

The Flame

Florence District

PO Box 408

Florence, SC 29503

background picture from
Canva.com

The Flame

DECEMBER 2022

Merry Christmas and Happy New Years

A Message from the President

Melissa A. Epps



Greetings to the phenomenal Florence District United Women in Faith.

First, I would like to say Thank You for entrusting in me to serve as your Florence District President. This will be a learning journey for me and our phenomenal executive team. Take a moment to review the Florence District Executive Team. We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose. {Romans 8:28} (CEV).

We are off to a great start for 2023. As we begin the year, we will spread the joy, love, hope, and faith for all our work to come. We are in the midst of planning our Florence District Local Officers' Training, detailed information will be shared later. Let's welcome our new District Officers, (members are listed in the Flame). Please review the United Women in Faith Calendar, so you will be familiar with upcoming events that would assist you with planning your Unit's calendar. As United Women in Faith, we seek to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership, development, creative fellowship and education so they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Our first journey begins with our Local District Officers' Training and Leadership Development Days. Thanks to those who registered for South Carolina Conference United in Faith's 2023 Mission Trip - "Asheville to Nashville Adventure". Our 2023 calendar is full of events, programs and opportunities for growth. Please make plans to participate and fully engage growth and leadership development. We continue to look for churches to host our District's Officer Training, Annual Meeting and Day Apart in 2023 as well as the Executive Meeting in October 2023.

We are here to grow our strength in Christ. If you need assistance, do not hesitate to contact us as needed. Wish you all a blessed and safe Holiday.

Joy, Love, Hope, Faith,

Melissa A. Epps
Florence District UWiF President



United
Women
in Faith

**South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith
2023 Mission Trip**

The Asheville to Nashville Adventure

Adventure includes tour of Brooks-Howell Home
Beautiful Lake Junaluska
Tour of Scarritt Bennett
Bethlehem Centers, Nashville
(A UWF National Mission Institution)



March 27-30, 2023
\$165.00 Per Person

Price includes Round Trip Bus Ride
1 breakfast, 2 lunches and 1 dinner

Pick up in Charleston, Columbia, and Spartanburg, SC

Return March 30th to pick up points

Lake Junaluska-\$139.00 per night-The Terrace Inn (3/27/2023)

Travelers Must Make Hotel Reservations By February 25, 2023

Telephone: 800-222-4930

Best Western Plus Music Row-\$179.00 (3/28 & 29, 2023)

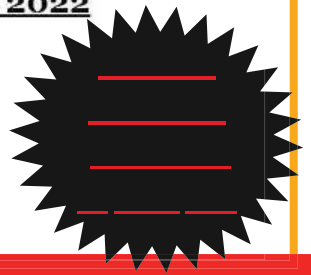
Travelers Must Make Hotel Reservations By December 31, 2022

Telephone: 615-242-1631

Rooms sleep Two-Free Breakfast **9th**

A Bus Deposit of \$100.00 is due December 2, 2022

Balance of \$65.00 is due February 3, 2023



DepositDeadlineExtendedToDecember9th

South Carolina Conference
United Women in Faith

2023 Mission Trip
The Asheville to Nashville Adventure
Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

Cost of Transportation and 4 Meals: \$165.00

Make checks payable to the South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith

Mail checks to:

Ann Alexander

PO Box 392

Clover, South Carolina 29710

Contact Information: MHAALL5@bellsouth.net

704-616-1133 **9th**

Deposit of \$100.00 is due December ~~2, 2022~~

Balance of \$65.00 is due February 3, 2023

Travelers must make their own hotel reservations: Deadline is December 31, 2022

Pick up locations: Please circle your pick up choice:

Charleston-Grace United Methodist Church-1601 Rittenberg Blvd., Charleston, SC-Depart 7:00 am

Columbia-Columbia College-Campus Police Parking Lot-Depart 9:10 am

Spartanburg-Silver Hill UMC-778 John B. White St. Blvd, Spartanburg, SC-Depart 11:00 am

DeadlineExtendedButYouMustAct **NOW** .BookToday!

Special Emphasis Months

February - *Wallace Family Life Center*

April - *Bethlehem Community Center/Columbia S. C.*

September - *Killingsworth/Columbia S.C.*

October - *Bethlehem Center/ Spartanburg S. C.*



Greetings, United Women in Faith!

I pray that this greeting finds you well and in the Holiday Spirit!

It has been spiritually uplifting to come together this year for our various meetings. Virtual meetings due to COVID were necessary, but being in person is vital to our mental and spiritual well being. I thank God for allowing us to get back together again!

