

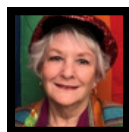
faith

action

sisterhood

UWFaith Appalachian District News News Second Quarter 2025

AppaLadies in Mission



President

Dear Sisters,

It was such a joy to see many of you lovely ladies, as well as a few men, in person again at our Prayer Breakfast in April and at our Mission Study in February as we, for the second year, partnered with the Catawba Valley District and met at First Lenoir where we were so graciously and deliciously hosted. We were again able to gather and reconnect with many friends as some of us were once in the same District. We were also happy that several ladies from Yadkinville UMC, one of our new units from some redistricting, were able to join us. We plan to partner with CV again for our 2026 Mission Study, "Practicing Hope Together."

Our Appalachian District Prayer Breakfast was also a delicious and spiritual success! The UWFaith members of Wilkesboro UMC were wonderful hostesses for this event. Sherry Summerlin, our District Spiritual Growth Coordinator led the memorial service and delivered the message as well. Sherry, we thank you for all your prayerful hard work on your leadership for this event! You can read more about it in Jan Taylor's article. As I mentioned before, I would like to make a slide show that features each unit for our 2025 Annual Celebration. Please send me 1-4 photos of your unit when you are doing something special or just having a routine meeting. You may send these via email or text any time during the year prior to mid-August.

Please see our calendar of events for the remainder of this year. We urge you to attend! The dates and places for these gatherings are now set. Our leadership team is working hard to plan our Annual Celebration and our MEMBERSHIP and Leadership Development Day (MLDD) in August and November. We covet your participation and we are striving to make MLDD a more interactive, exciting, soul care event again this year. We learned the last two years from your evaluations about aspects you liked and how we can improve. We look forward to hearing from our Annual Celebration Speaker, Rev. Toni Ruth Smith (Martha Phillips' daughter). Also, we will have our own District Social Action Coordinator, Elizabeth Conrad, enlighten and educate us about our Social Action issues and what we can do about them at MLDD.



United
Women
in Faith



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.



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Ladies, when you choose to come to these uplifting events that take months of prayerful planning, you have opportunities to bond and worship with your sisters in faith and form meaningful relationships. You learn so much more about the purpose and work of United Women in Faith. We are truly a sisterhood; we are connected by Faith! We act in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation. We believe love in action can change the world! We show up! We take action! We get it done!

Included in this newsletter is an application for stipends to assist you with attending one of our Conference Events if you have never attended one of these. Please take advantage of this opportunity and send me your application! Our Conference Events are always informative and inspirational and you truly get more passionate about our organization when you connect with other UWFaith ladies across our Conference and you learn so much more about UWFaith. I would like to remind you that our National Office has requested that we not refer to our organization as UWF, but UWFaith when we abbreviate it. We have to practice saying it and the more we say, "UWFaith" the less we are prone to say, "UMW." One of our district team members is ever willing and delighted to visit your unit and provide a program for you or just be there to answer your questions and/or listen to your concerns. Feel free to contact me whenever you have questions and if I don't know the answer, I have some very knowledgeable UWFaith friends who do.

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



Parliamentarian

Hello,

For all who serve in the role of Parliamentarian for your local unit, thank you. Please assist your president in keeping the meetings reflective of the mission of United Women in Faith.

Prayers for each of you as you serve,

Sherry Summerlin



Communications Coordinator

Greetings,

The Communication Coordinator tells all who will listen about what we have done in the newsletter. I can not do this without YOU! If your unit holds an event please send me photos and information about the event so I can let everyone know about it. If you are celebrating something send photos of the celebration.

