

## NORTHERN PIEDMONT DISTRICT United Women in Faith QUARTERLY NEWS

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

FOURTH QUARTER 2022

# Join Us For Our Local Unit Officers Training (& Year in Review)

What a wonderful year this has been! We once again have been able to enjoy our District events together in the fellowship centers of our churches.

For the last event of the year, we will be conducting our District Leadership Development Day training to all new and continuing unit officers. It is especially important this year to attend due to the changes we will be taking into the new year as United Women in Faith. The training is prepared and provided by your counterparts on the District from training we receive from the Conference. The date is November 6, starting at 3 p.m. at Archdale United Methodist Church, 11543 N. Main Street in Archdale.

Right now we are planning in-person training. You will have a booklet to take back to your unit with the training materials. Treasurers will have a separate breakout with your District Treasurer, Connie Holland. Click here to **register**. Then simply add your name and church and any additional members you are bringing.

As a recap for this year, our first event, normally called the District Prayer Breakfast, became our Spiritual Renewal Gathering with an attendance of over 85 women and 151 Hygiene Kits turned in. We also held a very moving Memorial Service for those UWF women who passed in 2021 who had been members of our District churches. Special thanks to Donna Miller for her leadership of this event.

For the Conference, the Spiritual Growth Retreat was held at Lake Junaluska, and we had the Harrell Auditorium full of women singing hymns and listening to Rev. Tammy Ingram as our speaker. She serves as pastor at Bass Chapel and Raleigh's Crossroads, both in Greensboro.

In July, Mission u, normally held at Pfeiffer University, was held virtually, and we studied "Who Can We Be Together: A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13." Lynn Alexander and her team did a wonderful job. Attendance was over 85. cont. on pg. 4

## Book Study: We Are All Fast Food Workers Now



#### Did you know?

- Fifty-three million Americans between the ages of 18 to 64-accounting for 44% of all workers—qualify as "low-wage." Their median hourly wages are \$10.22, and median annual earnings are about \$18,000. (source)
- Clothing production is the third biggest manufacturing industry after the automotive and technology industries. Textile production contributes more to climate change than international aviation and shipping combined. (source)

We did this book study last year, and we're bringing it back again this year with more group activities/discussion and more info & resources on how we as **UWF members can make a difference**. The study primarily focuses on low-income work in the US and garment workers in Vietnam, Indonesia, etc. The first fact listed above shows that more and more workers are earning low wages, and the second fact shows how the topics we're discussing affect climate change and other UWF justice issues. I plan to have an action checklist we can use to start making a change. Please join me Nov. 19, 10 a.m. to 12 noon via Zoom. Register here or contact me.

Lily Pierce District Communications



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## Conference & District Calendar 2022/2023

Oct./Nov. Ubuntu Days of Service (Select your own day & activity. Report to District MEI.)

Nov. 6, 3 -5 p.m. NP District Local Unit Officers Training at Archdale UMC, 11543 N. Main St. in Archdale

- Nov. 19, 10 a.m.Book Study We Are All Fast Food Workers Now facilitated by Lily Pierce (revamped from last<br/>year with more info & resources, group activities, etc.) Click here to register
- Feb. 4, 2023, 10 a.m. to 12 noon
  - Book Study Hidden Figures: The American Dream and
    The Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians who
    Helped Win the Space Race facilitated by Sandrea Williamson
    <u>Click here to register</u>
- Every link in this newsletter is clickable from the PDF version!

## Last Call for God Winks

I want to thank all that submitted words of inspiration relative to our COVID-19 experiences. It is not too late to send in your testimony for these will be transformed and submitted to Jim Pyatt for record-keeping. The Northern Piedmont District is a leader in the WNCC, and it is hoped that we will continue to inspire women in our state and nation. We should be excited to have our own little book of spiritual and day-to-day testimonies that says to

the world, "this is what I remember" and/or "these are the words that brought me through." I know there are many Anne Frank types in our District, so **please send me your God Wink before December 15.** My term as the NPD historian ends on December 31 so write, write, write!



Albertina McGirt District Historian



Thank you to Sandy Furr & the UWF unit at Mt. Pisgah for being great hosts, and thanks again to all our ladies throughout the District who attended our **District Annual Celebration** this year!





# Local Unit Spotlight

Saint Matthews UWF supported the MeaningFULL Meals Summer Food Drive with United Way of Greensboro. The goal was to collect 30 bags, and together, we collected more than 80 bags of food that was donated to local kids and families. UWF love in action!





Please send your unit stories/photos to Lily Pierce (pg. 6).

