THE ILLUMINANT SPRING 2022

Casting light on what's happening in the District

This newsletter is a publication of the **CENTRAL NORTH DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH**

The newsletter is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November



United Women in Faith



From the President: **Mary Stamper-Murray**

Greetings Sisters!

As you are aware by now, our ministry is undergoing some changes. United Methodist Women is now United Women in Faith.

"The move is part of a refreshing of the organization that includes a new logo and an array of new and improved programs to nurture current members and welcome new women to join to put their love in action on behalf of women, children, and youth."

We have received much information regarding these changes. These changes bring some concern from some members. Change is not easy and generally, no one likes change.

According to research by the national office, women did know about United Methodist Women and its work, yet they couldn't see each other as UMW members. Many of us have voiced concerns about our inability to attract younger women to our ministry. Our name gave the perception of all older women and less flexible to younger women. There were other considerations in making this change.

But again, change can be hard because it requires time, a different mindset, a different discipline, and an acceptance that it is going to bring a greater benefit. Even so, there are benefits to change such as personal growth, improvements, strength, opportunities, new beginnings, progress.

Continued next page...

President's Letter continued...

I am reminded of a popular book published two decades ago about dealing with change. The book is titled "Who Moved My Cheese?" It is an amusing and enlightening story of four characters that live in a "maze" and look for "cheese" to nourish them and make them happy. Cheese is a metaphor for what you want in life – whether it is a good job, effective organization, or spiritual peace of mind.

Two are mice named *Sniff* and *Scurry* and two are "Littlepeople" – beings the size of mice and act a lot like people. Their names are *Hem* and *Haw*.

In the story, the characters are faced with unexpected change. Two of them deal with it successfully and relate how adapting to and accepting change help them to find "new cheese." The third character initially resisted the change, but later adjusted to the change and was subsequently successful in finding "new cheese." The fourth character stubbornly resisted the change and was left behind and never found "new cheese."

I share this story to say that our organization is looking for "new cheese" to help sustain us in our purpose. As we embrace these changes, we can enjoy less stress and more success in our work.

Although embracing change may not be fun because sometimes, we like staying in our comfort zone. It's easy ... maybe in the short term, but eventually something comes along to shake us out of it and sometimes we NEED to make that change to improve our circumstances.

Think of all the advantages we have gained with the many changes we have experienced, such as cell phones, remote controls (We, children, were the "remote control" in my household.), computers, GPS, cordless telephones, microwave ovens, and even Zoom (How would we have been able to stay in contact during the pandemic?).

"If you do not create change, change will create you." - (Unknown)

And remember - if there were no change, there would be no butterflies!

I look forward to working with you as we transition to another chapter in this sisterhood of grace.

Because of you and all you do, I am ...

Rejoicing in Hope,

Mary Stamper-Murray

THE PURPOSE OF UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The organized unit of 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 create supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

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QUICK GRAMMAR LESSON

WHO-WHOM

Who and whom are interrogative pronouns when they are used to ask a question.

- 1. Helpful note: If he or she fits the sentence, then WHO will be correct. If him or her fits, then WHOM will be correct.
 - Ex: (Who, Whom) left his books here? (He left his books here. Hence, Who left his books here?)

(Who, Whom) did Mary call? (Mary did call him. Hence, Mary did call whom? Whom did Mary call?)

- 2. Interrogative pronouns appear in both direct and indirect questions. A direct question uses the exact words of the speaker and is followed by a question mark. An indirect question does not use the exact words of the speaker and is not followed by a question mark.
 - Ex: Direct question WHO is the captain? Indirect question She asked WHO the captain was. Direct question WHOM did she meet? Indirect question They asked WHOM she had met.

United Women in Faith

VISIT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH ONLINE

North Georgia Conference/Districts UWF http://www.nguwf.org./ National UWF: http://unitedwomeninfaith.org/ Central North District UWF: https://cndumw.org

ANDREWS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

UWF Holds First Virtual Book Club Meeting

Under the leadership of the unit's Social Action Committee, five books (one from each category in the 2022 UWF Reading Plan Catalog) were recommended and purchased for members to read. Members could read the five books purchased or other catalogued books of their choosing by the end of June to meet the requirements of



Reading Plan I. Each month on the 4th Sunday at 3:30 pm members are invited to meet in a virtual Book Club to discuss highlights and insights from the books read that month.

