



Join Us at Our Annual District Prayer Breakfast

Hello ladies! Please remember to join us at our District Prayer Breakfast on **Saturday, May 3, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at Collins Grove United Methodist Church, 5210 Collins Grove Church Road in Greensboro.** [Click here to register](#) or contact Donna Miller (pg. 6). Our speaker will be Rev. Kim Foster. Breakfast costs \$7 per person. *Send checks to Connie Holland in advance if possible (pg. 6)* Write "Spiritual renewal Gathering" in the memo line. You can pay at the door if needed.



This year's theme is *Love One Another as Christ Loves Us*. "We are living in turbulent times, but we must remember we are ALL God's children, and we are called to love one another. We are all made in the image of God, and we were put on this Earth not to hate each other but to take care of each other." -Donna Miller, District Spiritual Growth Coordinator

We will commemorate the ladies who passed away in 2024, hear an inspiring message, and enjoy wonderful food and fellowship. *Be sure to send in names by April 25.* **To aid those experiencing homelessness, our Hands-on Mission is to collect body wash, lotion, bottled water, snacks, and hand sanitizer.** Hope to see you there.

Celebrating Earth Month with UWFaith: Blessings from the Earth

For Earth Month (April) 2025, United Women in Faith encourages the acknowledgement of our interconnectedness and reaffirmation of the commitment to environmental stewardship, with a focus on climate justice and support of policies that bolster gender equity, social justice, human rights, and creation care. Please visit uwfaith.org for updates regarding forthcoming opportunities planned in honor of Earth Day (Tuesday, April 22, 2025).

The theme this year is **OUR POWER, OUR PLANET**, inviting people around the globe to unite behind renewable energy, tripling the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. Take action—educate, advocate, and mobilize! Follow the link, [Earth Day 2025 | Activities & Resources for April 22 - Earth Day](#).



Genesis 2:15 (KJV)

15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

In spiritual reflection, members and friends are invited to explore the harmony between faith and nature, spotlighting the importance of listening for God's presence in creation. Think green! Here are a few suggestions... (cont. on pg. 7)

Join Us for a Book Study

In her New York Times bestseller *The Light We Carry*, former First Lady Michelle Obama shares practical wisdom and powerful strategies for staying hopeful and balanced in today's highly uncertain world.

"This is just the right book to read before we head off to Mission u in July! Our 2025 Mission u theme is 'Practicing Hope' and that's just what this book can lead us to do: practice hope!"- Sandra Williamson, book study leader

Join us as we explore how to build lasting, honest relationships, discover the strength inside our differences, and consider tools to address self-doubt and hopelessness. (And you can take part in this study even if you have not yet read the book.) [Click here to register](#). **The study will take place on June 7, 10 a.m. to 12 noon via Zoom.** More info about the book can be found on pg. 4.

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Conference & District Calendar 2025

Visit wnccumw.org to learn more about Conference events.


- May 3
9 a.m. to 12 noon
District Prayer Breakfast (Registration - 8:30 a.m.)
at Collins Grove UMC, 5210 Collins Grove Church Rd,
Greensboro - [Register here](#) or contact Donna (pg. 6)
Speaker: Rev. Kim Foster
- June 7
10 a.m. to 12 noon
Book Study on *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama
Led by Sandra Williamson. [Register here.](#)
- June 12-14
Spiritual Growth Retreat, Lake Junaluska
- July 18-19
Mission u, Catholic Conference Center, Hickory
- Aug. 16
9 a.m. to 12 noon
District Annual Celebration (Registration - 8:30 a.m.)
at Gideon Grove UMC, 2869 Gideon Grove Church Rd,
Stokesdale - [Register here](#) or contact Rynn (pg. 6)
Speaker: Former District President Sandra Williamson
- Sept. 6
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Conference Annual Celebration
Williamson's Chapel UMC, Mooresville
Speaker: UWFaith National President Sally Vonner
- Sept. 27
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Social Action Workshop about children in public schools
Location TBD
Full schedule to be shared in next newsletter
- Oct. 11, 25
Ubuntu Days of Service
- Date TBD
Book Study on *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request*
by Amy Kenny. Led by Lily Pierce



**United
Women
in Faith**



A Fresh Wind is Blowing!



