

October 2023

Women Talk



United
Women
in Faith

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

Come cruising with us on
the SS New Wineskins!



United
Women
in Faith

ALL ABOARD!!

Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023

9:30 am - 12 noon/Smoky Mtn District

Waynesville First UMC



“Cruise to Membership” with ideas and activities you can use for fundraising, membership nurture & outreach, and social action. Visit the spa, serve in a “voluntourism shore excursion,” and enjoy (John Wesley-approved) drinks with little umbrellas.

Registration link and details can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.

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

Page 1—Come cruising with us on the SS New Wineskins!

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

Page 3—SS New Wineskins Cruise Schedule!

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**A minute of thought is worth more
than an hour of talk.**

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*“Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth;
keep the door of my lips.”*

— Psalm 141:3

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.

Come Cruising with Us on the SS New Wineskins! Mark your calendars now for Saturday, November 4th, to join us for some fun, fellowship and creativity!

SS New Wineskins Cruise Schedule

Sail Date: Saturday, Nov. 4th

Time: 9:30am—12noon



Dock Location: First UMC, Waynesville

566 S Haywood St, Waynesville, NC 28786

9:30-10:00am Check-In and Luggage Drop Off (see below for suggested items to bring). Enjoy refreshments at the Captain's Table. Visit the Heavenly Treasures Gift Shop (program resources and Gift to Mission and Gift in Memory cards).

10:00-10:30am Lifeboat Drill (logistics and fundraising ideas)

10:30-11:15am Group 1: Visit the Salt of the Earth Spa for physical and spiritual renewal.

Group 2: Light of the World "shore excursion" (doing two mission projects)

11:15-12:00noon Group 1: Light of the World "shore excursion" (doing two mission projects)

Group 2: Visit the Salt of the Earth Spa for physical and spiritual renewal.

Cruisers will have an opportunity to give a gratuity (by making a donation to the Smoky Mountain District UWF Love Offering).

Suggested Items to pack: cold weather hats and gloves for unhoused people (for the mission projects)



Register here to "book your cruise":

<https://bit.ly/CruiseUWFReg>

Registration is not required but will help us to better plan for your attendance. (Masks are optional!)

"A NOTE FOR TREASURERS"

We are now in our fourth quarter of Mission Giving. Throughout this year, we have submitted a total of \$25,204.17. That is pretty good! Now we have the last quarter to bring our submissions up to our budget of \$39,000.

Remember to check the records for contributions to the five channels of giving. Pledges, Special Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, and World Thank Offering are all important gifts. Our Conference Goal for 2023 is that each local unit increases their Mission Giving to World Thank Offering channel by 10%. Make that a goal for your unit. Also, a gift to the Legacy Fund is to join the legacy we will leave for the next 150 years. March 23, 2019, marked 150 years of women in mission...now United Women in Faith! Let's bring our current year to a successful end by meeting our pledge and knowing we have fulfilled our mission once again as United Women in Faith.

I would like to welcome Hayesville UWF back with us again. Each unit is important to help the district reach our goals.

Send your 4th Quarter Remittance to me by November 25th in order to be received by November 30th.

Dianne Mills, District Treasurer
dnmills@hotmail.com
(828) 550-2229



Calling All Program Resource Coordinators

What is your unit doing to promote our United Women in Faith reading program? What challenges do you face? Let's share our experiences (good and not so good) and plans for the coming year. Send your responses to me at nmhwatkins@gmail.com. I will consolidate them into an article for the next UWF newsletter so that we can gain from one another.

Several books will be available for purchase at our November 4th meeting at Waynesville FUMC. Don't hesitate to contact me in advance if you are looking for a particular title. I'll be happy to reserve it or work out a way to get it to you.

Nancy Watkins, Smoky Mountain District UWF Program Resources Coordinator

Email: nmhwatkins@gmail.com

Phone: 828-550-5927





Do you remember in our July newsletter, the article about READ: Rural Education Advancement and Development? This organization, located in a grossly underserved area of Ecuador, is led by Ginny McNair, a member of Waynesville First United Methodist Church. This program offers learning opportunities for impoverished children and currently offers book loans, computer classes, tutoring, internet access, a work study program for middle and high school students and a child sponsorship program. Ginny will be back in the US this month and will be speaking at Waynesville First on Sunday, October 15th, at 12:30-2:00pm. They are hosting a potluck luncheon of salads and desserts and all are welcome to join them. If READ is something of special interest to you, this would be a great opportunity to learn more about it. If you have further questions, please contact Debbie Ray at 828-400-3499 or wray@charter.net.

Ginny will be back in the US this month and will be speaking at Waynesville First on Sunday, October 15th, at 12:30-2:00pm. They are hosting a potluck luncheon of salads and desserts and all are welcome to join them. If READ is something of special interest to you, this would be a great opportunity to learn more about it. If you have further questions, please contact Debbie Ray at 828-400-3499 or wray@charter.net.