These statements are used to guide the discussion at each book club session:

- I recommend or do not recommend the book because...
- I learned that ...
- I was surprised or confused by ...
- A phrase or sentence that I want to remember from the book is ...

The Social Action Committee is pleased to extend heartfelt gratitude to Connie Ward, Claudette Neal, Belinda Nicholson, and Cornelia Smith for attending the first virtual session of the UWF Book Club at Andrews Chapel UMC on February 27. The group enjoyed sharing what they learned and liked about two books that were read in February – "*The Hate You Give*" and "*She Came to Slay*."

Everyone agreed that the book club format was a better way to share and discuss the UWF Reading Program books than taking time out of the monthly unit meetings. Members are welcomed to attend the book club sessions even if they have not read the book(s). Furthermore, we invite members from other units in the Central North District to join us as well. Contact Georgia Wilson (georgiaand.wilson@gmail.com) for further information.

Current Book Club Schedule:

February 27 (Nurturing for Community) - *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas
March 27 (Education for Mission) - *One Dress, One Year* by Bethany Winz with Susana Foth Aughtman
April 24 (Spiritual Growth) - *The Time Is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage* by Joan Chittister
May 22 (Social Action) - *Girl Gone Missing: A Cash Blackbear Mystery* by Marcie R. Rendon
June 26 (Leadership Development) - *Hidden Figures: Untold Story of African American Women Who Helped Win Space Race* by Margot Lee Shetterly

ANDREWS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

UWF Local Unit Supports Easter Egg Hunt and Child Abuse Prevention Month



The United Women in Faith of Andrews Chapel hosted a Drive-By Easter Egg Hunt. The hunt was held on Saturday, April 16. Saturday was a warm and sunny day. The Children's Ministry Chairperson, Esther Alexander, and other volunteers worked tirelessly to make this a special event. The children came, all of them wearing a mask, and smiles on their faces. They received a

brown bag with eggs, and all

sorts of goodies inside. As an annual event, our local unit was steadfast in its resolve that COVID would not stop us from having a good time with our children.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month – it recognizes the importance of families and communities working together to strengthen families to prevent child



abuse and neglect.

- Every 60 seconds a child will be a victim of abuse.
- Four children die every day.
- 70% of these fatalities are children under age 3.

It's not just the responsibility of parents to create a safe and supportive environment for children, but all



adults.

ACUMC UWF planted its annual pinwheel garden in front of the sanctuary to bring awareness to childhood abuse and neglect. We also ask members to choose a day during April to wear blue to show their support for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Remember: Look - Ask - Tell.



ANDREWS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH UWF SUPPORTS ESTATE PLANNING/WILLS SEMINAR



The ACUMC UWF membership supported the Prime Timers Senior Ministry two-part Estate Planning/Wills Seminar. The seminar was held March 12 and April 9 in a virtual format. Part One was facilitated by ACUMC UWF member Georgia Wilson. This part was an overview/informational question/answer session.



Part Two was led by Attorney Dione Traci Duckett. She concentrates her practice in the areas of Estate Planning and Elder Law. Attorney Duckett's interest in and dedication to these practice areas developed as a result of her personal relationships and experiences with her father, who died of Alzheimer's Disease, and her sister and nephew who both have Downs Syndrome. Through these personal experiences, she has gained first-hand knowledge and understanding of the concerns

and challenges that individuals and their families have in caring for aging or disabled family members and the people whom they love.

The seminar highlighted the need to have an estate plan in the process of arranging your property (personal, real estate, etc.) to ensure that upon your passing your property is given to the person(s) you intend. You might not think you need an estate plan or will ...

BUT

- Do you have children?
- Do you own land, a home, or car?
- Do you have a retirement account?
- Do you have personal property or possessions that you want to leave for someone?

If your answer to any of these questions is yes, you have an estate – and you need an estate plan.

Without a will, the state of Georgia will "make" one for you. You and your family may not like what it says. It is easy to procrastinate when dealing with a will. After all, it requires us to think about our passing. You can avoid any confusion by giving the gift of peace to your family members and friends by planning, while you are alive, for how your property and possessions will be distributed.



We acknowledge our unit's 50th Anniversary (1972 – 2022)! Thank you to all our former presidents, beginning with Mrs. Bernice Anderson, and to all unit members for your loving contributions to the legacy of UMW/UWF at Ben Hill United Methodist Church.

