

# Gleanings

**December Issue**

## COLUMBIA DISTRICT



United  
Women  
in Faith

## LOCAL UNIT OFFICER TRAINING

**Saturday, January 11, 2025  
Doors open at 8:45AM  
Program begins a 10:00AM**

*Theme:*

*Leadership: Inspiring, Influencing and Impacting Change*

**Northeast UMC  
4000 Hard Scrabble Road  
Columbia, SC 29223**

## COLUMBIA DISTRICT



### LOCAL UNIT OFFICER TRAINING

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Northeast UMC

4000 Hard Scrabble Road

Columbia, SC 29223

*Theme:* Leadership: Inspiring, Influencing and Impacting Change

**8:45AM - Registration 10:00AM –Morning plenary 11:00AM – Workshops 12:00Noon -Lunch**

### Registration Form

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan / Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church/UWFaith Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Office Held in UWFaith Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Check the workshop you will attend.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> President                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action Coordinator                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Circle Leader                | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice President               | <input type="checkbox"/> Education and Interpretation Coordinator  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secretary                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Resources Manager                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Treasurer                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Historian                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications Coordinator   | <input type="checkbox"/> Committee on Nominations                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spiritual Growth Coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster Leader                            |

Mail or Email Registration Form to

Tiffany Phillips

2336 Hard Scrabble Road Columbia, SC 29223

[tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com](mailto:tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com) 803-543-9405

**Registration Deadline: December 31, 2024**

## ***News From The President...***

Greetings,

The United Women in Faith of the Columbia District have been busy this last quarter of 2024.

The 52<sup>nd</sup> Columbia District Annual Meeting was at Washington Street UMC on September 21. The theme was “Sisters in Strength”, and our Keynote speaker was Rev. Mary Johnson. The program committee did an excellent job and provided ways for us to connect and support each other.

We had our last executive committee meeting, and it was bittersweet for me. I passed the gavel to the new President, Carrie Murray, and introduced our new executive team members. We decided that we would invite presidents of units to attend our executive meetings so they could get a feel for the business of the district. The President of I DeQuincey Newman came to the meeting and was very excited to learn how the district operated. The idea was well received, and members are excited to share our meetings.

Thank you, ladies, your support, and encouragement during my tenure as President. I cannot believe it has been 4 years. I am thankful for the new friends I have made and the wonderful experiences I have shared with you.

Thank you for helping to make the Columbia District the best!!!!

Respectfully submitted,

***Debra Schooler,***

Outgoing President of Columbia District



## Notes from the Vice President

Greetings United Women in Faith!

As I leave the position of Vice President and rise to the rank of President, I am reminded of the words of one of my favorite songs, *My Tribute* by Andraé Crouch.

*How can I say thanks for the things You have done for me?  
 Things so undeserved / Yet You gave to prove Your love for me  
 The voices of a million angels / Could not express my gratitude  
 All that I am and ever hope to be / I owe it all to Thee  
 To God be the glory  
 For the things He has done  
 With His blood He has saved me / With His power He has raised me  
 To God be the glory / For the things He has done  
 Oh, just let me live my life / Let it be pleasing, Lord to Thee  
 And if I gain any praise / Let it go to Calvary.*

Columbia District United Women in Faith, how can I say thank you for all the things you have done for me? You elected me to serve as Vice President of this great organization for four years. You embraced me. You loved me. You supported me as I planned events. You helped me to grow spiritually, and professionally. You became my sisters in Christ. You helped me develop new relationships. You became my new best friends. *The voices of a million angels / Could not express my gratitude* to you and to the Holy Spirit for granting me the privilege to live my life in a way that is pleasing to God and uplifting to women, children and youth throughout this land. To God be the Glory!

My last official duty as Vice President is to plan the **Local Unit Officers Training. Save the date: January 11, 2025 at Northeast UMC.** Doors open at 8:45am. The program begins at 10:00am. A flyer with details of the Officer Training is included in the December edition of *Gleanings*. I cannot express upon each of you the importance of having all officers of local units in the Columbia District attend this training event.

Local Officer Training will serve as the gateway to new changes, new ideas and new ways of fulfilling the purpose of United Women in Faith.

In Gratitude and Love,

***Carrie R. Murray***

Vice President

Columbia District United Women in Faith





## Secretary's Desk

The Columbia District United Women in Faith Executive Committee met Tuesday, October 15, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:28 by President, Debra Schooler. She welcomed and thanked I. DeQuincey Newman United Women in Faith for hosting the meeting.

