

The Catawba Valley

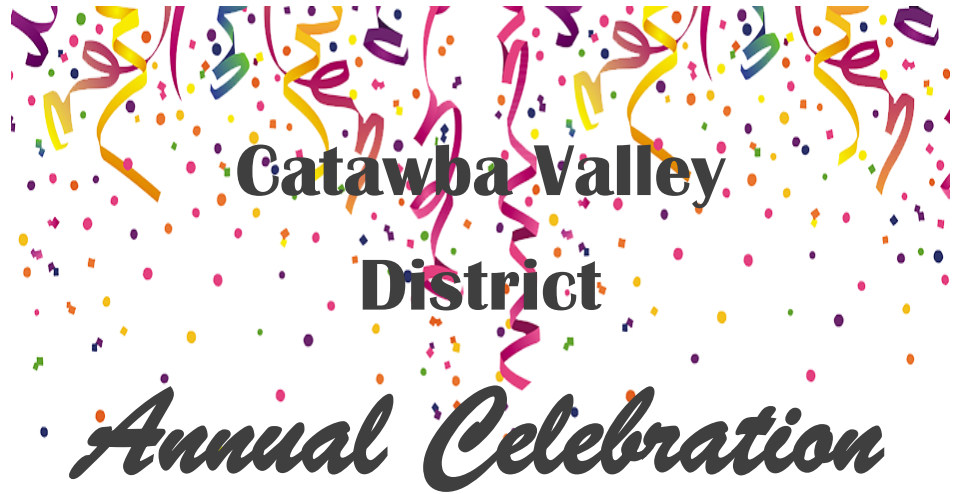
Voice



United
Women
in Faith

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Guest Speaker:

April Abernethy

August 19th

First United Methodist Church

217 Saint Germain Street

Valdese, NC 28690

Begins at 10:00 AM

REGISTER NOW

By Email—send to: CVDCOMM@gmail.com

By Phone—Call Gwen at 704-300-9553

By Mail—use the registration form on page 6

President's Letter

Hello All -

It was an Event filled with joy all the way around, and I was glad to see 5 Catawba Valley District churches represented at the Spiritual Growth Retreat on the second week-end in June.

The Music Leaders did a great job, and the Retreat Speaker was awesome as she redirected our images in the Bible verses of women who came to Christ. You can catch up with the teachings on the UWF website, they are available to you.

Also, a Hands on Mission Collection received almost 1200 kits for UMCOR and this with a group of 174 United Women in Faith!

I really hope you will come to Lake Junaluska for the Sept. 8-10 weekend since we will be celebrating the Love and Mission you have shown in 2022. The National UWF has some terrific speakers on the webinar Faith Talks, Justice Today and Voices from the Field. You can find these on the website, I try to catch at least two a month. Our Conference Pres., Joanie Strohm moderated one in May – On Impacts of Racism, View From My Seat. It was an eye-opener and helped bring to light the Charter For Racial Justice that we should use continuously at our meetings.

Beyond that we have a busy summer with Mission U on July 28 and 29th in Hickory. August 19th is our Annual Celebration to be held at First Valdese UMC. I trust you will explore more in the Reading Program and continue being the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

Ever Hopeful, Janet Bjork-Colton

Love Offering

Given By: Name _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Unit/Church Name _____

Mail your donation directly to the treasurer at:

Gaye Dagenhart, 29 31st Ave. Court NE Hickory, NC 28092

Amount Donated:

Vice President's Note

Hello all, I hope that you all are doing well. I know life is busy for us all. I hope we all can continue to strive to grow our groups and have a very successful year. If you have any events, you would like me to attend please let me know and I will do my best to attend them. On April 29, 2023, we were at St. Luke's UMC in Hickory, NC for the Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service. We had a wonderful turn out; approximately 51 women came out to hear Beth Osbahr speak. I hope we have more successful events like this in our future. Thanks to all who came out and participated. I hope to see you all soon.

Tanya Lundsford

Here are a few pictures I took at the April 29th Prayer Breakfast/Memorial Event:



Guest Speaker—Beth Osbahr



Important Message Concerning United Methodist Church Disaffiliations

June 17-20 the Western Conference of the UMC held its Annual Conference. It was a happy time as well as a sad time for the delegates, both lay and clergy as we went about completing the task of Disaffiliation for a total of 195 churches in our conference. In addition, the Western Conference also closed another 5 churches because of large declines in membership, worship attendance, and/or financial support. That is a loss of 200 churches.

