

faith

action

sisterhood

UWF Appalachian District News

Third Quarter 2024

AppaLadies in Mission



President Remarks

Dear Friends,

As usual, this time of year, I am spiritually recharged after attending our Conference Annual Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska! I have never been to a UMW/UWFaith Spiritual Growth Retreat when I did not come away inspired. If you did not attend this year, please put it on your ToDo List for 2025. Hopefully, you are planning to attend Conference Mission u at the beginning of August. We have scholarships available for those attending Conference Events for the first time. You can find an application at the end of this newsletter.

My Sisters, when you choose to come to these uplifting gatherings that take months of prayerful planning, you are gifted with opportunities to bond and worship with your sisters in faith and form meaningful relationships. We are truly a connected sisterhood. Please make plans to be a part of our upcoming Appalachian District Annual Celebration in August, celebrating our 2023 accomplishments. See the flyer in this issue! Our last event of the year is our Membership and Leadership Development Day in November. Come to our events! We want to be your friend! We cherish YOUR friendship!

I have some exciting news!!! As of July 1, some new churches/units were assigned to our Appalachian District as part of a district realignment. Since UWFaith operates on a calendar year beginning in January, our new sisters will join us in January. We welcome you ladies from these churches whether you have a UWFaith unit or not. Some churches are coming to us from the

Yadkin Valley District: Asbury (Hamptonville) Hanes Grove Longtown
Mountain Grove St. Paul Yadkinville.

Churches in Iredell County that have been a part of the **Metro District** that are coming to us:

Central	Fairview	Faith
McKendree	Morrow's Chapel	Park Avenue
West	Williamson's Chapel.	

Ladies, we sincerely and heartily welcome you and invite you to our last two gatherings of 2024!

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

Love, peace and joy,
Linda (LindaLu) Greer



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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Vice-President

I hope many of you were able to attend the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska. This was my first time (other than during Covid) to miss this event in many years. My granddaughter got married on June 14 th in Maryland and I couldn't miss that! Hopefully I will see many of you at Mission u, which will be held at the Catholic Retreat Center in Hickory again this year August 2 -3. Our study title is "Welcome Home" and will explore how we can know God as an intimate friend who welcomes us. Additional information is included in this newsletter or you can go to the wncumw.org website for information and registration which opened in June.

Our next Appalachian District event is our District Annual Celebration at Littlejohn UMC in Lenoir, NC on Saturday, August 24 th . See the Annual Celebration flyer in this newsletter for details. Ben Rogers from the Mission Response Center (MRC) will be our guest speaker and we will be collecting new kitchen items for Project AGAPE in Armenia as our Hands-On Mission Project. Sadly, we can no longer send "gently used" items due to customs issues.

Annual Celebration is a time to celebrate each other for 2023 unit mission accomplishments, to review and approve our proposed District 2025 budget, and to elect and install our 2025 Appalachian District Officers. I hope that many of you will take time to attend and be a part of celebrating each other!

If there is anything I can do to help you, please don't hesitate to call, text or email me.

Blessings,
Jan Taylor



Perhaps your unit has become inactive or your church has disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church.

You are still **welcome** and wanted in United Women in Faith. **You** and your friends are still invited to any and all of our district and conference events.

If your unit is no longer meeting or your church has already disaffiliated, **you** can still be a **district member** and your unit can still be a UWFaith unit.

If we do not agree on all issues, that's okay. We can agree that we are all connected as Christian women in faith and we know that we can love each other and agree to disagree without being disagreeable.





Membership, Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator

Sisters in Christ,

What good news that we will be receiving 14 new churches into our District as of July 1st. Let's work together to find ways to welcome them and make sure they can fully participate in all the activities our District has to offer through United Women of Faith.

If you know anyone from these districts personally, I would appreciate your sharing names and contact information with me (of course with permission). Now that school is over and summer is here, I hope to spend some time reaching out to each church in our District via phone, email, visit, or Zoom to learn more about their approach to Membership, Nurture, and Outreach if they have an active group. If there is no active group, then we need to look at ways to get them involved. It may be their numbers are small, and we should encourage them to come together with a nearby church to join an active membership or to create a unit with another small church or churches.

As you reach out to potential new members for your own local units, share the links below with them to hear very informative, thought-provoking, and encouraging podcasts produced by Faith Talks of the United Women in Faith. These podcasts relate to issues and missions of our organization, personal spiritual growth, celebratory/recognition months, and much more. Most are less than an hour and can certainly give current and prospective members an idea of what United Women in Faith is about. If you go to the United Women in Faith website, you can also find links to the podcasts through Spotify and other podcast platforms. The links below are for Apple Podcasts. FYI -Listening to 2 podcasts counts as reading a book in our UWFaith Reading Program.

<https://uwfaith.org/>

[United Women in Faith: Faith Talks on Apple Podcasts](#)

Let's Celebrate Your Unit! Send Photos!

