# Gleanings

### **DECEMBER 2023**

### COLUMBIA DISTRICT



### LOCAL UNIT OFFICER TRAINING

Saturday, January 13, 2024 Doors open at 8:45AM Program begins at 10:00AM

Theme:

Faith, Hope and Love in Action



4000 Hard Scrabble Road Columbia, SC 29223

### **COLUMBIA DISTRICT**



### LOCAL UNIT OFFICER TRAINING

Theme: Faith, Hope and Love in Action Saturday, January 13, 2024

8:45AM -- Registration 9:45AM -- Gathering 10:00AM -- Morning Plenary 11:00AM -- Workshops 12:00 Noon -- Executive Team Meeting

Northeast UMC 4000 Hard Scrabble Road Columbia, SC 29223

# Registration Form \*\*\*\*\*Make a copy of this form to keep for your records.\*\*\*\*\*

Address \_\_\_\_\_ 
 City\_\_\_\_\_
 \_\_\_\_\_
 Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_\_
 (Cell) Phone (H)\_\_\_\_\_ Email Name of Church/UWFaith Unit\_\_\_\_\_ Office Held in UWFaith Unit Check the workshop you will attend. **President Social Action Coordinator** Circle Leader **Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator Vice President Education and Interpretation Coordinator Secretary Program Resources Manager** Treasurer Historian

Mail or Email Registration Form to

**Committee on Nominations** 

**Cluster Leader** 

**Communications Coordinator** 

**Spiritual Growth Coordinator** 

**Tiffany Phillips** 

2336 Hard Scrabble Road Columbia, SC 29223

tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com 803-543-9405

Registration Deadline: December 31, 2023

# Report From The President...

As we prepare to say goodbye to another year, I am proud of all our UWF members. We have worked hard this year and celebrated together sharing God's love with each other and our sisters in Christ.

We increased our knowledge about our roles in our units at our training for the district unit officers on January 14<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Hebron UMC. Our executive team and the ladies at Mt. Hebron worked together to host an informative and educational event. We shared time together at the "Come Together Be Together" event in March at Francis Burns UMC with our theme of "Inspire, Influence and Impact". Francis Burns ladies did a wonderful job hosting us and the event was well attended and very inspirational.

Many of our members went on a Mission Trip in April to Tennessee visiting the Brooks Howell Home, Lake Junaluska, the Scarrett Bennett Center and the Bethlehem Center in Tennessee. Visit the "Mission Echo" June issue for details about all the fun the group had on the trip.

Mission u was in person at Spartanburg Methodist College in July and I think everyone enjoyed being together as we learned about "Living the Good News". The food and fellowship were outstanding. I hope to see everyone next year. It is a time to be with our sisters and be inspired.

Our annual meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup> was a success and all the ladies who attended gave very positive feedback. Our theme was "Get Up! Stand Up! Speak Up, Intersecting with the Environment". Our team and the ladies of Grace did an outstanding job of educating and inspiring us on the environment, while making the event fun for us!!!

Columbia District keep on keeping on. You ladies are true women of faith and continue to serve our District sharing your gifts and talents with everyone. I pray that you have a blessed Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

"Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit". Psalm 37: 3-5.

Love, peace and grace,

### Debra Schooler, President

Columbia District United Women in Faith



# Notes from the Vice President

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I give thanks to God for the women in the Columbia District for their unselfish devotion and dedication toward fulfilling the purpose, mission, and vision of United Women in Faith.

The year 2023 began with Local Unit Officer's Training at Mt. Hebron UMC where we shared the duties and responsibilities of our elected positions. During the course of the year, we took what we had learned, and we ran with it! At year's end, we saluted 13 Woman of the Year Honorees for outstanding service to their church and community; 11 units received Mission Today Awards; 64 ladies participated in the Reading Program; 11units received Diamond Awards; 12 units supported Campaign for Children; 16 Units received Five Star and Gold Seal Unit Awards, and 4 units received Four Mission Unit Awards; Several ladies attended and participated in Church Women United Celebration Events. Oh, yes! We fulfilled our Pledge to Mission.

In addition, we generously supported local and community social agencies as well as the Jackson Mississippi Water Project; We attended *Day-A-Part* at Francis Burns, as well as the virtual *Come Together Be Together* and *Spiritual Growth* events. We even journeyed together in sweltering heat to Mission u and joined ladies from across the state for the *Ashville to Nashville Mission Trip*. Guess What? We did not stop there! We enjoyed a virtual *Charter for Racial Justice Event: Racial + Environmental Justice*, a springboard for the theme of our 2023 Annual Meeting: *Get Up! Stand Up! Speak Up!: Intersecting with the Environment* hosted by Grace UMC. Talented ladies across the district pulled out all the stops to illustrate how each of us can make the world a better place for all.

Many of our Columbia District ladies drove to Aiken, SC to attend the SCCUWFaith Annual Meeting. We received everything: spiritual formation; updates on mission sites; physical activity; inspirational speeches; good food, fun and fellowship. Still not tired out, we attended and supported Killingsworth Gala where we heard such inspiring testimonies from former residents and enjoyed great entertainment. Two days later, we got up on a rainy and cool Saturday morning and graced the halls of Trenholm Road UMC for District Officer Training. What an awesome event! We were not disappointed.

I am confident that our Lord has said to each of us, "Well *done*, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord" (Matthew 25:23 NKJV).

Now, we are gearing up for a dynamic 2024. The district team is eager to share with our local units all we have learned during the course of the year. Join us at our Columbia District United Women in Faith Local Unit Officer Training, Saturday, January 13, 2024 at Northeast United Methodist Church 4000 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223 beginning at 8:45AM. Through spiritual formation and interactive workshops, we will explore the theme: *Faith*, *Hope*, *Love in Action*. Upon leaving the workshop, each lady will feel equipped to perform the duties and responsibilities of the office to which she has been elected; so we can inspire, influence and impact the lives of women, children and youth. Thus, embarking upon another banner year!!

Please fill out the registration form included in this edition of *Gleanings*. Doing so, helps us better prepare for attendees and update our directory.

In Gratitude and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

### Carrie R. Murray

Vice President Columbia District United Women in Faith cmrmurra@bellsouth.net



# Secretary's Desk

The Columbia District United Women in Faith Executive Committee met in person October 17, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by President Debra Schooler. She welcomed everyone and thanked Lexington UMC for hosting and serving a wonderful meal.

Members present: Debra Schooler, Carrie Murray, Tiffany Phillips, Rhonda Washington, Sharee Washington, Sandra Love, Lexie Chatham, Connie Branham, Mary Nell Trussell, Pat Hoesly, Vilma Cobb, Stella Chisholm, Vikki Hill, Carole Ready Eubanks, Faye Love, Flo Johnson, Linda Kennedy

Members absent: Heidi Ankeny, Becky Travis, Betty Void, Melissa Hafer, Marlene Sipes, Rosemary Wilds

Devotion and Prayer were conducted by Sandra Love, Spiritual Growth Coordinator who addressed the topic: The Power of God.

Carrie Murray, in the absence of the secretary, Diann Selph, referenced the minutes that appeared in the September issue of Gleanings. Minutes were received and adopted.

### I. Business

- A. New Officers: Vikki Hill was welcomed as the new leader for Cluster 1. Vikki asked that her contact information be corrected.
- **B.** Changes to Standing Rules: Officers who miss more than two meetings will have a chat with the president.
- C. Upcoming Events:
  - 1. South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Annual Meeting is October 20-21, 2023, at St. John's UMC, Aiken, SC; Orangeburg District will host the event.
  - 2. Conference Annual District Officer Training will be held November 9, 2023, at Trenholm Road UMC, Columbia, SC.
- D. Review of goals: The president asked all officers to bring a copy of their goals to January 13, 2024 meeting.
- E. District Officer Training: District Training for Local Unit Officers will be held Saturday, January 13, 2024, at Northeast UMC, Columbia, SC.
- F. Carrie Murray shared guidelines for the host church and workshop facilitators. She also included a proposed agenda with the executive team.

### Reports were given by the following officers: President Debra Schooler

I have been busy this quarter. We have had our June executive meeting to plan for our annual meeting at Grace. We had a final meeting in September to finish getting our forms signed and last-minute details completed. Carrie did a great job keeping us on track. I went to Mission u and worked with the youth in July. We had 16 youth, and were very busy.

We had our annual meeting on September 16th at Grace UMC and thanks to all who worked hard to make this event successful. The meeting was well attended, and the reviews were very positive. We had our last executive meeting for the year in October and planned our district unit officers training to be on January 13th at Northeast UMC.

I also attended the Conference annual training on November 11 and learned some new info and plan to share what I learned at our officers training in January.

We are gearing up for the holidays and then we will hit the new year ready to go.

### **Vice President Carrie Murray**

This third quarter has provided me with numerous opportunities to serve God, family, and community.

Though I started the Reading Program late, I managed to complete the reading of ten (10) books by the end of July, all of which I thoroughly enjoyed and from which I learned so much about self-care; self-worth; racial justice; climate justice; and spiritual nourishment.

