



AppaLadies in Mission



United Women in Faith 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.

President Remarks

Dear Sisters,

Happy New Year! We are strong United Women in Faith! I pray that we can all continue to re-vitalize our local units in the Appalachian District this year. We have been in flux over the last few years and hopefully, things are now getting settled. We will miss our dear sisters whose churches have closed and friends whose churches have disaffiliated. We now know for certain which churches remained United Methodist Churches. We United Women in Faith are still vital and continuing to work for Mission as we serve as the hands and feet of Jesus. We welcome all ladies from any or no denomination!

To our new members from other districts, we welcome you and look forward to meeting all of our new friends who are joining us this year from Iredell County and from the Yadkinville/Hamptonville area. We are so pleased that God is bringing you to us!

Praise Be to God for those units that have stayed together throughout the difficulties that faced us over the last few years! Hats off to those who participated in the UW Faith Reading program, 5 channels of Mission Giving, attended Mission Studies, remained or became Justice Today units, and remained or became Mission Today units. Being a Mission Today unit is significant because it means that your unit is healthy and thriving! I would like to feature each unit in a video at Annual Celebration in 2025. As I have said before, you are not required to do any of the aforementioned activities, but if you do, we like to give your unit certificates for your accomplishments. Maybe your unit is doing a new thing and you have fresh ideas about how you do Mission. Let us know! Perhaps we can add it to the Mission Today criteria.

Unit Presidents and Contacts, I have emailed or snail-mailed 2024 report forms to all active units. If you did not receive them, please contact me or go onto our District website, www.appumw.com to get your forms. You may mail them to me or send them via email. Please keep a copy for your records. If you have not sent your reports because you did not get it done on time, please send it to me as soon as possible. Sending it late is better than not at all. New units, please send me your 2025 list of officers with their contact info, especially email addresses, so your officers can receive their copies of "AppaLadies in Mission."

It is my sincere hope that each of you will attend all of our Appalachian District UW Faith events as well as our Western North Carolina Conference UW Faith events in 2025. Our Appalachian District Leadership Team met the second week of December to plan our events for this new year. See the event schedule at the end of this newsletter and mark your calendars so you don't plan other events on the same dates, especially activities for your units.



Inside this issue

Vice President & Nominations	3
UW Faith 2025 Nurturing Partners.....	4
Membership, Nurture, & Outreach.....	5 & 6
Jazzercise with Jesus	7
Treasurer	8
Social Action.....	9
Mission Study Flyer.....	10
ME&I.....	11
Legacy Fund	12
Parliamentarian & Spiritual Growth	13
Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service	14 - 15
Program Resources	17
Historian & Communications.....	18
Scholarship Programs.....	19 - 20
2025 Events.....	21
2025 Officers.....	22

We are again having our Mission Study this year in February, hoping it will fit more members' schedules. I am excited that we are partnering with the Catawba Valley District again and having our Mission Study together at First Lenoir. Prayer Breakfast will occur in April. See the flyers included in this newsletter.

#Terrific News! Our National CEO, Sally Vonner, has accepted our invitation to come to Western North Carolina for our Conference Annual Celebration on September 6! It will be a one-day event this year and will be held at a place other than Lake Junaluska. The site will be announced when all the specifics have been determined. I expect excellent attendance from our District! I have heard Sally speak on several occasions and can assure you that she is very personable and is a very inspirational speaker. Please make plans to be there and meet her!

#Nurturing Partners. You may ask, "What is a Nurturing Partner?" See Jane Long's article for the explanation. Also, view the Nurturing Partner chart near Jane's article and see which District Officer is your Nurturing Partner. Expect a call from her soon. Now that we know which churches are in, it was much simpler to make these assignments. See full officer list with contact information on the last page.

UW Faith is all about Mission to enhance the lives of under-resourced women, youth and children and empower women to provide for themselves and their families. And, YOU are the key! With the support of YOU, our members, we are able to continue the great works that we have begun!

There is an African proverb that says, "Many little people, in many little places, taking many little steps can CHANGE the face of the WORLD!" I believe that United Women in Faith has been a force for change and will continue to be a powerful force! We are the largest Christian-based women's organization in the world. I am excited to see what we can do together in the future! **Let's Thrive in 25!**

Feel free to contact me whenever you have questions. If I don't know the answer, I have some very knowledgeable friends who do.

Love, peace, and joy,
Linda (LindaLu) Greer



**District Officer Meeting
- Planning for 2025**



Linda and Jan with Sally Vonner at
Southeast Jurisdiction Meeting

April 2024





Vice-President

Hard to believe – but 2025 is here! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. I’m looking forward to our 2025 programs. Since it worked well last year, once again we will join with Catawba Valley District and start the year with our Mission Study on Saturday, February 22nd at First UMC Lenoir. Our study, Welcome Home, is the study from 2024 Mission u and it explores how we can know God as an intimate friend who welcomes us. Then on April 5th, our Wilkesboro UWFaith unit will host our Prayer Breakfast. I encourage you to attend both events. Fellowship is vital to our spiritual growth journey; these events offer wonderful fellowship and growth opportunities (as well as good food and fun!) with our Sisters in Christ.