Why? For a slide presentation for Annual Celebration. Send photos to Linda Greer as soon as possible and prior to August 10.

You may email, text, or snail mail the photos. Any snail mail photos will be returned. Thanks in advance.!





Treasurer

It's All about Mission

As I write this, I see that we are at the midpoint of the 2024 United Women in Faith Mission Giving year, a good time to take stock of where we are at this point in time.

First, the cold hard facts:

Our District 2024 Pledge to Mission (including all 5 Channels of Giving) is \$35,000. At close of business today, meaning halfway through 2024, we have received \$9,649.75 toward that pledge. This includes remittances from our local units (thank you), the Love Offerings at our District Mission Study and Prayer Breakfast plus any Gift to Mission cards ordered through the mail. If our Pledge is \$35,000 we are far from half of that (\$17,500). In fact that is only 55% of where we would need to be. But, we know that our giving changes during the year with giving increasing as the year progresses. We also know that many of our units and their churches have been waiting for the outcomes and decisions of the General Conference before moving forward with the “normal” business of the year. Based on those observations, I expect by the end of the year we will come much closer to making that Pledge. To me, a very bright spot is that, of the units that did make a 2024 Pledge to Mission, almost all are on target to meet that Pledge. Our faithful remain Faithful.

Why does this “Pledge” or “Mission Giving” matter? This is the money that fuels our United Women in Faith operations, including the general operational support of our Missions and our ability to quickly respond to changing conditions around the world. While money designated to specific Missions and Mission Institutions is powerful, it is this Undesignated Mission Giving that allows UWFaith to be where it is most needed in a timely way.

You may ask, “Why do we focus on money so often?” Look back at our origins, those women in Boston in 1869. They heard that women in India had no access to medical care and education and said “That is unacceptable” and did something about it. What did they do? Did they set out for India themselves even though none of them were educators or physicians who spoke the languages of India? No, they FUNDED women missionaries who did have those skills. As a result, foundations were built for institutions which were established to address those issues, institutions that grew and continue to address those issues even today. As members of UWFaith, that is what we are doing as we fund Mission Giving. Supporting Mission Giving is how we, as members, carry out one of our most fundamental elements of our Purpose: to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church by funding Missions.

So here we are at the midpoint of 2024. We know the status of our District giving in regard to our District Goal and we know why aspiring toward meeting that goal matters. The money matters because money can make missions happen. Will we succeed in reaching our Pledge? I do not know, but every dollar that we add through individual and unit Pledge giving, through Gift to Mission and Gift in Memory giving, through Special Recognitions and World Thank Offering is a dollar that matters to Mission. It is all about Mission.

Nancy Reigel

To: All United Women in Faith Sisters across the WNCC Conference,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all that you do in your church, your community, and especially through your participation in United Women in Faith. We have a challenge ahead of us. We all are aware of the effects of disaffiliation throughout our conference. Last year our Mission Giving was the lowest that I can remember. Our Mission Giving in 2023 was \$336, 727 to the National Office compared to \$410,968 the previous year. This is a 18% decrease. Our financial goal for 2024 is for each unit to increase their giving to the 2019 (pre-pandemic) level. If your unit is already doing that, I challenge you to do even more.

According to the Membership, Nurture, and Outreach report from the 2023 Annual Celebration, we have a membership of 14,915 members in 425 units (recent numbers at the end of 2023 are not yet available.)

What if:

Every member gave up One Starbucks coffee once a month . . .
(this is as cheap as you can get at Starbucks) $14,915 \times 12 \times \$2.50 = \$447,450$

What if:

Every member sent just ONE Gift to Mission Card . . . $14,915 \times \$5.00 = \$74,575$
Every unit gave ONE additional Gift to Mission Card . . . $425 \times \$5.00 = \$2,125$

What if:

Every unit purchased just ONE plain gold Special Mission Recognition Pin . . .
 $425 \times \$40.00 = \$17,000$
(Check with your district treasurer about other pins that are available)

What if:

Every member sent three (3) Gift in Memory cards in lieu of a sympathy card . . .
 $14,915 \times \$15.00 = \$223,725$

What if:

Every unit asked their local congregation to help with the World Thank Offering. . .
 $425 \times \$250.00 = \$106,250$

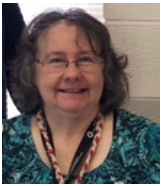
GRAND Total OVER \$800,000 IMAGINE!

The most important thing that we can do is invite other women to join us in our mission to help women, children, and youth at home and across the world. **Please tell our mission story!**

Yours in Christ, Bess Redmond, WNCC-UWFaith Treasurer



We Believe Love in Action Can Change the World!



Secretary of Program Resources

Greetings,

I hope you are enjoying your summer. I want to invite you to the District Annual Celebration at my church Littlejohn United Methodist Church in Lenoir. I would like to share a little history of my church compiled by our own United Women in Faith member, Gretchen Griffith.