Blessings and Peace

Traci Snyder

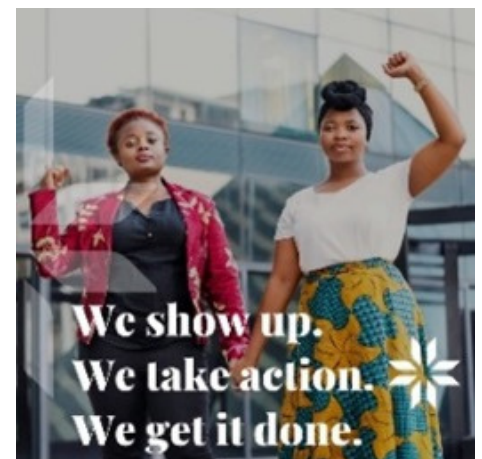
Vice-President



Can you believe summer is almost here?! It never ceases to amaze me how fast time flies when we're having fun! We have enjoyed two successful events so far this year. Our combined Appalachian and Catawba Valley mission study hosted by First Lenoir UMC UWFaith was inspiring as we learned about experiencing God as a welcoming, intimate friend. Of course, we all also enjoyed the wonderful potato and vegetable soups! At our Prayer Breakfast hosted by Wilkesboro UWFaith, the UMM served a delicious breakfast. You can't beat good biscuits and gravy served with some fresh fruit and pastries! We enjoyed beautiful music by Mark and Debbie Parker from Hudson UMC and an inspiring message about "Stars in Heaven" presented by Sherry Summerlin; and we honored 15 faithful UMW/UWFaith members (from 7 churches) who graduated to the Church Triumphant in 2024 and 4 who graduated in 2021, 2022, and 2023, in our Memorial Service. We closed our time of fellowship by joining together at the table for Communion. By the time you receive this newsletter, our WNCC UWFaith Spiritual Growth Retreat will be right around the corner! I hope many of you have made plans to attend this spiritually enriching event. Then in July, WNCC UWFaith has planned our Mission u at the Catholic Retreat Center in Hickory – this year we will study "Practicing Hope Together" – such a timely and needed topic. I love the statement our Dean of Mission u, LaDonna Butts, included in our conference newsletter: We will never change the world to the way we want it, so let us come together, learn, pray, and ask God how we can help to change it to the way He wants it! That is how we can grow hope and find joy in practicing hope. Then in August our District Annual Celebration will be held at First North Wilkesboro UMC on August 23rd and our WNCC Annual Celebration will be held on September 6th at Williamson's Chapel UMC, Mooresville. More information on these 2 events will be in our 3rd quarter newsletter, but I hope you will mark your calendars and save the dates for both of these events.

I want each of you to know how much our District team appreciates you and your UWFaith units – together we fulfill our vision of turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world. Please keep our Appalachian District team in your prayers as we seek to find those willing to serve on our team starting in 2026 – if you feel a nudge to serve, please let our Nominations team know. If I can assist anyone, please feel free to reach out.

Blessings,
Jan Taylor





Interim Treasurer
Just the Facts, Ma'am

These days the news is full of accusations, speculations, and downright cynicism regarding where and how our tax dollars that we, you and I, pay are being used or not used. For every “straight” answer you hear, you find rebuttals saying that is not how they are being used, or if so, that is not the way they should be used. It is enough to force you to turn away, shaking your head; if only there were some set of data that had it all spelled out in a clear format that you know you can trust. If only there were transparency.

The good news is, for us, United Women in Faith, there is one place we can go and see where each dollar comes from and where it goes. I confess, I am a numbers nerd (perhaps a handy attribute for a treasurer??), so I went looking for and found it in the Financials Section of the United Women in Faith website <https://uwfaith.org/who-we-are/financials/>. This puts you in the Financial Section addressing Financial Stewardship. The words that introduce that section are key:

United Women in Faith is trusted with contributions from members, mission partners, and donors who have a heart for the work we do with women, children, and youth. We are committed to good stewardship of this generous support. We post our annual reports and disclosures for our members and supporters to see our impact. If you have questions, please email missiongiving@uwfaith.org

Listed on that page are the reports available for anyone to read and study, including reports of financial activities from 2023 to 2019. (These will be updated to 2024 as soon as that year’s reports are fully finalized and audited.) For now, I will share information from the 2023 Treasurers Report and the 2023 Grants DISCLOSURE document. What did I learn in my study of these?

First, the Grants DISCLOSURE is a fascinating 26-page document (remember I am a numbers nerd) that reveals not only how the money was used but also the sources of that money, Mission Giving, Designated Giving (e.g. Call to Prayer and Self Denial, a combination of Mission Giving and Brighter Future for Children and Youth etc..) or other sources such as specific designated gifts, e.g. Red Bird Mission, Brooks-Howell Home.

This allows us to see that the money we said we would spend on a program is indeed what we said we would. For instance, we were told our “Gifts to A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial 2023 will directly support United Women in Faith’s racial justice work, which is helping to create a more equitable society. Your gift supports both our campaign to interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline and our long-standing work building members’ capacity to implement the Charter for Racial Justice at all levels of the organization.” When I looked at the Grant DISCLOSURE document, I found three programs funded directly from 2023 Prayer and Self-Denial offerings:

- Children’s Defense Fund - \$5,000.00 - think School-to-prison pipeline
- National Council of Formerly Incarcerated Women - \$5,000.00 – School-to-Prison pipeline and Racial Justice
- Partners for Dignity & Rights - \$5,000.00 - Racial Justice

There you have it, clear, straightforward. And this is just one example. Look around and you will find it is all there. In these crazy times, at least you know you can get straight answers...from whom?? From United Women in Faith. Just the facts, Ma'am.

Peace and peace of heart.
Nancy Reigel



Greetings from the Nominations Committee Co-Chairwoman!

Just when you think the sun is going to shine, the forecast threatens rain. A ray of sunshine came when Annette Echard and Marcia Faw joined the Nominations Committee! Our team looked almost complete. However, we still need a treasurer. The treasurer will be an understudy to Nancy Reigel until she is ready to serve on her own. Please be in prayer that we find someone 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 and most importantly will need to be in communication with local unit treasurers by sending them quarterly letters and answering their questions when they call.