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Ladies, as I close out my service as president of the Northern Piedmont District, I am so proud of the work done by you, the members of United Women in Faith. Most of our units have weathered the pandemic conditions of the last two years and have come out of it strong! At the local, District and Conference level we are holding meetings and events in person, keeping up with our hands-on missions in the community and for UMCOR, and providing each other with the creative, supportive fellowship for which our organization is known. As always, every penny you've sent to our District treasurer is designated to the work of mission. Our name may have changed, but we whether we say "UMW" or "UWF," we remain a resilient organization, always willing to work for Christ, putting faith, hope and love into action for women, children and youth.

This final year has been such a blessing to me as I have been able to see so many of you face-to-face again at our in-person District events. I thank everyone for the love and support you have shown me and this entire District team. We have enjoyed some good times together, and some not-so-sweet ones as well. There was a bittersweet moment at the spring Spiritual Renewal Gathering because, although we held a beautiful and moving memorial service, we were memorializing over 100 of our sisters who entered the Church Triumphant in the past year. Our membership numbers have declined each of the last four years. We are grateful for all the financial support that each unit has given, and at the same time, we have to note that, District-wide, the giving has gone down each year. We lost some units when their congregations closed, and some units have left the organization in anticipation of a split in the denomination.

Our predecessor organizations have gone through challenging periods before, and like them, our District of United Women in Faith will hold true to our PURPOSE. We will continue our work being the hands and feet of Christ on earth. As I step aside, I know this District team is ready and willing to continue in the service of Christ alongside each of you. I'm asking each of you to pray for incoming President Jean Carter and all your District 2023 officers and help them in as many ways as you possibly can.

Your support and prayers have sustained this District throughout all the years I have served as president. There is much work ahead. As the District team takes up the work of planning for the coming year, let us hear from you. We want to enhance what is good and fix whatever is not working. **Share with us your views and visions, your goals and your dreams. Your voices are so important and we need to listen.** My contact information is in this newsletter. And presidents, please send in your year-end reports for 2022 to me, Sandrea Williamson, by December 15th. We want to celebrate your successes, too.

Ladies, thank you again for being the loving, caring sisters that you are. Thank you for the blessed opportunity you gave me to serve alongside you these past four years. It has been my pleasure. Thanks be to God.



### **Reading Is Rewarding!**

Hello ladies, I hope you are enjoying the beautiful fall tree colors and the cooler weather - it sure feels great. **My 2021 challenge was to read, care, share and pray. Lo and behold - UWF readers increased by 9 and I thank you and congratulate you.** I invite you and challenge you to open your hearts and increase your readers by one or two and read another book or two in the next year. Step out of the comfort zone - can we do that? Remember, we also have a wonderful selection of children and youth books. Please consider purchasing children/youth books and share with Sunday School, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and other children ministries. Be sure to subscribe to **response** Magazine. Our Faith Talks podcast is fantastic.

#### Upcoming book studies:

- November 2022 We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now: The Global Uprising Against Poverty Wages by Annelise
  Orleck. Led by Lily Pierce, District Communications Coordinator
- February 4, 2023 at 10 a.m. Hidden Figures: The American Dream and The Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly & William Collins. Led by Sandrea Williamson, District President

cont. on pg. 4

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## Let's Keep On Pushing

It seems almost impossible that the fourth quarter of our 2022 UMW/UWF year has already begun. Although our third quarter was not at all as we hoped, giving has not stopped and we can celebrate the fact that we are still giving our mission money to support women, children and youth around the world.

**Our total amount sent to Conference treasurer through third quarter was \$47,596.84.** Undesignated giving totaled \$38,772.08, which is applied to our 2022 Pledge to Mission of \$90,000. Remember that the UMW fiscal year ends **December 1st**. Your unit treasurer will be sending all reports and monies to me by that date.

Fourth quarter is historically our largest quarter in undesignated giving. As all units seek to complete the five channels of undesignated giving, be in prayer that the Northern Piedmont District can meet our annual Pledge to Mission. **Please encourage your unit to meet and perhaps, even exceed their Pledge this year.** 

Our District has contributed \$1,928.70 to the Legacy Fund through the third quarter. Of course, this amount does not include contributions made online directly to National Office. Let's keep up the good work and ensure United Women of Faith Missions will survive to serve future generations.

We had a wonderful attendance at our District Annual Meeting. I look forward to our District Local Officers Training (which includes all unit treasurers) currently scheduled for November 6th at 3 p.m. at Archdale United Methodist Church, 11543 N Main St. in Archdale. At the time this article goes to print, our plan is in-person training. Of course, you will be notified if the plan changes.