I incorporated much of what I'd learned from my reading experiences in activities that I participated in during the months of July, August, September and the first two weeks of October to include:

- 1. Serving as Leader for 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> graders at Francis Burns Back to School Worship Service.
- 2. Assisting Unit Officers with submitting annual reports to Columbia District UWFaith counterparts.
- 3. Planning and implementing Francis Burns UWFaith Mini Retreat where we had 51 attendees that included local unit members from churches throughout the Columbia District and one from Florence. The theme for the event was *My Cup Runneth Over*, based on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. Azilee Dickey was the guest speaker. Participants had the opportunity to receive physical and spiritual nourishment through exercise, praise and worship, the spoken word, entertainment, reflections, Holy Communion, and fellowship luncheon. A love offering was donated to "Move 4 Mission" fundraising initiative. Each lady received a gift bag and sherbet and cookies at the end of the event.
- **4. Submitting monthly reports** to Church Women United regarding UMC activities and events.
- 5. Organizing the Columbia District UWFaith 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting: After a spirit-filled plenary, talented district officers and local unit members used researched facts, dramatic readings, letter writing, printed and original poems and fashion, to address the theme: Get Up! Stand Up! Speak Up! Intersecting with the Environment. Through these creative presentations, everyone was informed about climate justice and what each of us can do to address and solve the issues that most often plague the brown and black communities. Reports, Recognitions, Installations of Officers, and Communion service followed. The event culminated with a fellowship lunch. Grace UMC was our gracious host. Both Columbia District Superintendent, Fran Elrod and SCCUWFaith President, Clarice Blakeney was in attendance.
- 6. Attending and participating in Church Women United Human Rights Celebration hosted by Shandon Presbyterian Church. I introduced three of the nine (9) honorees: Councilman Howard Duvall from Trinity Cathedral Parish; Theresa Williams James from Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Chapin, SC; Jane Massey, Shandon Presbyterian Church; I also attended the executive meeting that followed immediately after the celebration.
- 7. **Providing moral support** to family and friends by serving as program assistant, and speaking at home-going services for relatives. These times were most humbling.

Now, I am looking forward to attending SCCUWFaith Annual Meeting October 20-21, 2023, at St. John UMC in Aiken, SC; CWU World Community Day November 3, 2023, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Columbia; Killingsworth Gala, November 9, 2023, at Seawell's Restaurant; and District Officer Training in Columbia, November 11, 2023, at Trenholm Road UMC.

I thank God for preparing me to serve others.

**Secretary Diann Selph** submitted minutes that have been approved and printed in *Gleanings*.

### **Treasurer Tiffany Phillips**

Remittance Received: (December-October): \$44,200.00

Pledge: \$25,129.10

SMR Special Mission Recognition: \$750.00

Gift to Missions: \$565.00 Gift in Memory: \$620.00

World Thank Offering: \$ 998.40 Pledge to Missions \$ 28,062.50

Spartanburg BETHLEHEM CENTER: \$2,258.75

Conference Love Offering: \$175.00

Killingsworth: \$3,499.75

Call to Prayer and Self Denial: \$1,219.00

Columbia BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CENTER: \$ 3,592.75

Wallace Family Life: \$5,182.25

Legacy Fund: \$ 20.00

Brighter Future for Children and Youth: \$80.00

Scarritt Bennett Center: \$30.00

UMCOR: \$50.00

# **Annual Meeting 2023 Annual Receivables**

-Registration: 88((86 Registered 2-Guest) \$1,350.00

### **Annual Meeting Expense**

-Payment to Grace: 88 registered

 $(\$10.00 \text{ per person plus } \frac{1}{2} \text{ tax}$  \$919.56 -Program Book printing \$278.20 Communion Elements \$72.32

Checkbook balance \$1,270.08

Communications Coordinator Sharee Washington asked that articles for the December issue of Gleanings be submitted by November 14, 2023.

**Spiritual Growth Coordinator Sandra Love** shared an invitation from Mt. Hebron UWFaith to join them for their "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" service scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2023, and encouraged units to participate.

### **Social Action Coordinator Lexie Chatham**

The Columbia District was well-represented in awards received at the UWF State Annual Conference that I attended last month in Aiken. Eleven churches received the Charter for Racial Justice Diamond Unit Certificates, and twelve received certificates for the Support Campaign for Children.

Also announced at this meeting was a virtual book study that is on the UWF Reading List and provides credit toward your Diamond Unit Charter for Racial Justice certificate for next year. "So, You Want to Talk About Race" is a New York Times bestseller by Ijeoma Olul. It promotes honest conversations about race and racism, discussing how this permeates almost every aspect of our lives. The dates of the study are January 6<sup>th</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, February 24<sup>th</sup>, and March 9<sup>th</sup>.

At the District Officer training held last weekend, I met and exchanged contact information with some of the Social Action Coordinators from other districts. We talked about ways we were addressing Social Action concerns in our districts, and brainstormed suggestions of new things to try. We also discussed the Social Action Workshops (formerly known as Legislative Action Days) which will be held virtually on February 8<sup>th</sup>, February 15<sup>th</sup>, and February 24<sup>th</sup>. The emphasis once again will be on Climate Justice, Predatory Lending, and the School to Prison Pipeline.

Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator Connie Branham is preparing files to assist the incoming MNO Coordinator, Heidi Ankeny.

**Education and Interpretation Coordinator Rhonda Washington** gave updates on the Killingsworth Gala scheduled for November 9, 2023, at 6:00PM at Seawell's Restaurant. Units are asked to put a \$10 gift inside a cake-size box and decorate the box in Christmas wrap. Boxes will be used as center pieces on the tables at the Gala.

### Program Resource Manager Mary Nell Trussell

The new United Women in Faith Reading Program for 2024 has been announced. You may find it at uwfreadingprogram on the internet. I think the books will also be listed in the November/December response. You will be able to find all the titles and a paragraph about the books. I will have the complete 2024 list in the December Gleanings. I'll also include which ones are in the Richland and Lexington County Libraries. We may read books from 2019-2024 this year.

I want to highlight three books from the Spiritual Growth category:

### Why Do I Feel Like This: Understand Your Difficult Emotions and Find Grace to Move Through

Sometimes if life is a mess, we get overwhelmed by all sorts of conflicting, difficult emotions. Dr. Peace Amadi helps readers through the complexity of emotions, from discouragement and hurt to trauma and depression. This book offers a clear plan to get peace and freedom back and find joy.

### Glory in the Margins: Sunday Poems

This is a collection of poetry from bestselling author and poet, Nikki Grimes. She explores the many hours Jesus spent with people in the margins. Her poems are a gentle and beautiful collection that opens Scripture in a fresh and beautiful way.

### Land of Silence

Before the stole healing by touching the hem of His garment, Eliana was a young girl crushed by guilt. She suffers several tragedies and an illness that isolates her from everyone. No physician can cure her-until she hears whispers of a man whose mere touch can heal.

Now is the best time to begin reading for 2024. As usual, I challenge all of you on the Columbia District Team to complete at least Plan 1 of the Reading Program this year.

### Committee On Nominations Stella Chisholm/Vilma Cobb

Thanks to Vikki Hill who will serve as leader for Cluster 1 and Heidi Ankeny Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator.

Thanks to Carole Eubanks and Flo Johnson for completing the 2023 year as cluster leaders and accepting the position for the upcoming year.

The position of Secretary for Program Resources is vacant.

Share the good news about the district and the wonderful programs and mission projects that we are doing. PRAISE US..... tell others to spark an interest in United Women in Faith.

Vikki Hill provided correct contact information.

**Historian Pat Hoesly** encouraged everyone to continue to send pictures of unit events and activities. Group pictures are most appreciated.

### Cluster reports were received from the following leaders:

Cluster 4: Faye Love, Cluster 5: Flo Johnson, Cluster 6: Linda Kennedy

The meeting adjourned at 8:40PM with prayer by Sandra Love.

### Diann Selph

Columbia District Secretary selphdiann@yahoo.com



If you have not done so already, please join the mailchimp newsletter service to receive your future issues of Gleanings.

Signup Today

https://gmail.us2.list-

manage.com/subscribe?u=f09a24a6320556032f6993578&id=0b1b1b6d1b

United Women in Faith Website: <a href="https://www.umcsc.org/women">https://www.umcsc.org/women</a>

Gleanings Newsletters: https://www.umcsc.org/uwfnewsletters/

Rhonda Washington/Sharee Washington Communication Chairs

### A Note From Our Treasurer:

Thank you for your generosity and support through your quarterly remittances to all our United Women in Faith missions, locally, nationally, and globally.