Jan Taylor, our vice-president, has been wearing two hats, her own position and that of secretary. If you know of someone who would be interested or willing to accept this position, please contact either me or Donna Parks Hill.

Now for the stormy weather. We should ideally already have our proposed slate of officers for 2026. That has not happened yet. There is lots of work to be done and very little time to do it as the slate of 2026 proposed officers must be published in the next newsletter; District members are required to be notified no less than 30 days before the election at Annual Celebration which is August 23.

Positions that will need to be filled:

President - This is Linda's 4th year

Vice President - This is Jan's 4th year

Treasurer – By Year-end, Nancy will have served as interim treasurer for 2.5 years.

Secretary – Jan has been serving as acting secretary for almost 4 years.

Spiritual Growth Coordinator - This year is Sherry's 2nd year, and she has served 4 years. She also served a 2 year term as president.

Mission, Education, & Interpretation - This is Terri's 2nd year. She may serve an additional 2-year term.

Membership, Nurture, & Outreach Coordinator - This is Jane's 2nd year. She may serve an additional 2-year term.

Secretary of Program Resources - This is Brenda's 4th year.

According to our Standing Rules, "No elected leader shall hold the same office for more than four (4) years, except the treasurer, who can hold the same office for six years. Tenure on the Executive Committee for the elected leadership of the District shall be a total of eight (8) years."

Please contact Jean Stetler at jstetler52@gmail.com or Donna Hill at donnaparkshill@gmail.com or call Jean's cell #828-964-1396 or Donna's cell #336-466-1230 if you are interested in holding an office. **We are looking forward to hearing from you.**

Bottom Line: We are on a mission for the Lord. We need to come together and make this happen! Donna and I are both fairly new to the district team and don't know everyone who might be interested in holding an office. I am asking for your help.

Blessings,
Jean Stetler



Social Action

The Right to Access Clean Energy

In today's world, access to clean energy is not just a luxury but a fundamental right. As we face the challenges of climate change and environmental degradation, the need for sustainable and renewable energy sources has never been more critical. Clean energy, which includes solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal power, offers a viable solution to reduce our carbon footprint and ensure a healthier planet for future generations.

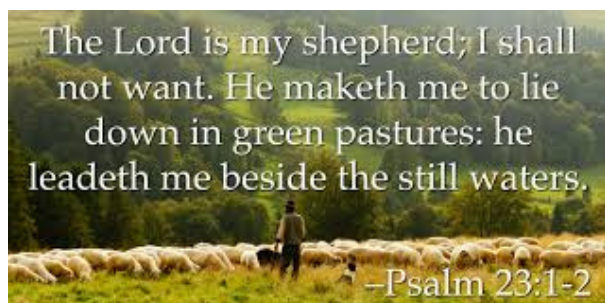
Clean energy is essential for several reasons. Firstly, it helps to mitigate the effects of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Unlike fossil fuels, clean energy sources do not release harmful pollutants into the atmosphere, making them a more environmentally friendly option. Secondly, clean energy is renewable, meaning it can be replenished naturally and will not run out. This contrasts sharply with finite fossil fuel resources, which are depleting at an alarming rate.

Access to clean energy also brings significant economic and social benefits. It can create jobs in the renewable energy sector, stimulate economic growth, and reduce energy costs for consumers. Moreover, clean energy can improve public health by reducing air and water pollution, which are often linked to fossil fuel consumption. Communities that have access to clean energy are also more resilient and better equipped to handle natural disasters and energy shortages.

Despite its many advantages, there are still challenges to ensuring universal access to clean energy. These include high initial costs, lack of infrastructure, and political and regulatory barriers. However, these challenges can be overcome through concerted efforts by governments, businesses, and individuals. Investment in clean energy technologies, supportive policies, and public awareness campaigns are crucial steps towards making clean energy accessible to all.

The right to access clean energy is a crucial aspect of achieving a sustainable and equitable future. By prioritizing clean energy, we can protect our environment, boost our economies, and improve the quality of life for people around the world. It is time for us to recognize the importance of clean energy and work together to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from its many advantages.