God willing, I will be your District Vice-President for the next ___ years under the leadership of Melissa Epps, our newly elected president and the executive leadership team. I look forward to meeting and working with all of the local Vice-Presidents in the Florence District. Together, we can fulfill our mission of focusing on women, children and youth by putting our love into action.

Many thanks to Janice Eaddy for her many years of dedicated service to United Methodist Women. God bless you Janice! Congratulations to Kathy Roys, our newly elected South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Vice President. We all look forward to working together to the "Glory of God" in our new positions.

I hope to see you at the training for our local officers in January 2023.

Wishing you Peace and Love during this Holiday Season!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

**Katherine Sabb-Graham
Florence District Vice-President**

A Scholarship from the United Women in Faith? That's Right.

You or someone you know can be the recipients of the 2023 South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Presidential Scholarship

South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith is offering a scholarship to future leaders of United Women in Faith. As a supportive community, our desire is to financially assist young women with their higher educational needs.

For more information scan the QR code or go to:

<https://www.umcsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023-Presidential-Scholarship.pdf>

Application must be submitted (postmarked) by March 1, 2023



From the Desk of Education and Interpretation

Anita Simon

Thank you, Florence District, for having the faith to elect me as your new Education and Interpretation Coordinator. I attended Officers training on November 12 at Washington Street UMC in Columbia, SC under the tutelage of Conference E&I Coordinator Beth Addis.

Because we are about God's mission, we are committed to being the eyes and ears as a supportive ministry for all. 1 Timothy 2:1 "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people". With this in our forward focus, I look forward to our continued relationships with our SC Mission Projects: Bethlehem Center in Spartanburg and Columbia; with Killingsworth in Columbia, and Wallace Family Life, Bennettsville.

Of course, our continued support of the Craft Room at Mission u on July 20-22 in Spartanburg, SC happens because of you! Please continue to save your used stamps and pull-tabs.

I am looking forward to meeting you and serving you.....

Anita Simon

The Flame...

Reprint from The Mission Echo

SCCUWF Newsletter | December 2022

www.uwfaith.org

The Flame

**2023 SC CONFERENCE
UWF TEAM**

Thank You

to all of our retiring officers for a job well done

**CATHY
FORD**
President

**JANICE
EADDY**
VICE
PRESIDENT

**KIM
LOVE
QUICK**
Communications

**DR.
RENEE
RITTER**
SECRETARY

**KATHY
ROYS**
CON
Chair &
Member

**LINDA
EICHENBAUM**
Social
Action

**JOYCE
LEWIS**
CON
Member

**ANN
ALEXANDER**
Trip
Coordinator

**CLARICE
BLAKENEY**
WFLC
Rep

**CHARM
EADDY**
Mission u
Asst Registrar

**VIKKI
HILL**
Mission u
Asst Registrar

Your hard work made a difference.

President
Clarice Blakeney

Vice President
Kathy Roys

Secretary

Ann Alexander

Treasurer

Ruby Hannah

Communications

W. Chandler-Flowers

Sec Prog Res

Shirley Crosby

Nominations Chair

Azilee Dickey

E&I

Beth Addis

MN&O

Angela Allen

Social Action

Patricia Armstrong

Spiritual Growth

Vickie Harvey

Legacy Liaison

Maureen Thomas

Historian

Judy Roumillat

Trip Coordinator

Jacquelyn Session

Rep Bethl Cntr, Sptnbg

Jan Fleming

Rep Col Bethl Com Cntr

Helene Cargile

Rep Killingsworth

Jane Scott

Rep Wallace Family Life

Cntr

Frances McCluney

Spiritual Growth Greetings!

"But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer." Psalm 66:19

Florence District, it has been a great year for us! Ladies you handled the name change with

elegance, such willingness and with grace, but then again, that's what you do best!

Your attendance at our Annual meeting at Asbury in September showed a true dedication to what God has called us to be. I was elated to see so many ladies of distinction at the SC Conference Annual meeting in Myrtle Beach in October. Ladies you are jewels and can always be counted on to represent.

The Conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator is still asking us to register as prayer warriors with Vickey Harvey at vtarvey62@gmail.com. My prayer is that we will always remain true Prayer Warriors on the battlefield of life anchored in the Holy Word of Almighty God.

It has been an honor and joy to serve as your Spiritual Growth Coordinator. The love I have for you is more than I can describe, but I will always be ready to serve my GOD and my District.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for April 22-Spiritual Growth Event hosted by Walterboro District virtually and July 20-22 for Mission U at Spartanburg Methodist College in Spartanburg in person.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas (Jesus is the Reason for the Season) and a Happy New Year in 2023!