District Leadership Development Day for Local Unit Officers on October 28th via Zoom.

Whether you are new to your office or are a seasoned officer, you are encouraged to participate in our District LDD. We are joining Blue Ridge District for this virtual event beginning at 10:00 am on Saturday, October 28th. Treasurers will meet in a breakout room, and all other officers will meet together to share updates, tips, and other important information. We hope you can join us!

Register here for the Zoom LDD: <https://bit.ly/DistrictLDDReg>

Lisa Bacon, SMD President

Phone: 828-586-8399

Email: lisabacon304@gmail.com



HEY THERE!

1. Have you changed your email address recently? If Yes, please let us know at smdcommcoor@gmail.com.
2. Have you added email to your list of communication tools? If Yes, please let us know.
3. If you've stopped using email as a means of communication, please let us know that also. Why? So we can still send you the newsletter and keep you informed.
4. This publication can be helpful to all your members so forward it to your entire group or make copies and pass it out.
5. If you have questions or feedback, please contact me at smdcommcoor@gmail.com or 850-428-3636. Thanks!

Nancy Jo Willis, SMD Communications Coordinator



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.



PRAY

Lord, your word names the fruits of the Spirit. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Help us to carry these within us. Help us to employ them. As we seek to build your kin-dom on earth, let these be the foundations. Let us create a world full of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

We acknowledge this work begins within us. Then expands outwards to our friends and family. Then into our communities. Then beyond. In this practice, we name our intention to live into these values. We commit ourselves to the work. We see the possibilities for ourselves, our families, our communities, our countries, and our planet. Grant us strength. Grant us peace.

Margaret Fenton Lebeck,
Exercising Faith: Spiritual Practice in Action

[The above prayer is from the program resource for the interim months of September through December 2023, available through the United Women in Faith digital portal; UWfaith.org/digital. Reprinted from the September/October 2023 issue of *response* magazine.]

World Thank Offering 2023: Thanksgiving

The World Thank Offering (WTO) is one of United Women in Faith's Five Channels of Giving. Our WTO is a way for members of UWF to show gratitude for God's blessings.

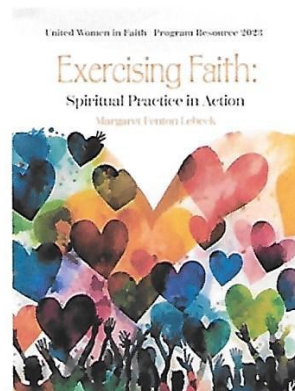
This year's WTO program is in the Program Resource for September through December. It may also be downloaded at uwfaith.org/resources and going to the Program Resources section.

The 2023 WTO is based on Psalm 103:1–5 and reminds us of the many blessings we have in Christ.

In 2022, members raised nearly \$700,000 in offerings to support women, children, and youth. The following are just a few ministries that are made possible through your gifts:

- The Methodist Women's Federation in Bolivia, a United Women in Faith mission partner, runs programs to first build confidence in women to take up a trade and then provides the training to create their own cottage knitting industry. This allows them to care for their family at home and support their economic empowerment. When women thrive, the whole community thrives as well.
- Rise Up is an organization in the Philippines supported by Filipina United Methodist deaconesses and United Women in Faith Regional Missionary, Deaconess Emma Cantor. Their mission is to analyze the root origins of the illegal global drug trade and its impact on the poor. Through workshops for victims' families, churches, and the wider community, they are building a culture of support and respect for life and rights, justice, and peace, thanks to your generosity.
- Through Cornerstone Family Ministries in Tampa, Florida, your gifts make possible programs at the Rosa Valdez Early Learning Center and their Garden Movement Nutrition Outreach. They continue to expand their post-COVID pilot program to sponsor 156 childcare centers on the USDA Child Care food program, facilitating nearly four million meals to more than 14,000 children.

Uwfaithresources.org



Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5 (NIV)

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

United Women in Faith 2023 Smoky Mountain District Executive Team

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[Open]

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[Open]

Education & Interpretation:

[Open]

Spiritual Growth:

[Open]

Membership, Nurture & Outreach:

[Open]

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**Conference Liaison & Member of
WNCC UWF Committee On
Nominations**

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(1/30/23)

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TO:



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2023 UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CONFERENCE & DISTRICT EVENTS

WNCC UWF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 7, 14, 28 Ubuntu Days of Service—multiple locations
Oct. 28 District Leadership Development—Virtual at 10:00 am
(in conjunction with the Blue Ridge District)

SMD UWF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov. 4 Cruising on the SS New Wineskins
9:30am—12:00 noon
Waynesville First United Methodist Church