

October 2022

Women Talk



United
Women
in Faith

Smoky Mountain District † United Methodist Women † Western North Carolina Conference

From Your President:

I have been visiting lately several local units to talk about the new initiatives of United Women in Faith. It has reminded me how important it is for us to stay connected; certainly, the best way is in-person but phone calls, emails, and even regular mail can help us stay in touch with one another. Sisterhood is such a vital part of who we are and it has been lovely to see my sisters. We encourage women to become part of United Women in Faith because we support each other and seek to serve the multiple needs of women and children. We can do so much more as an organization than we can accomplish as an individual. Spread the word- we welcome all women to become a United Women in Faith sister. As a part of our mission festival on November 19th at Franklin First, we will try to answer questions you may have about how you can impact, influence and inspire other women. We will also have some fun with chair aerobics, be spiritually uplifted with Bible study and learn about taking a breath to linger longer. I hope you will plan on joining us.

As I finish up this final year as your president, I want to tell you how much your support has meant to me. I will continue to look forward to seeing you at future district events and visiting your unit as your shepherdess. I love that I have gotten to know so many of you better over these years through sharing stories, projects and much laughter. Know that I continue to pray for you and appreciate all that you do for your communities and the national and global projects that we support through our pledges.

In Service to Our Christ,

Debbie Ray, President

wsray@charter.net, 828-400-3499

569 Country Club Drive, Waynesville, NC 28786



United
Women
in Faith

We believe
love in action
can change
the world.

faith

action

sisterhood

WHAT'S IN THIS NEWSLETTER THAT I'D BE INTERESTED IN?

Page 1—A message from our District President, Debbie Ray.

Page 2—A Table of Contents...so you can find the things you really want to find first!...plus our Mission Statement.

Page 3—"Are You the Missing Piece?" and Treasurer's Notes.

Page 4—Words from our Spiritual Growth Coordinator and the Legacy Fund.

Page 5—Smoky Mountain District UWF Missions Festival—JOIN US! and a note from Program Resources.

Page 6—Our Thanks and Appreciation to.....

Page 7—District Love Offerings, the new UMCOR "Period Packs" and Reading is Rewarding!

Page 8—The 2022 SMD UWF Executive Team Listing.

Page 9—SMD Calendar of Events

**Man cannot discover new oceans
unless he has the courage to
lose sight of the shore.**

* * * * *

"And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus."

— Matthew 14: 28,29

MISSION STATEMENT OF UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.



A "Building Year" for United Women in Faith: Are You the Missing Piece?

Coaches refer to a "building year" when they mean that a team needs to prepare for wins down the road. This could be because several team members graduated in the same year. New team members have to learn the plays.

I believe Smoky Mountain District United Women in Faith is looking at a "building year" in 2023. At the end of 2022, seven officers will complete their service on the executive team. We will begin 2023 with six unfilled offices.

I'm optimistic that 2023 will be a "building year" for our district. Now is the time to develop new leadership so that we may continue to change the world through our love in action. How will we do this? We will invite our local unit members to take on small tasks. Share a **response** moment or the Daily Prayer Guide. Help with registration. Help collect UMCOR kits at a district or conference gathering. Assist with communion at a spiritual growth event. Your unit could host one of our gatherings.

As tiny drops make a mighty ocean, we can come together and remain faithful to our UWF vision. "Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children, and youth. Every day, we show up. We take action. We get it done. And we invite you to join us."

Lisa Bacon, Incoming SMD President

lisabacon304@gmail.com /

828-586-8399 (home) / 828-226-2433 (cell)



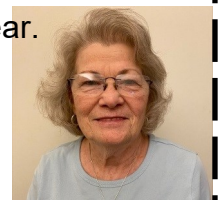
TREASURER'S NOTES:

Please remember to send your unit's 4th quarter pledge remittance in by November 25th. Also, it is important for each unit to check the records for contributions to the five channels of giving. The five channels are Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, Special Recognition, Pledge and World Thank Offering. These also need to be sent by November 25th. Our district remittance must be sent to the conference in early December or any remittance sent in late will be credited to next year.

Dianne Mills, SMD District Treasurer

311 Grandview Circle, Waynesville, NC 28786

dnmills@hotmail.com



Words from our Spiritual Growth Coordinator:

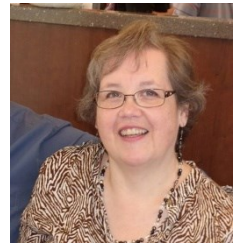
It has been a privilege to serve as your district Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the last five years. I could not have done it without your support and encouragement, and of the entire district team, who were always willing to offer ideas, suggestions, and assistance. It has been sometimes challenging, but also a joy, to plan Day Apart programs, and to participate in other district and conference events. I thank you for the time you have spent attending the last four District Day Apart programs, and I hope they have been worthy of your time. A great number of people, other than myself, also gave their time and work to bring these programs about, and I greatly appreciated those contributions.