Unit Presidents

1972 – 1973
1974 – 1975
1976 – 1979
1978 – 1979
1980 – 1983
1984 – 1986
1987 – 1988
1989 – 1992
1993 – 1994
1995 – 1998
1999 – 2002
2003 – 2006
2007 – 2010
2011 – 2014
2015 – 2018
2019 -



Our unit is faithfully engaged in the life of the church, the unit, and the district. Our name and brand may have changed, but our commitment to the causes of Women, Girls and Youth has not. We embrace this 'Reset.'

We are:





UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

PURPOSE

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.

To honor the history of UWF, in March 2022, BHUWF joyfully welcomed, introduced, and celebrated the following new members:

Onequae Hampshire Dr. Farrah Harden-Latham Geraldine Lemon Taylor Peters Sheryl Stone

Lenora Tanner

Gwen Willis

Luke 15:8-10 reads: (8)" Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? (9) And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' (10) In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." NIV.

We lovingly welcome our "New Coins" to the BHUWF sisterhood!

CENTRAL UWF MEMBERS PLAY IN THE DIRT AT

M. AGNES JONES ELEMENTARY

by: Edith Hollis, Central UWF President

What comes naturally to you as a child--to play in the dirt--takes a little more effort

once you become an adult. For one thing, there's that whole objection to getting your shoes and clothes stained with mud and grass. Dirt under the fingernails of a new manicure can be a non-starter, as well. However, none of those unpleasantries stopped us from gathering at M. Agnes Jones Elementary School to haul soil, de-weed planter boxes, plant fresh garden beds and lay new mulch on the walking trail. We,



members of Central's United Women in Faith, are made of tougher stuff.



A vibrant blue sky and 76-degree weather made March 22 the perfect day to volunteer to help restore the garden for our youngest learners. Dressed in their blue and white school uniforms, they waved happily to us as they were having a bit of outdoor time. We waved back and greeted them with words of encouragement and then returned to the

tasks at hand—filling and pushing wheelbarrows and attacking deep-rooted weeds. A visit from Principal Woolfolk was a welcomed reprieve, as well,

from the manual labor that had caused us to perspire and remove the jacket or sweater or sweatshirt that had once been comfortable.

Four hours from the time we started, we were a lot dirty and a lot sweaty, but a whole lot happy because, in the end, we left behind a new thing...fresh soil and fresh plantings for new growth. And isn't that what God has asked us to do—to care for God's creation—to be good stewards of God's earth—to be an example of God's love and care for before our children? And so, we encourage you to reach



out to your local public school and find out how you can be of service, as the Body of Christ, to the children and families in your school community.

LASTER CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH





From 28th February 2022 to



Anner A

We continue children support, district works, "Give Away" dinners and more.

Our 1st event of togetherness with our new members was February 28, 2022 to observe Black History Month and share "What do you want to be remembered for?"

There were many highlights on February 28. Our new members called in to share from colleges, jobs, meetings, and cars. One response was "I want to be remembered for how I will remember Mrs. Dudley" and she read what Mrs. Nancy Hope wrote in 2014 and continues today.

Mrs. Hope wrote a comparison of Mrs. Dudley to Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Sojourner Truth, Marian Robinson, Oprah Winfrey and concluded with last, but not least, you are like Gladys Knight. You are climbing that midnight train to freedom from all the hustle and bustle of little boys and girls, men and women like us! We, The Congregation of Laster Chapel, want you to continue to be a shining light to children and youths in our community.

Note some of our happenings during March



Laster Chapel shares some of its March events.

SUPPORT TO POPLAR SPRING MEN ON MEN'S DAY SUNDAY

Flowers to President Emma Dudley



We were excited to support trustees in resuming in-person worship for April 3, 2022. We subsidized the Cleaning & Sanitizing Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, provided and placed ALL necessary signs, assisted trustees in Saturday April 2 walk through.



Ladies (Nettie McCray, Annette Procter, Wilma Nichols, Sarah Harrison, Wondra Lovett, Yolanda Walker, Viola Hardy and president Emma Dudley join trustees on Thursday 03/31/22. then Cresit Dowdell, Courtney Cunningham and Alaycia Dowdell (new member) continue work on Saturday April 2, 2022 to celebrate tomorrow's "Back Inside Church."

We are knitted together to do GOD's good work. We will continue to keep the thread going!