Columbia District Pledge to Missions \$55,000.00

Pledge to Missions Received (Dec 2022 Nov 2023): \$28,054.10

- 1st Quarter Remittance Reporting Period 12/01/2023- 2/29/2024
- 1st Quarter Remittance Form are due by 03/05/2024

(Remittance form received after 03/05/2024 will be counted towards 2nd Quarter)

2<sup>--</sup> Quarter Remittance Period 03/01/2024- 05/31/2024, Report Due by 06/05/2024.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Remittance Received: \$ 13,392.20 (Sent September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

Pledge: \$7,712.20

SMR Special Mission Recognition: \$145.00

Gift to Missions: \$245.00 Gift in Memory: \$280.00 World Thank Offering: \$ 170.00 Pledge to Missions \$ 8,552.20

Spartanburg BETHLEHEM CENTER: \$861.25

Conference Love Offering:\$150.00

Killingsworth: \$1,316.25

Call to Prayer and Self Denial: \$280.00

Columbia BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CENTER: \$776.25

Wallace Family Life: \$1,196.25

Legacy Fund: \$ 20.00

Brighter Future for Children and Youth: \$50.00

UMCOR: \$50.00

### \*Special Emphasis Months:

FEBRUARY - WALLACE FAMILY LIFE CENTER
APRIL- COLUMBIA BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CENTER
SEPTEMBER - KILLINGSWORTH
NOVEMBER - BETHLEHEM CENTER SPARTANBURG

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Please send all Remittence forms/money to me at the address below.

Hope to see you at Officers Training!

### 7iffany Phillips

Columbia District Treasurer 2336 Hard Scrabble Rd Columbia, SC 29223

# Social Action Coordinator Report

The Theme of the UWF Columbia District Annual Meeting on September 16, 2023 was Get Up! Stand Up! Speak Up!: Intersecting with the Environment. Speakers discussed different ways that Climate Justice impacts our lives from the way we dress to how we wash our dishes. My part on the program was to present a letter format that could be sent to Big Oil Company Executives. I've included a copy as an example for your units to use.

The SC UWF Annual Meeting in October was aptly named Unity in Christ as we gathered once again with our sisters from across the state. My heart was overflowing as we joined together in this poignant litany for Social Justice that I've included. It would be a beautiful addition to your unit meetings in these difficult days. The Columbia District was well-represented in awards received. Eleven churches received the Charter for Racial Justice Diamond Unit Certificates, and twelve received certificates for the Support Campaign for Children.

Also announced at this meeting was a virtual book study that is on the UWF Reading List and provides credit toward your Diamond Unit Charter for Racial Justice certificate for next year. "So You Want to Talk About Race" is a New York Times bestseller by Ijeoma Olul. It promotes honest conversations about race and racism, discussing how this permeates almost every aspect of our lives. The dates of the study are January 6<sup>th</sup>, February 17<sup>th</sup>, February 24<sup>th</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup>. Sessions will start at 11:00am except for February 24<sup>th</sup> which will begin at 1:00pm.

At the District Officer training held on November 11th, I met and exchanged contact information with some of the Social Action Coordinators from other districts. We talked about ways we were addressing Social Action concerns in our districts, and brainstormed suggestions of new things to try. We also planned for the Social Action Workshops (formerly known as Legislative Action Days) which will be held virtually on February 8<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, and at 10:00am on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The emphasis once again will be on Climate Justice, Predatory Lending and the School to Prison Pipeline.

Your Name Your Address Your City

Date

Name of Recipient Position in Company Company Name Company Mailing Address Company City

### Dear Recipient:

As a member of United Women in Faith, I am writing to express my concern about several environmental issues raised by your company. The operations and activities have caused severe environmental pollution in not just our community and state, but also nationally and internationally as well.

More than twelve million people live close to your processing plants and are exposed to pollutants on a daily basis. Minority and low-income communities are affected disproportionately by this air and water pollution. Extreme weather events are linked directly to your operations. The resulting climate change raises global temperatures and destroys vegetation. My state is especially impacted by this since we rely heavily on our tourism economy. Also, South Carolina is well-known for its hunting and fishing. Drilling, oil spills and mishaps in delivery can cause irreparable harm to our wildlife and marine ecosystems. These incidents can have devasting effects through direct contact, inhalation and ingestion of toxic chemicals. For example, toxic chemicals often leak into the ground water spreading contamination to our drinking water. This increases the risk of developing major health problems such as cancer.

Americans deserve safe drinking water and a clean environment. On behalf of my community, I firmly request that your company strongly consider my complaint asking that it thoroughly examine and inspect its operations. Please find ways to create sustainable solutions meeting society's evolving energy needs while addressing the improvement of our quality of life.

Sincerely,

Your Signature Print Your Name

7 Ways Oil and Gas Drilling is Bad for the Environment- Wilderness.org (Wilderness Society)

"Social Justice"

Leader: Siblings, God commands us through Jesus Christ to love one another. Let us seek to serve Christ in all persons

by loving our neighbors as ourselves, striving for justice and peace, and respecting the dignity of every human

being.

We pray for blessings on all peacemakers, on leaders who value peace, and on everyone who promotes nonviolent solutions to conflict.

God of peace and gentleness,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the strength of heart and mind to look beyond ourselves and address the needs of our siblings

throughout the world; for the rural and urban poor; for the rebuilding of communities; and for an end to the

cycles of violence that threaten our future.

God of generosity and compassion,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all nations, that they may live in unity, peace, and concord; and that all people may know justice

and enjoy the perfect freedom that only God can give.

God of liberty and freedom,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray that the Holy Spirit may embrace the most vulnerable members of our society; we also pray for an end

to the growing disparity between the rich and the poor; and for the grace and courage to strive for economic jus-

tice.

God of all gifts and blessings,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for an end to prejudice throughout our country and the world; that we will respect all people as pre-

cious children of God; and that racism, sexism, and all other forms of discrimination will be forever banished

from our hearts, our society, and our laws.

God of fellowship and equality,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for a reverence of creation; that we will have the tools and the will to conserve it; that we will use its

bountiful resources in the service of others; and that we will become better stewards of all that has been entrust-

ed to us.

God of nature and the universe,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all immigrants, refugees, and pilgrims from around the world, that they may be welcomed in our

midst and be treated with dignity, and respect.

God of outcasts and wanderers,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the reconciliation of all people, and for the Church throughout the world, that it may be an instru-

ment of your healing love.

God of outreach and restoration,

People: Hear our prayer.

All: All this we lift-up as disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen

(Adapted from the Episcopal Litany for Social Justice)

### Lexie Chatham

Social Action Coordinator LexieChatham@yahoo.com Columbia District Social Action Coordinator

# Message from Spiritual Growth Coordinator...

The World Thank Offering is a way for members of United Women in Faith to show gratitude for God's blessings and find creative ways to raise funds to improve the lives of women, children, and youth. Some women drop a coin in a box each day to give thanks for their daily blessings, while others add coins and dollars on special occasions in their lives.

Through your gifts to the World Thank Offering, you support the total program of mission carried on through United Women in Faith's national office in the United States and around the world.

It is my prayer that each of you will support and participate in the World Thank Offering.

Think and articulate things that you are thankful for. Give thanks and be a beacon of light for others. Let your light shine that others may see your good works and want to follow in your footsteps!

### Day Apart

The Columbia District Day Apart is sent for the first Saturday in March. I hope that you will mark your calendar and plan to participate in this service. Location will be announced soon.

### Father, We Thank Thee

For flowers that bloom about our feet, Father, we thank Thee.

For tender grass so fresh, so sweet, Father, we thank Thee.

For the song of bird and hum of bee, for all things fair we hear or see,

Father in heaven, we thank Thee. For blue of stream and blue of sky,

Father, we thank Thee. For pleasant shade of branches high,

Father, we thank Thee. For fragrant air and cooling breeze,

for beauty of the blooming trees, Father in heaven, we thank Thee.

For this new morning with its light, Father, we thank Thee.

For rest and shelter of the night, Father, we thank Thee

For health and food, for love and friends, for everything Thy goodness sends,

Father in heaven, we thank Thee. —Ralph Waldo Emerson

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

### Sandra Love

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

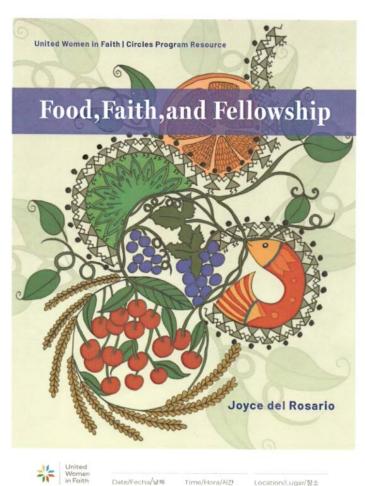
# Program Resources Report

I hope everyone will find some time during the Christmas and Thanksgiving holidays to enjoy reading books from the United Women in Faith Reading Program. In this issue of *Gleanings*, you find a list of the new books for 2024 and the books for 2024 that may be found in the Richland and Lexington County Libraries.

For more information go online to uwfaithresources.org. Click on the three small lines at the top left and scroll down to the 2024 Reading Program Catalog. You will find a summary of the Reading Program and requirements for each of the four plans. Also included is a paragraph about each book for 2024.

We may read books from 2019-2024. To see all the books that are available for 2024, look on the website for the 2024 Reading Program 2019-2024 (Excel File). You may download these to your computer.

Our Program Resource (Program Book) for 2024 is entitled *Food, Faith, & Fellowship*. It will start in January of 2024. It invites us all to join God's banquet table and discover what it means to be a community – not just in our circle, but with the entire creation. Books are \$14.99 plus shipping. I will send off an order around the end of December. Please let me know if you want me to order for you.



