



United
Women
in Faith

UWF Appalachian District News
First Quarter 2023

AppaLadies In Mission



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It's a new year and we are strong United Women in Faith! I hope and pray that we can all work together, continuing to re-vitalize our local units in the Appalachian District this year.

I commend those units that have stayed together throughout the pandemic! Hats off to those who participated in the UMW/UWF Reading program, 5 channels of Mission Giving, attended Mission Studies Virtually and/or in person, remained or became Justice Today units, and remained or became Mission Today units. Being a Mission Today unit is important because it means that your unit is healthy and thriving! I would like to feature each unit in a video at Annual Celebration in 2023. Please send photos of your unit's events, or just routine meetings or a photo of your group sometime this year prior to August 12.

Unit Presidents and Unit Contacts, I have emailed or snail mailed 2022 reports to all active units. If you did not receive yours, please contact me or go onto our District website, appumw.com, to get your report forms. You may mail them to me or send them via email. Please keep a copy for your records. If you have not sent your reports because you did not get it done on time (January 15), please send them to me as soon as possible.

Our Appalachian District Leadership Team met the second week of December to plan our events for this new year. I sincerely hope that each of you will attend our

(Continued on next page)



United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.



THE LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Wilkesboro UMC

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Appalachian District and Western North Carolina Conference events in 2023 whether they are in-person or virtual. As of this writing we are planning to have in-person events; however, as we have learned over the last few years, that could change. See the event schedule later in this newsletter and mark your calendars so you don't plan other events on the same dates, especially for your units.

UWF is all about Mission to enhance the lives of under-resourced women, youth and children and empower women to provide for themselves and their families. Without the support of our members, we cannot continue the great works that we have begun.

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

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

**Love, peace and joy,
Linda (LindaLu) Greer
828-244-2251**



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Social Action

The disciplinary policies and practices that create an environment for the US school-to-prison pipeline to occur disproportionately affect disabled, Latino, and Black students, which is later re-lected in the rates of incarceration. Between 1999 and 2007, the percentage of Black students being suspended has increased by 12 percent, while the percentage of white students being suspended has declined since the implementation of zero-tolerance policies. Of the total incarcerated population in the US, 61 percent are Black or Latino.

Jenny Hix
hxjnn@aol.com
336-981-6360
Social Action

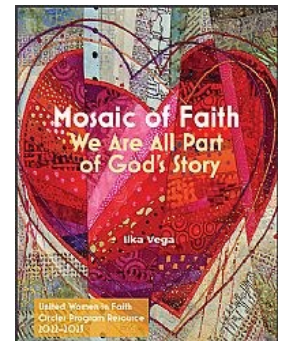
Criminalization
of
Communities
of
Color & Mass
Incarceration

Vice-President



I'm not sure where 2022 went, but welcome to 2023! I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and that the New Year finds you happy and healthy. I am looking forward to our programs this year and hope many of you will be able to attend these in-person events. Plans are underway for our District Prayer Breakfast, scheduled for March 11th at Mt. Bethel UMC. Please see the Prayer Breakfast flyer on page 5 for additional details and registration information. A month later, on April 15th, our District Mission Study will be held at First North Wilkesboro UMC with Kim Eller (Northern Piedmont Lay Leader) leading the study, Who Can We Be Together, A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13. Please see the Mission Study flyer on page 9 for more information and registration details.

For those who were unable to attend our Membership and Leader Development Day in November 2022, we missed you! Our First Granite Falls UWF unit did a wonderful job welcoming, hosting, and feeding us – Thank you ladies! We learned more about our name change and “New Wineskins” from our panel. If you haven’t already, check out the UWF digital platform (umfaith.mn.co) which provides some of the information presented and to access program resource and Mission u curricula, connect with other UWF, and find inspiration through conversation/other’s perspectives. A monthly program is also conducted from our 2022-2023 program book – Mosaic of Faith: We are all Part of God’s Story on this digital platform. I also encourage units to use this Program book for conducting programs at your in-person meetings as well.