In His Service and Yours,
Azilee DeeDee Dickey



Graphic by Canva.com

There is nothing like The Power of Prayer

Have you registered as a prayer partner?
Are you encouraging your Unit/Circle to
register?

Contact Vickey Harvey at
Vtharvey62@gmail.com
for more information

The Flame...

2023 FLORENCE DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
President	Melissa Epps	(803)-316-4971	1650 Puddin Swamp Road, Lynchburg, SC 29080	Eppsmelissa@gmail.com
Vice-President	Katherine W. Sabb-Graham	(843)-372-9419	513 Second Avenue, Kingstree, SC 29556	Ksabbgraham@gmail.com
Secretary	Pearl R. Brown	(843)-319-6450 (c) (843)-382-3564	2076 Cade Road, Lake City, SC 29518	Prbrown2076@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dorothy Murray	(843)-356-0398	P.O. Box 602 Kingstree, SC 29556	Thebig_DM@yahoo.com
Communications	Trinette McKnight	(843)-356-1856	4856 Thurgood Marshall Hwy., Kingstree, SC 29556	Tmcknightfd@yahoo.com
Program Resource	Stephanie Bolden	(803)-459-2692	2596 Black Street, Timmonsville, SC 29161	Stephaniebolden1958@gmail.com
Social Action	Carolyn W. Scott	(843)-389-7528	P.O. Box 1564, Lake City, SC 29560	Kristen.scott86@gmail.com (temporary email)
Spiritual Growth	Azilee "DeeDee Dickey	(843)-481-8493 (h) (803)-491-6699 (c)	205 Kilpatrick Drive, Sumter, SC 29154	Deejie721@yahoo.com
MN & O	Barbara Hyman	(843)-395-0786	304 Limit Street, Darlington, SC 29532	Bhyman1969@yahoo.com
E & I	Anita Simon	(803)-305-5974		Lekir380@yahoo.com
Chair CON	Mildred Cunningham	(843)-382-8154	729 Doodle Hill Loop, Nesmith, SC 29580	Cunninghammildred4@gmail.com
CON	Connie Dennis	(843)-659-2644	3560 Puddin Swamp Rd., Turbeville, SC 29162	Cjdennised3@yahoo.com
CON	Lutie Brown	(843)-365-4468	212 F. Guerry Road, Kingstree, SC 29556	
CON	Shirley Woodard	(843)-354-3600 (843)-356-9540	51 Montana Dr. Kingstree, SC 29556	shirley_woodard@yahoo.com
CON	Open			

Children in Jackson Need Clean Water

Ladies, as you may already know, Jackson, Mississippi faced serious flooding a few months ago which devastated their municipal water system. The water system in this city was already facing serious problems before the flood. Since that time, residents have had to boil water or buy bottled water.

At the end of September, members of our Conference Charter for Racial Justice Committee attended a Zoom meeting with our other Southeastern Jurisdiction conferences, 14 in all, to plan a new Charter for Racial Justice event for next year for each conference. During this meet-



ing, we learned from a public-school employee and United Women in Faith Mississippi Conference officer from Jackson, MS that even though residents in predominantly black communities in Jackson have been told by local officials that the water is safe to drink, it comes out of the tap looking brown and muddy. The residents refuse to drink it. This school employee told us the water fountains at the schools had to be covered to protect the children. Her UWF Conference has been supplying water to the school children. The other

conferences offered to assist in this effort to provide clean drinking water to school children. Our UWF Conference is participating in this project, so we are requesting monetary donations to be sent through treasurers (local to district to conference) up until February 14, 2023. Please specify it is for: Jackson kids' water. The Bethlehem Center in Jackson, MS is coordinating this project. This is a National UWF Mission Institution.

Participation and discussion of this project can be counted as a Diamond Unit activity for local church units.

Thanks for showing these children some love this coming Valentine's Day!

**As of the time of this report, the Governor of Mississippi declared that a state of emergency will continue for the water supply in Jackson.*

This request for help is also on www.uwfaith.org/news/latest-news/.

Our Conference event on Racial Justice with an emphasis on environmental issues will be online June 24, 2023 at 10:00am.

Charter for Racial Justice Committee member

Kathy Roys

We are asking all local units to Submit a donation of at least \$25.00 prior to February 14, 2023

Save the Date

APRIL 26-28, 2024



"A new command I give you; Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

OUR 2024 SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION EVENT

"Get Together"

**will be at the
Chattanooga Convention Center
Chattanooga, TN
April 26-28, 2024**



United
Women
in Faith

www.sejuwf.org

www.uwfaith.org

The Flame ...