I also encourage all to use the resources available to us through UWFaith for your unit programs at your meetings/gatherings. Brenda Kimberlin’s article in this newsletter provides information on how to order these resources; using these resources can complete several requirements on the Mission Today checklist and help you to fulfill our mission, vision, and purpose as United Women in Faith.

If I can do anything to help you, please don’t hesitate to call, text or email me. Let’s work together to make 2025 an even greater year for living out our purpose as UWFaith AppaLadies in Mission! **Let’s Thrive in 25!**

Blessings,
Jan Taylor



Co-Chairwoman of Committee on Nominations

Dear Appalachian District United Women in Faith,

We would like to welcome Annette Echard and Marcia Faw to our team! Annette and Marcia will be serving on our Nominations Committee. Welcome, Annette and Marcia! We are excited to have you!

Our team is almost complete! We are still searching for someone to fill the role of Treasurer. This lady will be an understudy to Nancy Reigel until she is ready to serve on her own. Please be in prayer that we find this lady, as well as having active conversations as you meet people who you feel might be a good fit. This position does not involve dealing with a lot of cash (mostly checks). The cash that is collected at our 4 events is about the only cash that must be counted and a count assistant is required for that. The treasurer needs to have computer skills and the ability to insert numbers into a spreadsheet. Please let Jean Stetler or me know if you identify a potential fit.

Blessings,
Donna Parks Hill



Appalachian District UWFaith

2025 Nurturing Partners

<p>Linda Greer 828-244-2251</p>	<p>Jan Taylor 336-468-0313</p>	<p>Terri Williams 336-426-2250</p>	<p>Nancy Reigel 828-268-0637</p>
<p>Broad Street(Statesville) *First Troutman Scotts Chapel - Statesville Wesley Chapel - Troutman Hanes Grove - Hamptonv</p>	<p>First North Wilkesboro Sparta *Smethport -West Jefferson *Warrensville</p>	<p>Piney Creek West - Mooresville *Ebenezer - Elkin *Maple Springs - Ronda</p>	<p>First Taylorsville Millers Creek *Shiloh - Sparta *Cox Chapel-MofWilson,VA Yadkinville Clifton - Warrensville</p>
<p>Jane Long 828-292-9250</p>	<p>Traci Snyder 828-308-3452</p>	<p>Brenda Kimberlin 828-728-0371</p>	<p>Sherry Summerlin 828-728-4936</p>
<p>*Henson Chapel/Mabel *Valle Crucis - Banner Elk First Lenoir Mosaic - Statesville West Jefferson</p>	<p>Hiddenite/StPt Parish Fair View - Mooresville *Morrow's Chapel - Moor *Faith - Mooresville New Salem - Statesville</p>	<p>Colliers - Lenoir First Granite Falls Asbury - Hamptonville Linville Chapel Hill - Statesville</p>	<p>Union Grove Wilkesboro *Cedar Valley - Lenoir *Mount Herman - Lenoir Jefferson</p>
<p>Elizabeth Conrad 704-223-7877</p>	<p>Terri Clark 828-612-2637</p>	<p>Donna Parks Hill 336-466-1230</p>	<p>Jean Stetler 828-264-6629</p>
<p>Hudson Union - North Wilkesboro St. Paul - Hamptonville</p>	<p>New Covenant - Lenoir Baton - Granite Falls Wesley Memorial - States Bethany - West Jefferson</p>	<p>Littlejohn Crossfire-North Wilkesboro Sutherland - Creston *Elk Park *Pine Grove - Spruce Pine</p>	<p>Boone Banner Elk Deerfield FaithBridge - Blowing Rock Mount Zion - Piney Creek</p>
<p>Sherry Mabry 336-927-4332</p>	<p>Marcia Faw 336-667-6181</p>	<p>Rhonda Waters 828-320-6260</p>	<p>Martha Phillips 828-467-3167 M</p>
<p>*Altamont - Newland *Jonas Ridge Grassy Creek - State Road Fairmont - Statesville</p>	<p>Central - Mooresville *First Elkin *White Rock - Thurmond Newland</p>	<p>New Beginnings *Philadelphia-Stony Point *Bethel - Statesville Elmwood - Statesville</p>	<p>Williamsons Chapel-Moor</p>

Units in Bold Font are active units.

* Indicates churches are in same charge.



Membership, Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator

“FIVE IN 25!”

This is our Membership, Nurture, and Outreach goal for 2025. It may be five new members added to your unit, or five activities/programs/mission projects or Mission-Giving recipients sponsored by your local unit, or a combination of these—just strive to have five new “somethings” to share with our District. We want to let the District and Conference know UWFaith is alive and well and dedicated to making the world near us and afar a better place all in the name of Jesus. However your unit sets its’ sights on this goal is entirely up to you. The Appalachian District Officers are here to support and encourage you. Did you know each unit has a District Officer assigned and available to support you and work with you? We are here to do whatever we can to help the UWFaith units be a vital arm of your church to reach out and serve. This person is your Nurturing Partner. We are here for YOU! Check out the chart on page 4 to learn the name and number of the NP that is assigned to your unit.

What is an NP? A “Nurturing Partner” in United Women in Faith (previously known as United Methodist Women) is a designated individual at the district level responsible for actively connecting with and supporting local units by fostering relationships, encouraging participation, and ensuring they feel connected to the wider organization through regular communication, visits, and providing access to resources and opportunities for growth and leadership development. Those of you who are long-time members may remember when you were assigned “Shepherdesses” to nurture your unit. The name of Nurturing Partner in place of Shepherdess was put into effect several years ago.