In attendance were Debra Schooler, Carrie Murray, Diann Selph, Tiffany Phillips, Sandra Love, Lexie Chatham, Heidi Ankeny, Pat Hoesly, Vilma Cobb, Vanessa Key, Becky Travis, Stella Chisholm, Flo Johnson, and Linda Kennedy.

**Members absent:** Rhonda Washington, Sharee Washington, Vikki Hill and Betty Void.

Devotion and prayer were given by Sandra Love.

Minutes of the previous meeting recorded by secretary, Diann Selph, appeared in September Gleanings and were adopted by the Executive Board.

### **Reports were given by the following officers:**

#### **President Debra Schooler**

I can't believe it is already October; Christmas is just around the corner. This year has been exciting even though the year has flown by. Mission u was a great success and many of our Columbia District ladies attended and enjoyed the classes and the fellowship. We even had 6 Limitless girls attend. After Mission u, it was time to prepare for our Annual District meeting. Our annual meeting was meaningful and special. We honored our women and our units for all the hard work they have done through this year. We elected and installed the officers for 2025, and I am excited to see these new and current leaders lead the Columbia District. I know they will be great leaders and will help 2025 be a successful year for our District. We also had a very special guest, Iris Hamlin - our youngest member. Iris was born very prematurely and is doing great. Her mom and grandmother, faithful UWF members, brought her to the meeting. I would not be surprised if she is president someday. Washington Street UMC did a great job hosting us and Mary Johnson, our keynote speaker, inspired us and encouraged us to keep up the good work. Thank you to all of our executive team and members who helped make this district meeting such a success.

Carrie Murray will be your new president, and she will do a grand job leading the district next year. I am heading to new opportunities, and I thank you for your support and encouragement during my tenure as President. You ladies made it so easy for me and I thank every one of you for all your help and support. Blessings to each of you.

During the third quarter of 2024, I continued to participate in many activities sponsored by the Columbia District, Local Unit, South Carolina Conference and Chuch Women United.

## Vice President Carrie Murray

### July Activities

I attended the **SCCUW Faith Mission u** event at Spartanburg Methodist College July 18 – 20, 2024. As Conference Representative for Columbia Bethlehem Community Center (CBCC), I attended the Executive Meeting and gave a report on behalf of CBCC. In addition, I actively participated in the plenary and in the Adult Study: *Welcome Home* under the leadership of Rev. Walter Struthers.

At the end of Mission u, I dropped off items donated from the Craft room to CBCC.

At the July 21, 2024, Francis Burns United Women in Faith meeting, participants in the Reading Program participate in a Book Review. Five volunteers facilitated a group discussion on one book from each of the five categories under the reading program. I highlighted spiritual growth formation and social issues that women face in a book from the Social Action category entitled *The Rage of Innocence: How America Criminalizes Black Youth* by Kristin Henning.

### August Activities

I submitted an article to *Mission Echo*.

Ladies from my local unit of United Women in Faith and I dropped off school supplies to Hyatt Park Elementary School and under garments and outer wear to John P. Thomas Elementary School.

With the help and support of our ladies at Francis Burns United Methodist Church I was able to plan and organize a ***Women's Soul Care Retreat*** Saturday, August 24, 2024. The theme of the event was "Rejoice; Rejuvenate; Realize Your Strength!" One male and sixty-six (66) women from various church affiliations gathered for a time of fellowship and renewal. Activities included Zumba exercise; Christ and Coffee guided meditation; songs of praise from FBUMC Praise Team; a group discussion on The Sandwich Generation; information and resources to enhance Mental and Emotional Resilience; Soul Feast, Special Music; Christian Comedienne; and Holy Communion. Each guest received a beautiful gift bag.

### September Activities

I attended the Eau Claire Community Listening Session September 5, 2024 and participated in Food Share.

I attended CWU Board Meeting September September 6<sup>th</sup> and gave an update of events haappening throughout the South Carolina Conference by way of the Advocate and local unit activities.

I listened to the Presidential Candidates Debate, September 10<sup>th</sup> to determine whose values are most closely related to United Methodist Social Principles.