With Love,
Elizabeth Conrad



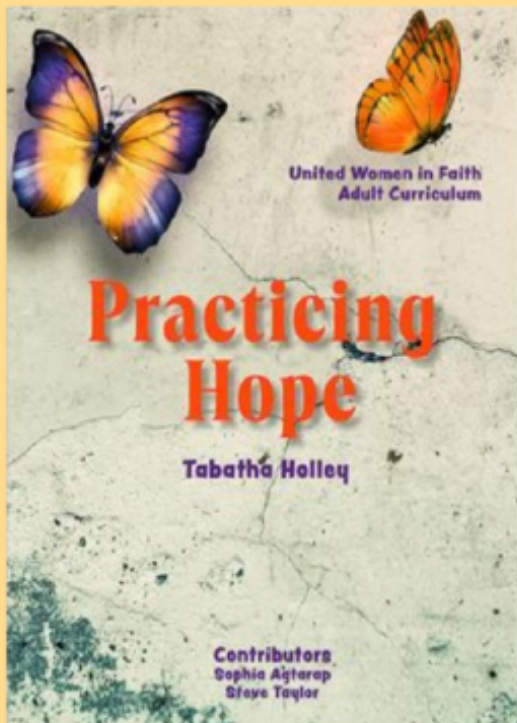


Spiritual Growth



As your Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Appalachian District, I serve with the Conference Spiritual Growth Team for the Annual Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska. The dates are June 12-14, 2025. I hope you or some of your unit sisters can attend. We are adding the Memorial Service for those who passed in 2024 to the event since we do not have our Annual Celebration at the Lake this year. Our Annual Celebration will be a one-day event. We will also have the usual Saturday night activity on Friday night of the Spiritual Growth Retreat as well as our recognition of missionaries and deaconesses. The theme is "My Name is God". Be sure to register and make your room reservations. We would like to continue meeting at the Lake so please participate in this weekend retreat. Numbers matter with making arrangements due to expenses for us to be on the properties and use the facilities. The Lake now requires a two-night stay in order for us to have our retreat there.

May you be blessed and be a blessing,
Sherry Summerlin



Mission u 2025 Details Coming Soon!
www.wnccumw.org

Mission u 2025

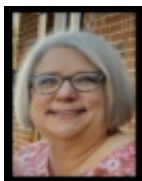
July 18-19, 2025
The Catholic Conference Center,
Hickory, North Carolina
Passionate about mission?
Love to learn?
Want to engage with others who are?
Then Mission u is right for you!
Online registration opens In June!



Mission u 2018



Mission u 2024



Membership, Nurture and Outreach

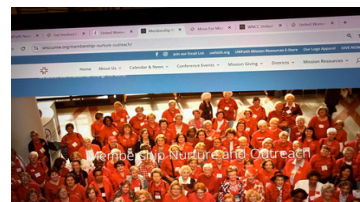
Greetings,

What a wonderful time we had in fellowship and remembrance at the Prayer Breakfast. I love it when all the units gather together.

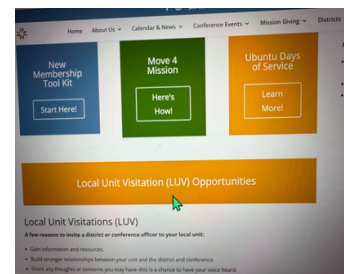
As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the MNO's goal is to strengthen the District's connection to its UWFaith groups at the individual churches. One way to keep informed about UWFaith MNO on the WNCC level is to read MNO's web page. Directions to access the site are below. There are several annual activities at the District, Conference and National levels that we would love for all of our UWFaith units to join, enjoy, and participate in to strengthen their ties and grow their faith. And remember, your Nurturing Partner from the list of District Officers is here to help your unit in any way possible. All you have to do is ask or let us know what's on your local calendar. We would love to come visit you! The Nurturing Partners are listed toward the end of this newsletter.

Web-site Access:

1. Go to <https://wnccumw.org/>
2. At the white bar on the top of the page, click on the drop-down for Mission Resources
3. Click on Membership Nurture & Outreach (you should see a photo of ladies in red).
4. Click on the green box to get specific information about how your unit can sponsor a Move4Mission event, or click these links for general details:



- <https://uwfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Move4MissionFrequentlyAskedQuestions2025.pdf>
- <https://uwfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Move4MissionIdeasGroupsIndividuals.pdf>
- <https://uwfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Move4MissionFlyer.pdf>



Sponsoring a Move4Mission event would be a great way to reach out to women in your church and community who aren't yet involved in United Women in Faith. Notice, I said "yet." Plan something fun and easy to do while you raise funds for the missional work of UWFaith.

Blessings,
Jane Long





Legacy Energizer

A Legacy one Mug at a time.

The Legacy Endowment Fund of United Women in Faith is a permanently invested endowment that supports the work of improving the lives of women, children, and youth at home and abroad. Gifts to the Legacy Endowment Fund build financial resources that ensure United Women in Faith can carry out our vital programs and activities for many years to come.

