

faith

action

sisterhood

UWF Appalachian District News
Second Quarter 2023

AppaLadies in Mission



**United Women in
Faith shall be a
community of women
whose purpose is:
to know God and to
experience freedom
as whole persons
through Jesus
Christ;
to develop a
creative, supportive
fellowship;
and to expand
concepts of mission
through participation
in the global
ministries of the
church.**

President Remarks



Dear Friends,

It was such a joy to see many of you lovely ladies, as well as a few men, in person again at the Appalachian District Prayer Breakfast and at the Mission Study! Mt. Bethel UWFaith and First North Wilkesboro UWFaith were wonderful hostesses for these events!

As I mentioned in our last newsletter of 2022, I would like to make a PowerPoint that features each unit for our 2023 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 October. We covet your participation and we are striving to make MLDD a more interactive, exciting, soul care event this year. 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.

We are truly a sisterhood. 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! 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. See page 10 for our list of officers (our District Leadership Team) and their contact information as well as Nurturing Partners. 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



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United
Women
in Faith



Vice President

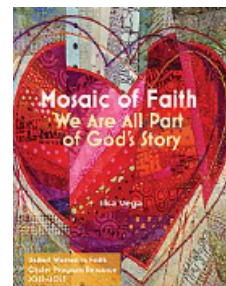
Jan Taylor

Once again, our District Prayer Breakfast was very inspiring. The theme, “Find a Feather...God’s Guardian Angels are Near,” was seen and felt through the wonderful breakfast provided by our Mt. Bethel UWF; through our speaker, Tonya Lanier; through music and prayer; and during our Memorial Service. Thank you, Judy Sipe, Rev. Bost, Tanya Lanier, Resurrection Gospel Group, and the Mt. Bethel UMC and UWF!! By the time this newsletter goes to print, our District Mission Study, “Who Can We Be Together: A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13” at First North Wilkesboro UMC has happened. Kim Eller inspired us all as our study leader. First North Wilkesboro ladies did an outstanding job as our hostess unit. For those who missed these events, we still have several opportunities to be together for District and Conference events in 2023. The Conference Spiritual Growth Retreat will be held at Lake Junaluska, and Mission u at Pfeiffer University. See fliers on page 8 and 9. Our District Annual Celebration is scheduled for Saturday, August 26 at New Covenant UMC in Lenoir and Conference Annual Celebration will be at Lake Junaluska September 8 – 10. Ubuntu Days are scheduled for October 7, 14, and 28 (MRC in Terrell NC on the 7th) and we end the year with our District MLDD.

Our MLDD will be focusing on Member “Soul Care” and will feature Chair Aerobics with LaDonna Butts and an ice cream social, plus more. All Appalachian District UWF are welcome – this event is NOT **"solely"** for unit officers. This event will be held at Wilkesboro UMC on Saturday, October 28. Stay tuned for additional info in future newsletters. Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to join your sister Appalachian District United Women in Faith for some wonderful fellowship.

I encourage each of you to check out the UWF digital platform (uwfaith.mn.co) which provides access to program resources and Mission u curricula. You connect with other UWF, and find inspiration through the conversation as well as others’ perspectives. Each month a program from our Program Resource book, ***Mosaic of Faith: We are All Part of God’s Story*** is presented on this digital platform; May and June 29 programs are scheduled via Zoom from 8 – 9 pm on, May 25 and June 29, respectively, a great way to get ideas/info for your in-person unit meetings.) You can also access Faith Talk podcasts on this website.

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



🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸 2023 Calendar of Events 🌸🌸🌸🌸🌸

(Bold Print indicates Appalachian District Events)

May 8	Justice Today Event via Zoom 7:00-8:30 p.m.
June 8-10	Spiritual Growth Retreat, Lake Junaluska
July 13-15	Mission u, Pfeiffer U, Misenheimer, NC
August 26	Appalachian District Annual Celebration New Covenant UMC, Lenoir
Sept. 8-10	Annual Celebration, Lake Junaluska
October 7	Appalachian District UBUNTU Mission Response Center, Terrell, NC
Oct. 7, 14, 28	Ubuntu Days of Service (various sites)
October 28	Appalachian District MLDD Wilkesboro UMC, Wilkesboro, NC <i>Membership and Leadership Development Day</i>

Join us for all these Events!