Retreat Leader:
Rev. Aryn
Williams - Ruebel

Spiritual Growth Retreat - "My Name is: God"

June 12 - 14, Lake Junaluska

Program highlights:


- Recognition of missionaries/deaconesses/mission workers
- Memorial Service remembering deceased members
- Ubuntu project breakout session
- Move 4 Mission breakout sessions (including a treasure hunt)
- Late Night: Kranking It Up with Kim!
- Hands-on mission: gift cards for Brooks - Howell Home

Annual Celebration - Celebrate Change!

September 6, 10 AM - 5 PM
Williamson's Chapel UMC, Mooresville

Program highlights:

- Election of officers and approval of 2026 budget
- Afternoon workshops
- Hands-on mission: items for The Bethlehem Center of Winston-Salem



Keynote Speaker:
Sally Vonner
UWFaith
General Secretary
& CEO

More information at wnccumw.org

Bright Lights



Southeast Guilford UWFaith purchased, arranged, and delivered flowers to community shut-ins for Valentine's Day 2025.



Bethel-Archdale UWFaith hosted a luncheon for the residents of the Morehead-Simpkins Independent Living Center. In addition to lunch, we had prayer, sang hymns, and praised God. It was a glorious event! There were over 25 in attendance.



New Goshen UWFaith held a service on April 6 in which they honored local first responders. For their offering they accepted donations of small stuffed animals for the first responders to give to children they meet during emergencies.



Saint Matthews UWFaith Group 3 collected and delivered baby items to Room at the Inn, a shelter for pregnant women. The mothers were very appreciative and expressed blessings to the members and congregation.

Please send stories & photos to npdistrictunitedmethodistwomen@gmail.com

We Are a Powerful Force

Greetings to all of you ladies of the Northern Piedmont District of United Women in Faith! I hope you are enjoying these longer Spring days! We are well on our journey through this year of 2025. We have engaged in our first event of the year, our District Mission Study entitled "Welcome Home." Many thanks to our leader, Nancy Litton, for guiding us through this study and helping us to open our hearts to the presence of God, so that we may find our home in God.

As we continue through this year, I hope you will focus on both District and Conference events that are taking place. Events are planned by your teams to help educate ourselves about issues near and far so that we can be empowered to take action, or to feed us spiritually so we can follow God's will and serve His people. **Whenever we come together, United Women in Faith become a powerful force** that demands not only to be heard and seen, but we come with an action plan!

So, please make your plans to participate in events planned to help you to be the best UWFaith you can be. Read our newsletter and see what's in store! See you around!

Sherry Sink
District President



Blessing Others as We Have Been Blessed

I would like to extend a special welcome to all new Unit Treasurers as well as the many returning ones whom I have worked with for over three years now.

I would be remiss if I did not correct an error made in our 1st quarter newsletter. Chapel Hill UWFaith should have been recognized as one of the units that contributed to all five Channels of Mission Giving. Congratulations to Chapel Hill!!!

As United Women in Faith, we know that to be effective, our Mission has to help women, children, and youth locally, nationally, and globally. We do that now with our current pledges and Gifts to Mission. And we are also ensuring that our missions will reach far into the future with our Gifts to the Legacy Fund.

Thank you to all units who have sent in your 2025 pledge forms! If you have not, however, it is vital that I update the addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of all Presidents and Treasurers! Even if you have not changed officers this year, please update this information on your pledge form. And remember, the first criteria for becoming a Mission Today Unit is that you MAKE and MEET your Pledge to Mission. So, if I have not received your pledge form and/or your annual pledge is not met, your unit will not meet the first criteria. **THE 2nd QUARTER ENDS May 31, 2025.**

The Conference 2025 Financial Goal is: "Each local unit to increase their Mission Giving in the 'Gift in Memory' category by 10%." Gifts in Memory recognize those lost recently or many years in the past who we continue to hold dear. A card may be purchased for a minimum of \$5, and each card sold will help us to increase our Conference giving in the Gift in Memory channel. If every member of our Conference sent just ONE Gift in Memory card this year, we would meet our Conference goal. If you need cards at any time, ask your Unit Treasurer to complete a Gift in Memory order form and enclose it with her remittance form, and I will be happy to mail the cards to you.