What follows is the inspiring story of one member's decision to find a way to support the Legacy Fund. It began with a Mug adapted from an article by Cecilia Malm in the November/December 2023 issue of response. Claudia Davis had recently moved to Billings, Montana, with her husband and children and was looking to connect with people in her new community. "I got a phone call inviting me to attend a Christmas party," she recalls. "It was a mug exchange. And, it turns out, also a meeting of the local United Methodist Women unit." As the unit leaders gave a report on the national and international impact of the organization and described missional work all over the globe, Davis says, "I thought to myself, I want to belong to an organization like this that is making a real difference." When she heard about the launch of The Legacy Endowment Fund, she was supportive from the start. "I had worked with nonprofits, and I knew from those experiences how important having an endowment is to an organization," she says. "I understood right away how the interest generated by The Legacy Endowment Fund could help underwrite administrative costs so that more money could go directly into mission." As Davis and her husband sat down to create their wills, "we decided that a percentage of what remained of our estates would go to The Legacy Endowment Fund of United Women in Faith. It was an easy decision since the organization has been such a big part of my life and I want it to continue to have an impact for many years to come."

By making a planned gift, Davis automatically became a member of United Women in Faith's 1869 Society. Members of the 1869 Society receive special recognition from the organization, invitations to events, and a monthly newsletter with additional financial planning information. These days, Davis can reflect over a mug of coffee or tea on her decision to include United Women in Faith in her estate plans and say, "It makes me incredibly happy to be a part of something that I know can do so much for the world." To read the full article see: <https://uwfaith.org/latest-news/2023/november-december-response-a-legacy-of-love-began-with-a-mug/>.

Peace,
Nancy Reigel





HISTORIAN

As I have been reading through the book “United Women for Change: 150 years in Mission”, this greatly piqued my attention. My first thought was, “Oh how we need this today,” especially in our own beloved country. It also was another “Wow” moment for UMW women (I have many) and today's UWFaith women who serve bravely and boldly.

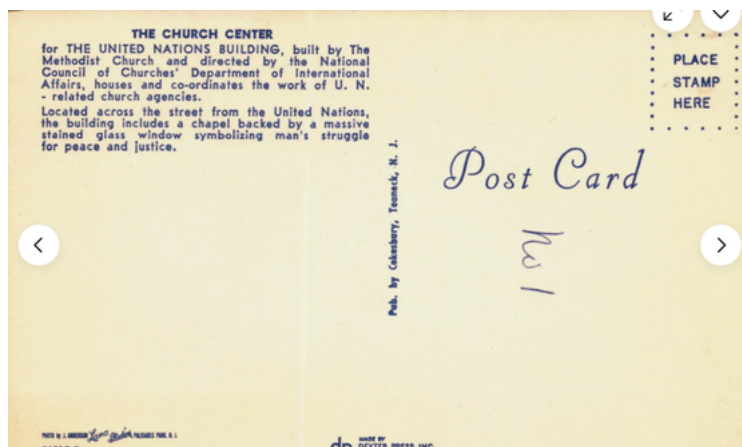
After World War II it was all too clear to the nation's churches that the world needed a viable institution to help avoid the horror of war. United Methodist Women predecessors sent cards to the U.S. State Department urging the United States to join a world peace organization founded in 1945 — the United Nations. United Methodist Women predecessors joined the wider church and the ecumenical community in supporting the work of the United Nations and brought groups from around the country to New York City for seminars on its work.

This effort grew and church leaders began looking for more adequate accommodations for these seminars. They identified a property near 44th Street and First Avenue, directly across from the United Nations. Although it was an ecumenical effort, The Methodist Church took the lead but turned to the women for financing. Convinced of the importance of this work for peace, the Woman's Society of Christian Service provided a total of \$800,000 to secure the property and facilitate a mortgage from New York Life Insurance Company for the \$1.7 million construction project.

Today, the 13-story Church Center for the United Nations continues to host groups from around the country for seminars on national and international issues from a Christian faith perspective, and is used by non-governmental organizations from around the world engaged in the important work of peace building. (UMC.org) Currently, our UWFaith National Offices are housed in this very building at 777 United Nations Plaza, United Women in Faith CCUN 11th Floor, New York, NY 10017.

Tillman Chapel at the Church Center is named after Sadie Tillman, who was president of the Women's Division when the center was built. In the cornerstone of this building is a book, *Way to a Warless World*, by Evelyn Riley Nicholson, the first president of the World Federation of Methodist Women. Dedicated in 1963. (UWC: 150 years in Mission)

Blessings,
Terri Clark



front and back of postcard United Nations



Mission, Education, and Interpretation

Greetings to my sisters in Christ. Today, I want you to meet Mikele Haskins-Delmore, the Governance Chair of United Women in Faith. The May/June issue of *response* magazine (page 11) shares her powerful testimony of service, sisterhood, and spiritual calling. Her journey with United Women in Faith began when her mother and the women of her church invited her to join their local unit—a moment that blossomed into a life of committed service. When her mother became president of that unit, the call deepened, and Mikele found herself inspired by the tenacious, elegant, and faith-filled women around her. These women, from all walks of life, embodied grace, strength, and purpose, which equals living examples of *Love in Action*.