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

Blessings, Jan Taylor

336-468-0313

j.kay.tay@gmail.com

Mission, Education and Interpretation



Happy New Year!

As we begin 2023, please review your role as parliamentarian. You serve as a key to having smooth and effective meetings by helping the president of the local unit to follow the set agenda and adhering to it in a timely manner. Please review your unit Standing Rules and make sure the name is changed from United Methodist Women to United Women in Faith.

Blessings and peace during 2023!

In Christ,

Sherry
Summerlin,



Appalachian District
Women in Faith

Parliamentarian

(828) 234-0850,

sherrysummerlin@charter.net

120 Shady Oak Terrace,
Hudson, NC 28638

Our District completed many mission projects in the fall of 2022! At our Annual Celebration held at Union Grove United Methodist Church, we collected cereal and peanut butter for the Veteran's Community Market operated through Union Grove UMC.

At our District Leadership Development Day held at Granite Falls UMC, we collected 67 Hygiene Kits, 33 Menstrual Kits and extra supplies donated to these kits for UMCOR.

We need to continue supporting the Legacy Fund and participating in the Five Channels of Giving, including Gifts in Memory and Gifts to Mission in honor of our sisters and their families. These provide the needed financial support to assist the many missional programs supported by the United Women in Faith.

Please see the flyer for the District Mission Study: "Who Can We Be Together: A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13" led by Kim Eller, Saturday, April 15, First North Wilkesboro UMC.

Penny Ledbetter

Pennygrietje@gmail.com

Nominations

Greetings to all my Sisters!

A New Year is here and I pray you are well. 2022 is now in our past so let's move forward.

Our nomination team has filled several of our positions which needed to be filled, and we are truly thankful to those ladies who took that step!

Please be in prayer as we fill the position of: SECRETARY. If you know of a willing vessel who would serve in this position, please contact any of the members of nomination team.

Let's be a light in a dark place and speak kindness to each other..

Blessings to you all!

Roberta Walker, Nomination Chair

(336) 835-1939 home (336)755-0397 cell

Appalachian District United Women in Faith 2023

Prayer Breakfast & Memorial Service



Saturday, March 11, 2023

Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church

9042 Highway 127, Hickory, NC 28601



"Find a Feather.....God's Guardian Angels Are Near"

Speaker: Tonya Lanier, Former WNCC UMW President

Psalm 91:4 *He shall cover thee with His feathers and under His wings shall thou trust; His truth be thy shield and buckler.*

9:00 – 9:30 – Registration

9:30 - 10:15 – Breakfast

10:15 – 12:00 – Worship and Memorial Service

Love Offering: A Gift to Mission in Memory of our Guardian Angels

Hands-on Mission Project: Items for Bethlehem Community Center, Winston Salem, NC Items Needed: *Washable Markers, Washable Paints, Jumbo Crayons, Jumbo Pencils, #2 Pencils, Colored Pencils*

If you are in need of Child Care (ages 2- 12) or you have other special requests, please call Judy Sipe at 828-612-1519 before February 21.

By February 28, 2023, please return the following form for Registration and Memorial Service information and send to:

District Treasurer Nancy Johnson, 661 Teague Town Road, Taylorsville, NC 28681

Registration: Name of Unit:

Number of Attendees _____ X \$5.00 = \$

Please include checks made payable to *Appalachian District UMW*.

Names of Attendees from your unit:

List any food allergies, needs, or special physical needs of attendees.

From Statesville: Take I-40 W toward Hickory. Take exit 130 toward Old US 70. Turn right onto 1st St W. Turn right onto Section House Rd. Turn right onto Springs Rd NE. Turn left onto Kool Park Rd NE. Continue on Cloninger Mill Rd NE. Turn right onto N Center St (NC-127). Continue on NC Highway 127 (NC-127). Church is on the left. **Or** take Exit 148 Hwy 64/90 W to Taylorsville, follow directions from there.