What can a Nurturing Partner do for your unit?

A Nurturing Partner is there to:

#Build relationships: We want to regularly reach out to you to build personal connections and understand your needs and concerns. Your NP is also there to help you do the same with the women and potential members of your group.

#Share information: We want to keep you in the loop by communicating important updates, upcoming events, and new initiatives from the District, Conference, and National levels to your local unit. Sharing with other units in the District, what your local unit is doing is also a great way to foster the connectional aspect of our denomination which has always been a strength of the United Methodist Church. We want to hear about the wonderful activities of your unit, share ideas with other units, and do a little bragging about you!

#Encourage participation: Motivating members to actively engage in United Women in Faith activities, including mission projects, leadership development programs, and educational opportunities is another way your NP can assist you.

#Provide Mentorship and leadership development: NPs can give guidance and support to local leaders to enhance their skills and leadership abilities.

#Identify needs: We are here to help you assess the specific needs of your local unit and connect you with appropriate resources or support within the District.

#Facilitate collaboration: Ladies, when we combine talent and resources by developing partnerships between local units and other organizations within our District, we can do great things to address community needs. NPs can help your unit build those collaborative relationships.

#Promote mission focus: One of the steadfast areas in the history of our organization is our devotion to missions. Raising awareness about United Women in Faith's mission goals and advocating for support of mission projects.

#Visit local units: Regularly visiting local units to participate in meetings, events, and activities, is one way your NP would like to demonstrate support and engagement with your unit. It's how your NP can get to know you!

Overall, the role of a Nurturing Partner is to actively cultivate a sense of belonging and connection within local United Women in Faith units, ensuring they are actively contributing to the organization's mission and goals.

In Christ's service and love,
Jane Long

2024 Membership and Leadership Development Day



Jazzercising for Jesus

(Chair Aerobics with LaDonna Butts)





Interim Treasurer’s Message

Appalachian District Sisters, I am writing this on the third day of our brand new year: January 3, 2025. It is 20 degrees here in Boone, but I am feeling a warm glow about how we helped Mission Thrive in 2024 and, more importantly, I look forward to doing the same and more in 2025. I see so many opportunities to share worship, to celebrate our accomplishments, and support missions.

But for now, I would like to share a preliminary glimpse of our 2024 Giving and congratulate units giving in 2024. First, let’s take a quick look at overall 2024 giving. Our unaudited giving reports show, after a year of turmoil and several units disaffiliating, Total Giving in 2024 dropped only slightly to \$25,901 from 2023 giving of \$28,753. Similarly, Undesignated Giving dropped from \$25,979 to \$23,469. This “feels” like the declines over the past several years have leveled off and stabilized. Let’s take a sigh of relief. On an even more optimistic note, several units significantly increased their Fourth Quarter giving signaling increasing resilience moving into 2025. It actually seems like we are moving from looking back on what “was” to facing forward to focus on what “is” and “can be.” Feels liberating! **Let’s Thrive in 25!**

We also want to congratulate those stalwart units that gave in all Five Channels of Undesignated Giving during 2024. Those Five Channels are the backbone of our United Women in Faith funding for Mission.

Congratulations to:

- Clifton
- First Elkin
- First North Wilkesboro
- First Taylorsville
- Hiddenite/Stony Point Parish
- Littlejohn
- Millers Creek
- Union Grove
- Wilkesboro



These units will be recognized officially at our Annual Celebration on August 23. The location will be announced when finalized.

Finally, as “Interim” District Treasurer, I urge you each to consider taking the opportunity to accept the “Joys of Being District Treasurer.” That may sound like a joke, but this “Joy” is real and will change your understanding of how and why our giving matters. This goes from gaining an increased awareness of how our mission dollars are applied for “good” to how giving changes both those who receive it, as well as how it changes those who give. I assure you, every moment I have spent on the duties of District Treasurer have been fulfilling and life-changing. Now it is time for someone else to experience that joy. If you are interested, just contact anyone on our Nominating Committee, Linda Greer or me. We welcome your interest.

Peace,
Nancy Reigel



Social Action Coordinator



Understanding Climate Justice: What It Is and How to Promote It

Climate Justice addresses the disproportionate impact of climate change on vulnerable communities, ensuring equitable distribution of climate action benefits and burdens. It intersects with social, economic, and environmental justice, aiming for a fairer, more sustainable world.

Beyond environmental aspects, climate justice considers social and economic dimensions. Those contributing least to global warming—often marginalized communities—suffer most from its effects, like natural disasters, health risks, and economic instability.

Key Principles

- **Equity:** Fair and just climate policies and actions for all communities.
- **Human Rights:** Protecting rights to a healthy environment, clean air, and water.
- **Participation:** Involving affected communities in climate decisions.
- **Accountability:** Holding stakeholders accountable for their climate impact.
- **Intergenerational Justice:** Ensuring a livable planet for future generations.

Climate justice is crucial in the fight against climate change, emphasizing equitable solutions for vulnerable communities. Advocate for policy changes, engage with communities, raise awareness, adopt sustainable lifestyles, support affected communities, and hold corporations accountable to achieve a just and sustainable future.