Many of our units may be small in the number of members, but we are all big in heart and in working for United Women In Faith. Thanks to all of you for the work you do! Blessings for a great fall and winter season.

## Year in Review cont.

The month of August brought District Annual Celebration at Mt. Pisgah UMC with an attendance of 85-90 of our women. Mt. Pisgah's UWF unit of prepared a warm, light breakfast for all who attended. It was absolutely lovely! We were welcomed by their Senior Pastor, Jeffrey Johnsen, and enjoyed our speaker, their Associate Pastor, Rev. Dr. Alice Davis. Her topic was "new beginnings." Our District President Sandrea Williamson conducted the business meeting which included approval of the 2023 budget and the election and installation of officers. Special thanks to all who assisted me and Sandy Furr, Unit President at Mt. Pisgah, to pull this all together.

Conference Annual Celebration at Lake Junaluska took place in early September, this time with live streaming and Zoom capability made available. Our speaker Tamara Clark, CFO and Treasurer from our National Office, was our presenter. So much good information was provided during this two-day event. In addition, another 306 hygiene kits and 3 school kits were turned in by the NPD, and each District performed a skit for "Late Night." It was great fun!

One thing I've learned this year is that we all want and need to get back out into our normal routines including our events for the Northern Piedmont District. Counselors everywhere say it is time for us to push ourselves out the door, get involved again, introduce ourselves to those we don't know, make new friends and new commitments. **It is good** 

for us, mentally, emotionally and spiritually, to reconnect. United Women in Faith is a very good place to do that. My mantra these days is "We are the women of the church and this is our organization." Join us and come on out! God bless you at this wonderful time of year.

# Reading Is Rewarding cont.

• June 2023 - A Knock at Midnight: A Story of Hope, Justice, and Freedom by Brittany K. Barnett Crown. Study leader TBD.

<u>Please look at the Reading Program</u> on the national website. Let me know what you'd like to read and we will make it happen. Take care ladies!



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Connie Holland District Treasurer



Jean Carter District VP

Archdale 10607 N. Main

St. Archdale, 336-431-3663

Microwavable spaghetti

Ramen noodles-

chicken or beef

Pudding cups

6 pk crackers

Juice boxes



### Room at the Inn

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

- · Gently used baby clothes
- Maternity clothes
- Body wash, • shampoo & deodorant
- · Gently used dishes & towels
- Cleaning products
- 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
- Kids clothes
- Jewelry & purses

# Step Up & Reach Out 📄

### YWCA Family Shelter (All

NEW list) 1807 E. Wendover Ave. Greensboro, 336-333-0175

- Paper towels & paper products
- Gallon food storage bags such as Zip-loc
- · Kitchen dry mats for dishes
- Shower curtains & liners
- Rubber bath mats, both tub size and shower size

### **Family Service of the Piedmont**

(assist victims of domestic violence), 315 E. Washington St, Greensboro, call to set up a delivery, 336-707-2834

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

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

- · Making bags for Rockingham Hope need travel/hotelsized toiletries
- Need new children's underwear for a project in the spring **Community Outreach of**

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

14, Reidsville, 336-623-2133

- · Gently used blankets
- Hygiene products & toiletries
- Cleaning supplies
- Canned food
- · Gently used towels
- Plastic grocery bags

# Leslie's House (homeless shelter for

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

Cereal

bowls

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

Peace! Rynn McGee-Pierce, District MEI



### **Encouragement for Ubuntu Day of Service**

The season of giving, as well as the season of Thanksgiving, is upon us. It's the time of year when we celebrate family, cook those traditional meals using Grandma's recipes, go caroling and maybe even have an ugly sweater contest. Lot's of fun for all, right? But do we stop to think that many people do not have those "Norman Rockwell" holidays? Well, we can make a difference! This is the perfect time of year to do an UBUNTU service project!

What is Ubuntu? This Zulu word refers to "acting in ways that benefit the community." Everyone is connected; we must help each other, and what you do affects the whole world. Whether great or small, we can have an impact on our community. Send in photos of your service project to Lily so we can include them in the future. Lord, make us a blessing to someone today!

### 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. The director of the YWCA is very interested in crochet lessons for their clients!



### "Make Me a Blessing"

V1. Out in the highways and byways of life, many are weary and sad; Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife, making the sorrowing glad.

Refrain: Make me a blessing, make me a blessing, out of my life, may Jesus shine; Make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray, make me a blessing to someone today.

V3. Give as 'twas given to you in your need; love as the Master loved you; Be to the helpless a helper indeed; unto your mission be true.

