



Spiritual Renewal Gathering on Saturday, May 14 In Person & Virtual

The Northern Piedmont District of United Women of Faith would like to invite all ladies to our Spiritual Renewal Gathering (previously known as the Prayer Breakfast).

Guest Speaker: **Rev. Bev Copley** (District Superintendent)

Theme: **“The New is Here”**

Location: **Muir’s Chapel United Methodist Church, 314 Muir’s Chapel Rd.**

Greensboro, NC 27410 or watch live by visiting youtube.com/c/MuirChapel

Date: **Saturday, May 14, 2022**

Time: **10 a.m. to 12 noon**

PLEASE call or email Donna Miller or Sandra Williamson (pg. 6) to register ladies from your unit or [click here to sign up](#). (There will be light refreshments!)



*Hands-on mission:
hygiene kits OR toiletries
to donate locally*

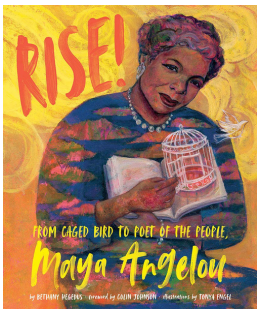
We will be remembering the precious women we lost last year. Be sure to email your names, if you have not done so already, to Donna Miller or Sandra Williamson.

Please invite your family and friends to this uplifting event.

Donna Miller
District Spiritual Growth



Inspirational Book Study About Maya Angelou on Saturday, June 4 via Zoom



*Maya Angelou: writer,
activist, trolley car
conductor, dancer,
mother and
humanitarian*

Save the date: Saturday, June 4, 2022, 10 to 11:30 a.m. via Zoom | [Click here to register](#).

Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou’s life was marked by transformation and perseverance. This comprehensive and beautifully illustrated picture-book biography traces Maya’s life from her early days, through her work as a freedom fighter, and to her triumphant rise as a poet of the people.

#mayaangelou #stillrise

Rise! counts as two books in the category Leadership Development and is suitable for youth.

This is an ahh-mazing opportunity to include our youth; please INVITE your Girl Scout Troop to our book study.

Discussion leaders Dr. Sharon Lassiter and Willie Jean Brown are active members of St. Matthews United Women in Faith.

This book is available at the public library and Amazon. If you order books through Amazon, remember to visit smile.amazon.com, Amazon’s charitable giving page, and select “United Methodist Women” as your charitable organization. For all eligible purchases made on smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% to United Methodist Women.



Hello spring!
Cheryl Little
District SPR

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Consider joining us and inviting some young ladies!



Conference & District Calendar 2022

- May 14** **Spiritual Renewal Gathering (formerly the district Prayer Breakfast)** More info on pg. 1
Muir’s Chapel UMC, 314 Muir’s Chapel Road, Greensboro, NC 27410 FREE!
Please register by Saturday, April 30, 2022 (you are still welcome if you register late)

- May 20-22** **United Methodist Women Assembly: TURN IT UP!**
 Orlando, Florida (Registration for virtual attendance option is still open until April 25th.)

- June 4** **District Book Study #2 – Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou**
10-11:30 am via Zoom
 Other book studies will be announced.

- June 9-11** **WNCC Spiritual Growth Retreat – Lake Junaluska**
 Theme: “Come to the Water”
 Retreat Leader: Rev. Tammy Ingram, Pastor of Bass Chapel and Raleigh’s Crossroads
 Online Registration only

- July 14-17** **Mission u – Pfeiffer University**
 Luke 13: A Transformative Biblical Curriculum for Adults, Youth and Children

- August 27** **NP District Annual Celebration**
Location: Mt. Pisgah UMC, 2600 Pisgah Church Road, Greensboro, NC 27455
 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**

Assembly 2022 info:
wnccumw.org/assembly2022

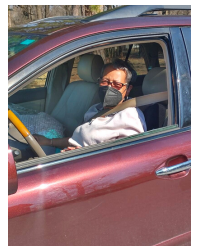
FYI Every link in this newsletter is clickable from the PDF version!

Local Unit Spotlight: St. Matthews UMW (UWF)

St. Matthews UMW (UWF) Group 3 gathered and delivered baby items to Room at the Inn (shelter for women & their babies in Greensboro).