Hello from Membership Nurture and Outreach.

In the last quarter newsletter, I suggested a few ways to increase your membership or outreach. I didn't hear from anyone to see if any of these techniques worked for you but at the Prayer Breakfast, I tried Prayer Partners. I hope that many of those ladies enjoyed getting to know a new friend/prayer partner and hope that I hear good reports.

That got me to thinking, Prayer Partners would be a great way to grow your membership within your church members, nurture your own or reach out to others in the community. You may ask ladies in your exercise group, book club, or workplace to let you be their prayer partner. What a wonderful way to let friends know that God does work miracles.

Reach out to someone to let them know that we are all Women in Faith.



Micki Earp



Greetings!



I pray all is going well with you, and I am amazed at how fast this year is going by. So let us slow down and just take a deep breath and relax. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you. We would like to send out our Thanks to our dear sister, Traci Snyder for accepting the position of Communications Coordinator. We can't thank you enough. We still have positions of SECRETARY and HISTORIAN that are open for two willing women to serve. If you feel led to serve on our Executive Committee don't hesitate to contact me or any of our Nominations Committee. See contact information on page 10.



Blessings to you all my sisters!
Roberta Walker, Nominations Chairwoman

Mission, Education & Interpretation Coordinator

Wow!

We had a great turnout for the **March 11, Appalachian District UWF Prayer Breakfast!** Thank you to all those who supported the Hands-On Mission Project, the Bethlehem Community Center in Winston-Salem. Director Deborah Forrest joined us to receive these thoughtful contributions of crayons, markers, pencils, paints, books, monetary donations, and much more for a value of at least \$392.00! She invited the United Women in Faith to visit the Community Center. They would enjoy giving us a tour.

Maybe units or even several from a unit could do this and then go out to eat later!

Also, the criteria for being a **2023 Mission Today unit is out!** This is available on the Western NC United Women in Faith (UWF) website. www.wnccumw.org and is on the last two pages of this newsletter.

If you attended the Appalachian District Prayer Breakfast and/or Mission Study on Saturday, April 15, led by Northern Piedmont Lay Leader, Kim Eller don't forget these events count towards the **Mission Today** criteria.

Blessings to you all as you continue to serve God through your mission efforts in your communities.

Penny Ledbetter
ME&I Coordinator



Sherry & Penny

Treasurer

Greetings to all!



I made the comment at the Appalachian District Prayer Breakfast on March 11th "Mission Giving is the heartbeat of United Women in Faith." God is the electrical impulse that stimulates the heartbeat. The flow of the Mission Giving begins with each unit making a Pledge to Mission. If your unit has not sent in the Pledge and Officers Information Form for 2023 it is not too late. Make that Pledge to Mission! Send the form to me as soon as you can.

The following units have sent their Pledge to Mission in for 2023, which is the first criteria to become a Mission Today unit:

Barbara Heck	First Taylorsville	Rose Chapel
Bethelview	Hiddenite/Stony Point	Parish Shiloh
Clifton	Millers Creek	Sparta
Deerfield	Mt. Bethel (Alexander Co.)	Union Grove
First North Wilkesboro	Mount Hermon	Wilkesboro
	Piney Creek	

I encourage your unit to give to the Five Channels of Mission Giving. The following units were able to give to the Five Channels of Mission Giving for 2022:

Barbara Heck	Hiddenite/Stony Point	Parish New Covenant
Boone	Hudson	Stony Point
Clifton	Littlejohn	Union Grove
First Taylorsville	Millers Creek	Wilkesboro
	Mt. Bethel (Alexander Co.)	