I wish I could be introducing my successor to you, but as of yet the position remains vacant. Should you be willing to consider becoming district Spiritual Growth Coordinator, know that you would have my, and the entire district team's, help and support. Whether or not you are able to take the office, the district team welcomes and needs your ideas for future Day Apart programs.

I hope to see many of you at the District Missions Festival at Franklin First on November 19th, which will include a Spiritual Growth/Bible Study rotation. I think you will have fun, and find the morning passes quickly, and is a worthwhile investment of your time.

May God bless you,

Carol Harper, Spiritual Growth Coordinator
828-349-3228 or cgh2arper@gmail.com



Ways to Give to the Legacy Fund

- ◇ Make a gift to the Legacy Fund through your local unit United Women in Faith treasurer.
- ◇ Make a one time donation or consider becoming a Legacy Builder by giving a monthly gift of \$18.69 or more.
- ◇ Use our Western North Carolina Conference Legacy Commitment Form, available on our website at www.wnccumw.org/legacyfund.
- ◇ Online on the national office website at <https://uwfaith.org/give/legacy-fund/>
- ◇ **By phone:** 800-278-7771 (8 am—6 pm EST, M-F)
- ◇ **By check:** note "Legacy Fund" in memo and mail to: United Women in Faith, Attn: Legacy, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1500, New York, NY 10115
- ◇ **Other methods** include gifts of stock, life insurance, bequests, and other forms of planned giving. If you are interested in making a gift like this, contact the national office at 800-278-7771.



SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT UWF MISSIONS FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2022

9:00 AM—12:00 NOON

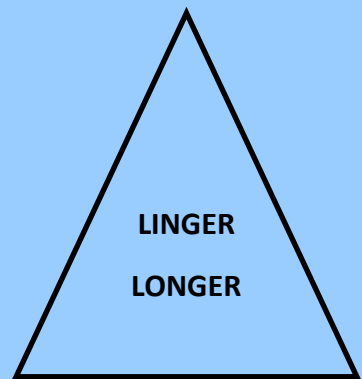
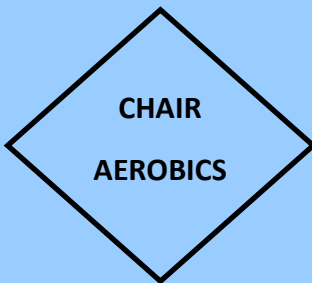
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
66 Harrison Avenue, Franklin, NC 28734



One more chance to see each other in person! Give prayerful consideration to joining us for our UWF Missions Festival on November 19th. (Masks are optional.) We will start with breakfast and fellowship, do a bit of general business, and then work our way through four interesting rotations. Hope to see you there!

9:00am	Fellowship & Breakfast
9:30am	Welcome, Invocation, Social Action Moment, Prayer Calendar, Treasurer's Report and Gift to Mission Cards, Introduction of Officers, etc.
10:15am	First Rotation
10:40am	Second Rotation
11:05am	Third Rotation
11:30am	Fourth Rotation
11:55am	Closing & Evaluation

BIBLE STUDY



As Program Resource Coordinator, I have enjoyed working with Smoky Mountain District the past few years. I will be at the Mission Festival with the remaining books I have for 2021-2022. In addition, I have four copies of the Program Resource Book for 2022-2023 priced at \$15 each. I will also have copies of the 2023 Reading Program List. Thank you, Executive Team, for all your support, and especially to Deborah Ray, president.

Gail Powell, Program Resource Coordinator
Email: gailpowell@bellsouth.net Cell: 828-507-4556



**OUR SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION ARE EXTENDED
TO THESE MEMBERS OF OUR EXECUTIVE TEAM
WHO HAVE SERVED TERMS IN CURRENT POSITIONS!**



**DEBBIE RAY,
SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT PRESIDENT**



**BEVERLY BARD,
MISSION EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR**



CAROL HARPER, SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR



**SONYA KOTILA,
MISSION EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR**



**ESTHER MANCHESTER,
MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE & OUTREACH COORDINATOR**



**GAIL POWELL,
PROGRAM RESOURCES COORDINATOR**



District Love Offerings:

We invite you to give generously to your Smoky Mountain District Love Offering. Your Mission Giving continues the work of United Women in Faith, making a difference, every day, in the lives of women, children and youth around the world. Thank you for your support of Mission Giving! Every single dollar makes a difference.

You may give to your district love offering in a couple of ways:

- Make an online donation using the special link for Smoky Mountain District found: [District Events | WNCC United Women in Faith \(wnccumw.org\)](#)
- Mail a check to your District Treasurer, made payable to United Methodist Women or United Women in Faith, and designated as Smoky Mountain District Love Offering.

UMCOR Introduces “Period Packs”

Are tampons the first thing you would grab if you had minutes to flee your home? Probably not! People displaced by fire, flood, and other natural disasters often have only minutes to grab some belongings. We can provide health and dignity products to temporarily displaced people by assembling menstrual hygiene kits.

UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kit items (kit value \$14, \$2 per kit shipping)

- One one-gallon size resealable bag
- Two 2-oz bottles of hand sanitizer
- Three 4-gallon bathroom trash bags
- One travel pack of hand wipes such as “Wet Ones.”
- 10 Tampons (5 regular and 5 super absorbency), unscented
- Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger). No Ivory or Jergens soap. Do not remove soap from packaging.
- One 42-count pack of flushable wipes, unscented.
- One “travel sink” laundry detergent packet (.25-.45 oz)



To assemble: Place one pack of the flushable wipes and wet wipes in the one-gallon resealable bag. Place four bathroom trash bags and 10 sanitary napkins in the bag. Add smaller items in the plastic bag, remove air, and seal.

(A donation of \$2 per kit for shipping is suggested. Please do not put check inside kit.)

READING IS REWARDING!

- Share the program with United Women in Faith members and members of the community.
- Help people attain books. Distribute this guide. [2023 Reading Program Catalog \(uwfaith.org\)](#)
- Connect with local and district groups. Start a book club, download books onto an e-reader to pass around and share, present book reviews at group meetings.
- Display a progress chart in your church for all who wish to participate, and post displays to encourage book sales.
- Pray. Books often raise concerns about people, countries, and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time at home and at group meetings.
- Advocate for tangible change. Many Reading Program books address issues including climate change, mass incarceration and racism. Organize a task force to address these issues in your community.

DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT US IF YOU NEED ANYTHING!

**United Methodist Women
2022 Smoky Mountain District Executive Team**

President (Acting):

Deborah Ray (Waynesville 1st)
569 Country Club Drive
Waynesville, NC 28786
Cell Phone: 828-400-3499
Email: wsray@charter.net

Vice President:

[Open]

Secretary:

Jo Ann Black (Cullowhee)
388 Echo Ridge Road
Whittier, NC 28789
Cell Phone: 828-331-9700
Email: circusgirl120@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Dianne Mills (Elizabeth's Chapel)
311 Grandview Circle
Waynesville, NC 28786
Cell Phone: 828-550-2229
Email: mailto:dnmills@hotmail.com

Social Action:

Janice LeMasters (Waynesville First)
223 Methodist Drive
Lake Junaluska, NC 28745
Phone: 912-580-2592
Email: lemastersjanice@gmail.com

Education & Interpretation:

Sonya Kotila (Love's Chapel)
583 Hillcrest Street
Sylva, NC 28779
Cell Phone: 828-507-0298
SK.Kotila@morrisbb.net

Spiritual Growth:

Carol Harper (South Macon)
101 Everett Rd.
Franklin, NC 28734
Cell Phone: 828-349-3228
Email: cgh2arper@gmail.com

Membership, Nurture & Outreach:

Esther Manchester (Murphy First)
PO Box 256
Brasstown, NC 28902
Cell Phone: 828-226-7481
Email: ehml@yahoo.com

Program Resources:

Gail Powell (Elizabeth Chapel)
129 Paige Lane
Clyde, NC 28721
Home Phone: 828-627-6154
Cell Phone: 828-507-4556
Email: gailpowell@bellsouth.net

Communications Coordinator:

Nancy Jo Willis (Murphy First)
310 Cassady Lane
Murphy, NC 28906
Cell Phone: 850-428-3636
Home Phone: 828-837-4931
Email: smdcommcoor@gmail.com

Parliamentarian:

Ellyne Stonebraker (Franklin 1st)
135 Shady Oaks Drive
Franklin, NC 28734
Phone: 828-524-8787
Email: jumperlady21@gmail.com

Historian (Acting):

Lisa Bacon (Cullowhee)
1028 Old Cullowhee Road
Sylva, NC 28779
Phone: 828-586-8399
Email: lisabacon304@gmail.com

Shepherdess: (honorary)

Bobby Payne (Elizabeth Chapel)
78 J.F. Morris Drive
Waynesville, NC 28786
Cell Phone: 828-550-4489
Email: None

Nominations Chairperson:

[Open]

Nominations:

Dee Dee Clark (Elizabeth Chapel)
196 James Loop
Waynesville, NC 28786
Phone: 828-452-0888

Erlinda Rogers (Long's Chapel)

83 Hill Street
Waynesville, NC 28786
Phone: 828-454-5394
Email: erlindarogers1@bellsouth.net

Imme. Past Pres. & Legacy Liaison:

Julie Leatherwood (Shady Grove)
392 Winterjohn Cove
Waynesville, NC 28785
Home Phone: 828-926-1641
Cell Phone: 828-421-1913
Email: leatherwoodjulie@gmail.com

Conference Liaison & WNCC

UMW Communications

Coordinator:

Lisa Bacon (Cullowhee)
1028 Old Cullowhee Road
Sylva, NC 28779
Phone: 828-586-8399
Email: lisabacon304@gmail.com

(Revised 4/4/22)

Nancy Jo Willis
Communications Coordinator, SMD
310 Cassady Lane
Murphy, NC 28906



United
Women
in Faith

SMD UMW CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Nov. 19

Missions Festival/Leadership Training

9:00 am—12:00 noon; First UMC of Franklin, NC