Throughout her journey, Mikele has been profoundly shaped by the faith and leadership of those who came before her. Her mother, Daphne L. Hurd, was a shining example, who, becoming a deaconess in her 80's, proved that purpose and calling knows no age. Another guiding light was Ms. Audrey Weems, who saw in Mikele the spark of something greater and encouraged her to step up and see what God had planned. Under the mentorship of Colleen F. Cates, a former board member, Mikele served four years at the district level—learning the strength of servant leadership and the power of unity.

Mikele's life reflects a consistent embrace of leadership in church, community, and career. She has worked across fields with an entrepreneurial vision and a heart for service. Every effort she makes is rooted in the belief that each person plays a vital role in God's divine plan.

As she looks toward the future, Mikele is confident and hopeful. She believes United Women in Faith is uniquely positioned to lead the charge in addressing the pressing issues of today's calling on all members to *move forward together*, regardless of denomination or difference. Her advice is clear: "We cannot go backward. Together, we are stronger. Together, we are Love in Action." Sisters, we really are.

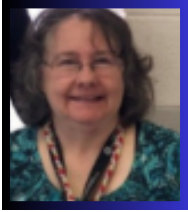
Her favorite scripture, Isaiah 40:30-31, reminds us of the power of spiritual renewal: "*They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles...*" These words fuel her commitment and offer a beacon of hope to all who serve.

Above all, Mikele carries her faith and mission forward for the next generation. As a proud grandmother of seven, she wants her grandchildren to know that the path they walk was paved by those who believed, prayed, and acted on their behalf. She is living proof that when women unite in faith and action, generations are transformed.

Have a blessed week, everyone.

Terri Williams





Secretary of Program Resources

Greetings Sisters! I hope you are enjoying the beauty of spring. I love to see the daffodils and other flowers blooming, reminding me of God's amazing ability to bring new life into the world and ourselves. One way we bring life into our unit and ourselves is by working to meet the Mission Today criteria. Several items relate to Program Resources.

*2. Use the Daily Prayer Guide at each unit, general, or circle meeting to pray for mission personnel and mission projects. The Guide is updated annually and may be ordered from UWFaith Resources. Daily Prayer Guide entries are posted on the UWFaith Facebook Page as well as the Conference UWFaith page and our Appalachian District website, www.appumw.com/

*3. Use at least two programs from the Program Resource book during the year. A new Program Resource is printed every year and may be ordered from UWFaith Resources. <https://uwfaithresources.org/>

18. Include a “**response** moment” at each unit or circle meeting where an item from **response** magazine is shared as a way to tell the mission story.

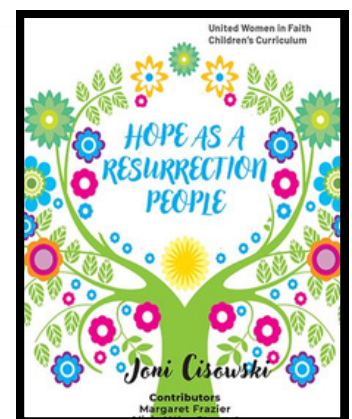
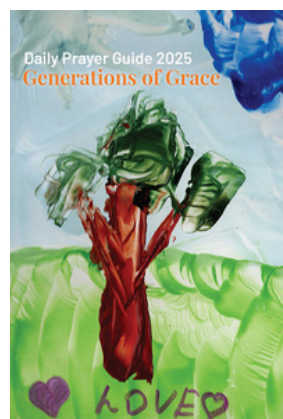
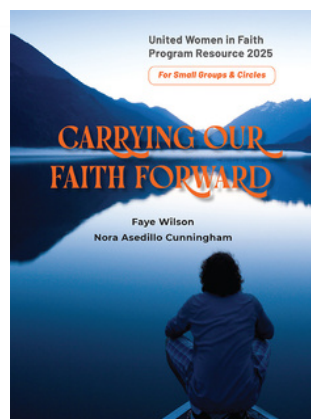
22. At least two members (one member for units with fewer than 15 members) will complete Plan I of the United Women in Faith Reading Program and report to the unit on one of the books read.

An easy way to satisfy the last one is to read a children's book, one from each category of the Reading Program over 5 meetings. Then all members attending those 5 meetings will complete Plan 1.

As you begin your spring cleaning, don't forget to go through your Reading Program books and choose some to bring to the District Annual Celebration on August 23rd for the Book Exchange. I look forward to seeing you there.

If you have any questions about Program Resources or the Reading Program feel free to contact me.

Blessings,
Brenda Kimberlin





The purpose of becoming a Mission Today Unit is to:

- Energize United Women in Faith to be more involved in mission through prayer, study, and action.
- Increase contacts between units and mission personnel and mission projects so members understand where their money goes.
- Encourage the use of mission resources through UWFaith. Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

What is a unit? A unit is any organized group of UWFaith within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles or members from different churches which periodically meet as a unit.