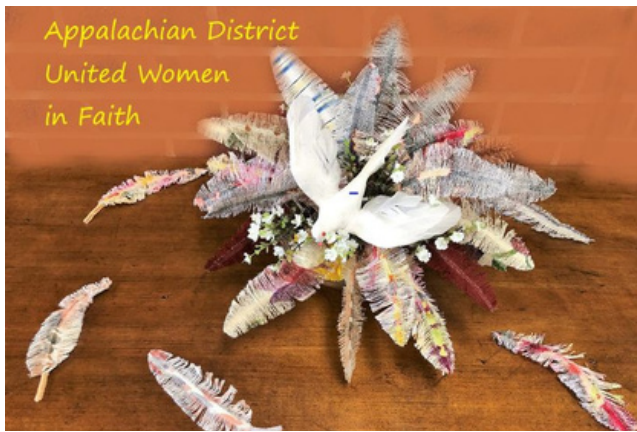
It was good to see and talk with many of you at the Prayer Breakfast and Mission Study. Hope to see many from all the units at the Spiritual Growth Retreat at Lake Junaluska in June.

If you have any questions 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**



Bethlehem Community Center



Appalachian District Prayer Breakfast & Mission Study



READING PROGRAM PLANS



Eligible years: For 2023, books from the 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021-2022 and 2023 Reading Program lists are all eligible for Reading Program reporting credit, if you have not previously read them.

PLAN 1

- 5 books each year.
- 1 book from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN II

- 10 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN III

- 15 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 5 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN IV

- 20 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 10 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

For books on current and previous lists, visit
<https://uwfaith.org/resources/reading-program/>



SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT: "WOMEN COMING TO CHRIST" June 8th - June 10th

What happens when a woman comes to Christ? What are her expectations? How does Christ respond? Does she have to wait until her life has been “cleaned up” before approaching the Savior? These and other questions will be explored at this year’s Spiritual Growth Retreat, June 8 -10 at Lake Junaluska. Our retreat speaker, Rev. Jan Brittain, will examine four instances in the New Testament when women came to Christ. What can we learn from these four women? How might we relate to their experiences in our own lives? By studying the scriptures hopefully, we will all leave knowing that we, too, can come to Christ regardless of our life situation. We will once again welcome Catherine Ritch and Rev. Mark Barden as our musicians. The retreat, including breakout sessions and free time, will begin on Thursday evening and conclude by lunchtime on Saturday. Our Hands-on Mission Project will be UMCOR Menstrual Hygiene kits; directions are available at umcmmission.org > UMCOR > Relief Supplies > Menstrual Hygiene Kit Instructions. And of course, with the beautiful setting of Lake Junaluska, spiritual renewal is bound to transform us. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us as "Women Coming to Christ."