From Taylorsville: Take US Highway 64 90 W (US-64). Turn left onto NC Highway 127 (NC-127). Go for 8.6 mi. Church is on right.

From Boone: Travel to Wilkesboro via 421 or Lenoir via 321 and follow directions from that point.

From Wilkesboro: Turn onto NC Highway 16 S (NC-18). Go for 16.9 mi. Turn right onto W Main Ave (NC-90). Turn right onto US Highway 64 90 W (US-64). Turn left onto NC Highway 127 (NC-127). Go 8.6 mi. Church rt.

From Lenoir: Turn right onto Taylorsville Rd (US-64) toward Taylorsville. Take 2nd exit from roundabout onto Taylorsville Rd (US-64). Turn right onto NC Highway 127 (NC-127). Go 8.6 mi. Church rt.

From Sparta: Take NC Highway 18 S. Continue on S NC Highway 16 (NC-18) for 16.9 mi. Right onto W Main Ave (NC-90). Right onto US Highway 64 90 W (US-64). Left onto NC 127 (NC-127). Go for 8.6 mi. Church rt.

From Elkin: Take I-77 S toward US-21-BYP S. Take exit 51B toward Asheville onto I-40 W. Take exit 148 Hwy 64/90 W to Taylorsville, follow directions from there.

From Hudson/Granite Falls: Take Hickory Blvd (US-321). Turn left onto 2nd Ave NW. Turn left onto 2nd St NE (NC-127). Go for 5.3 mi. Continue on NC Highway 127 (NC-127). Go for 1.4 mi. Church on left.

From Union Grove: Wilkesboro Hwy (NC-115). Turn right onto Damascus Church Rd. Continue on Sharpe Mill Rd. Turn left onto Sulphur Springs Rd. Turn right onto NC Highway 90 E (NC-90). Turn left onto Old Mountain Rd. Turn right onto US-64. Hwy 64/90 W to Taylorsville, follow directions from there.

Memorial Service Information

President of Unit: _____

Phone: _____

List those to be remembered and a word or two describing her, i.e. Jane Dye – thoughtful and resourceful.

Please print and tear off this section to send in with your registration.



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WNCC United Women in Faith SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Do you know a student who is a member of one of the WNCC United Methodist Churches?

Will they attend one of the United Methodist supported institutions in our conference
**(Bennett College, Brevard College, Greensboro College, High Point University,
Pfeiffer University)** for the fall semester 2023?

Then they are eligible to apply for a WNCC United Women in Faith scholarship! Applications should be requested by contacting the scholarship committee chairperson:

Jatana Royster

8227 Laurel Oak Court Harrisburg, NC 28075

704-451-3816 (cell) Email: jatanaroyster@gmail.com

Applications are due by **March 1, 2023**. Interviews will be conducted on Saturday March 25, 2023.

YOU can support our scholarship program by:

Referring students.

Praying for our students and conference institutions.

Contributing to the general scholarship fund as districts, units, circles and individuals. Please contact me if you need additional information.

Blessings,

Jatana Royster

WNCC United Women in Faith Scholarship Committee Chairperson



Spiritual Growth

Greetings Ladies,

I hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas. We are ending the year of 2022 and are Stepping into 2023. We will have new hopes and new challenges, but as UWF, we will meet the challenges head on with the same spirit those first 8 women had in 1869.

For me, my first challenge is the Prayer Breakfast and Memorial Service. It is scheduled for March 11, 2023 at Mt. Bethel UMC (Alexander), with Tonya Lanier as our speaker. Refer to the flyer on page 5/6 for more information.

See you all in March!

Judy Sipe

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

jlsipe09@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE, AND OUTREACH

Happy New Year and Hello from Membership Nurture and Outreach.