IT'S NOT TOO
EARLY TO START PLANNING

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS DESK

My name is Trinette Mcknight and I am humbled and grateful to experience this venture with The Great Florence District. It is indeed an honor and a pleasure to serve in this capacity and I will do my best to relay all information in a timely manner as it comes to me. I look forward to getting to know each of you through the various events that are to come in 2023. Our sisterhood has the ability to transform lives as it has in the past and it is time for this generation of United Women in Faith to walk in it **boldly**. In the spirit of this transformation, I am requesting at least one of your unit leaders (president, communication person or at least one member of your Unit) to send an email address for more direct contact for all relevant/pertinent information to be sent such as zoom information and The Flame newsletter. The email should contain your email address, contact name/position, unit/church name and location (*there may be more than one church with the same name*). If your only contact is postal, please inform me.

Trinette McKnight (FD Communications)

Email: Tmcknightfd@yahoo.com

Postal address: 4856 Thurgood Marshall Highway

Kingstree, South Carolina 29556

Phone: (843)-356-1856

We would like to prayerfully see membership increase as well as an increase in donations and pledges. Through Christ, anything is possible and every little bit helps. If there is anything your unit has done that we don't know about feel free to contact me or any one of the executive officers from the contact list of officers from 2023 FD Officers page. We look forward to meeting you via zoom at next month's Local Officers Training. Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!!

Trinette Mcknight



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United
Women
in Faith

Florence District United Women in Faith 2023 Calendar

January

- January 1st Happy New Year Florence District UWIF
January 6thFD Executive Team Meeting /Asbury Shiloh @7:00 pm/Virtual
January 28thTheme: "We are all part of God' Story"s Story"Virtual
St. Michael - Kingstree host (Zoom sign in 9:15-9:30 am).
January 19th - 21stLeadership Meeting

February

Special Emphasis Month - Wallace Family Life Center

The Wallace Family Life Center is a family oriented facility. Their mission is to provide educational, cultural, recreational, and religious programs to enrich the lives of the people that live in the Wallace/Bennettsville communities.

(we will collect supplies for Wallace)

Social Action Workshops (Virtual/ times vary)

- February 1st.....Workshop #1 @ 10:00 am - February 7th.....Workshop #2 @ 7:00 pm
February 16thWorkshop #3 @ 2:00 pm - February 25thWorkshop #4 @ 10:00 am

March

- March 1st..... Presidential Scholarship Applications due
March 11th or 25th Florence District Day Apart in person (TBD)
March 23rd Legacy Fund Day of Giving, 154th year
March 27th - 30thMission Trip, Ashville to Nashville Adventure

April

Special Emphasis Month - Bethlehem Community Center/Columbia

- April 9th Happy Easter Resurrection Sunday! Christ is Risen!
April 22ndSpiritual Growth Event@10:00 am/
Walterboro District UWIF Host/Virtual
April 29thFD Executive Team Meeting /Virtual

May

- May 20thCome Together Be Together.....@10:00 am Columbia District Host/ Virtual

June

- June 4th - 7th SC UMC Annual Conference, Florence Center, Florence, SC
June 24thCharter for Racial Justice+Environmental Justice Event @10:00 am /Virtual

July

- July 1st Limitless Event @10:00 am. / Virtual
July 20th - 22ndMission U, Spartanburg Methodist College, Spartanburg SC

August

- August 12th Executive Meeting @ The Ranch
(Includes all Local Presidents)

September

Special Emphasis Month - Killingsworth/Columbia SC

- September 30thDistrict Annual Meeting @ 10:00 am

October

Special Emphasis Month - Bethlehem Center/ Spartanburg SC

- October 20th - 21stSCCUWF 51st Annual Meeting/ St. John's UMC-Aiken/Orangeburg District


November

- November 11th District Officer's Training 8:30 am, Columbia District UWIF Host
November 18thExecutive Meeting/Killingsworth Gala/Virtual (TBD)

December

- December 2ndLimitless Event @ 10:00 am/Virtual
December 25thMerry Christmas/ Christ the Savior is Born





**"ONCE IN OUR WORLD, A STABLE
HAD SOMETHING IN IT THAT
WAS BIGGER THAN OUR WHOLE
WORLD."**

by C.S. Lewis

Merry Christmas
and Happy New
Year

MUCH LOVE FROM
THE FLORENCE DISTRICT
EXECUTIVE TEAM