Just Energy For All is United Women in Faith's campaign to work for **Climate Justice** and mobilize members and communities to advocate for cleaner, 100% renewable, and just energy – for people and creation.

We are stewards of God's creation. This is one of our very first callings in this world – a call to love, protect, and share in the gifts of God's creation. Ecclesiastes 1: 4-7 reminds us of the abundance of such gifts: the sun, the wind, and the streams, providing beyond any of our lifetimes, and giving us renewable energy to sustain our life in this Earth. Unfortunately, our abuses of creation and one another, our exploitative systems and relationships, and our reliance on fossil fuels have gotten us to the point of planetary climate collapse.

Visit uwfaith.org for more information.

With Love,

Elizabeth Conrad

National Office has requested that we refer to our organization as UWFaith rather than UWF, so please honor this request as you refer to our magnificent organization.



**Appalachian/Catawba Valley Districts
United Women in Faith**

Mission Study 2025
First Lenoir UMC
309 Church Street NW
Lenoir, NC 28645
Saturday, February 22, 2025

9:00a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (includes time for registration & lunch)

Welcome Home

Study Leader: Deaconess Nancy Litton

If child care (young children) is needed – Contact Jane Long (828-292-9250) by February 5th

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.; Program/Study begins at 9:30 a.m.

Lunch Cost: \$8.00 - Soups and salad; drinks (tea, coffee, water); light snacks will be available upon arrival.

This study explores how we can know God as an intimate friend who welcomes us. Abiding in God’s safety and dwelling in God’s provision, allows us to open our hearts to a fuller embrace of the power and presence of God so that we may find our home in God.

Attendance at this study will fulfill requirements for Mission Today Criteria #4.

Conference Hands on Mission Project: UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits {Kit Contains: Two 2 oz. bottles hand sanitizer; Three 4-gallon bathroom trash bags; One travel pack of wet ones; 10 Tampons (5 regular and 5 super absorbency) unscented; 10 Sanitary Napkins (unscented, Long super ultra-thin); Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger) - No Ivory or Jergen’s; do not remove from packaging ; One pack of flushable wipes (42 count) - unscented; Six laundry detergent sheets (Laundry detergent sheets placed inside of a small plastic bag prior to being added to the kit.) Place items in 1-gallon re-sealable plastic bag; include \$2 per kit for shipping – Checks should be made out to your District and write UMCOR on the memo line. - DO NOT PUT in bag but turn in separately to your District Treasurer. Total cost of kit is estimated to be \$24.00.

OR for Hurricane Helene Victims, Bring Gift Cards from Lowe’s Foods or Lowe’s Home Improvement.

Love Offering: A Gift to Mission in Honor of Hurricane Helene victims.

Directions to First Lenoir United Methodist Church

From North (Sparta/Wilkesboro’s/Millers Creek): Follow Hwy 18 South through Wilkesboro and into Lenoir. Continue straight onto Harper Ave and in .6 miles turn right onto Ridge St. NW, then left onto Ashe Ave. NW, and right onto Church St. NW; church is on the left.

From Southeast (Taylorsville/Stony Point/Hiddenite): Take NC 90W to US 64W to Lenoir; Continue straight onto Harper Ave and in .6 miles turn right onto Ridge St. NW, then left onto Ashe Ave. NW, and right onto Church St. NW; church is on the left.

From South (Statesville, Shelby, Lincolnton, and Gastonia): Take I-40W to Exit 148(US-64/NC-90); turn right onto NC-90/US-64 and follow directions from Taylorsville.

From Hickory, Hudson, Granite Falls areas: Take US 321N into Lenoir; turn left onto US-64/Harper Ave & continue straight onto Harper Ave; turn right onto Ridge St. NW, then left onto Ashe Ave. NW, and right onto Church St. NW; church is on the left.

From West (Morganton): Take E. Concord St. to Bouchelle St., take a left and then turn right onto Avery Ave. In 13 miles, turn left onto Harper Ave and then stay slightly right to say on Harper Ave. In 1.1 miles, turn right onto Ashe Ave NW, then left onto Church St. NW; church is on the left.

From East (Yadkinville, Elkin, Ronda, Roaring River): Take US 421N to Exit 286A (NC-16/18S); Keep right at the fork and follow directions from Sparta/Wilkesboro.

From Northwest (Boone): Follow US 321 South to Lenoir. Turn right onto NC-90 (N. Main St.); in 1.7 miles, turn right onto Ashe Ave. NW, then right onto Church St. NW. Church is on the left.

By February 14, 2025: Please detach and return to App District UWFaith Treasurer, Nancy Reigel, 375 Troy Norris Road, Boone, NC 28607. Enclose check payable to Appalachian District UWFaith.

Name of Unit _____ #attending X \$8.00 per person = \$ _____

Specify if any of these attendees need disability accommodations or have food allergies/dietary needs?



Mission, Education, and Interpretation Coordinator

Greetings everyone! As we gather together in faith and fellowship, I am thrilled to share some exciting news about our upcoming Mission Study. Again, this year, we are partnering with the Catawba Valley District for our United Women in Faith Mission Study.