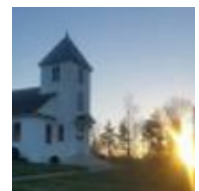
Littlejohn United Methodist Church was organized in the 1770's as a meeting house for several denominations: Baptist, Methodist, and Lutheran. As the frontier population increased, the Baptists and Lutherans were able to build churches of their own, and the meeting house became Littlejohn Methodist Episcopal Church. The church is named for members of the Littlejohn family who owned the land where the church was built. Abram Littlejohn became a Methodist preacher. The first structure built was a log house with a "weight pole" roof and dirt floor. It was served by circuit riders from North and South Carolina. The first Revolutionary soldier buried in Caldwell County was Thomas Hughes, who died near Littlejohn just after the Battle of King's Mountain. He was buried at Littlejohn cemetery. A second log building was erected in the early 1800's and served a growing area. Because of disagreements within the denomination, the Methodist Episcopal Church split into two factions and Littlejohn's newest name was Littlejohn Methodist Episcopal Church, South. During the Civil War, twenty men from the church joined the Confederate army. Six were killed in action or died as a direct result of the war. Stoneman's Raiders damaged the church in 1865 and the church had to be rebuilt. This newest structure was completed in 1868 and is the foundation of the current building.

Littlejohn maintained a campground as an evangelistic mission. The first one was in existence from 1830 to 1845. In 1878 a new campground was established at Marvin Campground. For two weeks each summer, families camped and listened to nonstop preaching. The members of Littlejohn who lived near the campground wanted to develop a church on the site. At a church conference, a decision was made to build two new structures, one near Marvin Campground as Gamewell Church and one upgrading the current structure at Littlejohn. This became the Littlejohn-Gamewell charge on the circuit. This 1914 structure at Littlejohn was built on the same foundation as the 1868 building. In 1939 the Methodist churches in the nation reconciled differences and the church became Littlejohn Methodist Church. In 1968 it became Littlejohn United Methodist Church when the Methodist Church and the United Brethren Church united. At least thirty-four ministers of the gospel can trace their roots to Littlejohn. Miss Lelia Tuttle was a missionary to China from 1909 until the Japanese invasion. Lelia Tuttle Memorial Park, a facility maintained by Littlejohn Church, was donated to the church and named in her honor.

As you can see the church's name has changed through the years, but we remain the "Light on the Hill" serving our community. As we all continue to grapple with the best way to deal with the newest change, I want to remind you of our history and encourage you to embrace a new loving future. By coming together to celebrate and fellowship at the District Annual meeting, we find love and friendship to maintain us through these challenging times.

The Reading Program also provides us with books to help us through these changes. I encourage you to check out this year's Bonus Books. Each Bonus Book counts for 2 Reading Program reporting credits. This year's Bonus Books are organized around the theme Love Your Neighbor. For more information about the Bonus Books and ways to use them with your church and unit check out the Reading Program Catalog at <https://uwfaithresources.org/prodDetail.cfm?productID=10846->

**Blessings,
Brenda Kimberlin**





Legacy Fund Energizer

Mission Giving? YES Legacy Fund? YES

Over the past years, as I served as district and conference treasurer, I have often heard the question: "Should I give to Mission Giving or to the Legacy Fund?" My answer: "YES!"

When I retired from New Jersey and moved to build our dream house in Boone, NC, did I also say "Hooray! Now I have time for United Methodist Women?" A BIG resounding NO!

It was only after had I joined United Methodist Women in my small rural church, hoping it would get me accepted into the "Women of the Church" and started getting involved, that I realized how powerful and important this organization is in the world. Only then did I realize I wanted to see it grow and flourish and that my Undesignated Giving was a vital part of that. Think Mission Giving.

Now, even further along, I know that I want it to have a future beyond me. I want to be part of something bigger and more enduring than me. Think Legacy Fund.

But, how do we balance the two?

Upon starting full time work, I was told about those retirement benefits I would be earning...yawn. I was also given opportunities to add to those...yawn again. But, thankfully I did start putting a few dollars aside. It was a small amount compared to what I required for daily living but still I set some aside to invest in my future. Now that I am retired, I am so glad I did because those few dollars have made a big difference. First I met my daily current needs so that I could be where I am now. Like Mission Giving, I met "today's" needs first.

We members ARE United Women in Faith. We are the organization. As such, would we not be wise to, along with funding our current vital missions, put some aside for the future health of this mission work? Would we not be wise to invest in the future of United Women in Faith in that same small way? It could seem small (like \$18.69 yearly or monthly) compared to what we pledge and give today, but it could be powerful for the future health of United Women in Faith.

Again, many of us may be wondering, do we support Mission Giving? Do we support Legacy Fund? Again: YES.

YES to Mission Giving Without Mission Giving today we have no future.