Book Title	Author	Year	Category	Youth/Child
30 Days with E Stanley Jones: Global Preacher, Social Justice Prophet	John Harnish	24	Ed for Mission	
Apple: Skin to the Core	Eric Gansworth	24	Ed for Mission	Upper Youth or Adult
Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky	Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond	24	Ed for Mission	Children
Defiant: What the Women of Exodus Teach Us About Freedom	Kelly Nikondeha	24	Ed for Mission	4
El Ciclo Del Arroz, El Ciclo De La Vida: Un Cuento Sobre La Agricultura / Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life: A Story of Sustainable Farming	Jan Reynolds	24	Ed for Mission	Children
El Mangle: Sembrando Arboles Para Alimentar Familias / The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families	Susan L. Roth & Cindy Trumbore	24	Ed for Mission	Children
How Beautiful We Were: a novel	Imbolo Mbue	24	Ed for Mission	
I'm Black. I'm Christian. I'm Methodist.	Rudy Rasmus, editor	24	Ed for Mission	
Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival, and Hope in an American City	Andrea Elliot	24	Ed for Mission	
Let Your Light Shine: Mobilizing for Justice with Children & Youth	Reginald Blount & Virginia Lee	24	Ed for Mission	
Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey	Magriet Ruurs	24	Ed for Mission	Children
The 1619 Project: Born on the Water (for children)	Nikole Hannah-Jones	24	Ed for Mission	Children - Set with Adult
The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story (for adults)	Nikole Hannah-Jones	24	Ed for Mission	Adult - Set with Children
The Book of Rosy: A Mother's Story of Separation at the Border	Rosayra Pablo Cruz & Julie Schwietert	24	Ed for Mission	
The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story	Aaron Bobrow-Strain	24	Ed for Mission	
The House That Love Built: Why I Opened My Door to Immigrants and How We Found Hope Beyond a Broken System	Sarah Jackson	24	Ed for Mission	

They Called Us Enemy	George Takei	24	Ed for Mission	Youth - Graphic Novel
Thirty Talks Weird Love	Alessandra N. Varela	24	Ed for Mission	Youth
어린이, 교회 그리고 선교김진선 역9791185411743 Child, Church and Mission	Dan Bruster	24	Ed for Mission	
Beautiful Country: A Memoir	Qian Julie Wang	24	Leadership Dev	
Becoming Brave: Finding Courage to Pursue Racial Justice Now	Brenda Salter McNeil	24	Leadership Dev	
Carved in Ebony - Young Reader's Edition	Jasmine L Holmes	24	Leadership Dev	Youth - Set with Adult
Carved in Ebony: Lessons from the Black Women Who Shape Us	Jasmine Holmes	24	Leadership Dev	Adult - Set with Youth
Fierce Love: A Bold Path to Ferocious Courage and Rule- Breaking Kindness That Can Heal the World	Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis	24	Leadership Dev	
For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts: A Love Letter to Women of Color	Pricilla Rodriguez	24	Leadership Dev	
High Conflict: Why We Get Trapped and How We Get Out	Amanda Ripley	24	Leadership Dev	
How Women Transform Preaching	Leonora Tubbs Tisdale	24	Leadership Dev	
I Am A Girl From Africa: A Memoir of Power, Community and Hope	Elizabeth Nyamayaro	24	Leadership Dev	
I Am Golden	Eva Chen	24	Leadership Dev	Children
Invisible: Theology and the Experience of Asian American Women	Grace Ji-Sun Kim	24	Leadership Dev	
Lead from the Outside: How to Build Your Future and Make Real Change (former title: Minority Leader: How to Lead from the Outside & Make Real Change)	Stacey Abrams	24	Leadership Dev	
Notable Native People: 50 Indigenous Leaders, Dreamers, and Changemakers from Past and Present	Adrienne Keene	24	Leadership Dev	Youth
Our Strangely Warmed Hearts: Coming Out Into God's Call	Karen Oliveto	24	Leadership Dev	

The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family	Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali	24	Leadership Dev	Children
The Purpose of Power: How We Come Together When We Fall Apart	Alicia Garza	24	Leadership Dev	
Who is Florence Price?	Students of the Special  Music School Kaufman  Music Center	24	Leadership Dev	Children
You've Been Chosen: Thriving Through the Unexpected	Cynt Marshall	24	Leadership Dev	
너무 빨리 지나가 버린, 너무 늦게 깨달아 버린노혜숙 역 9788901253398 Too Soon Old, Too Late Smart	Gordon Livingston	24	Leadership Dev	£
A Little Piece of Light: A Memoir of Hope, Prison and Life Unbound	Donna Hylton	24	Nurt for Comm	1
Alicia and the Hurricane: A Story of Puerto Rico	Leslea Newman	24	Nurt for Comm	Children
Andale, Prieta!: A Love Letter to My Family	Yasmin Ramirez	24	Nurt for Comm	Youth
Blessed Youth: Breaking the Silence About Mental Illness with Children and Teens	Sarah Griffith Lund	24	Nurt for Comm	Adult - Set with Youth
Choosing Us: Marriage and Mutual Flourishing in a World of Difference	Gail Song Bantum and Brian Bantum	24	Nurt for Comm	
Crying in H Mart: A Memoir	Michelle Zauner	24	Nurt for Comm	
Everything Comes Next: Collected and New Poems	Naomi Shihab Nye	24	Nurt for Comm	Youth
Home is Not a Country	Safia Elhillo	24	Nurt for Comm	Youth
House of Sticks: A Memoir	Ly Tran	24	Nurt for Comm	Youth
In My Grandmother's House: Black Women, Faith, and the Stories We Inherit	Yolanda Pierce	24	Nurt for Comm	Adult
Josie Dances	Denise Lajimodiere	24	Nurt for Comm	Children
Juna and Appa	Jane Park	24	Nurt for Comm	Children
Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive	Stephanie Land	24	Nurt for Comm	
Milo Imagines the World	Matt de la Pena	24	Nurt for Comm	Children
Other Words for Home	Jasmine Warga	24	Nurt for Comm	Youth

Prey Tell: Why We Silence Women Who Tell the Truth and				
How Everyone Can Speak Up	Tiffany Bluhm	24	Nurt for Comm	
See You Soon	Mariame Kaba	24	Nurt for Comm	Children
The ABCs of Diversity: Helping Kids (and Ourselves!) Embrace Our Differences	Carolyn B. Helsel & Y. Joy Harris-Smith	24	Nurt for Comm	
The Loneliness Epidemic: Why So Many of Us Feel Aloneand How Leaders Can Respond	Susan Mettes	24	Nurt for Comm	
The Seed Keeper: A Novel	Diane Wilson	24	Nurt for Comm	
The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King  Jr, Malcolm X and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation	Anna Malaika Tubbs	24	Nurt for Comm	
Truth's Table: Black Women's Musings on Life, Love, and Liberation	Ekemini Uwan, Christina Edmondson, and Michelle Higgins	24	Nurt for Comm	<u>X</u>
그리스도 예수의 마음을 품으라by 박순용9788904166480 In Your Relationships with One Aother, Have the Same Mindset as Christ Jesus	Park Soon Yong	24	Nurt for Comm	
As Long as Grass Grows: The Indigenous Fight for Environmental Justice, from Colonization to Standing Rock	Dina Gilio-Whitaker	24	Social Action	Adult
Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence	Shaine Claiborne and Michael Martin	24	Social Action	
Conditional Citizens: On Belonging in America	Laila Lalami	24	Social Action	
Echoes of Grace	Guadalupe Garcia McCall	24	Social Action	Youth
Ecowomanism: African American Women and Earth-Honoring Faiths	Melanie L Harris	24	Social Action	
Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side	Eve L. Ewing	24	Social Action	
Kids Fight Climate Change: Act Now to Be a #2minutesuperhero	Martin Dorey	24	Social Action	Children
me and white supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor	Layla Saad	24	Social Action	
Running	Natalia Sylvester	24	Social Action	Youth

Saving American Beach: The Biography of African American	11.11.7 1	C2006	\$677 STOPLES AND	
Environmentalist MaVynee Betsch	Heidi Tyline King	24	Social Action	Children
Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World	Katharine Hayhoe	24	Social Action	
The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism	Jemar Tisby	24	Social Action	
The Nickel Boys / Los Chicos de Nickel	Colson Whitehead	24	Social Action	
The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth	Kristin Henning	24	Social Action	
The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone	Heather McGhee	24	Social Action	
Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America	Keisha N Blain	24	Social Action	Y (10)
We Are Water Protectors	Carole Lindstrom	24	Social Action	Children
Willful Defiance: The Movement to Dismantle the School-to- Prison Pipeline	Mark Warren	24	Social Action	, simulati
You Have a Voice	Vera Ahiyya	24	Social Action	Children
그긴 엑소더스by 이진행9791190755450 Green Exodus	Lee Jin Hang	24	Social Action	J. March
Abuelita Fe/Abuelita Faith: What Women on the Margins Teach Us about Wisdom, Persistence, and Strength	Kat Armas	24	Spiritual Growth	
All Will Be Well: Learning to Trust God's Love	Lacy Finn Borgo, illustrations by Rebecca Evans	24	Spiritual Growth	Children
Bipolar Faith: A Black Woman's Journey with Depression and Faith	Monica Coleman	24	Spiritual Growth	
Blessed Youth: Survival Guide	Sarah Griffith Lund	24	Spiritual Growth	Youth - Set with Adult
	Robin Wall Kimmerer	24	Spiritual Growth	Youth - Set with Adult
Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants	Robin Wall Kimmerer	24	Spiritual Growth	Adult - Set with Youth