NORTH GEORGIA CONFERENCE UWF LOGO FOR 2022





2022 CENTRAL NORTH DISTRICT PROPOSED UWF CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
January 8	Program/CON Executive	Virtual
January 15	District Leadership Training	Virtual
January 22 or	Limitless Event – Lip Sync Battle	TBD
January 29		
February 1	"Illuminant" Newsletter Articles Due	
February 5	Treasurers/E & I/Historians Meeting	Ousley UMC
February 8	"Reflector" Newsletter Articles Due	
February 19	Central North District	TBD
	Executive Committee Meeting	
March 5	Faith, Fun, Everyone & Conference	TBD
	UBUNTU	
March 15	1 st Quarter Financial Reports Due to	
	Central North District Treasurer	
April 2	Program/CON Executive &	Griffin First UMC
	Walk thru for Annual Meeting	
April 10	Lenten Day Apart Service	TBD
N/A	Spiritual Growth/social Action Event	N/A
May 1	"Illuminant" Newsletter Articles Due	
May 20 - 22	UWF Assembly	Orlando, Florida
May 14	Central North District	TBD
	Executive Committee Meeting	
May 28	"Reflector" Newsletter Articles Due	
June 2 - 4	North Georgia Annual Conference	Athens - Classic Center
June 3	UWF Annual Breakfast	Athens - Classic Center
July 7	Local Unit (Presidents) Reports Due	
July 15	2 nd Quarter Financial Reports Due to	
	Central North District treasurer	

CENTRAL NORTH DISTRICT 2022 PROPOSED UWF CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
July 16	Program/CON Executive	Virtual
July 29-30	Mission u	In-Person – Korean Church of Atlanta
July 18-	Virtual Mission u	Virtual -
August 1		
August 1	District Reports Due to Conference	
August 13	UBUNTU – District Event	TBD
August 15	3 rd Quarter Financial Reports Due to Central North District Treasurer	
August 28	Reflector Newsletter Articles Due	
September 11	Limitless Event Fall Festival –	TBD
or	Conference Event	
September 18		
September 11 Thru September 16	Red Bird Mission Trip	Beverly, Kentucky
September 17	Central North District	TBD
1	Executive Committee Meeting	
October 1	Conference UWF annual Meeting	Griffin First UMC
October 6	Conference Program Committee	Virtual
October 22	Central North District Annual Meeting	TBD
November 1	"Illuminant" Newsletter Articles Due	
November 5	LDD /Executive Meeting	TBD
November 28	"Reflector" Newsletter Articles Due	
December 10	Executive Committee Meeting	Optional

Updated May 7, 2022

CENTRAL NORTH UWF LEADERSHIP 2022

PRESIDENT Mary Stamper-Murray, msmbb@bellsouth.net

VICE PRESIDENT Donna Galucki, Donnagalucki2@playbacknow.com

SECRETARY Patricia Ross, bdiamond3@comcast.net

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SOCIAL ACTION Shari Bridges, sha40snapp@yahoo.com

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LIMITLESS COORDINATORS (2) Elnetta Mitchell, edmitchell530@gmail.com

FAITH, FUN, AND EVERYONE TBD



HOW TO CONTACT US

bethelumchurch@aol.com

DUE DATES FOR ARTICLES

WINTER - February 1 SPRING - May 1 SUMMER - August 1 FALL - November 1

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES:

- 1. in Word or Publisher
- 2. to bethelumchurch@aol.com

Catherine Hart

Newsletter Coordinator

CENTRAL NORTH DISTRICT

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT Dr. Michael McQueen michael.mcqueen@ngumc.net

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT





Mozelle Mitchell

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Central North District UWF Newsletter

A MOTHER'S LOVE is like an island In life's ocean vast and wide, A peaceful, quiet shelter From the restless, rising tide...

Catherine's Corne

A MOTHER'S LOVE is like a fortress And we seek protection there When the waves of tribulation Seem to drown us in despair...

A MOTHER'S LOVE is like a sanctuary Where our souls can find sweet rest From the struggle and the tension Of life's fast and futile quest... A MOTHER'S LOVE is like a tower Rising far above the crowd And her smile is like the sunshine Breaking through a threatening cloud.

A Mother's Love

A MOTHER'S LOVE is like a beacon Burning bright with FAITH AND PRAYER. And through the changing scenes of life We can find a HAVEN THERE...

For <u>A MOTHER'S LOVE</u> is fashioned After God's enduring love It is endless and unfailing Like the love of HIM above—

God in His great wisdom put HIS LITTLE CHILDREN In a LOVING MOTHER'S CARE



Central North District UWF Newsletter