Yes to the Legacy Fund The Legacy Fund is we, the members, building the foundations of a future vital United Women in Faith. Those women in 1869 started it, we can and must

Keep it going and Pass it on.

Nancy Reigel
Legacy Energizer

United Women in Faith does not fund projects and programs that:

- Don't benefit women, children, or youth
- Don't comply with our UMC Social Principles
- Are administered by discriminatory organizations



Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Welcome

I pray all of you are well and this newsletter finds it well with your soul. May the Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on you and all of the women in your local unit and church. Fall is a great time to have an emphasis on renewal of our spirit. It can get so busy with holidays, we sometimes forget to take time for ourselves. Plan something special in your local unit just for rest! Maybe a walk in a local park or a hike or an outing to a local coffee shop or a pool day or a visit to a local spa, all with scripture to renew the spirit and prayer. Maybe just a time on someone's porch that has a natural surrounding of trees and flowers and birds, like I am doing now as I write. Yes, my covered back deck is surrounded with nature and the birds are plentiful, along with other creatures. Maybe if the weather is cool a firepit gathering with s'mores! Or a tea party!!! Whatever you do, **BE CREATIVE and RELAX!!!**

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact me and I will do my best. Our next Spiritual Growth Gathering will be in March with our Prayer Breakfast. Our Prayer Breakfast speaker will be Kim Burns, a 32 year veteran teacher who is now studying to complete her doctorate for her calling into the ministry at Duke Divinity School. The exact Saturday in March for the event has not been determined, but it will be in our next newsletter.

I close with this prayer for those who vote:

Almighty God, creator of the universe, Lord of our lives,

On this day we pause to consider your call for our lives together.

Remind us that you delight in diversity and difference. You call us to welcome the stranger and make that one a neighbor.

Remind us that you lament the growing disparity between rich and poor. You have given us all we need for life and call us to share those resources.

Remind us that you deplore the degradation of the created world, the air, the water, the land. You entrusted us

with the earth's welfare and call us to protect it for like.

Remind us that you despise the violence in our homes and on our streets. You call us to be instruments of peace in a world of warring madness.

Remind us that you bring good news to the poor, proclaim release to the captives, give sight to the blind, and set the oppressed free. You call us to be the hands and feet of that message.

As we select our leaders, empower us to choose those who will pursue these aims. Give us courage to consider the needs of our neighbors before we vote for our own self interests. Make us those who accept your loving grace and seek to return that grace to our communities. Amen

(by Rev. Dr. Jennifer Copeland, Feb. 22, 2024)

Thank you for all you do and for who you are. You are beloved in Christ and I cherish serving as your Spiritual Growth Coordinator.

Sherry Summerlin



Parliamentarian News

Third quarter brings a time for elections for 2025. Review the correct procedures for election of officers. Hard to realize we are planning for 2025, but we are so blessed to be here, in this place and serving still. To God be the glory!

Remember to have your Committee on Nominations engaged with seeking out new women to serve in leadership. This is a great way to grow. I know because I am a product of the opportunity to serve in leadership through United Women in Faith. God prepares us in small steps and journeys with us. If you feel God's nudge, LISTEN! You are His hands and feet. Keep orderly meetings for your leaders as they serve.

Blessings,
Sherry Summerlin



Social Action Coordinator



Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) is an international organization working in partnership with the United Nations, leaders in government, the private sector, financial institutions and civil society. Their goal is to drive further, faster action toward the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7, which calls for universal access to sustainable energy by 2030, and the Paris Agreement, which calls for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to limit climate warming to below 2 °C.

Launched by former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2011, SEforALL is now an independent organization based in Vienna, Austria with a satellite office in Washington, DC. Damilola Ogunbiyi took office in January 2020 as CEO and as Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All as well as Co-Chair of UN-Energy. She is the former Managing Director of Nigeria's Rural Electrification Agency. Under her leadership, the organization has made great strides to enable just, equitable and sustainable energy transitions that ensure better quality of life and opportunities for people living in developing regions.

These are links to websites that have more information to help us all understand the impact of the energy transition and how it is an opportunity to make the world more equal and inclusive

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_Energy_for_All

<https://www.seforall.org/>

<https://www.seforall.org/data-and-evidence/understanding-sdg7/>

<https://www.seforall.org/programmes/cooling-for-all>

[SEforALL Energizing Finance reports](#)

Jenny Hix



Historian

For more than 150 years, women in the Methodist and United Brethren traditions have led a struggle for human rights and social justice. The generation of women who founded the early missionary societies developed powerful networks and organizational structures to help women attain full participation in the life of the church and society.

In the early years of the women's mission organizations, the focus was on sending missionaries and helping to change the lives of women and girls in foreign lands. They incorporated the values of home and family into public life, as they addressed issues of poverty, child labor, immigration, migrant labor, family life, racial discrimination, full clergy rights for women, and many other social ills of the day.