Musician, Catherine Ritch



Retreat Leader – Rev. Jan Brittain

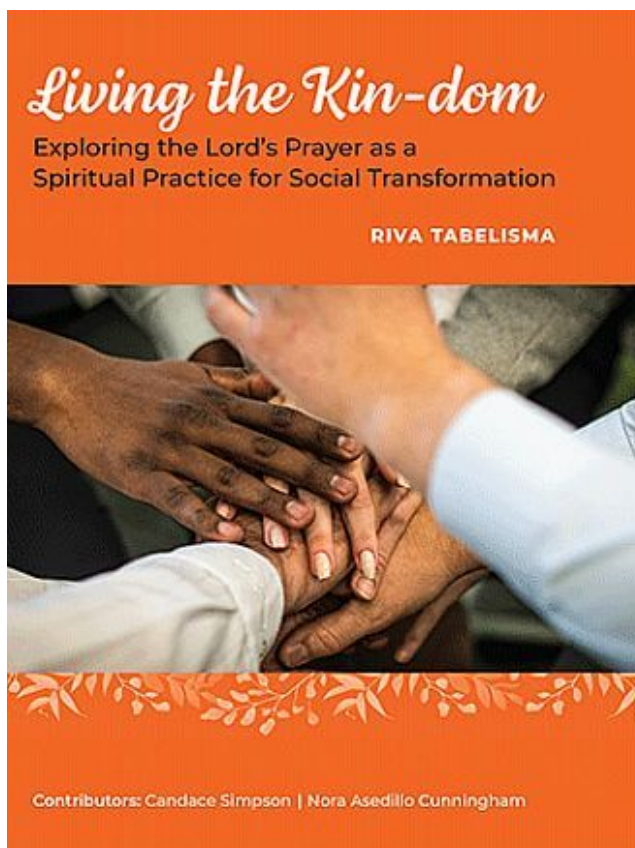
Song Leader, Rev. Mark Bard



<https://wnccumw.org/>

Lake Junaluska Accommodations Per Night
Reservations Open February 22, 2023, Call 800-222-4930

Hotel Lodging	Single	Double	Triple	Quad	Meals (5)
Terrace Hotel	\$135.00	\$135.00	\$155.00	\$175.00	\$82.50
Lambuth Inn	\$135.00	\$135.00	\$150.00	\$165.00	\$82.50
Lake Junaluska Apartments	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$115.00	\$125.00	Meal plan not included.



Mission u 2023

July 13-15, 2023

**Pfeiffer University, Misenheimer, North
Carolina**

Passionate about mission?

Love to learn?

**Want to engage with others who are?
Then Mission u is right for you!
More information coming soon!**

Visit www.wnccumw.org.

**THANK
YOU!**

Thank you to these units who have turned in your 2022 Unit Reports:

**Barbara Heck ♥ Baton ♥ Boone ♥ First Granite Falls ♥ First North Wilkesboro ♥ Hudson
First Taylorsville ♥ Henson Chapel-Mabel ♥ Hiddenite-Stony Point Parish ♥ Littlejohn ♥ Mt. Bethel
Millers Creek ♥ Piney Creek ♥ Providence ♥ Sparta ♥ Stony Point ♥ Union Grove ♥
Wilkesboro**

**If your unit has not returned your 2022 Local Unit Reports, PLEASE do so as soon as possible.
Even if your unit or church has disaffiliated and you were active in 2022, we still need your report.**