Dear United Methodist Women Group 3:
 Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the beautiful baby shower items and gift cards. We are so blessed by your support and generosity. Thank you for helping us surround our mothers and their babies with joy and love as they begin their new lives together.
 God Bless, Katie (Room At The Inn)

These photos are from another Mission. Story starts on pg. 4.



New Name, Same Mission

Hello, United Women in Faith! Yes, that's who we are! **This is who United Methodist Women have always been, women united in faith.** Now we have a new name to match!

While our name is new, our mission is not. *We will still put faith, hope, and love into action. We will still work, through faith, to impact and improve the lives of women, children, and youth.* Our hope is that we can hold onto the values, characteristics, habits and methods that have led to the success of UMW. At the same time, we look forward to picking up new ideas, new perspectives and new people to help us do an even better job of being God's hands and feet on earth. We are in search of fresh and innovative members and leaders, bringing in their unique gifts and graces. United Women in Faith (UWF) opens our arms and hearts to embrace all the women continuing in our existing units. United Women in Faith spreads our wings to reach out and invite all women who wish to join us, whether they are in our church or not.

In the March/April issue of **response**, our General Secretary Harriett Jane Olsen said that how we do Mission has changed over the years: "how we gather, inform, fundraise, engage, celebrate and worship...but we see so much has remained constant." She continues, "The good news is that we can lead with our core values and goals. We can invite women to connect with causes larger than themselves and to come together for Christian nurture in familiar and new ways."

United Women in Faith, we DO have a new name and our national organization is re-branding our group. In the months ahead, we will get lots of information about opportunities and innovations available through UWF. In this newsletter, you'll find lots of information about what is going on right now and what's coming up in our Northern Piedmont District and the Western North Carolina Conference of UWF.

Stay active, stay connected, and stay tuned!

Blessings,
Sandra Williamson
District President



Plenty of Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Here we are in April 2022, the month of Easter. What a glorious springtime for us to enjoy! It has been a long road for sure but we have come through it and now have a new name, with a new charter for renewal and growth. United Women in Faith. That's who we are!

I am so excited about the new opportunities we have for learning, participating and growing the wonderful sisterhood we share. Please take advantage of these opportunities and bring a friend from your unit or church when possible. There are a lot of new programs just waiting on the websites to register for and participate in person and/or online. Yes, in person! I would encourage you to continue checking at wncumw.org. From there you can access our Western North Carolina Conference, the eight individual Districts and the national website. This will also be the place where you will sign up for newsletters and subscriptions.

If you have not tried the Reading Program, springtime would be a great time to start. You can check the list of books online and pick most up at the library or order them online. There have been some excellent web casts as well as videos that can be counted for your Reading Program requirement also.

Registration is now open for the Spiritual Growth Retreat to be held in person at Lake Junaluska from June to June 11. There is a requirement for submitting your vaccination card online along with a photo. Don't let that deter you. Ask your unit leaders or District leaders for help if needed. We can get you there!

"What wondrous love is this? O my soul, O my soul, what wondrous love is this? O my soul!" Have a very blessed Easter season. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Jean Carter
District VP



NC Public Education Advocacy Opportunity!

In 1994, parents from five (5) low-wealth counties in NC sued the state of NC for not fulfilling its constitutional directive to provide "a **sound, basic public education**" for the children, primarily children of color, in those counties. Other parents from other counties joined the suit, and the court found in favor of the plaintiffs in 1997. *cont. on pg. 6*

The Journey of Your Mission Dollar



Thanks to all units who have sent in your 2022 Pledge Form! **If your unit has not sent your 2022 Pledge Form to me, please do so ASAP.**

The “Journey of Your Mission Dollar” is a great tool for showing how your money is routed from the local unit to the District, the Conference, the UMW Women’s Division, and then to all parts of the world to serve women, children and youth. You can read in **response** magazine or visit www.resourceumc.org/en/agencies/united-methodist-women to read about all the Missions we support.

Just as a reminder: SMR pins are a wonderful way to honor someone in your unit or church, but if you do not wish to order a pin, a donation of \$5 or more will serve as giving to that particular “Channel of Giving.” Keep this in mind when trying to reach your goal of giving to all five channels.