How does a unit become a Mission Today unit?

To be recognized as a Mission Today unit (Gold, Silver, or Bronze), a unit must complete a number of the following criteria as indicated in the chart below. Activities conducted between January 1 and December 31 of the reporting year will be recognized at Annual Celebration the following year.

Mission Today Categories		
Gold	Silver	Bronze
Complete 10 criteria: 6 with asterisks* and 4 other**	Complete 8 criteria: 4 with asterisks* and 4 other** **Other may include items with asterisks	Complete 6 criteria: 4 with asterisks* and 2 other**

Criteria:

- *1. Make and meet the unit Pledge to Mission. Send Pledge amount and funds to the District Treasurer.
- *2. Use the Daily Prayer Guide at each unit, general, or circle meeting to pray for mission personnel and mission projects. The Guide is updated annually and may be ordered from [UWFaith Resources](#). Daily Prayer Guide entries are posted on the [UWFaith Facebook Page](#).
- *3. Use at least two programs from the Program Resource book during the year. A new [Program Resource](#) is printed every year and may be ordered from [UWFaith Resources](#).
- *4. Conduct or participate in at least one mission study (virtual or in person). Contact your District or Conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation to learn more about the studies. If members of your unit attend all sessions of Mission u or a District Mission Study and your unit takes an action growing out of the study (Gift to Mission, ministry related to the study, etc.), your unit will meet this criterion.
- *5. At least two members will subscribe to **response** magazine (1 member for units with fewer than 15 members; local unit subscription may count as one). Order information is provided at the bottom of p. 2. A one-year print subscription (includes digital subscription) is \$24; a one-year digital-only subscription is \$20. More information may be found at <https://uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine/>.
- *6. Implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least two ways during the year. **If you are a “Justice Today” unit, you have met this criterion.** Possibilities include:
 - Read and discuss books and articles about other ethnicities and cultures.
 - Sponsor or attend an interethnic or intercultural event between two or more units.
 - Intentionally recruit women of various ethnic or cultural groups to be unit members and officers.
 - Use the Racial Justice resources available on our Conference website on the “Downloads Available” page under “Mission Resources” or at this link: <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice/>
- *7. Have a program or take action addressing a United Women in Faith justice campaign (current campaigns are [Just Energy 4 All](#) and [Ending Mass Incarceration and Criminalization of Communities of Color](#)). More information may be found at <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice/>
- *8. Add at least two new members (1 member for units with fewer than 15 members).
- *9. Have a program from the [Social Principles of The United Methodist Church 2025-2028](#). This resource may be purchased at www.Cokesbury.com for \$9.99 plus tax and shipping; available in paperback or eBook.
- *10. Contribute to all Five Channels of Giving (Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, and World Thank Offering).

- *11. Recite the UWFaith Purpose at each general and/or circle meeting, including virtual meetings.
- *12. Contribute \$189.60 or more to the [Legacy Fund](#) during the reporting year.
- 13. At least one member of the unit will attend Mission u and report back to the unit on the experience. Virtual participation qualifies.
- 14. At least two members (one member for units with fewer than 15 members) will attend the District or Conference Annual Celebration and report back to the unit about the experience; virtual participation qualifies.
- 15. At least one person will join the United Women in Faith e-mailing list to receive and respond to advocacy information at least three (3) times a year. Attach the issue and action that was taken to Mission Today report.
- 16. Members will correspond with five people listed in the Daily Prayer Guide at least once a year.
- 17. Co-sponsor, with the local church, a “Children’s Sabbath”. This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children. Materials are available at <https://uwfaith.org/event/childrens-sabbaths>
- 18. Include a “**response** moment” at each unit or circle meeting where an item from **response** magazine is shared as a way to tell the mission story.
- 19. Sponsor a teen member (ages 12 to 17) and/or a young woman member (ages 18 to 39) to at least one Conference event during the year.
- 20. At least two members (one member for units with fewer than 15 members) will attend a District Prayer Breakfast/Day Apart, Conference Spiritual Growth Retreat, or any other special District or Conference event (other than Ubuntu Day of Service). Virtual participation in any of these events qualifies.
- 21. At least two members (one member for units with fewer than 15 members) will participate in and [Ubuntu Day](#) event. Units may develop their own Ubuntu event in their communities.
- 22. At least two members (one member for units with fewer than 15 members) will complete Plan I of the United Women in Faith [Reading Program](#) and report to the unit on one of the books read. Find information here: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program/>
- 23. Invite a District or Conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings (may be virtual) and/or for a United Women in Faith Sunday. This qualifies as a local unit visit in the Nurturing Partners program.
- 24. Add one new teen (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman (ages 18-39) member or circle during the year.
- 25. 100% of the unit’s active members will make a gift of at least \$18.69 to the Legacy Fund.
- 26. Meet the 2025 Conference Financial Goal: To increase our “Gift in Memory” giving by 10% over 2024 giving.
- 27. Support at least one local mission project and participate in at least one Conference hands-on mission project during the year. List the local mission project on the Mission Today report.