Church of the Wild: How Nature Invites Us into the Sacred	Victoria Loorz	24	Spiritual Growth	
Colors of Hope: A Devotional Journal from LGBTQIA + Christians	Melissa G. Loy, editor	24	Spiritual Growth	
Entering the rassion of Jesus. A beginner's durae to noty	Amy Jill Levine	24	Spiritual Growth	
Glory in the Margins: Sunday Poems	Nikki Grimes	24	Spiritual Growth	
I Am You: A Book About Ubuntu	Refiloe Moahioli	24	Spiritual Growth	Children
Land of Silence	Tessa Afshar	24	Spiritual Growth	
Red Lip Theology: For Church Girls Who've Considered Tithing to the Beauty Supply Store When Sunday Morning Isn't Enough	Candace Marie Benbow	24	Spiritual Growth	1
The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief	Jan Richardson	24	Spiritual Growth	:001
The Good for Nothing Tree	Amy-Jill Levin, and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso	24	Spiritual Growth	Children
The Seeker and the Monk: Everyday Conversations with Thomas Merton	Sophfronia Scott	24	Spiritual Growth	
The Wisdom of Your Body: Embodiment as the Road to Healing, Wholeness, and Connection	Hillary L. McBride	24	Spiritual Growth	
This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation and the Stories That Make Us	Cole Arthur Riley	24	Spiritual Growth	
We Go On: Finding Purpose in All of Life's Sorrows and Joys	John Onwuchekwa	24	Spiritual Growth	
Why Do I Feel Like This?: Understand Your Difficult Emotions and Find Grace to Move Through	Peace Amadi	24	Spiritual Growth	
Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction To The Women of Torah and the Throne	Wilda C. Gafney	24	Spiritual Growth	
Wonder Awaits!	Caroline Hamilton-Arnold	24	Spiritual Growth	Children
Worth It: Overcome Your Fears and Embrace the Life You Were Made For	Britt Baron	24	Spiritual Growth	

2024 Reading Program Books in the Richland County Library

**Education for Mission** 

**Apple: Skin to the Core** by Eric Gansworth

Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky by Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond

<u>Defiant: What the Women of Exodus</u> <u>Teach Us About Freedom</u> by Kelly Nikondeha

Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life: A Story of Sustainable Farming by Jan Reynolds

How Beautiful We Were: A Novel by Imbolo Mbue

Invisible Child: Poverty, Survival and Hope in an American City by Andrea Elliot

Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families by Roth & Trumbore

Stepping Stones by Magriet Ruurs

The 1619 Project: Born on the Water (children) & A New Origin Story (adults) by Nikole Hannah-Jones

The Book of Rosy: A Mother's Story of Separation at the Border by Cruz & Schwietert

The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A
Border Story by Aaron Bobrow-Strain

They Call Us the Enemy by George Takei

<u>Thirty Talks Weird Love</u> by Alessandra Varela

**Leadership Development** 

Beautiful Country: A Memoir by Qian Julie Wang

Carved in Ebony: Lessons from the Black Women Who Shape Us by Jasmine Holmes

Fierce Love: A Bold Path to Ferocious

Courage and Rule-Breaking Kindness by

Rev. Dr. Jacqui Lewis

For Brown Girls with Sharp Edges and Tender Hearts: A Love Letter to Women of Color by Pricilla Rodriguez

High Conflict: Why We Get Trapped and How We Get Out by Amanda Ripley

I Am A Girl From Africa: A Memoir of Power, Community and Hope by Elizabeth Nyamayaro

I Am Golden by Eva Chen

Lead from the Outside: How to Build Your Future and Make Real Change by Stacey Abrams

Notable Native People: 50 Indigenous
Leaders, Dreamers, and Changemakers
from Past and Present by A. Keene

The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family by I. Muhammad & S.K. Ali

The Purpose of Power: How We Come
Together When We Fall Apart by Alicia
Garza

You've Been Chosen: Thriving Through the Unexpected by Cynt Marshall **Nurturing for Community** 

A Little Piece of Lit: A Memoir of Hope, Prison and Life Unbound by Donna Hylton

Crying in H Mart: A Memoir by Gail Bantum & Brian Bantum

Everything Comes Next: Collected and New Poems by Naomi Shihab Nye

Home Is Not a Country by Safia Elhillo

**House of Sticks: A Memoir** by Ly Tran

In My Grandmother's House: Black
Women, Faith, and the Stories We Inherit
by Yolanda Pierce

Josie Dances by Denise Lajimodiere

Juna and Appa by Jane Park

Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive by Stephanie Land

<u>Milo Imagines the World</u> by Matt de la Pena

Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga

See You Soon by Mariame Kaba

The Seed Keeper: A Novel by Diane Wilson

The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of M.L. King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation by Anna Tubbs

Truth's Table: Black Women's Musings on Life, Love, and Liberation by Uwan, Edmondson, & Higgins Social Action

Beating Guns: Hope for People Who Are Weary of Violence by Shaine Claiborne & Michael Martin

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**Echoes of Grace** by Guadalupe McCall

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The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead

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Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's
Enduring Message to America by Keisha
Blain

We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom

### Spiritual Growth

Abuelita Fe/Abuelita Faith: What Women on the Margins Teach Us about Wisdom, Persistence, and Strength by Kat Armas

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with Depression and Faith by Monica
Coleman

Braiding Sweetgrass for Young Adults by Robin Wall Kimmerer

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Teachings of Plants by Robin Wall
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Glory in the Margins: Sunday Poems by Nikki Grimes

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Land of Silence by Tessa Afshar

Red Lip Theology: For Church Girls
Who've Considered Tithing to the Beauty
Supply Store When Sunday Morning
Isn't Enough by Candace Marie Benbow

This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation and the Stories That Make Us by Cole Arthur Riley

2024 Reading Program Books in the Lexington County Library

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<u>Too Soon Old, Too Late Smart</u> by Gordon Livingston

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Embrace the Life You Were Made For by
Britt Baron

### Mary Nell Trussell

Columbia District Program Resources

# Education and Interpretation Report

### Killingsworth

Greetings from Killingsworth

On November 9, we had our first in-person gala in five years and, as the program said, it was "A Night to Remember"!

We had about 400 guests to celebrate the evening with us. Our residents were all beautifully dressed and excited to be there to celebrate with our supporters. Many UWF units contributed wrapped gift boxes to decorate the tables and one person from each table got to take the gift home with them. We were inspired by Rev. Millie Nelson Smith, entertained by a quartet of carolers, and deeply touched by the stories of two Killingsworth residents – one who live there now and one former resident.

Thank you to all of you who attended and to all who supported by donations to the silent auction, gift boxes for the tables, and monetary donations. It was great to see everyone who came, and we especially appreciate the effort to attend made by those of you who traveled many miles to be with us.

As I have reported to you earlier, the Killingsworth house needed some expensive repairs. One of our board members contacted our National UWF office and was able to secure a grant of \$25,000 to use on getting this work done! This money came from the Undesignated Funds that we all contribute to as we send in our Pledge to Mission each year. Thank you for your faithful support. This amount did not cover the complete project, but with the help of some other donations, we have it all completed, and the bills paid.

It has been a pleasure to represent you at Killingsworth for the last four years and now my term is completed. You will have a new representative in this position before long. Thank you for working with me to keep this mission alive and vital.

Shalom,

Jane Scott

















THANK YOU TO THE UNITS WHO
GRACIOUSLY SHOWED YOUR TALENTS &
FOR MAKING THE KILLINGWORTH GALA
SHINE

Betty Jeffcoat-Void Killingsworth Gala Decorations Coordinator

### Bethlehem Center – Spartanburg Report August 2023-Present

### August

The end of summer was a busy time for the Center. Patrena was busy getting her staff aligned and introduced to the board an IT consultant and support person, and our website was revamped and up and running! A new employee was introduced to the board, the Executive Project Manager.

The 8-week summer day camp had 74 children enrolled, with an average cost of \$175 per child per week. Local churches and Circles assisted in supporting the camp with snacks, ice cream, and monetary donations for mission projects.

A back-to-school event on August 5<sup>th</sup> was held for the Highland neighborhood. Two companies teamed up with the Bethlehem Center to provide school supply giveaways, meals, free physicals required for sports, free COVID vaccinations, WIC information, HELC enrollment, and applications for the Center's after-school program. Over 400 people attended the event. The new playground for HELC mentioned in previous reports will be completed by the end of the year.

### September

Education is at the top of the list this month. The month started well with one of the center's after-school students receiving the highest test scores of all 4<sup>th</sup> graders in District Seven School District! He has been participating in the SOAR program at the Center since the first grade.