For Membership, I've been thinking of new ways to bring members into our units. January is a great time to start something new. I think a group that starts each week with exercise can add prayers and missions moments. Maybe even start Monday morning tea and cookies. Add something to make UWF exciting.

For Nurture. Call your Nurturing Partners early to visit and do a program of your choice. If you need a special program, our team is still willing to do a Call to Prayer and Self Denial; Justice Today; Mission Today; Officer Installation; Pledge Services; Reading Program; World Thank Offering and many more that can be geared to your special needs. And remember, we are just an email or phone call away.

For Outreach, Help to make your meetings special by inviting a local guest or friends from other units. Reach out to someone to let them know that we are all Women in Faith.

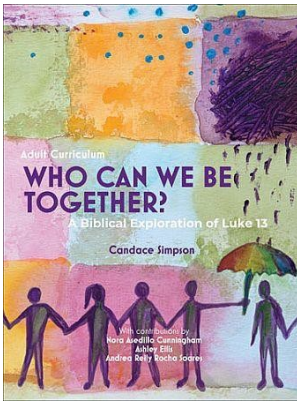
Micki Earp

Appalachian District MNO

13micki@gmail.com

828-632-6769





Appalachian District Women in Faith

Mission Study 2023

First UMC North Wilkesboro

401 Sixth Street

North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

Saturday, April 15, 2023

9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Who Can We Be Together, A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13

Lead by Kim Eller, Northern Piedmont Lay Leader

- Study books may be purchased through <https://www.umwmissionresources.org/> and Amazon.
- Attendance at this study will fulfill requirements for **Mission Today Criteria #4**.
- **Advance Registration is required by April 8**. Please use the registration form at the bottom.
- Registration 9:30-10 am with light breakfast available. Program/Study - 10:00 am - 2:30 pm
- Registration cost includes light breakfast snacks, lunch, beverages.
- A Love Offering will be taken honoring the Strength of the United Women in Faith
- UWF Reading Program Exchange: Bring a book, take a book.
- Child care provided upon request.
- Masks are optional. Social distancing is encouraged. If you are not well or have been around someone ill, please consider wearing a mask.

Hands on Mission Project: UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene Kits

<https://umcmmission.org/umcor-menstrual-hygiene-kit/>

Directions to First North Wilkesboro:

From Boone: 421 South to Business US- 421, Go 2.5 miles. Turn left into the parking lot.

From Sparta: Follow NC Highway 18 South. Turn right on L Street. Go .8 miles. Destination on the right

From Elkin: NC 268 West, Turn left onto Second Street, Right onto L Street. Destination on your right

From Hickory/Granite Falls: US Highway, 64-90 West to NC 90. To NC 16. Right onto W Main St., Left on Wilkesboro Ave, Left on Sixth Street.

From Statesville: HWY 115 North, Left onto Second St., Right onto Sixth St., Destination on your left

From Union Grove: HWY 901 North to HWY 115 North, Left of Second St., Right on Sixth St., Destination on your left.

\$10.00 Registration per person for Appalachian District Mission Study Make checks out to Appalachian District United Methodist Women

Send by April 8 to Nancy Johnson, District Treasurer, 661 Teague Town Road, Taylorsville, 28681

Unit:

Names of Participants:

Please share any special requirements of participants:

If childcare is needed, provide names, ages, special requirements:



Notes from our Treasurer:

Greetings to all!

In Philippians 4:4 (NIV), the apostle Paul declares that we “Rejoice in the Lord, always. I will say it again: Rejoice! The Appalachian District UWF was able to send in to the Conference \$30,540.73 of Undesignated gifts - Pledge to Mission, which includes Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, and World Thank Offering. We did come up short of our Pledge to Mission of \$40,000 for 2022, but we can rejoice in the number of women, children and youth we were able to make a difference in their lives through our mission giving. \$3,681 was given as Designated Gifts and \$1,123.01 to the Legacy Fund.