The Mission Study at First Lenoir UMC will be led by Deaconess Nancy Litton, who is a beacon of hope and leadership within the United Methodist community. Since moving to North Carolina in 1998, Nancy has made significant contributions to the church through her unwavering commitment and passion for service. Living in Kannapolis with her daughter Katie and their two cats, she embodies the spirit of home and belonging.

Nancy became a circle president in 2006, marking the beginning of her journey with the United Methodist Women (UMW). Her commitment helped her advance into positions of leadership within the District Leadership Team, where she was the Coordinator for Mission Education and Interpretation and the Secretary of Program Resources. Her wealth of expertise enables her to lead the study with discernment and wisdom. She presently serves as Assistant Dean of Mission u.

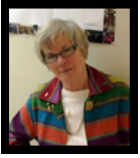
One heartwarming element of Nancy’s story is her link to her family’s legacy within the UMW. As a testament to the longstanding dedication of women in her family to service, she proudly shares her great aunt Edith Cherry’s UMW charm from the late 1800’s. Nancy began the process of becoming a Deaconess in the United Methodist Church’s Order of Deaconess, Home Missioner (DHMR) program in 2017. She was consecrated at 2022 Assembly in Orlando, Florida.

Let’s join Nancy and encourage one another as we get ready for Mission Study 2025 and engage in discussions that will expand our knowledge of faith and service. The “Welcome Home” theme challenges us to consider building environments where everyone is loved and accepted.

See the Flyer on the previous page to learn about all the details of the event.

I hope to see you there!!
Terri Williams





Legacy Energizer

Our Legacy Continues to Grow

The Legacy Endowment Fund is currently at \$42,135,768.76, which includes major gift pledges and planned gifts, and reflects interest and market fluctuation. The National Goal is \$65 Million, so we are getting closer and closer!

We are excited about Day of Giving on March 23rd, 2025. This year's theme is "For Generations to Come." Watch for special social media programming and updates. Please let Christi Campos at the National Office, ccampos@uwfaith.org, know if you will be having your own Day of Giving celebration so that we can highlight your group.

There are now three giving societies and ways to give to The Legacy Endowment Fund: Legacy Builders monthly giving of \$18.69 or more, Friends of Legacy major gift pledges of \$5,000 or more, and the 1869 Society planned giving donors.

The National Office is now offering a new workshop entitled The Power of Women Philanthropists, An Interactive Estate Planning Workshop. Contact Nancy Reigel (nancy@reigelridge.com) if you want to arrange to have the workshop virtually or in person to your unit.

The 3rd annual Legacy of Love virtual event will be on Feb. 13th, 2025. It is an event to thank our 1869 Society planned giving donors. There will also be a Legacy Team training and updates session for conference Legacy Team members held at the end of this month. Please watch for that invitation.

Thanks to Deaconess Christi Campos, Executive for Development and Donor Relations for this timely update.

Peace,
Nancy Reigel





Parliamentarian

Each year the president shall provide orientation for the newly elected executive committee. Included will be the following: team building; an explanation of duties as outlined in the United Methodist Women National Office Constitution and Bylaws; and a review of the STANDING RULES of the Western North Carolina United Methodist Women with special emphasis on financial policies, program opportunities, and responsibilities of the respective offices.

The role of a parliamentarian is to be at the side of the president and assist the president in following proper procedures during the business of the United Women in Faith local unit business meetings. Please refer to the online conference and district standing rules and by-laws for your local units.

You will find this link useful in serving as a parliamentarian. wnccumw.org

Thank you to those who are serving as a Local Unit Parliamentarian in the Appalachian District!
Sherry Summerlin



Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Hello to all!

A New Year brings change, excitement, and fresh beginnings. May it be so with you and may God richly bless you in this season of life and may you grow in wisdom and faith. Spiritual Growth helps us see God more clearly and understand life better.

Our Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service is the main event for me as your Spiritual Growth leader in the Appalachian District. Of course, I may have this title but actually the Prayer Breakfast is when we all take time to reflect on our faithful sisters in United Women in Faith and how they have led and nurtured us over the years. The theme this year is “Stars”, yes, “Stars”!

Hannah Senesh wrote, “There are stars whose radiance is visible on Earth though they have long been extinct. There are people whose brilliance continues to light the world though they no longer are among the living.” The rest of the quote will have to wait until April 5th when we gather to remember and honor those women whose light joined the stars in the sky with their heavenly light.

So, look at the flyer in this newsletter. Please send a photo and a sentence about this “light” from your unit that joined the “stars” in heaven. Email is best for me at sherrysummer@charter.net but you may choose to fill out the information in this newsletter and send it by postal carrier to Sherry Summerlin, 120 Shady Oak Terrace, Hudson, NC 28638. Deadline for names and photos is March 20 (for putting the slideshow together).

Speaker: Sherry Summerlin...with a little help from her friends

Communion: Rev. Karen Roberts, Wilkesboro, NC

Music: Mark and Debbie Parker See Flyer on next page for other details.

Now, with that said, be a “Star” and make your way to shine on us at Wilkesboro for the Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service as we remember and honor those whom we have loved and have loved us in return!