This year is the third school year for HELC and two 4k classes have already graduated. The HELC obtained 4 out of 5 stars in less than 24 months, therefore being a 4 Star First Steps Quality Counts center.

The Highland Engagement Coordinator had a Movie night and a National Night Out event for October.

Patrena suggested updating the mission statement. Board members had some input on her suggestions and a new one was voted on.

### **October**

Auction for a Cause will be held October 26-November 3. The board and the staff decided to try a different approach this year. Our old system just was not a good return on our investment. The board members are going to donate gift cards for a "Dine Around Town" gift basket.

The Highland Community Fall Fest on October 28 will have free food, games, music, and fun prizes.

Christmas planning is underway for the Center. Gift bags will be distributed to the after-school program donated and filled by different circles, and small groups at churches in the community.

### **Upcoming**

November – Seniors Thanksgiving Potluck

February – "Heart to Heart" will be a board fundraiser on February 9, 2024, from 6-9 PM. There will be dinner and entertainment, along with some auction items and envelopes for donations to help raise some money for the Bethlehem Center education programs.

### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the Bethlehem Center is to help all people thrive by fostering opportunities for individuals and families to achieve their optimal success, health, and well-being by facilitating opportunities for personal and community advancement.

Jan B Fleming SCC, Mission Representative

### **Wallace Family Life Center**

Wallace Family Life Center marked the end of summer with a Back-to-School event on August 7<sup>th</sup>. With the aid of generous donations, the Center was able to give away thirty book bags filled with needed school supplies to children in the Wallace area. In September, the Back-to-School theme continued as the after-school children's program was restarted to provide parents and students with childcare and homework assistance. Thus far, we have nine students enrolled in our after-school program which is open Monday through Thursday afternoons.

Adult programming has also begun for the autumn season with an added treat for participants. A line dance class is being offered weekly on Wednesday afternoons. Residents can exercise and learn something fun and new all in one setting!

The Interim Director and Board members are currently working on plans for holiday events for the children and adults. With assistance from our UWIF units around the state, we hope to provide joy to twenty children this Christmas. Your monetary and gift card donations can help us provide clothing, toys and holiday treats to deserving children in the rural Wallace area. Any donation will be greatly appreciated.

Continue to watch for news in the coming year as we plan to celebrate Wallace Family Life Center's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The planning committee is hard at work making plans to mark this wonderful milestone in the life of the Wallace community.

Our Director and Board members are filled with gratitude for the support the Wallace Family Life Center has seen this past year. Your generous financial support and prayers have allowed us to continue to serve the people of the Wallace area. We are greatly appreciative of the many United Methodist churches and United Women in Faith units that have been faithful to give. We thank you for what you have done and will continue to do. May God bless you during this Christmas season.

Submitted by Frances McCluney, Conference Representative to WFLC Board



### Columbia Bethlehem Community Center

Join us this holiday season for our community event on December 23 from 12 pm - 4 pm. We will have a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus, decorate Christmas ornaments and every child will leave with a gift. Volunteers needed to help children with Christmas ornament decorating.

Adopt a child from the Columbia Bethlehem Community Center. We have 15 families in need. We are asking for volunteers to adopt a child and their family. If you would like to adopt a child and their family, please email cbccexecutive@umcsc.org. Help us bring joy to our community this holiday season.

Thank you, Whitney Williams

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Offer ude of Gratiti			a small amount to ank Offering box,
Blessed by attending church today? Think of those blessingsadd a coin for each.	Everyday counts! If you got out of bed this morning, add \$1.00	Have close friends who bless your life? Add a coin for each visit with a friend this week.	Plenty of food to eat? Give a coin for each can, box or bag in your pantry.	How many pairs of glasses do you own? Add a coin for each pair.	Had coffee, tea or a soft drink today? Add a coin for the many choices that you have.	Children in your heart? Count up the kids you love, make a gift to your box for each of them!
Hymns sung today? Hum one and remember other beloved church tunes, add a coin for each.	Watch television today?  Add a coin for each tv show you watched.	Have family members who bless your life? Add a coin for each family member.	More than three pairs of shoes in your closet? Add a coin for each pair.	Had a breast exam this year! Way to go! Deposit \$1.00.	Visited a garden and smelled the flowers? Add a coin per garden or flower.	A nickel for every window you have in your home today, and a dime for every door.
Vitamins or medicine? Add a coin for each pill you take.	Internet access? Blessings for connecting Add a coin for email, and the web.	Pets in your life?  Add them up, give a coin per animal!	States you visited in your life?  Add a coin for each state or country	Visited the dentist this year? Add 50 cents for a healthy smile	Cell phone, regular phone? Count your connectionsad d a coin for each phone.	Own a car? a bike? a scooter? wheelchair? Coun the wheels and multiply by 5 cents.
How many times you have been in church this week? Ten cents per "time"	Books or magazines you've read this month? Add 25 cents for each.	\$1.00 for each random act of kindness you perform this month	Enjoying the Fall season? Deposit a dime for every time you noticed God's creation this month	Isn't electricity wonderful? Count the lamps in your home, and add a coin for each.	A warm bed is a gift that many in the world do not have. Add a coin for each bed in your home.	Over 1.2 billion people in our work don't have access to clean water. I DOadd \$1.00
Money in your savings account? Divide by 10, 100, 1,000, or more, and make a gift to your box.	Have you seen or heard any birds or wildlife today? Add a coin for each bird or animal.	Over 2 billion people around the world live on less than \$2.00 a day. Give \$2.00.	Plants in your home? Add a coin for each bit of greenery	Letters or cards in the mail? For each piece of mail today, add a coin.	Celebrate with joy the most precious gift of allJesus Christ! Make a special gift today.	An extra treat for my World Thank Box. Give generously!

You can surely think of other ways that God's abundant grace touches your life...each and every day. Put your World thank Offering container in a place where you will see it often...and make spontaneous gifts throughout the year for God's blessings.

## Rhonda Washington

Columbia District E & I Coordinator

**GOD** is looking for each of us to do our part to serve him with the special gifts and talents He have blessed us with.

Share the gift **GOD** gave you
Use your talents with the Columbia District Executive Team.
No talent is too **small** or too **BIG** 

### We need you!

Call a member of the Committee on Nominations to discuss the job duties.

Call the person presently serving in that role. Ask them questions

Shadow that person to see what it's all about.

Help with a program, there's always planning, printing, packing and praying.

Presently the position of Secretary of Program Resources is vacant

For the term 2025-2028, The Committee on Nominations will be accepting names for the position of:

President
Vice President
Secretary
Education & Interpretation Coordinator,
Communications Coordinator
three members for the Committee on Nominations.
Submit your name or make a nomination for a position by April 5, 2024.

Please share this information with members of your unit.

"Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be servants of God's various gifts of grace" Peter 4:10-11

Members of the Committee on Nominations Vilma Cobb & Stella J. Chisholm, Co-Chairs Melissa Hafer Marlene Sipes Becky Travis Betty Void Rosemary Wilds

### **Education and Interpretation Coordinator**

**Duties and Responsibilities** 

- Serves on District Executive Committee.
- Trains and works with local E&I coordinators.
- Chairs E&I Committee, if there is one.
- Promotes the importance of **Mission Giving**, mission studies, and mission opportunities.
- Serves on the following District Committees: E&I, Finance, Program and Membership.
- Submits articles for publication in the district newsletter.
- Encourages **Mission Today** activities within local units. Receives reports from local units. Prepares **Mission Today** report for Annual Meeting held in the fall.
- Follows By-Laws as set forth in National UWFaith handbook and district Standing Rules.
- Reads and promotes response magazine.
- Encourages fundraising for mission projects.
- Promotes 4 mission projects in SC Conference: Bethlehem Center, Spartanburg, Columbia Bethlehem
   Community Center, Killingsworth, and Wallace Family Life Center.

# RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

					Date		
District							
l recommen	d:						
Name:							
Address:							
Phone home:				Phone mobile:			
E-mail:							
Age:	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s	80s+
Race/				Employe	ed:	Yes	No
Ethnicity: Why I think y	ou shoi	ıld consi	der this	person (at	tach extra	sheet if n	ecessan
Why I think y Position(s) I						sheet if n	ecessary



### **LIMITLESS**

We invite you to a Party!!!

Join us for our annual Christmas Party on **December 2**, at **St. Paul's UMC** in Camden, SC. 511 Knights Hill Road, Camden, SC 29020

We will start at **10:00 a.m**. and we plan to have some games, some Christmas "surprises" and lots of opportunities to fellowship with each other.

As always, we will have a mission project!! Please bring toys or books for children that will be spending the Christmas holiday in the hospital.

And most importantly, please bring your youth from your Church to our party!

Register by emailing Debra at <a href="debrajschooler@gmail.com">debrajschooler@gmail.com</a>!!!

# CLUSTER REPORTS CLUSTER 1

### Shiloh-Gilbert:

- 1. Spaghetti lunch to help defray cost for mailing shoe boxes
- 2. Adopted families for Thanksgiving and Christmas
- 3. Upcoming Bazaar and Garage sale on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> from 8-2 at the church. Will have fresh vegetables, home canned items, homemade cakes and pies, jellies etc.
- 4. Provided lunch for one of the elementary schools with door prizes and goody bags. Also donated clothing for emergencies.
- 5. Donated sheets, blankets and towels to Epworth.
- 6. We are adopting a child at Epworth for Christmas and filling their wishes on the Christmas list.
- 7. Sponsored a going away reception for their pastor in July.