Sadly 40 of those 200 churches are in the Catawba Valley District, and many of you in those churches may be unaware that you can continue as members of the UWF. Since the United Women in Faith is an entirely separate entity from the United Methodist Church, you can keep your unit intact, leaving everything as is (just let me know the new name of your church).

If, however, you decide to disband your unit (we hope you don't), individuals who still wish to remain in association with UWF can join just the UMF at another unit and remain a member of your current if you desire. There is also something called an independent member. I will be sending a separate email with information about remaining UWF, which explains all this.

There is a full list of the Catawba Valley District's disaffiliated and recently closed churches on page 5. We are asking the Presidents to reach out to these churches that are near your church and offer their members a UWF home if their unit will be disbanding.

For churches that are disaffiliating—President's please let us know the status of your unit as soon as possible. Contact Janet Bjork -Colton: her contact information is on page 7

Gwen Perkins

CVD Communications Coordinator

List of Disaffiliated or Recently Closed churches in the Catawba Valley District

Asbury – Lincolnton	Lawndale - Lawndale
Bess Chapel- Cherryville	Lebanon - Denver
Bethel- Dry Ponds	May’s Chapel - Maiden
Bethel—Morganton	Mary’s Grove - Kings Mountain
Beulah—Shelby	New Covenant - Mount Holly
Bradley Memorial—Gastonia	New Home - Casar
Center—Catawba	Plateau - Vale
Central-Kings Mountain	Polkville - Polkville
Christ— Hickory	Rhyne Heights - Lincolnton
Cramer Memorial (CLOSED)	Shiloh - Shelby
Crowell Memorial—Lincolnton	St. Paul’s - Catawba
David's Chapel—Lawndale	St. Paul’s - Shelby
Denton's Chapel—Morganton	St. Peter’s - Lawndale
Fairfield—Denver	Sulphur Springs - Shelby
First—Conover	Tucker’s Grove - Iron Station
First—Maiden	
First—Mount Holly	
Friendship - Fallston	
Friendship - Newton	
Hebron - Vale	
Hopewell - Sherrills Ford	
Kadesh - Lawndale	
Knob Creek - Lawndale	

READING PROGRAM

This month I am reviewing a new book on our Reading List. Phoebe. A Story, written by Paula Gooder. She is a British Theologian and Anglican Lay Leader who is well published. She has taught at several Theological Colleges including Oxford Seminary, concentrating on New Testament particularly.

All this is background to encourage reading of this book. Per Paula, this is not a historical novel. My lack of knowledge thinks it is. Several little lessons are hidden within the pages. One is on what prayer is and is not. This is a fascinating day to day of ancient Rome in the early years of the Church. We see the hardships of the people, arguments of Theology, and growth and understanding in the early Church. These items are still within our Church now, both in seasoned members as well as new persons beginning their walk with God. We see personable versions of Paul, Phoebe, Peter and other leaders only mentioned in what we read in our version of the Bible.

Reading the book is an easy read, but the Notes section, in the back, gives a lot of insight into the Theology as well as explanations of the world of ancient Rome and the early Church. The way she has penned Phoebe, a Story really makes me want to read some of the other books she has written.

Please grab a copy and share your insights with me at the next meeting.



Anita Fox

Program Resources

REGISTRATION FORM FOR ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Church Name: _____

Number Attending_____

Names of Attendees_____

Mail to: Gwen Perkins 3021 Harmon Homestead Rd. Shelby NC 28150

Catawba Valley District UWF Officer Team - 2023

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	Tanya Lunsford	376 Woodlawn Ave Cramerton, NC 28032	704-678-7122 tlmartintm@gmail.com
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	3021 Harmon Homestead Rd Shelby, NC 28150	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

2023 Calendar of Events

Catawba Valley *District* United Women in Faith

*****CHANGE OF DATE and VENUE*****

MISSION U

New Date—**July 28-29th**

New Venue-Catholic Training Center
Hickory NC

August 19th—Annual Celebration

First UMC

**217 Saint Germain Ave
Valdese, NC 28690**

Sept 8-10th - Conference Annual Meeting , Lake Junaluska

Oct. 7, 24, 28 - Ubuntu Days of Service- various locations

Oct 21st - Conference Leadership Development Day for all District Officers

Oct 28th - Catawba Valley District Leadership Development Day - all unit Officers