Many problems faced by the women at the turn of the century have reemerged in our own time with a new and demanding urgency. Because of the faithfulness and courage of the millions of women who prayed, planned, organized, marched, petitioned, labored, and supported the work of the early missionary societies, the lives of countless individuals, especially women and children, have been irrevocably changed.

(From <http://gbgm-umc.org/umw/history/legacy.cfm> 1/8/2008 - no longer available)

Isn't it interesting that so many of the issues that concerned women more than 150 years ago are still concerns for today? There is much work to be done and United Women in Faith are still making a difference.

Terri Clark



Mission Education and Interpretation

A few years ago, Nancy Litton answered her call to become a Deaconess and followed through with her call. Nancy will be one of our study leaders at Mission u this year. On page 82 of our United Women in Faith 2024 Prayer Guide, Nancy wrote the following. "One year our United Women in Faith District President challenged us to 'stretch ourselves' by being closer to those we wished to help. She challenged us to not just 'write checks' and be anonymous, but instead to join in the serving line, be part of the cooking team, hand out supplies. The challenge was to be close enough to people to 'see the color of their eyes.' I have carried that with me ever since. It helped me develop a deeper understanding of people, their needs and how they want to be in partnership when receiving assistance from others." (Nancy Litton, Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner, Trinity United Methodist Church, Kannapolis, NC).

Hopefully, you are participating in a local mission project where you can "see the color of their eyes." We can also participate in Hands-on mission projects where we cannot be close enough to see their eyes. You can take part in our district projects for the remainder of 2024. Bring new kitchen items for the people in Armenia who are involved in Project AGAPE to our Annual Celebration! Bring new bedding, towels, bath cloths and dish cloths for them to our Membership and Leadership Development Day. You are also asked to come to the Mission Response Center on October 5 and participate in preparation to ship items to Armenia. No standing is required; anyone can help!

Terri Williams



Appalachian District Annual Celebration

Share and celebrate your successes from 2023....



United
Women
in Faith



Celebrate and Fellowship Together

Saturday, August 24, 2024

Registration & light refreshments ~ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting ~ 9:30am - noon

Location: Littlejohn UMC
4120 Littlejohn Church Road
Lenoir, NC 28645

Speaker ~ Ben Rogers, Manager of the Mission Response Center (MRC)

District Officer Installation~ Martha Phillips, App. Dist. UWFaith Liaison

Hands on Mission Project: Project AGAPE in Armenia - New kitchen items: sets of unbreakable plates, cups, bowls, silverware, cookware, cooking utensils, etc.

Love Offering: *In Honor of UWFaith leaders who represented us at General Conference*

There is no charge; request RSVP with number of attendees no later than August 17th to Nancy Reigel (email: nancy@reigelridge.com or mail: 375 Troy Norris Road, Boone, NC 28607)

For childcare, contact: Brenda Kimberlin (828-728-0371) no later than August 10th

Also, by AUGUST 10, Please send photos of your unit for a slide show presentation to Linda Greer.
jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net or 828-244-2251 or 3201 Mt Wesley Church Rd., Stony Point, NC 28678

Directions to Littlejohn UMC:

From Sparta/Wilkesboro and North: Follow Hwy 18 South through Wilkesboro and into Lenoir. Turn left onto US-64 W/Morganton Blvd SW; in 5.5 miles turn right onto Harland Road and in 1.8 miles turn right onto Littlejohn Church Road; in .5 mile turn right into the church parking lot.

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

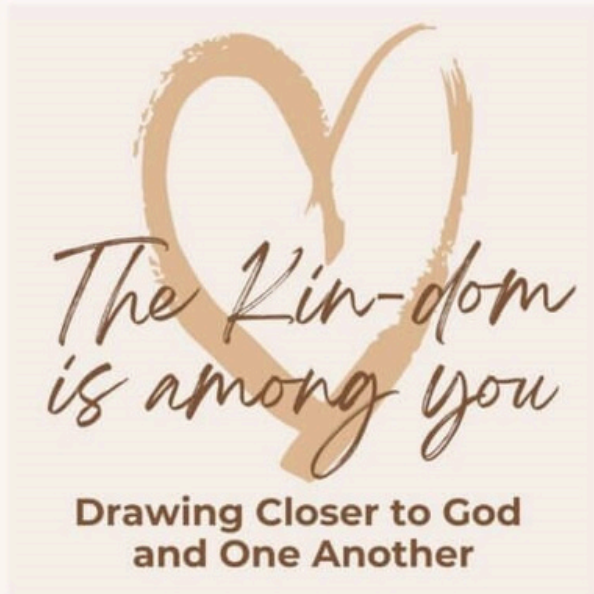
From Hickory, Hudson, Granite Falls areas: Take US 321N to US-64W/NC-18S/Morganton; in 4.9 miles, turn left onto US-64W/Morganton Blvd SW and follow directions from Taylorsville

From Taylorsville/Stony Point/Hiddenite: Take NC 90W to US 64W to Lenoir; at the traffic circle, stay straight to stay on US-64W; in 1.5 miles turn left onto US-64W/Morganton Blvd SW; in 5.5 miles turn right onto Harland Road and in 1.8 miles turn right onto Littlejohn Church Road; in .5 mi. turn rt into the church parking lot.