Please do not forget to honor your members who have dedicated so much time and service to your unit and/or church with a Special Recognition gift. (It does not always have to include a pin.)

Gifts to the Legacy Fund may be given to your local treasurer who will in turn include them with her quarterly remittance.

I also want to emphasize how important it is that all unit officers attend as many District and Conference events as possible to learn more about how Mission dollars are at work. I look forward to meeting more of you at our future events! Our next event is our Annual Prayer Breakfast on May 3, 2025. See specifics in this newsletter.

Thanks to all of you who work so hard to support your unit and our district with your generous contributions! *Let us do unto others as we would have them do unto us by blessing others as we have been blessed!*

Blessings,
Constance
(Connie) Holland
District Treasurer



A Challenge for 2025

Dear United Women in Faith, how are you? I am Cheryl Little. I have served as Secretary Program Resources at both District and Local levels. I love it! My main role is to inform you about online resources, such as videos, training classes, podcasts and other audiovisual resources and how to access them - www.uwfaith.org/resources.

On June 7, Sandra Williamson will lead a book study on *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama, and Lily Pierce will lead a book study on *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request* by Amy Kenny, date TBD. Synopses of both books are included below.

Peace, love & joy
be with you,
Cheryl Little
District SPR



I challenge each unit to do this in 2025:

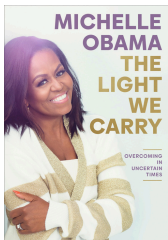
- Leadership Development - read *My Body Is Not a Prayer Request*
- Nurturing for Community - read *The Light We Carry* or read **response** magazine all year
- Spiritual Growth - choose Reading Program book or listen to 2+ episodes of Faith Talks podcast
- Education for Mission - choose RP book or listen to 2+ episodes of Voices From the Field podcast
- Social Action - choose RP book



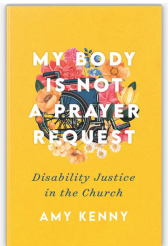
Download the Libby app to check out books from the library virtually!

Visit uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts to listen to the podcasts.

Visit uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program to learn more about the Reading Program.



Michelle Obama offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge, and power, including her belief that when we light up for others, we can illuminate the richness and potential of the world around us, discovering deeper truths and new pathways for progress. Drawing from her experiences as a mother, daughter, spouse, friend, and First Lady, she shares the habits and principles she has developed to successfully adapt to change and overcome various obstacles—the earned wisdom that helps her continue to “become.” With trademark humor, candor, and compassion, she also explores issues connected to race, gender, and visibility, encouraging readers to work through fear, find strength in community, and live with boldness.



Written by a disabled Christian, this book shows that the church is missing out on the prophetic witness and blessing of disability. Kenny reflects on her experiences inside the church to expose unintentional ableism and cast a new vision for Christian communities to engage disability justice. She shows that until we cultivate church spaces where people with disabilities can fully belong, flourish, and lead, we are not valuing the diverse members of the body of Christ.

Offering a unique blend of personal storytelling, fresh and compelling writing, biblical exegesis, and practical application, this book invites readers to participate in disability justice and create a more inclusive community in church and parachurch spaces.

Pull Out Your Pretty Hat; We're Having a Party!

Hope you are enjoying the longer days and warmer weather. I love every season of the year. But I must say that when the birds are chirping and the flower bulbs sending up their blooms, I find myself singing "This Is My Father's World" and "How Great Thou Art" a lot, as well as " Pass It On"... " you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on."

I am working on the District Annual Celebration, which is planned for August 16th at Gideon Grove UMC in Stokesdale. We have much to CELEBRATE! And I need you to get in the party mood..... please plan to wear a hat!

Also, I want to remind you of the Mission challenge from the last newsletter: either individually or as a unit, pick a NEW Mission to support in 2025. It can be local, regional, national or global. While you don't have to tell me what it is, I would love to talk to you about it, pray for your project, and expand my knowledge.

Just think what we can accomplish together as BOLD WOMEN of FAITH in 2025. May God richly bless you this year as we are about the Lord's business.