Blessings and peace,
Sherry Summerlin

Appalachian District Women in Faith Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service



Daniel 12:3 “Stars Forever and Ever”

Wilkesboro United Methodist Church, Saturday, April 5, 2025
309 W. Main St., Wilkesboro, NC 28697

Speaker: Sherry Summerlin

Appalachian District Spiritual Growth Coordinator

9:00-9:45 AM Registration, Breakfast, Program Resources and Prayer Room

9:45 - 10:00 am	Gathering Music
10:00 - 10:15 am	Welcome and Announcements
10:15 - 11:45 am	Worship and Memorial Service

Love Offering Will Be a Gift in Memory of Those Stars Who Still Serve as Our Guiding Light Sisters

Advance registration is required. Cost is \$8/person. Please send reservations for Prayer Breakfast and names for Memorial Service using the attached forms. Deadline for registration, Memorial Information and requests for childcare is March 20, 2024.

If childcare is needed, please contact Sherry Summerlin at (828) 234-0850 by March 20

Hands On Mission Project - Bethlehem Center Supplies: Washable Markers, Washable Paint, Jumbo Crayons, Jumbo Pencils, #2 Pencils, Colored Pencils, Children's books

Driving Directions:

From Lenoir, Hudson, Granite Falls: Take Wilkesboro Blvd (NC-18N). Turn left onto NC 18N/NC16N. In 3.8 miles, turn right onto W Main St (NC-18/NC-268) and in .3 miles (at the light) turn right on Woodland Blvd, then right into the church parking lot (just after First National Bank.)

From Boone: Take US-421S to the NC-268 E exit ; Turn left onto NC-268E and in 1.2 miles, turn right on Woodland Blvd, then right into the church parking lot (just after First National Bank.)

From Sparta and North: Take NC Highway 18 S (NC-18). Turn left onto 5th St; turn right onto Cherry St. Turn right onto E Main St (NC-18/NC-268). In .6 miles, turn left onto Woodland Blvd., then right into the church parking lot (just after First National Bank.)

From Statesville and South: Take NC-115N to US 421 N. Take exit 286A for NC-16 (Wilkesboro/Taylorsville /Lenoir); keep left at the fork (follow signs for Wilkesboro) Turn left onto NC-18N/Cherry St. Turn right onto E Main St (NC-18/NC-268). In .6 miles, turn right onto Woodland Blvd., then right into the church parking lot (just after First National Bank.)

From Taylorsville, Hiddenite and Hickory area: Take US-64 to NC Highway 16 N (NC-16) toward Wilkesboro. Turn right onto E Main St (NC-18/NC-268). In .6 miles, turn right onto Woodland Blvd., then right into the church parking lot (just after First National Bank.)

From Elkin, Jonesville, Yadkinville and East: Take US-421 N to Exit 286A for NC-16 (Wilkesboro/Taylorsville /Lenoir); keep left at the fork (follow signs for Wilkesboro) Turn left onto NC 18N/Cherry St. Turn right onto Main St (NC-18/NC-268). In .6 miles, turn right onto Woodland Blvd., then right into the church parking lot (just after First National Bank.)



REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Unit _____ # _____ attending X \$8 = _____

Check enclosed (Make checks payable to Appalachian District UWFaith).

Mail to: Nancy Reigel, 375 Troy Norris Drive, Boone, NC 28607

List names of attendees

Due by Monday, March 20, 2025

Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service

Registration and Breakfast will begin at 9:00 A.M.

Please complete the form below and return to Sherry Summerlin by March 20, 2025. Print clearly the names of those UWFaith members to be remembered at the Memorial Service (for the year of 2024) PLEASE INCLUDE A PHOTO IF POSSIBLE. Also, list your name and phone number for information to be verified if needed.

Name of Unit: _____

Person reporting: _____

Phone # _____

Name of Person present at service to represent Unit during the

Memorial Service _____

Office held in Unit _____

If no one from your unit will be present the District VP will represent your unit.

List names of those to be remembered....Please Print Clearly, Thank you!

List the name and then something unique about each Sister we are remembering:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

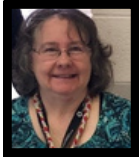
5. _____

Please send to: Sherry Summerlin, Appalachian District Spiritual Growth Coordinator,

120 Shady Oak Terrace, Hudson, NC 28638 Or email to Sherry Summerlin at sherrysummer@charter.net

Deadline: Monday, March 20, 2025.

Detach, Cut and Mail page 15 back



District Secretary of Program Resources

Happy New Year ladies! I hope you had a Merry Christmas. As you begin to plan for the new year make sure your unit has all the program resources you need. Check out the website <https://uwfaithresources.org/> to find a variety of materials, including the Program Resource Book and Daily Prayer Guide, which can be used in your meetings to dive deeper into your faith, and inspire, challenge, and equip your unit for a meaningful spiritual journey.

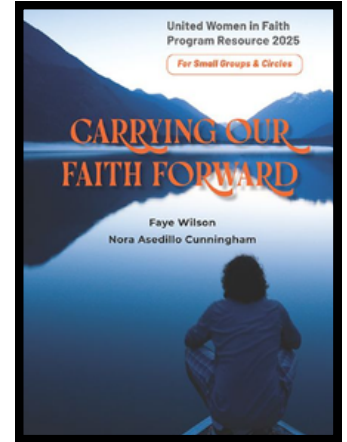
The 2025 United Women in Faith Program Resource explores intergenerational conversations and what it looks like to carry our faith forward in an expanding or new context. Compared to the path of water, our faith stories reflect a push and pull, peaks and waterfalls, and stagnant ponds and storms. It features conversations with women—mothers and daughters; sisters; co-workers; friends; and family members in recorded interviews that help capture experiences that have fueled and challenged their faith. You will hear voices from various generations share how their faith has traversed time in different social climates and the changing world in which we live.