No matter what our United Women in Faith (UWF) units went through last year, a good way to start our mission giving for 2023 is by embracing the word rejoice. In every moment of this new year, we can give thanks to the Lord for His love and provision and rejoice in the hope we have in Jesus who “make(s) all things new” (Revelation 21:5, NKJV).

It was so GREAT to meet in-person for our District meetings last year and I am looking forward to seeing ALL members at the Prayer Breakfast in March and the Mission Study in April. More information will be found in this newsletter about these two events. If your unit has not sent in the Pledge and Officers Information Form 2023, it is not too late, make that Pledge to Mission! Send the form to me as soon as you can.

If you have any question and/or concerns, or need more information about Mission Giving to share at your meetings, please let me know. You may email, call (leave a message if I do not answer) or TXT.

In His Service,

Nancy Johnson, District Treasurer

nananurse85@charter.net

828-612-6142

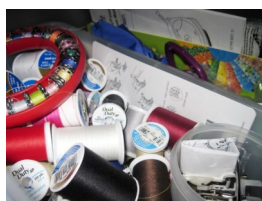


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Wilkesboro UMC Sewing Bee

At Wilkesboro UMC, Tanya Shire (our Project Coordinator) runs a Sewing Bee, in which many (over half) of our United Women in Faith participate. The first sewing bee met in October, 2014, in our church fellowship hall (of course, everyone had to bring their own sewing machine, ironing board & iron and sewing materials & tools). We started with “pillowcase” dresses for girls and donated caps for boys (a goal of 100 each for the 1st year) to send with mission teams. In December, 2014, we added making boy’s shorts. It became cumbersome & time-consuming to set up at church, so in August 2015, Tanya and her husband Aaron did some circuit capacity adjustments and set up 8 sewing machines and 5 ironing stations plus a large cutting table in their basement (later added shelves to hold material and 2 serge machines); as many as 26 people have been able to productively work in this space at one time! In December, 2017, we made 100 book bags for UMW (App District) and have since added book bags to our distributions; then in March 2019, we started making LuoPads and in October 2021, started making back packs! In 2022, we distributed 1716 dresses, 1711 pairs of shorts, 2404 bookbags, 958 backpacks, and 6435 Luopads. Distribution this year was to Ghana (3 locations), Togo, Guatemala, Armenia, Guyana, Kenya, Navajo Indian Reservation, Montana Indian Reservation, Rise Against Hunger (distributes meals in 22 countries.) Past destinations also included Costa Rica, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Romania, Ukraine, Swaziland, NC coast, West Virginia mountains and First Baptist in Lenoir for homeless program. We operate as a 501c(3) organization through Wilkesboro UMC; we do not have a budget, but operate with volunteers and donations – we can always use material (including heavy fabric for bookbags & backpacks) pillowcases, thread, trim, and cash donations (it’s expensive to ship barrels and boxes!) If you would like to volunteer, we meet the first Saturday of each month from 8:30 am – noon and we need people to sew and serge, cutters, ironers, packers; if you know of any mission destinations and contacts, we would love to expand our distributions – we do not charge for these items; we only request that someone try to hand deliver the products to avoid black market problems and send us pictures of the “smiling faces” with distribution! If anyone is interested in assisting with volunteering or donating, contact Jan Taylor (336-468-0313) or Tanya Shire (336-927-0911).





2023 Appalachian District Calendar of Events

| | |
|---------------|---|
| March 11 | Prayer Breakfast at Mt. Bethel UMC |
| April 15 | Mission Study at First North Wilkesboro UMC |
| June 8-10 | Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska |
| July 13-15 | Mission u at Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer |
| August 26* | Appalachian District Annual Celebration |
| Sept. 8-10 | Annual Celebration at Lake Junaluska |
| Oct. 7,14,28* | Ubuntu Days of Service (various locations) |
| October 28* | Appalachian District MLDD |

*** Dates are tentative**