### **CLUSTER 3**



#### **CLUSTER 4**



#### Bluff Road United Women in Faith

July 2023 to October 17, 2023

During this Quarter Bluff UWF continued to send financial obligations to the District treasurer as required. We also supported members of the unit if there was a need for a benevolence card regarding family illness and so on.

<u>July 1, 2923</u>, attended Limitless at Washington Street United Methodist Church

July 20, 2023 --Two members of our unit (Faye Love and Sandra Hamlin) attended Mission U at Spartanburg Methodist College. The picture below was copied from Mission Echo. If you would look closely in the lower righthand corner, you will see that two members of Bluff Road UMC's UWF's unit managed to get a picture in the September 2023 Mission Echo (smile).



Juy 29, 2023 Attended the Installation of Sally Vonner via Zoom. It was a joyous occasion.

<u>September 16, 2023</u>- Mrs. Helen Lebby; Sandra Hamlin and Faye Love attended Columbia District United Women in Faith's 51<sup>st</sup>. Annual Meeting at Grace United Methodist Church. The program theme was *Get Up! Stand Up! Speak up!: Intersecting with the Environment*. The program was excellent. Mrs. Helen Lebby, was recognized as Bluff Road's 2023 Woman of the year. Mrs. Faye Love carried out registration duties as a member of the Columbia District United Women in Faith Leadership Team. Bluff Road United Women in Faith's unit received recognition for Campaign for Children and Four Mission Units 2023 financial giving.



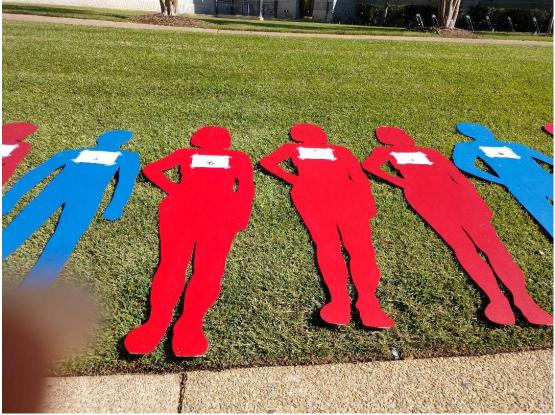


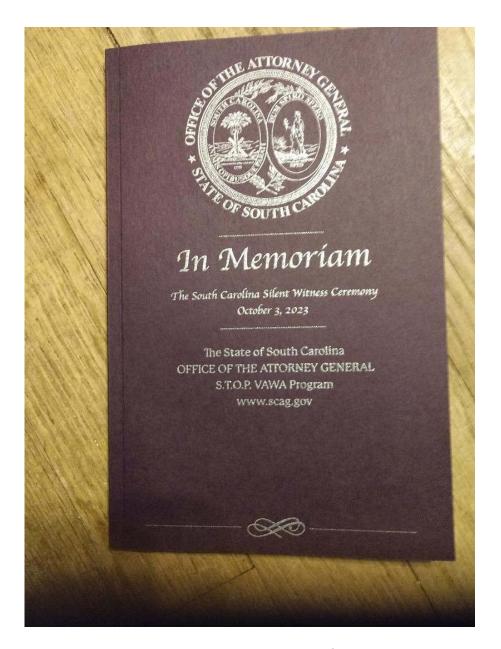
October 2, 2023—Attended charge conference at church. The activities of Bluff Road UWF were presented in a written report consisting primarily of the Zone leader reports which had been submitted quarterly for the year. The report was well received. The District Superintendent verbalized liking reports with pictorial symbols of activities. Several members of UWF were present at charge conference.

### October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month—

October 3, 2023—Attended the South Carolina Silent Witness Ceremony, an annual remembrance of South Carolinians who were killed by intimate partners the year before. At this year's remembrance of victims in 2022, there were 37 silhouettes; 29 represented the known female victims; and 7 represented the males. One represented the victims which the Attorney General's office said that we are unaware of. Each victim's name was read aloud as someone walked out with a silhouette. A bell was rung in remembrance after each name was called. Family members and the public participated in the remembrance solemnly. May God's peace comfort us all.







October 8, 2023-- Met with Mrs. Lebby and Lay Leader Charles Riley to talk about a request from Ms. Janet Campbell, principal of Burnside Elementary School. Burnside will have a Fall Festival on October 27, 2023. It was decided to ask the Bluff Road UWF unit to consider offering a financial donation to Burnside since we will be unable to attend their Fall Festival in person. This proposal to help Burnside will be presented to the unit for a vote at our next meeting which is October 15, 2023.

<u>October 15, 2023</u> –Bluff Road UWF October meeting scheduled to convene. Our unit's treasure's report has already been submitted in anticipation of that meeting. Our unit will also be asked to consider supporting the Killingsworth Gala

# Cluster 5 Francis Burns United Women in Faith



Francis Burns UWFaith Mini Retreat 2023 Sent donation to Move 4 Mission.



Mini Retreat Gift Bag



Francis Burns UWFaith ladies at their Mini Retreat.



Mission u 2023 Rebecca Eleazer and Carrie Murray

Francis Burns ladies out and about.



2023 SCCUWF Annual Meeting Linda Kennedy, Carrie Murray, Rebecca Eleazer and Marcella Forest



#### **Francis Burns Local Meetings:**

Left Photo: Celebrating past unit Presidents at June meeting. Right Photo: A mandala made from can goods at October meeting. The can goods were donated to Harvest Hope Food Bank.





Killingsworth Gala 2023
We donated two wrapped gift boxes for center pieces.





## 2024 Church Women United Tentative Calendar

January 5, 2024	11:00 A.M. Executive Board Meeting		Zoom
February 2, 2024	11:00 A.M. Bible Study Executive Board Meeting 4600 Danie Columbia, SC		
February 23, 2024	11:00 A.M. Annual Meeting Brookland Baptist Banquet Ce	enter	
March 1, 2024	11:00 A.M. World Day of Pray	⁄er	TBD
April 5, 2024	11:00 A. M. Executive Board	Meeting	Zoom
May 3, 2024	11:00 A.M. May Friendship Da	ay	TBD
June 7, 2024	11:00 A.M. Executive Board Meeting		Zoom
July & August 2024 I	No Meetings		
September 6, 2024	11:00 A.M. Executive Board N	/leeting	Zoom
October 4, 2024	12:00 P.M. Human Rights Ce	lebration	TBD
November 1, 2024	11:00 A.M. World Community	Day	TBD
December 6, 2024	11:00 A.M. Executive Board N	/leeting	Zoom
January 3, 2025	11:00 A.M. Executive Board N	/leeting	Zoom

Please note the TBD events. If you would check with your church office staff to determine if CWU would be allowed to host an event at your church, it would be appreciated. Thank you!

## 2024 South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Calendar of Events JANUARY

Saturday – 6	9:30 am	President's Consultation	Virtual
	9:30 am	Committee on Nominations	Virtual
Saturday – 13	9:30 am	Social Action and Limitless Team	Virtual & In-
			Person
Saturday – 13		Local District Officer's Training	Virtual & In-
		_	Person
Saturday – 27	9:30 am	Spiritual Growth Committee	Virtual
	1:00 pm	Membership, Nurture and Outreach	Virtual

#### **FEBRUARY**

Wallace Family Life Center Special Emphasis Month					
Saturday – 3	9:30 am	Education & Interpretation	Virtual		
	1:00 pm	Communications	Virtual		
Thursday – 8	6:30 pm	Social Action Workshop #1	Virtual		
Saturday – 10	9:30 am	Executive Committee	Virtual		
	1:30 pm	Legacy Committee	Virtual		
Thursday – 15	6:30 pm	Social Action Workshop #2	Virtual		
Saturday – 17	TBA	UMC – Connectional Ministries	TBA		
Saturday – 24	10:00 am	Social Action Workshop #3	Virtual		
Saturday – 24	1:00 pm	CRJ Meeting	Virtual		

### **MARCH**

Mission Echo published					
Saturday – 2	9:30 am	Mission u Committee	Virtual		
	1:00 pm	Finance Committee	Virtual		
Saturday – 9	10:00 am	Program Committee	Virtual, Rock Hill		
			District		
Saturday – 16	10: 00 am	Committee on Nominations	Virtual		
Saturday – 23	All Day	Legacy Fund Day of Giving-155 <sup>th</sup> Year			

### APRIL

Columbia Bethlehem Community Center Special Emphasis Month					
Saturday – 6	10:00 am	Spiritual Growth Event	Virtual, Anderson District host		
Saturday – 13	9:30 am	Scholarship Committee	Virtual		
Friday 19-Sunday 21		SEJ Quadrennial Meeting	Chattanooga, Tn.		
April 23-May 3		UM General Conference	Charlotte, North Carolina		

### MAY

Saturday – 18	9:30 am	Come Together Be Together	Virtual, Florence District
			host