The 2025 Daily Prayer Guide (formerly called the Prayer Calendar) is titled Generations of Grace and reminds us that God is at work in every generation. Our knowledge, experience, and stories offer value to one another. When we honor each other’s stories, we honor God’s work in each other’s lives and see more clearly God’s work in our own. It features artwork by children and youth and stories of faith that span generations, showing how every generation’s trials and successes can be guided by bold faith that brings life-changing results to those they impact.

Feel free to contact me if I can help you with finding resources for your unit or with the Reading Program.

May your 2025 be full of blessings.

Brenda Kimberlin



Program Resource Book



Prayer Guide



Please send via email, text or snail mail, photos of your unit’s events, or just routine meetings, or a photo of your group sometime this year prior to August 10. We would like to feature your unit in newsletters and/or at our 2025 District Annual Celebration.

Send to Linda Greer: jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net or 828-244-2251



Historian

These days, with the recent inauguration, some of our minds might be on politics and we ladies are interested in the First Lady, in her fashion and in her issues. Did you know that one of our First Ladies was also the National President of the newly formed Woman's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Church?

This was **Lucy Webb Hayes**, wife of 19th President Rutherford B. Hayes who served from 1877-1881. Lucy Hayes was the first First Lady to have a college degree. Historians have christened her "**Lemonade Lucy**" due to her staunch support of the temperance movement; however, contrary to popular belief, she was never referred to by that nickname while living. It was her husband who banned alcohol from the White House.

In 1851, Rutherford wrote in his diary, "I guess I am a great deal in love with Lucy. ... Her low sweet voice ... her soft rich eyes." Rutherford also praised her intelligence and character, "She sees at a glance what others study upon, but will not, perhaps study what she is unable to see at a flash. She is a genuine woman, right from instinct and impulse rather than judgment and reflection."

Then on his 48th birthday, Rutherford wrote to Lucy, "My life with you has been so happy--so successful--so beyond reasonable anticipations, that I think of you with a loving gratitude that I do not know how to express."

As WHMS President, she called attention to the plight of the urban poor and disenfranchised African-Americans in the South. She also spoke out against Mormon polygamy. An advocate for African Americans both before and after the American Civil War, she invited the first African-American professional musician to appear at the White House.

Lucy Hayes is one of our foremothers that we can be quite proud to emulate.

Reference: [Lucy Webb Hayes - Wikipedia](#)
Blessings,
Terri Clark



Official portrait of First Lady Lucy Webb Hayes, [Daniel Huntington](#), 1881. The [Woman's Christian Temperance Union](#) paid for this portrait.



Communications Coordinator

Part of what I enjoy most when putting the newsletter together for you ladies is making the photo collages. I would **LOVE** to be able to include more of your individual church events. Please send me some pictures with a brief description of the events you ladies host or attend.

Blessings,
Traci Snyder

Publishing Dates
May 3
June 28
September 27

Please send any pictures two weeks before the publishing dates .



United
Women
in Faith

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 2025?

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, 2025**. Interviews will be conducted on March 15, 2025 via Zoom.

YOU can support our scholarship program by:

Referring students.

Praying for our students and UM supported 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

United Women in Faith - Appalachian District Scholarship Application 2025

This year, the Appalachian District offers stipends of up to \$150 each for attendance at the following events:

- 2** for either the Western North Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Spiritual Growth Retreat, or Mission u
- 1** for a teen girl to attend one of the above events.

Each unit is urged to encourage applications from your unit based on only two conditions:

- ✦ A person who has never attended before
- ✦ A person who is interested in learning more about United Women in Faith

Please apply and/or appeal to women in your unit to apply for one of these great opportunities to grow their faith!

- Applicants for the Spiritual Growth Retreat stipends must email or postmark applications by May 24, 2025. Recipients will be chosen by the District Executive Committee by June 1, 2025.
- Applicants for the Mission u stipends must email or postmark applications by June 28, 2025. Recipients will be chosen by the District Executive Committee by July 7, 2025.

This application is for: (check one)

- Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska, NC, June 12-14 (Thu. - Sat.), 2025. (Registration dates TBA.)
- Mission u at The Catholic Conference Center, Hickory, NC, July 18-19 (Fri. - Sat.), 2025 (Registration dates TBA)
- Teen Application for Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska, NC, June 12-14 (Thu. - Sat.), 2025.
- Teen Application for Mission u at The Catholic Conference Center, Hickory, NC, July 18-19 (Fri. - Sat.), 2025.

Notes: Recipients will need to pay the expenses for the event and then turn in a completed Expense Reimbursement Form with receipts to District Treasurer.

Check our website www.wnccumw.org to view updated Registration Dates and Event Information as they are posted.