2023 Appalachian District UWF Officers and Nurturing Partners

Linda Greer	Jan Taylor	Nancy Johnson	Judy Sipe
President	Vice President	Treasurer	Spiritual Growth Coord.
jacklindagreer@bellsouth.net	j.kay.tay@gmail.com	nananurse85@charter.net	jsipe09@gmail.com
828-244-2251/704-585-6263	336-957-3024/336-468-0313	828-612-6142	828-612-1519
*Broad Street(Statesville)	*Arbor Grove (Purlear)	Hiddenite/Stony Point Parish	First Granite Falls
*Marvin (Stony Point)	Miller's Creek	(Hiddenite, Carson's Chapel,	*First Lenoir
Monticello (Statesville)	*Wesley Chapel (Hamptonville)	Liberty, Philadelphia,	Hudson
New Covenant (Lenoir)	First North Wilkesboro	South River)	
*Scott's Chapel (Statesville)		Stony Point	
Penny Ledbetter	Micki Earp	Jenny Hix	Traci Snyder
Education & Interpret. Coord.	Membership, Nurture, Outreach Co.	Social Action Coordinator	Communications Coordinator
pennygriette@gmail.com	13micki@gmail.com	hxjnn@aol.com	tsnyder@caldwellschools.com
704-880-3722	828-632-6769	336-981-6360	828-308-3452
*Friendship (Statesville)	*Bethlehem (Statesville)	Charity (Elkin)	Littlejohn (Lenoir)
*Linville	*Christ Boulevard (Stat...)	Temple Hill (Ronda)	Mt. Bethel (Alexander)
New Beginnings (Jonesville)	*Midway (Statesville)	Wilkesboro	*Mt. Herman (Lenoir)
*Rose Chapel (Statesville)	*First Troutman		
	*Pisgah-Hiddenite		
Brenda Kimberlin	Roberta Walker	Jane Long	Brenda Jones
Secretary of Program Resources	Nominations Chairwoman	Member, Nominations Comm.	Member, Nominations Comm.
bjkimberlin22@gmail.com	r_walker1961@yahoo.com	jshooklong@gmail.com	brendarsjones21@gmail.com
828-728-0371	336-835-1939	828-292-9250	828-632-7037/828-234-1772
Baton (Granite Falls)	*First Elkin	Harper's Chapel (Patterson)	Barbara Heck (Maple Spr+)
Cox's Chapel(Moutho(Wilson)	Grassy Creek (State Road)	Maple Springs (Ronda)	*Cool Spring
Piney Creek (near Sparta)	Union Grove	Rocky Springs-Hiddenite	*Wesley Memorial (Statesville)
Ebenezer (Granite Falls)	Mountain View(Statesville)		
Gamewell (Lenoir)			
Harper's Chapel			
Sherry Mabry	Cindy Sellers	Jean Stetler	Pamela Reid
Member, Nominations Comm.	Member, Nominations Comm.	Member, Nominations Comm.	Member-at-Large
mabrysh@gmail.com	cindysellers49@aol.com	jstetler52@gmail.com	preidnc@yahoo.com
336-927-4332	704-657-5196	828-264-6629/828- 964-1396	828-234-1707
Shiloh (Sparta)	*Bethel (Statesville)	Boone	Colliers (Lenoir)
Sparta	First Taylorsville	Deerfield (Boone)	Trinity (Lenoir)
	Providence (Statesville)	Warrensville	
Sherry Summerlin	Nancy Reigel	VACANT	VACANT
Parliamentarian	Legacy Energizer & Webmaster	Secretary	Historian
sherrysummer@charter.net	nancy@reigelridge.com		
828-728-4936	828-268-0637		
Banner Elk	Bethelview (Boone)		
*FaithBridge (Blowing Rock)	Calvary (Fleetwood)		
*Grace Chapel (Gr Falls)	Clifton (Warrensville)		
	Henson Chapel/Mabel		

* Denotes unit is not currently meeting or has become inactive or disaffiliated.

Conference Officers Living in Our District

Martha Phillips - Conference Parliamentarian - Appalachian District Liaison - mcwphillips@gmail.com - 828-467-3167
 Kimberly Witherspoon - Conference Nominations Committee Member - kwitherspoon03@yahoo.com - 828-729-0876



United Women in Faith

Mission Today—2023

United Women in Faith, Western North Carolina Conference

Make a Difference! Become a Mission Today Unit!

The purpose of promoting 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 the United Women in Faith understand where their money goes. Encourage the use of mission resources through United Women in Faith. Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

What is a Unit?

A unit is any organized group of United Women in Faith within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles, which periodically get together for a unit meeting.

How Do We Become a Mission Today Unit?

In order to be recognized as a Mission Today Unit, (Gold, Silver or Bronze) UMW units must complete a number of the following criteria as indicated in text box to the left. Activities conducted between January 1 – December 31 of the reporting year will be recognized at annual meetings/Annual Celebration in the following year. This is an ongoing program, so strive to become a Mission Today Unit!

Mission Today Criteria:

Gold: Complete 10 criteria:

6 with asterisks (*)

and 4 other. **

Silver: Complete 8 criteria:

4 with asterisks (*)

and 4 other. **

Bronze: Complete 6 criteria:

4 with asterisks (*)

and 2 other. **

** Note: "Other" may also include items with asterisks (*).

Criteria:

