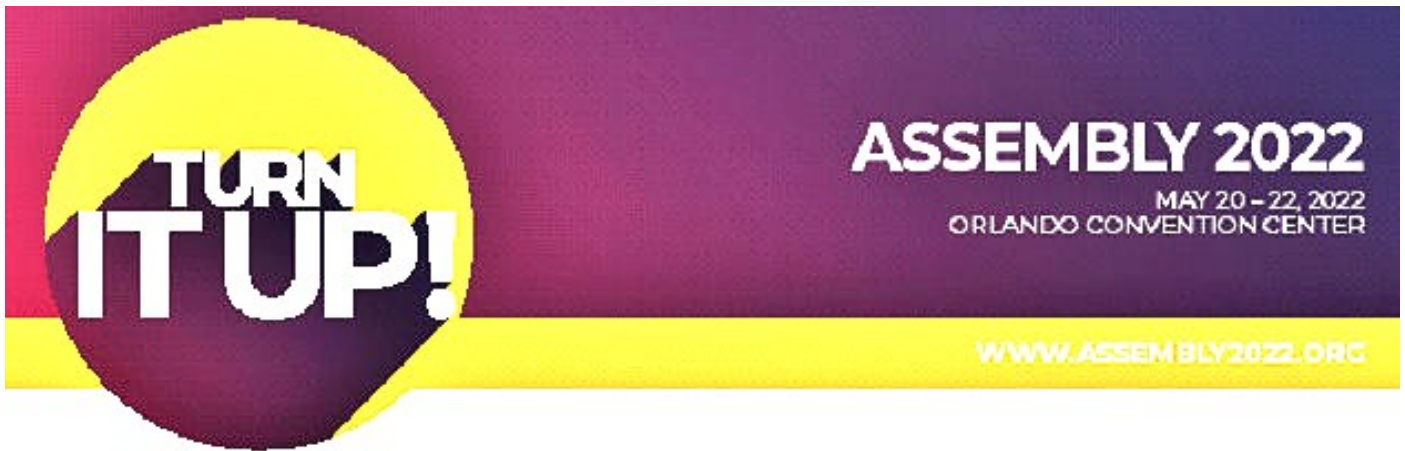
Single \$346.00 Double \$217.00 Triple \$186.00 Quad \$170.00

Lambuth Inn Economy/Junaluska Apartments **Per Person Per Night**, taxes extra:

(No meals included but meals may be added):

Single \$90.00 Double \$45.00 Triple \$35.00 Quad \$30.00

Catawba Valley District UMW Officer Team - 2022			
Office	Name	Address	Phone and Email
President	Janet Bjork Colton	516 Roderet St. S Valdese, NC 28690	828-205-4157 jntcltn61@gmail.com
Vice President	OPEN		
Secretary	Kim Arrowood	3681 Laboratory Rd Lincolnton, NC 28092	704-813-8504 Kimarrowood@live.com
MNO	OPEN		
Treasurer	Gaye Dagenhart	29 31st Ave. Court NE 30 Hickory, NC 28601	828-381-2716 gpd719@hotmail.com
Social Action	OPEN		
Communications Coordinator	Gwen Perkins	2646 Jacobs Rd Gastonia, NC 28054	704-300-9553 cvdcomm@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth Coordinator	OPEN		
Mission Education & Interpretation	OPEN		
Parliamentarian	OPEN		
Historian	OPEN		
Nominating Chair	OPEN		
Program Resources	Anita Fox	2430 Mountain Laurel Ln Morganton, NC 28655	828-390-6349 Taco582001@yahoo.com
Nominations - Burke	OPEN		
Nominations - Catawba	OPEN		
Nominations - Cleveland	OPEN		
Nominations - Gaston	Vicki Boyd	2305 Hillside Dr Dallas, NC 28034	704-922-3241 vwboyd@bellsouth.net
Nominations - Lincoln	Linda Reep	4780 Grigg Rd Lincolnton, NC 28092	704-276-2150 lindareep@charter.net
Conference Liaison	Ann Aldridge	2542 Silverbrook Court Morganton, NC 28655	828-443-7414 ahaldridge1@charter.net



**GREAT NEWS!!! You can attend Assembly 2022
via Zoom at a much lower cost!
Just think—no driving, no flying, no hotel
costs, and much lower registration.**

**For More Information:
www.Assembly2022.org
Or
www.UnitedMethodistWomen.org**

We encourage you to register now so that we can plan the best experience for Assembly 2022. If you register for in-person attendance now but decide to switch to the virtual option later, you will be issued a refund for the additional cost of the in-person registration (minus a \$5 processing fee).