Your sister servant,
Rynn McGee- Pierce
District VP





Step Up & Reach Out



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

- Need new children's underwear

Room at the Inn

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

- Gently used baby clothes
- Maternity clothes
- Body wash, shampoo & deodorant
- Gently used dishes, towels & housewares
- Cleaning products
- Paper towels & toilet paper
- Baby wipes
- Pullups in all sizes
- Diapers size 6

Castaways Thrift (supports substance abuse programs for women), 727 Highway St. Suite A, Madison, 336-644-4185 [Th-Sat]

- Gently used clothing, shoes & housewares
- Kids clothes
- Jewelry & purses

Rockingham HOPE (faith-based ministry), 326 E. Stadium Dr, Eden, 336-623-2133 [M-Th]

- Gently used blankets
- Hygiene products & toiletries
- Cleaning supplies
- Canned food
- Gently used towels
- Plastic grocery bags
- Boxes of cereal
- Bottled water
- Paper products
- Salad dressing
- Egg cartons

Bennett College (UMC-supported women's college) 900 E. Washington St, Greensboro, 919-973-8457

- Microwaveable meals like Chef Boyardee
- Bottled water & juice
- Feminine hygiene products
- Body wash & lotion

YWCA Family Shelter 1807 E. Wendover Ave. Greensboro, 336-340-5620

- Detergent - pods or powder
- Lysol or Lysol wipes
- 55 gal trash bags
- 13 gal trash bags
- Baby wipes
- Paper towels
- Plastic solo cups
- Fruit juice
- Cleaning supplies
- Full & queen size comforters

Family Service of the Piedmont (assists victims of domestic violence), 315 E. Washington St, Greensboro, call to set up a delivery, 336-707-2834

- Bottled water
- Juice boxes
- Pudding cups
- Fruit cups
- Granola bars
- Microwaveable meals such as Chef Boyardee
- Diapers size 1, 2 & 3

Community Outreach of Archdale (food pantry) 10607 N. Main St, Archdale, 336-431-3663

- Peanut butter & jelly
- Spaghetti sauce
- Oatmeal packets
- Boxes of cereal
- Muffin mix
- Shampoo
- Detergent

Leslie's House (homeless shelter for women) 851 W. English Rd, High Point, 336-884-1039

- Ladies underwear & socks of all sizes
- Paper products
- Plastic spoons & forks
- Bottled water
- X-Large trash bags
- Laundry detergent
- Bleach
- Body lotion

"I Will Celebrate, Sing unto the Lord..."

Well, 2025 has started with a BANG! We have already made several deliveries to our local Missions.

- \$1108 items delivered to Room at the Inn and Rockingham Hope in January
- \$778 items delivered to Room at the Inn, Rockingham Hope, YWCA & Bennett College in February
- \$261 items delivered to Room at the Inn, Rockingham Hope & Leslie's House in April
- **\$2147 Total reported deliveries thus far in 2025**

So very proud of the work we do in our own backyards and around the world! Please do report your mission work to me. Feel free to call with any questions. Peace! - Rynn McGee-Pierce, District MEI

Got Luggage?



One of our women's shelters can use "gently used" luggage. She does have limited space, so if you have luggage or tote bags to donate, please contact me and I will arrange to meet you. I can coordinate with her on when to meet and deliver the items. I believe that the actual locations are confidential for the safety of the residents, so we can't go there directly. But we can still help!



Got a Bike?

Do you have bikes that are no longer being used or maybe need a repair?

Meet Greensboro Community Bike Shop... (cont. on pg. 7)

Sing to the Lord

*I will celebrate
Sing unto the Lord
Sing to the Lord a new song*

*With my heart rejoicing within
With my mind focused on Him
With my hands raised to the heavens
All I am worshiping Him.*

*I will celebrate
Sing unto the Lord
Sing to the Lord a new song!*

Sing to the Lord a new song!



If you or someone you know is willing to serve on the District team, please let us know!

District Officers for 2025

Visit wnccumw.org to learn more about Conference & District events.