- *1. The unit will make a Pledge to Mission.
- *2. The unit will use the Prayer Guide at each general meeting or circle meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and our mission work with women, children and youth. A new Prayer Guide is printed annually and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center. Prayer Guide entries are posted on our UMW website and Face Book page.
- *3. The unit will use at least two programs from the Program Book during the year. A new Program Book is printed every year and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center.
- *4. The unit or circle will conduct or participate in at least one mission study each year. Contact your district or conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation to learn what the studies are for each year. (If members of your unit attend all 4 sessions of a conference Mission u or your 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, virtual or in person).
- *5. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to response (1 member subscribing with units less than 15 members; local unit subscription may count as one.) Order information is printed at bottom of page 2. \$24.00 for a one-year print subscription (includes digital subscription); \$20.00 for a one-year digital only subscription.
- *6. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least two ways during the year. Possibilities are:
 - a. Have members read and discuss books and articles about other races and cultures;
 - b. Sponsor or attend an interethnic event between two or more units;
 - c. Intentionally recruit women of other ethnic groups to be members and officers of the unit;
 - d. Use the Resources for Racial Justice available on our conference website on the "Downloads Available" page under "Mission Resources".
 - e. Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, low-income programs, civil rights, etc.

If you are a "Justice Today" unit, you have met these criteria. See "Downloads Available" on conference website.

*7. The unit will have a program and/or complete an action addressing one of the Social Action Priorities for the current quadrennium. These are: Climate Justice and Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration. You may find information at www.uwfaith.org

*8. The unit will add at least two new members (one member for units with less than 15 members) to its roll.

*9. The unit will have one program from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020. Available at www.Cokesbury.com. For \$3.99 plus tax and shipping. A newer version is not yet available.

*10. The unit will contribute to all Five Channels of Mission Giving.

*11. The UMW Purpose will be recited at each general and/or circle meeting, including virtual meetings.

*12. The unit will contribute \$186.90 or more to the Legacy Fund in 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 less than 15 members) will attend the district or conference annual meeting and report back to the unit about the experience, virtual participation qualifies.

15. The unit will have at least one person joining the United Women in Faith Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information at least three (3) times a year. Attach the issue and action that was taken to Mission Today report. socialaction@uwfaith.org, download the form to circulate at UWF meetings.

16. ~~Members will correspond with five~~ Members will correspond with five persons listed in the Prayer Guide at least once a year.

17. The unit will co-sponsor, with the local church, a "Children's Sabbath". (This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children). Sabbath materials are on our national website: www.uwfaith.org type Children's Sabbath in search box.

18. Each unit or circle meeting will include a "response moment" ~~where an item from~~ response magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.

19. The unit will sponsor one teen member (ages 12 to 17) and /or one 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 less than 15 members) will attend a district Prayer Breakfast, district Day Apart, conference Spiritual Growth Retreat, or any other special district or conference event other than Ubuntu Day. Virtual participation in any of these events qualify as attending.

21. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will participate in an Ubuntu Day event. Units may develop their own UBUNTU event in their communities.

22. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will complete Plan 1 of the Reading Program and give a report to the unit on one of the books read. Type "Reading Program" in search box on website.

23. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year and/or for their United Women in Faith Sunday. May be virtual. This Qualifies as a local unit visit (LUV).

24. The unit will add one new teen (ages 12-17 and/or one young woman (ages 18-39) circle during the year, or one new teen member (ages 12 to 17) or one new young woman member (ages 18 to 39) 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. The 2023 Conference Financial Goal: Each local unit increase their Mission Giving through the World Thank Offering channel by 10%.

27. Each unit will be responsible for supporting at least one local mission project and participate in one Conference Hands-on Mission Project during the year. The local project should be listed on your Mission Today report.

Website: www.umwmissionresources.org PO Box 742349, Atlanta GA 30374-2349;

Phone: 1-800-305-9857 (toll-free); Fax: (770-280-0061; email: cs@umwmissionresources.org.

UMW Mission Resources,

Toll Free 1-877-881-2385 • FAX: 1-845-267-3478. Magazines with a Mission • PO Box 395 • Congers, NY 10920-0395

Conference website: www.wnccumw.org Updated March 2023