# **District Officers for 2023**

President through Dec. 2022

Sandrea Williamson Bass Chapel, Greensboro 336-681-7258 stbw1948@gmail.com

President starting Jan. 2023 Jean Carter Christ, Greensboro 336-668-7916 jeancarter@triad.rr.com

#### Vice President

Genevieve McCormick Mt. Tabor, Greensboro 336-681-1907 zetag@triad.rr.com

#### Secretary

Margaret Scales Wesley Chapel, Reidsville 336-273-1485

Treasurer Constance Holland Bethel, Archdale 313-310-8680 Iooney814@gmail.com

### Mission Education & Interpretation

Rynn McGee-Pierce Gideon Grove, Stokesdale 336-706-9116 rynn@hottan.com

### Spiritual Growth

Donna Miller Muir's Chapel, Greensboro 336-681-8559 dmmiller94@yahoo.com

Social Action Mary Lou Webster Raleigh's Crossroads, Greensboro 336-456-7106 mrsmarylouwebster@gmail.com

Membership Nurture & Outreach Kelli White Smith Old Union, Sophia kelliwhitesmith@gmail.com

#### Secretary of Program Resources

Cheryl Little St. Matthews, Greensboro 336-852-0872, 336-338-1958 ccarrington001@triad.rr.com

#### Communications

Lily Pierce Gideon Grove, Stokesdale 336-280-1187 npdistrictunitedmethodistwomen@gmail.com

Visit <u>wnccumw.org</u> to learn more about Conference events, and join the District email list for more info on District events; contact Lily Pierce. Nominations Committee Chair TBD

Nominations Committee Members Karlah Burton, Class of 2025 St. Matthews, Greensboro karlah k@yahoo.com

Maxine McCormick, Class of 2025 Bethel, Archdale 336-884-1679

Patricia Holland, Class of 2025 Bethel, Archdale 336-687-0232

Erica Weaver, Class of 2026 St. Matthews, Greensboro 336-542-7804 erica.weaver2012@gmail.com

Historian TBD

Parliamentarian Janet Bledsoe Hopewell, Trinity 336-847-7296 ggbledsoe@northstate.net

### Legacy Fund Information:

Visit our website at wnccumw.org/legacyfund



District Deaconesses

Eloise Moore 4626 Village Square Court Greensboro, NC 27409 jimnella@aol.com Ruth Williamson, 336-613-1607 1610 Lindsay Bridge Rd. Madison, NC 27025 rwilliamson@wnccumc.net

Renee Hayes, 336-707-2980 6903 Fairview Church Rd. Trinity, NC 27370 renee.hayes1956@gmail.com

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#### WNCC United Women in Faith SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Do you know a student who is a member of one of the WNCC United Methodist Churches?

Will they attend one of the United Methodist supported institutions in our conference (Bennett College, Brevard College, Greensboro College, High Point University, Pfeiffer University) for the fall semester 2023?

Then they are eligible to apply for a WNCC United Women in Faith scholarship!

Applications should be requested by contacting the scholarship committee chairperson:

Jatana Royster

8227 Laurel Oak Court Harrisburg, NC 28075

704-451-3816 (cell) Email: jatanaroyster@gmail.com

Applications are due by March 1, 2023. Interviews will be conducted on Saturday March 25, 2023.

YOU can support our scholarship program by:

Referring students.

Praying for our students and conference institutions.

Contributing to the general scholarship fund as districts, units, circles and individuals.

Please contact me if you need additional information.

Blessings,

Jatana Royster

WNCC United Women in Faith Scholarship Committee Chairperson



Learn more at uwfaith.org/resources/ podcasts or <u>click here</u>

### **Certificate of Recognition**

The certificate certifies that

Northern Piedmont

district

United Methodist Women is now United Women in Faith

Presented on

September 10

Joanie Strohm

. 2022

Conference President

Harriett J. Olson General Secretary and CEO

### Ways to Connect



Join us for monthly conversations with United Women in Faith, hosted by Jennifer R Farmer. Each month, we'll explore timely themes and resources, from expert insights on ways to live your faith to inspiring interviews with spiritual leaders.



Tune in to audio versions of some of the top articles from each issue of **response** magazine.Topics cover everything from spiritual growth and living our faith to reports on local, national and international work.



Come learn about the national and international initiatives that benefit from Mission Giving, directly through the voices "from the field." In this interactive format, you'll hear firsthand from program leaders about their work, daily challenges, hopes and dreams.



232 Brassie Ln Summerfield, NC 27358

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Our Purpose

The organized unit of United Methodist Women (UWF) 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



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, email Lily Pierce (pg. 6).



**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 <u>clicking here</u> or visiting umcmission.org/umcor-relief-supplies.