From Boone & areas west: Follow US 321 South toward Lenoir. Turn right onto US-90W/N. Main St. and continue straight onto Creekway Dr. NW, then in 1.7 miles turn slightly right onto Harper Ave.; in .8 miles, turn right onto US-64W/Morganton Blvd SW; in 2.8miles turn right onto Harland Road and in 1.8 miles turn right onto Littlejohn Church Road; in .5 mile turn right into the church parking lot.

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

MISSION u 2024



Registration is **ONLINE only**, and open June 17 through July 25. **(There is no onsite registration.)**

Registration costs vary with housing and student type. Fees for full-time students range from \$90 (non-resident with meals) to \$250 (all meals and private room with private bath), depending on type of accommodations.

Dates: Friday, August 2 through Saturday, August 3

Location: The Catholic Conference Center, Hickory, North Carolina

Coming Soon! Conference Gram – June 2024 – Mission u Issue

Childcare will be NOT be available.

Study books should be ordered in advance; they will not be available for sale at the event. You may order a study book for pickup at Mission u as part of the registration process, if you register by July 12th. If you choose to order a book to be delivered to you (which will increase your shipping costs), you may do so at <https://uwfaithresources.org/>

- Adult Study: [Welcome Home – M3380](#) – Welcome Home is an adult curriculum that 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.

Kindle version of the adult study is available at www.amazon.com.

Hands-on Mission: UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits (guidelines on assembling and packing the kits may be found at <https://umcmmission.org/umcor-menstrual-hygiene-kit/>)



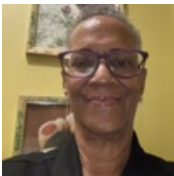


CEU/Advanced Lay Servant Credit: Participants can apply to receive CEU's and Advanced Lay Servant credit. Forms will be available at Mission u.

Schedule: Check-in will begin at 10:00 AM on Friday, August 2nd. Mission u will open with worship Friday at 11:30 AM. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon and the first session will begin at 1:30 PM. Friday afternoon will include parts 1 and 2 of the study. Dinner will be served at 6:00. Breakfast Saturday will be served at 8:00 AM. Part 3 of the study will follow breakfast, lunch at Noon, and Part 4 and closing worship after lunch. We expect to conclude at 3:00pm. Morning Praise will be held Saturday morning at 7:30 AM on the terrace (weather permitting).

For additional information, go to [Mission u 2024 | WNCC United Women in Faith \(wnccumw.org\)](#)

Our Mission u 2024 Retreat Leaders are:

Adult Mission Study – Welcome Home:

-  **Nancy Litton** – In addition to her role as Assistant Dean, Nancy Elizabeth Litton is coordinating and participating as a Study Leader for Mission u 2024. Nancy has been a North Carolinian since 1998. She currently lives in Kannapolis with her daughter Katie and two cats. She comes from a family of women who were members of United Methodist Women – she will show you her UMW charm from her great Aunt Edith Cherry, circa late 1800's. Nancy joined UMW in 2006 as a circle president quickly joined our District Leadership Team. As a District officer Nancy has served as Secretary of Program Resources, Coordinator for Mission, Education & Interpretation. In 2017 Nancy took the first steps to become a Deaconess within the Order of Deaconess; Home Missioner (DHM) within the United Methodist Church. She was consecrated at 2022 General Assembly and is currently appointed to Trinity United Methodist Church, Kannapolis in congregate care.
- Martha Efird** – Martha lives on Lake Norman in Huntersville with her dog Grace. She is an attorney with the Charlotte firm Moore; Van Allen PLLC. Born into the Methodist Church, Martha grew to be a faithful and faith-filled servant of our Lord. In addition to serving at the local, district, and conference levels of United Women of Faith, Martha served locally in her home church Mouzon UMC – now Woodlawn Community Fellowship, as well as serving in District and Conference roles. Martha is a Certified Lay Servant Minister and has led both basic and advanced courses through the years. Most recently she led the advanced LSM course from the book Soul Reset by the late Rev. Junius B. Dotson. When invited, Martha enjoys writing and sharing messages at local churches. Recently, Martha resumed ballet, a passion she has had since she was 5 years old. She loves travelling to Michigan and Montana. 
- Micheline Mathews** – Micheline is a very happy Retiree who enjoys caring for her two handsome  grandsons. She serves as the local President of our United Women in Faith at St. Mark's UMC Charlotte and the Advisor and Coordinator of the Dance Ministry – Angels of Grace and Expressions of Praise. Micheline have served her district in the past as ME&I, Program Resource Coordinator and District UMW President. She also serves as one of the Coordinators for Lay Servant classes. Additionally, she has served as Dean of our Mission u and on the Conference Nomination team. She states, "I am grateful to have this opportunity to serve at Mission u this year."
- Sylvia Sekle-Dueh** – Sylvia is a member of Hickory Grove – Charlotte and she is currently serving as the worship committee chairperson and Health and Wellness/Wholeness Ministry chairperson. She was consecrated and commissioned as a deaconess in the United Methodist Church on May 18, 2018. Outside of her church activities, she is an adoption and pregnancy support and generic services social worker by profession. She has worked for the Catholic Diocese of Charlotte for the past 11 years. Sylvia is married and this union is blessed with two beautiful children, a boy 13 years old and a girl 19 years old. 
- Music Leader – Darlene Gardner** has always been involved in music of some kind. She began playing piano at the age of 9. As an adult, she has been involved with her church choir as both a singer and accompanist. For the last 16 years Darlene has served as music director at Centenary UMC of Clemmons. She also sings with the Yadkin Valley District Senior Choir known as The Joy Singers. Darlene believes music is a wonderful way to praise the Lord. 