Just thinking--*We live in the most affluent country in the world and have more or less everything we need, probably more. The people served by the Missions basically have nothing. So, giving up just a little of the extra we do have to make those people more comfortable won't really hurt us.*

Blessings,
Connie Holland
District Treasurer



How Will the Church Be Led?

The twenty-first-century worldwide church is growing at a pace unlike any other time in the two thousand years since Pentecost. **The church faces two urgent questions: who will lead, and how will the church be led?**

The answers to these two critical questions will come from rediscovering and applying the biblical plan for leadership. **The United Methodist Women, now known as “United Women in Faith,” need women who will accept the rewarding call of leading and becoming part of the exciting changes on the horizon for our beloved organization.** Caring for the flock of women, children and youth united by God is our mission. If you are interested in becoming part of the excitement, we have several positions available in the Northern Piedmont District. Please feel free to email me at irish@spencergroup.us if you want to serve or submit a nomination. We invite you to stand with us as we continue to put love into action!



Irish Spencer
District Nominations
Chair

Send your unit's stories and/or photos to Lily Pierce (pg. 6)!

Local Unit Spotlight: St. Matthews UMW (UWF)

On Saturday, February 12, 2022, **St. Matthews UMW (UWF) participated in a Mission giving project** organized by Rynn McGee-Pierce, District MEI Coordinator; Cheryl Little, District Secretary of Program Resources; and Karlah Burton, District Nominations Committee member.

Mrs. McGee-Pierce is a member of Gideon Grove UMC in Stokesdale, NC. Mrs. Little and Ms. Burton are members of Saint Matthews UMC where Ms. Burton is a member of subgroup 7 and serves as the Social Action coordinator.

Mrs. Little is a member of subgroup 5. **Linen items were collected for 2 homeless agencies:**

- Leslie's House in High Point, NC (homeless shelter for single women) - Provides a safe haven for homeless women 18 years and older. Freshly washed and cleaned full-size and twin-size sheets were accepted.

cont. on pg. 7



Step Up & Reach Out



Several new needs & new organizations!

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
- Gently used dishes & towels
- NEW: cleaning products
- NEW: gently used housewares

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

- Gently used clothing, shoes & housewares
- NEW: kids clothes

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)

Rockingham HOPE (in old Red Cross building) 3692 NC Hwy

14, Reidsville, 336-623-2133

- Gently used blankets
- Hygiene products & toiletries
- Cleaning supplies
- NEW: cereal
- NEW: gently used towels
- NEW: regular plastic bags

Family Service of the Piedmont

(assist victims of domestic violence), 315 E. Washington St, Greensboro, call to set up a delivery 336-387-6161 ext. 2264

- Feminine hygiene pads of various sizes
- Baby wipes
- Paper plates/bowls
- Plastic eating utensils & cups
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste

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

Community Outreach of Archdale 10607 N. Main St, Archdale, 336-431-3663

- Cereal
- Microwavable spaghetti bowls
- Ramen noodles-chicken or beef
- Pudding cups
- 6 pk crackers
- Juice boxes

"Look all around you/ Find someone in need/ Help somebody today!"



"Tho' it be little neighborly deed/ Help somebody today!" These words from a favorite old hymn from 1932 still feel current to me. For if we only look around, we WILL see someone in need. And isn't that what we are called to do? Our Sunday School lesson recently boiled down to this: **if you want to be in ministry/mission, just STOP, LOOK and LISTEN.** So I challenge you to use this simple phrase to find the needs of folks around you. Stop, look and listen. Then, act with compassion, love and respect.

UBUNTU Days of Service are coming in October. It is an opportunity for your unit to plan an outreach mission. A few years ago, under the name Impact Day, we worked at UMAR helping to clean some buildings at their campus, then had a cookout for the residents at Countryside Manor. The word Ubuntu refers to "behaving well towards others or acting in ways that benefit the community." Now is the time to start planning your UBUNTU project.

Peace!
Rynn McGee-Pierce,
District MEI



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.

A request for yarn was in our local paper; they wanted supplies to make children's hats for Samaritans Purse. So we are donating a portion of the yarn we've collected to this worthy cause! Thanks again for your donations! Remember to hold your surplus knitting/crocheting materials for United Women in Faith. Always be on the look-out for little ways to knit our lives together at home and around the world!

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NC Public Education Advocacy Opportunity cont.