Full Name _____ **Phone(s)** _____

Street Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip Code** _____

E-mail Address _____ **Local Church** _____

Please share why you want to attend your chosen event and how you plan to use the knowledge you will gain:

Recommendation statement from a fellow United Woman in Faith:

Signature _____ **Date** _____ **Phone** _____

Return completed form to Appalachian District President Linda Greer, 3201 Mt. Wesley Church Rd., Stony Point, NC 28678 or jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net For questions, call Linda at 828-244-2251.



Upcoming District Events

Please mark your calendars and avoid scheduling other events on these dates.

Saturday, February 22 – Mission Study – First Lenoir UMC
with Catawba Valley District
“Welcome Home” led by Deaconess Nancy Litton

Saturday, April 5 - Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service
Wilkesboro UMC
“Daniel 12:3 - Stars Forever and Ever”
Speaker: Sherry Summerlin, District Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Saturday, August 23 - Annual Celebration
Site - TBD Speaker - TBD

Saturday, November 1 - Membership and Leadership Development Day (MLDD)
Site - TBD Speaker - TBD

2025 Calendar of Conference Events

- Feb. 8 Finance Committee Meeting – Mt. Shepherd Retreat Center
- Feb. 9 Executive Committee Meeting - Mt. Shepherd Retreat Center
- March 15 Scholarship Committee Meeting at 1:00pm (Virtual)
- March 23 Giving Day All UWFaith Members**
- June 12-14 Spiritual Growth Retreat, Lake Junaluska All UMFaith Members**
- June 20-22 UMC Annual Conference, Lake Junaluska
- July 18-19 Mission u, Catholic Conference Center, All UWFaith Members**
- Aug. 9 Finance Committee – Location to Be Determined
- Aug. 10 Executive Committee – Location to Be Determined
- Sept. 6 Annual Celebration – Location to Be Determined, All UWFaith Members**
- Oct. 18 Leadership Development Day, LDD - All District Officers (Virtual)
- Oct.11, 25 Ubuntu Days of Service (various locations) All UWFaith Members**
- Nov. 7 Orientation for new Conference Officers – Location TBD
- Nov. 8 Conference Committee Meetings – Location TBD
- Nov. 9 Executive Committee meeting – Location TBD



2025 APPALACHIAN DISTRICT UWFaith LEADERSHIP TEAM

<p>Linda Greer PRESIDENT 2022-2025 First Taylorsville UMC 828-244-2251 jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>Janice Taylor VICE PRESIDENT 2022-2025 Wilkesboro UMC 336-468-0313 j.kay.tay.@gmail.com</p>	<p>Terri Williams SECRETARY and MISSION EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION COORD. 2024-2025 New Beginnings UMC 336-426-2250 simplifyme3075@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Nancy Reigel 2025 INTERIM TREASURER & LEGACY FUND ENERGIZER & WEBSITE MANAGER Boone UMC 828- 268-0637 nancy@reigelridge.com</p>
<p>Sherry Summerlin SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORD. & PARLIAMENTARIAN 2024-2025 Hudson UMC 828-728-4936 sherrysummer@charter.net</p>	<p>Jane Long MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH COORD. 2024-2025 First Lenoir UMC 828-292-9250 jshooklong@gmail.com</p>	<p>Elizabeth Conrad SOCIAL ACTION COORD. 2025-2026 Wilkesboro UMC 704-223-7877 elizconrad82@gmail.com</p>	<p>Traci Snyder COMMUNICATIONS COORD. 2023-2026 First Taylorsville UMC 828-308-3452 tsnyder@caldwellschools.com</p>
<p>Brenda Kimberlin SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES 2022-2025 Littlejohn UMC 828-728-0371 bjkimberlin22@gmail.com</p>	<p>Donna Parks Hill NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRWOMAN 2024-2027 (CH 24-25) Wilkesboro UMC 336-466-1230 donnaparkshill@gmail.com</p>	<p>Jean Stetler NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRWOMAN 2024-2027 (CH 24-25) Wilkesboro UMC 828-264-6629 Jstetler52@gmail.com</p>	<p>Sherry Mabry NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2023-2025 Wilkesboro UMC 336-927-4332 mabrysh@gmail.com</p>
<p>Rhonda Waters NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2025-2028 South River UMC 828-320-6260 rwaters5748@gmail.com</p>	<p>Marcia Faw NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2025-2028 Millers Creek UMC 336-667-6181/667-1040 fawmarcia@gmail.com</p>	<p>Annette Echard NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2025-2028 New Covenant UMC 828-754-5526 awechard@gmail.com</p>	<p>Terri Clark HISTORIAN APPOINTED 2024-2025 Hudson UMC 828-612-2637 rockyknobnana@gmail.com</p>
CONFERENCE OFFICERS FROM THE APPALACHIAN DISTRICT			
<p>Martha Phillips PARLIAMENTARIAN 2022-2025 LIAISON to APP. DISTRICT Pine Grove UMC 828-467-3167 mcwphillips@gmail.com</p>	<p>Kimberly Witherspoon NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2023-2026 New Covenant UMC 828-729-0876 kwitherspoon03@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Roberta Walker NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2024-2027 New Beginnings UMC 336-835-1939 r_walker1961@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Valerie Prim NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER 2025-2028 Yadkinville UMC 336-679-2491/408-9693 primswim@yahoo.com</p>

*Called to Serve.
Empowered to Lead.*