Western North Carolina Conference United Women in Faith

Aug. 2-3 Mission u, Catholic Conference Center, **All UWFaith Members**

Aug. 24 Appalachian District Annual Celebration

Sept. 6-8 Annual Celebration, Lake Junaluska, **All UWFaith Members**

Oct. 5,19,26 Ubuntu Days of Service (various locations) **All UWFaith Members**

Oct. 5 UBUNTU Day of Service at the Mission Response Center

Nov. 4 Appalachian District Membership and Leadership Development Day

"Let's Get Together!"



2024 Appalachian District Events

Annual Celebration –August 24, 2024



Speaker Ben Rogers, MRC Manager: Littlejohn UMC

UBUNTU Day of Service at the Mission Response Center -- Oct. 5

Membership and Leadership Development Day – November 4, 2024
Speaker LaDonna Butts, Dean of Mission u, Jazzercise for Jesus Leader

"Let's Get Together!"

First Taylorsville UMC

See Flier in next issue of
AppaLadies in Mission



Why should you come to UWFaith Events?

Here is how some of our members answered:

Always a blessing, good food, good fellowship –A time to meet and greet old and new friends. Most of all to honor our Savior.

Renewal, Refreshment of soul, Connection---Uplifting! Heartwarming!---Beautiful experience, so spiritual--- Gathering with UWF in one body and having same goal---

I understand more of what they do in missions (my first year).---

Love the feeling of so many folks working together for good.

Always a lifting and spiritual event---Feeling closer to our Heavenly Father!

So inspiring; helps you to walk with our Jesus and love one another.

Wonderful, life-giving spirit. Great women—real, strong, committed to mission.

See you soon!



2024 APPALACHIAN DISTRICT UWFaith OFFICER TEAM

OFFICE	NAME	CHURCH/OFFICE	PHONES	EMAIL	DOB
PRESIDENT	Linda Greer 2022-2025	First Taylorsville	704-585-6263 H 828-244-2251 M	jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net	1-Jan
VICE PRESIDENT	Janice Taylor 2022-2025	Wilkesboro	336-468-0313	j.kay.tay@gmail.com	21-Sep
SECRETARY	Terri Williams 2024-2025	New Beginnings	336-426-2250	simplifyme3095@yahoo.com	28-Jul
TREASURER	Nancy Reigel Interim 2023-2024	Boone	828-268-0637	nancy@reigelridge.com	11-Apr
SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR	Sherry Summerlin Interim 2023-2024	Hudson	828-728-4936	sherrysummer@charter.net	8-Oct
MISSION EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION COORD	Terri Williams 2024-2025	New Beginnings	336-426-2250	simplifyme3095@yahoo.com	28-Jul
MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH COORDINATOR	Jane Long 2024-2025	Pending	828-292-9250	jshooklong@gmail.com	13-May
SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR	Jenny Hix 2023-2024	First N.Wilkesboro	336-981-6360	hxjnn@aol.com	7-Jul
COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR	Traci Snyder 2023-2024	First Taylorsville	828-308-3452	tsnyder@caldwellschools.com	30-Jul
SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES	Brenda Kimberlin 2022-2025	Littlejohn	828-728-0371	bjkimberlin22@gmail.com	27-Sep
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRWOMAN	Donna Parks Hill 2024-2027 (CH 24-25)	Wilkesboro	336-466-1230	rockyknobnana@gmail.com	13-Oct
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRWOMAN	Jean Stetler 2023-2026 (CH 24-25)	Wilkesboro	828-264-6629 H 828-964-1396 M	jstetler52@gmail.com@gmail.com	4-Nov
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	Sherry Mabry 2023-2025	Wilkesboro	336-927-4332	mabrysh@gmail.com	27-Aug
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	Cindy Sellers 2023-2024	Hiddenite	704-657-5196 M	Cindysellers49@aol.com	7-May
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	We Need YOU 2024-2027				
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	We Need YOU 2024-2027				
HISTORIAN	Terri Clark 2024-2025 Appointed	Hudson	828-612-2637	rockyknobnana@gmail.com	11-Apr
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Sherry Summerlin 2022-2025 Appointed	Hudson	828-728-4936	sherrysummer@charter.net	8-Oct
LEGACY FUND ENERGIZER WEBSITE MANAGER	Nancy Reigel 2023- 2025 Appointed	Boone	828-268-0637	nancy@reigelridge.com	11-Apr
Conference Officers					
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	Roberta Walker 2024-2027	New Beginnings	336-835-1939	r_walker1961@yahoo.com	16-Feb
NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER	Kimberly Witherspoon 2023-2026	New Covenant	828-729-0876	kwitherspoon03@yahoo.com	29-Jun
PARLIAMENTARIAN LIAISON TO APP DISTRICT	Martha Phillips 2022-2025	Concord	828-467-3167 M	mcwphillips@gmail.com	27-Jul