For the past nearly 30 years, the NC General Assembly has refused to follow the direction of the State Supreme Court. This month, the case is being heard for the third time as our current legislators again have balked at adhering to the previous ruling. **To learn more, search "Leandro: The Case for a Sound Basic Education" on YouTube (or [click here](#)).**

Now United Women in Faith in our state have the opportunity to speak out on behalf of children in public schools across NC. Mission Amplify is a postcard-writing campaign created by Pastors for NC Children, a nonprofit organization which includes many UMs in both the Western NC and the NC Conference. If you or your unit is interested in participating in this advocacy work, contact me at renee.hayes1956@gmail.com or (336)707-2980.



<p>District Deaconesses</p>	<p>Ruth Williamson, 336-613-1607 1610 Lindsay Bridge Rd. Madison, NC 27025 rwilliamson@wncumc.net</p>
	<p>Eloise Moore 4626 Village Square Court Greensboro, NC 27409 (contact info above)</p> <p>Renee Hayes, 336-707-2980 6903 Fairview Church Rd. Trinity, NC 27370 renee.hayes1956@gmail.com</p>

**Everything old
is new again!**



**THE HISTORIC
ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE
FROM NEW YORK, NY on
March 2, 2022.**

Visit 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.

"You've Come a long way baby," was a commercial line promoting the sale of Virginia Slims cigarettes to females associated with the women's liberation movement during the late 1960's. It represented a snippet of the Leo Burnett Agency's view of modern women. Having walked down memory lane, United Methodist Women are inheritors of the vision and toil of women's missionary societies of eight (8) denomination. The former United Methodist Women organization makeups a dominant populace of 800,000 of the United Women of Faith today. Around 24,000 former United Methodist Women were surveyed and decided this is the way to go forward. If you participated as a member of the 24,000 for the Northern Piedmont District, please let me know for this is history making that should be recognized, and participant names maintained for all time.

WHY THE UPGRADE? From my readings, this action is a wakeup initiative that evolved during a pandemic shut down; we were asked to reimagine church, and not to return "As Was". "Something old, something new, something borrowed," prevailed yet we still extend a welcoming and nurturing hand to an ecumenical community of women. Together, in a broadened tent, we shall put love in action on behalf of women, children and youth worldwide. Please refer to the March-April 2022 edition of *Response* magazine for more information.

WHAT'S NEW and/or IMPROVED? United Women in Faith's principles and values include:

Promoting the empowerment of women, children and youth - **UNCHANGED**

Promoting anti-racism and multiculturalism. **UNCHANGED/Not yet stated**

Promoting inclusion and equity. **IMPROVED**

Promoting fair labor practices. **UNCHANGED/Not yet stated**

Promoting economic and environmental stewardship and sustainability. **IMPROVED**

A new, easier to navigate website with a homepage designed to pique new women's interest in United Women in Faith and a special portal set to come online later this year where members can log in to access additional resources.

A new "All-Access" National Membership Option enabling women to join United Women in Faith via the new website and participate online or in person at local units or larger events

Soul Care Retreats, a pilot recruitment program for members and their nonmember friends and new women focused on nurturing women's bodies, minds, and spirits. **NEW**

Innovations to Mission u, the organization's longtime spiritual growth and transformative education program. Beginning in spring 2022, Mission u will introduce new curricula each year—one for children, one for youth and one for adults—all focused on a shared biblical theme. The new Mission u curricula will be more 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 **IMPROVED**.

(Taken from the NEW United in Faith Homepage)

The Vision of United Women in Faith

Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

In the words of Jackie Gleason... "And Awa a ay we go" in 2022!

Local Unit Spotlight cont.

- Rockingham County Help for Homeless - Freshly washed and cleaned blankets/comforters of any size including used items were being received.

Forty items were tallied for donation. A very BIG thanks to everyone who participated counting members of subgroups, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 – Betsy Brown, Albertina McGirt, Wanda Edgerton, Mary Scarlette, Mary Glover, Fontaine Cowell, Ramona Gibson and other members of the church. Great job sharing the light of Christ with love!

Assembly 2022
TURN IT UP!
Orlando, FL
May 20-22, 2022
(More info:
wnccumw.org/assembly2022)

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!](#)



Albertina McGirt,
District Historian



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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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.

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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 [clicking here](#) or visiting umcmmission.org/umcor-relief-supplies.