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Membership Nurture & Outreach

TBD

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TBD

Parliamentarian

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District

Deaconess

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

“Biggie Bags for the Homeless” Checklist (Keep a Few in Your Vehicle)

- Small bottles of water
- Small bottles of hand sanitizer
- Small packs of tissues
- Snacks
- Eye mask
- A few dollars
- ...and whatever else you want to add

Legacy Fund Information:

Visit our website at wnccumw.org/legacyfund



Earth Day Article (cont. from pg. 1)

Suggestions for Earth Month:

- “Green Read” in Celebration of Earth Month:

Special Reading Program Author Talk with Heather McTeer Toney on *Before the Streetlights*

Come On: Black America's

Urgent Call for Climate Solutions will take place on April 30 via Zoom ([Register here](#))

- Online Gathering:

“Green-storming for Creation,” a meeting hosted by the Western NC Annual

Conference Creation Care Team Ministry will take

place on Earth Day, April 22 via Zoom. The topic is “Ways to decrease waste

and the use of plastic.” Register at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/t0xql8xdQxCibQJHDXvG7g>.

- Connect and support groups within the United Methodist Church and beyond for
- the work of creation care, justice and regeneration, [Home | UMC Creation Justice](#)



Karlah Burton is a current member of the Northern Piedmont District UWFaith Committee on Nominations. She serves as part of the Western North Carolina Conference Creation Care Team Ministry. She is a commissioned General Board of Global Ministries Earthkeeper and Chairperson of the Creation Care Ministry, Saint Matthews UMC, Greensboro, NC.

Hallelujah! Thank you Jesus!

Got a Bike? (cont. from pg. 5)

“The Community Bike Shop at Barber Park in Greensboro NC exists to reduce barriers to quality of life by providing access to transportation, fun, and community. We collaborate to recycle, restore and re-home donated bicycles for marginalized members of the community.”

My son has been volunteering there for a few weeks. It is very rewarding when children come there to pick up their bikes, squealing with excitement!

Note: The bikes are given out FREE thru referrals from community agencies, and each recipient has an appointment to pick up their bicycles.

When and where: 1500-112 Barber Park Drive Sundays 1 pm to 4 pm

Contact Info: 336-459-0711 (text only) or bikesatbarber@gmail.com

Bicycle Donation Drop-Off Locations:

REI, 3334 West Friendly Avenue, Suite 140

Reconsidered Goods, 4118 Spring Garden St

Cycles De Oro, 701-A Hill Street (at Battleground)

Trek, 3721 Battleground Ave, Greensboro, NC 27410



Don't have a bike to donate? Well, they also provide FREE bike helmets along with the bike, so a monetary donation can work as well.

To a child, what is more fun than a “new” bike on a sunny Sunday afternoon?

How We Can Inspire Each Other

As we gear up for another year in Mission, I feel excited about upcoming events. As always, it will be fun to see everyone at the District Prayer Breakfast, the District Celebration, and more. I leave these events energized and rejuvenated by the fellowship, the stirring message given by the speaker, and the powerful feeling of being in community with God's people.

I want to ask you a favor: can you please, at some point this year, snap some photos of your unit engaging with a Mission project? You can email me the photos with a caption at npdistrictunitedmethodistwomen@gmail.com.

One of my favorite installments in **response** magazine is the “Bright Lights” section. It showcases the awesome work local UWFaith units all across America do in their communities. We also have a “Bright Lights” section located on pg. 2. Feel free to help a charity listed in Step Up & Reach Out on pg. 5 OR come up with a different idea. You could also make Biggie Bags for the Homeless (pg. 6) at one of your unit meetings.

Whatever you choose, don't forget to snap a photo to share with your sisters. This is how we can inspire each other to stay strong and carry on in serving God and others.

Lily Pierce
District Communications





United Women in Faith

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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Please recycle this newsletter!

More Ways to Connect



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.



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.



response, the magazine for United Methodist Women, includes Bible studies, opportunities for spiritual growth, mission and outreach stories, and more. It will touch your heart, stir your spirit and challenge your mind. A one year digital subscription costs \$20 for 6 issues, a one year print subscription costs \$24 for 6 issues and a one year audio subscription costs \$24 for 6 issues.

Order Online: uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine

Order by Phone: 1-877-881-2385

Order by Mail: Send check with subscriber name and address to--
response: Magazines With a Mission, PO Box 395, Congers, NY 10920



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 [clicking this link](#). Note: school kits no longer needed.



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).