Appalachian District United Women in Faith

**The Appalachian District Committee on Nominations presents the following
2025 Slate of Officers to be elected at Annual District Meeting August 24, 2024**

President - ongoing	2024-2025	Linda Greer	First Taylorsville
Vice President - ongoing	2024-2025	Janice Taylor	Wilkesboro
Secretary - ongoing	2024-2025	Terri Williams	New Beginnings
Treasurer	2025-2026	Pending	
Spiritual Growth Coordinator ongoing	2024-2025	Sherry Summerlin	Hudson
Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator - ongoing	2024-2025	Terri Williams	New Beginnings
Membership Nurture & Outreach ongoing	2024-2025	Jane Long	Trinity
Social Action Coordinator	2025 -2025	Elizabeth Conrad	District Member
Communications - continuing	2025-2026	Traci Snyder	First Taylorsville
Program Resources -ongoing	2024-2025	Brenda Kimberlin	Littlejohn
Nominations Committee, Co-Chr ongoing	2023-2026	Jean Stetler	Wilkesboro
Nominations Committee, Co-Chr ongoing	2024-2027	Donna Parks Hill	Wilkesboro
Nominations Committee - ongoing	2023-2025 (served 1 yr. 20-21)	Sherry Mabry	Wilkesboro
Nominations Committee	2025-2028	Unfilled	
Nominations Committee	2025-2028	Unfilled	
Nominations Committee	2025-2028	Unfilled	

Appointed Officers

Parliamentarian	2024-2025	Sherry Summerlin	Hudson
Legacy Fund Energizer & Webmaster	2024-2025	Nancy Reigel	Boone
Historian	2024-2025	Terri Clark	Hudson

Contact Donna Parks Hill (336-466-1230), Jean Stetler (828-964-1396) or Linda Greer (828-244-2251) for more information about the duties of the unfilled positions, if you have heard God's call to serve in a Leadership Position, or if you have a person in mind who might serve.



If ladies step up and take the open positions by July 24 (30 days prior to election date), an email with updated slate will be sent out. Otherwise, we will take nominations from the floor.

United Women in Faith - Appalachian District Scholarship Application 2024

Annually, 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, or Annual Celebration;
- 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 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 25, 2024 and recipients will be chosen by the District Executive Committee by May 30, 2024.
- Applicants for the Mission u stipends must email or postmark applications by July 17, 2024 and recipients will be chosen by the District Executive Committee by July 20, 2024.
- Applicants for the Annual Celebration stipends must email or postmark applications by July 29, 2024 and recipients will be chosen by the District Executive Committee by August 5, 2024.

This application is for: (check one)

- ☐ Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska, NC, June 13-15 (Thu.-Sat.), 2024. (Registration closes 6/10.)
- ☐ Mission u at The Catholic Conference Center, Hickory, NC, August 2-3 (Fri.-Sat.), 2024. (Registration 6/17 - 7/25)
- ☐ Western NC Conference Annual Celebration at Lake Junaluska, Sept. 6-8, (Fri.-Sun.), 2024. (Registration dates TBA)
- ☐ Teen Application for Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska, NC, June 13-15 (Thu.-Sat.), 2024.
- ☐ Teen Application for Mission u at The Catholic Conference Center, Hickory, NC, August 2-3 (Fri.-Sat.), 2024.
- ☐ Teen Application for Western N C Conference Annual Celebration at Lake Junaluska, Sept. 6-8, (Fri.-Sun.), 2024.

Note: Recipients will need to pay the expenses for the event and then turn in receipts to District Treasurer.

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.