## JUNE

Mission Echo published					
Sunday, 9 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, 12 <sup>th</sup>		SC UMC Annual Conference	Greenville, SC		
Saturday – 22	10:00	Charter for Racial +	Virtual		
	am	Environmental Justice Event			

# 2024 South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Calendar of Events

	Unite	ed Women in Fai	th Cal LY	endar o	of Events		
Saturday – 6	10:00 am	Limitless Event	L I			In-Person	
Wednesday – 17	6:00 pm	Administrative Committee Executive Committee	Spartanb Methodis College		Fireside Rooi	n Spartanburg	
Thursday – 18	6:30 pm 9:00 am	Executive Committee  Committee	Spartanb Methodis College	urg I	Fireside Rooi	n Spartanburg	
Thursday – 18	10:30 am	Spiritual Growth Committee	Spartanb Methodis College		Fireside Rooi	n Spartanburg	
Thursday – 18	11:00 am	Charter for Racial Justice	Spartanb Methodis College		Fireside Rooi	n Spartanburg	
Thursday – Saturday, 18 – 20	TBA	Mission u	Spartanb Methodis College			Spartanburg	
		Aug	UST				
Saturday – 10	9:30 am	Mission u Committee				Virtual	
•	12:30 pm	Program Committee				Virtual	
Saturday – 17	9:30 am	Administrative Comm	Administrative Committee				
-	1:00 pm	Social Action Commit	ttee			Virtual	
Saturday – 24	9:30 am	Finance Committee	Finance Committee				
	1:00 pm	MN&O Committee				Virtual	
		SEPTE	EMBER	2			
		Killingsworth Speci Mission Ecl	_		h		
Various	Various	District Annual Meeti				Virtual & In Person	
	•	Осто	OBER			•	
	Bethle	hem Center – Spartanb	burg Spe	cial Emph	asis Month		
Thursday –24	6:00 pm –	Executive Committee	:	Woodlan	d UMC	Rock Hill District	

	Bethlehem Center – Spartanburg Special Emphasis Month					
Thursday –24	6:00 pm –	Executive Committee	Woodland UMC	Rock Hill District		
	9:00 pm	Meeting				
Friday – 25	9:00 am –	Executive Committee	Woodland UMC	Rock Hill District		
	11:30 am	Meeting				
Friday –	12:30 pm –	SCCUWF 52 <sup>nd</sup> Annual	Woodland UMC	Rock Hill District		
Saturday, 25-26	3:00 pm	Meeting				

### November

Saturday – 9	9:00 am	District Officers Training	Northeast UMC	Columbia
				District

#### **DECEMBER**

Mission Echo published				
Saturday – 7	10:00 am	Limitless Event	In-Person	

Columbia District United Women in Faith Slate of Officers 2024  President
President
(H) 803-353-9827 (C) 803-351-6969 Email: debrajschooler@gmail.com 113 Meadow Lane, Eastover SC 29044
Vice President
(H) 803-754-1895 (C) 803-521-9521 Email: cmrmurra@bellsouth.net 6509 David Street, Columbia SC 29203
Secretary
(C) 803-354-6760 Email: Selphdiann@yahoo.com 117 Summerhill Drive, Columbia, SC 29203
Treasurer
803-543-9405 Email: tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com 2336 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223
Communications Coordinator
Rhonda: (C) 803-629-4503 Email: rhondawashington@hotmail.com Sharee: (C) 803-414-4232 Email: shareewash@hotmail.com 131 Hawks Nest Court, Columbia SC 29212
Spiritual Growth Coordinator
(H) 803-781-0986 (W) 803-476-8253 (C) 803-414-7323 Email: slgtar@aol.com 107 Hexham Circle, Irmo SC 29063
Social Action Coordinator
(C) 803-212-8350 Email: lexiechatham@yahoo.com 301 Sortwell Street, West Columbia, SC. 29169
Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator
Email: Hankeny60@hotmail.com
Education & Interpretation Coordinator
(C) 803-629-4503 Email: rhondawashington@hotmail.com 131 Hawks Nest Court, Columbia, SC 29212
Secretary, Program ResourcesVacant

Historian......Pat Hoesly (Northeast)

(H) 803-736-5507 (C) 803-608-4905) Email: pathoesly@yahoo.com 225 Great North Road, Columbia SC 29223

## **Committee on Nominations**

Class of 2024 –Chairperson	Vilma Cobb (Rehoboth/Columbia)	
(H) 803-814-2743 (C) 803-463-3085 Email: Vilma29223@live.com 609 Trader Mill Road, Columbia, SC 29223		
Class of 2024 –Vice Chairperso	onStella Chisholm (Francis Burns)	
(H) 803-708-2682 (C) 803-446-5660 Email: starrjackson8@yahoo.com 400 Valley Springs Road, Columbia, SC 29223		
Class of 2024	Becky Travis (Union)	
803-463-1542 Email: mail@bobtravis.com 64 Lawrin Court, Irmo, SC 29063		
Class of 2025	Betty Void (Wesley)	
803 447-0626 Email: <u>bjvoid0629.bv@gmail.com</u> 149 Havenwood Drive, Gaston, SC 29053		
Class of 2026		
	467-6046 Email: <a href="mailto:mhafer@mthebronumc.com">mhafer@mthebronumc.com</a> 1 Gambrell Street, West Columbia, SC 29169	
Class of 2026		
* *	03-318-0895 Email: <u>marlenesipes@yahoo.com</u> 1001 Wanda Street, Columbia, SC 29205	
Class of 2026		
(C) 803	3-960-9230. Email: wilds.rosemary@gmail.com	

2 Clearwell Court, Columbia, SC 29229

# **Cluster Leaders**

Cluster 1	Vikki Hill
	803-206-9534 Email: vhill13103@gmail.com 518A Oak Drive, Lexington, SC 29073
Cluster 2	
	803-318-6842 Email: cready6326@aol.com 2007 Holland Street, West Columbia, SC 29169
Cluster 3	Becky Travis (Union)
	803-463-1542 Email: mail@bobtravis.com 64 Lawrin Court, Irmo, SC 29063
Cluster 4	
	(H) 803-356-4496 (C) 803-477-5875 Email: <u>nfayelove@aol.com</u> 101 Merryfield Lane, West Columbia SC 29170
Cluster 5	
	803-609-4510 flojo2@bellsouth.net 1125 Tarrytown Lane, West Columbia, SC. 29170
Cluster 6	Linda Kennedy (Francis Burns)
	(H) 803-786-7671 Email: lhkhome@sc.rr.com 608 Wilmette Road, Columbia SC 29203

### COLUMBIA DISTRICT CHURCHES BY CLUSTER

CLUSTER 1 - Vikki Hill

vhill13103@gmail.com

Beulah (Gilbert)

**Boiling Springs** 

Faith

Gilbert

Lexington

Red Bank

Rehoboth (Gilbert)

Shiloh (Gilbert)

CLUSTER 2 - Carole Ready Eubanks

cready6326@aol.com

**Brookland** 

Cayce

Mt. Hebron

Platt Springs

Washington Street

Wesley

**CLUSTER 3 - Becky Travis** 

mail@bobtravis.com

Ashland

Grace

I.DeQuincey Newman

Salem (Ballentine)

Shady Grove

St. John

Union

Virginia Wingard

**CLUSTER 4 - Faye Love** 

nfayelove@aol.com

Bluff Road

**Heyward Street UMC** 

Mill Creek

Shandon

Suber Marshall

Trenholm Road

Whaley Street

CLUSTER 5 - Flo Johnson

flojo2@bellsouth.net

Bethel (Columbia)

Francis Burns

Northeast

Rehoboth (Columbia)

Windsor

CLUSTER 6- Linda Kennedy

lhkhome@sc.rr.com

Fairlawn

First

Greenbrier

Gordon Memorial

Trinity (Blythewood)

## **Columbia District**



# Calendar of Events 2024

## Happy New Year!



January 13 Columbia District Local Unit Officer Training Host: Northeast UMC Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting

February: Wallace Family Life Center Special Emphasis Month

March 2 Columbia District Day-Apart Retreat Host: Brookland UMC

March 31 Easter - Christ Is Risen Today!

January 1

April: Columbia Bethlehem Community Center Special Emphasis Month

April 16 Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting Host: Francis Burns UMC

June 20 Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting Host: Washington Street UMC

**September:** Killingsworth Home Special Emphasis Mont

**September 21** Columbia District 52<sup>nd</sup> UWF Annual Meeting Host: Washington Street UMC

October: Bethlehem Community Center Spartanburg Special Emphasis Month

October 15 Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting Host: I. D. Newman UMC

November 9 \*SCCUWF District Officers Training Host: Columbia District

December 25 **Merry Christmas!** 





Columbia District UMC Rhonda & Sharee Washington 4908 Colonial Drive Columbia, SC 29203 Non Profit Org US Postage PAID Columbia, SC Permit No 163

equenc\*\*\*0 pk FIRST LAST TITLE COMPANY ADDRESS CITY, st zip

Rhonda & Sharee Washington, Columbia District Communications Coordinators

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her" Luke 1:45