UWFaith Mission Resources

uwfaithresources.org PO Box 742349, Atlanta GA 30374-2349
 Phone: Toll Free 1-888-409-8137; National Office: 1-212-682-3633
 Email: cs@uwfaithresources.org

response magazine circulation

Toll Free 1-833-226-9387 Fax: 1-845-267-3478
 Magazines with a Mission PO Box 395 Congers, NY 10920-0395

response subscription link: <https://www.cambeywest.com/subscribe2/?p=RSP&f=custcare>

Conference website: wnccumw.org



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

What an exciting Annual Celebration! We get to meet our CEO & General Secretary up close and personal and it's happening in our APPALACHIAN DISTRICT!! United Women in Faith of the Appalachian District, let's show up for this event and let Sally know that we are the Best District!

Prayer Breakfast



"Stars Forever and Ever"





Mission Study



Welcome!
Home!





Upcoming District Events

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

Saturday, August 23 -Annual Celebration

First North Wilkesboro UMC

Speaker –Rev. Toni Ruth Smith, Co-Pastor, Williamson’s Chapel UMC

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

Yadkinville UMC

Speaker –Elizabeth Conrad

Appalachian District Social Action Coordinator

2025 Calendar of Conference Events

June 12-14 Spiritual Growth Retreat, Lake Junaluska

All UMFaith Members

Retreat Leader –Rev. Aryn Williams Ruebel

June 20-22 UMC Annual Conference, Lake Junaluska

July 18-19 Mission u, Catholic Conference Center

All UWFaith Members

“Practicing Hope”

Aug. 9 Finance Committee –Location to Be Determined Executive

Aug. 10 Committee –Location to Be Determined,

Sept. 6 Annual Celebration –Williamson’s Chapel UMC, Mooresville,

All UWFaith Member

Guest Speaker: Rev. Sally Vonner, UWFaith CEO &General Secretary

Oct. 18 Leadership Development Day, LDD –FUMC Taylorsville

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



Appalachian District UWFaith 2025 Nurturing Partners

Linda Greer 828-244-2251	Jan Taylor 336-468-0313	Terri Williams 336-426-2250	Nancy Reigel 828-268-0637
Broad Street(Statesville) *First Troutman *Scotts Chapel - Statesville* Wesley Chapel - Troutman* Hanes Grove - Hamptonvi	First North Wilkesboro Sparta Smethport - West Jefferson Warrensville McKendree Chapel-Moor	Piney Creek West - Mooresville *Ebenezer - Elkin *Maple Springs - Ronda	First Taylorsville Millers Creek * Shiloh - Sparta *Cox's Chapel-MofWilson,VA Yadkinville Clifton - Warrensville
Jane Long 828-292-9250	Traci Snyder 828-308-3452	Brenda Kimberlin 828-728-0371	Sherry Summerlin 828-728-4936
*Henson Chapel/Mabel *Valle Crucis - Banner Elk First Lenoir Mosaic - Statesville West Jefferson	Hiddenite/StPt Parish Fair View - Mooresville * Morrow's Chapel - Moor * Faith - Mooresville	Colliers - Lenoir First Granite Falls Asbury - Hamptonville Linville	Union Grove Wilkesboro *Cedar Valley - Lenoir *Mount Hermon - Lenoir Jefferson
Elizabeth Conrad 704-223-7877	Terri Clark 828-612-2637	Donna Parks Hill 336-466-1230	Jean Stetler 828-264-6629
Hudson Union - North Wilkesboro St. Paul - Hamptonville	New Covenant - Lenoir Wesley Memorial - States Bethany - West Jefferson New Salem - Statesville	Boone Crossfire-NorthWilkesboro Sutherland - Creston *Elk Park *Pine Grove - Spruce Pine	Banner Elk Deerfield FaithBridge - Blowing Rock Mount Zion - Piney Creek
Sherry Mabry 336-927-4332	Marcia Faw 336-667-6181	Rhonda Waters 828-320-6260	Annette Echard 828-754-5526
*Altamont - Newland *Jonas Ridge Grassy Creek - State Road Fairmont - Statesville	Central - Mooresville * First Elkin *White Rock - Thurmond	New Beginnings *Philadelphia-Stony Point *Bethel - Statesville Elmwood - Statesville	* Baton - Granite Falls * Littlejohn - Lenoir Chapel Hill - Statesville Newland
		Martha Phillips 828-467-3167 M	
		Williamsons Chapel-Moor	

Units in Bold Font are active units.

* Indicates churches are in same charge.

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.