I chaired the The Columbia District Executive Team as we planned and organized the **52<sup>nd</sup> Columbia District Annual Meeting** that was held September 21, 2024 at 10:00am at Washington St, United Mehtodist Church. The theme for this event was *Sisters in Strength*. The morning plenary was a time of spiritual formation that resinated through melodious music rendered by Gail Vesser; a Call to Worship by Carrie Murray; warm greetings from

Debra Scholer, president of the Columbia District and Washington Street UWFaith, and warm greetings from Rev. Becky Shirley, pastor of Washington St. UMC. Thus, the stage was set for what was to follow: a spirit-filled devotional and Celebration of Life service by our Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Sandra Love, a liturgical dance performed by Union UMC Dancers and finally, through the words uttered by keynote speaker, Retired Elder, Rev. Mary L. Johnson. Her eloquent declamation of who we are as United Women in Faith and how together we find strength in unity, propelled us to be the women God created us to be.

We give thanks not only to the leaders and fearless women whose shoulders we stand on, but we also give thanks to the local units throughout the Columbia District for their continued dedication to fulfilling the Purpose, Mission and Vision of United Women in Faith. The inspiration, impact and influence of their work were evidenced during the business portion of the Annual Meeting.

We recognized 11 Women of the Year; 9 Mission today Units; 10 Diamond Units; 18 Five Star and Gold Seal Units; 1 Four Mission Unit; 9 Supporters of Campaign for Children; and 62 Reading Program participants,

We thank God for the service of 12 Retiring Officers and for many of them who are continuing to serve in different rolls. We are grateful for our new members who have come on board. Doing so, helped Columbia District have a full slate of officers who were installed by past president, Jane Scott. It was most fitting that our Annual Meeting ended with Holy Communion and a Fellowship Luncheon.

#### **Treasurer Tiffany Phillips**

3rd Quarter Remittance Sent: \$15,087.33

Pledge: \$7,716.50

SMR Special Mission Recognition: \$1,230.00

Gift to Missions: \$190.00

Gift in Memory: \$140.00

World Thanks: \$468.00

(Pledge to Mission Amount (1/2/3 Quarter) \$ 30,388.50

Children and Youth: \$5.00

Columbia BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CENTER: \$702.50

Spartanburg BETHLEHEM CENTER: \$ 972.50

Killingsworth: \$1,947.50

Wallace Family Life: \$921.53

Call to Prayer and Self Denial: \$323.80

Legacy Fund: \$20.00

Conference Love Offering: \$25.00

Conference Annual Meeting Love offering: \$150.00

District Love offering: \$25.00

#### Other Money Received:

Annual Meeting Registration: \$975.00

Annual Meeting Love Offering: \$ 1,110.00

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Remittance: \$1,350.00

Other Expenses:

September Gleaning Printing: \$ 271.12

September Gleaning Mailing: \$ 95.68

Annual Meeting Program Book Printing: \$ 260.01

Carrie for Purchase of New Laptop: \$614.98

**Check Book Balance: \$15,347.70****Communication Coordinator Sharee Washington**

The articles and reports for the December Gleanings are due **Friday, November 15.**

**Spiritual Growth Sandra Love**

Hope that your Summer has gone well, and you are ready to welcome the Fall with cooler temperatures.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own.

Soul Care and Self Care are still flowing in my mind and spirit from our Day Apart in March. Ladies and Gentlemen, we must take time for ourselves by doing the things we need to do to keep us in good working order. If we don't...Who WILL!!

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and do good work, not neglecting to meet together, as it's the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25

This scripture was our theme from our annual meeting in September. Let us stay connected!! Take time to call a friend or send cards to let them know you are thinking of them. Let's stay connected!

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the past four years. Everyone has always been supportive and loving and caring. And you have made me feel encouraged every time I have presented a devotion to begin our time together. Wish me well as I move on to the position of Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the SC Conference.

Help me welcome Vilma Cobb, our new Spiritual Growth Coordinator. She is a member of Rehoboth Columbia. She is perfect for the job. She carries lots of love, peace and grace and will fit right in as our new Spiritual Growth Coordinator.

Thank you to Debra Schooler for her leadership in the Columbia District. Let us all keep her in prayer as she takes over as Conference President.

Welcome to Carrie Murray as she leads us in 2025 serving as our new District President.

Watch your emails for notices on Legislative Advocacy Day in February at Epworth Children Home and Spiritual Growth in April location to be determined. Also, our District Day Apart on March 1, 2025, at Wesley UMC.

### **Social Action Lexie Chatham**

Taking 3 Bible studies at 3 different churches has been keeping me busy. Although my Disciple I class is at Washington Street UMC, I'm glad to have a member from Wesley UMC joining in so that I'm not the only non-member. I also enjoyed an original play presented at Mt Hebron UMC by a theater group from Virginia Wingard UMC on September 10 about The Bettys (Crocker).

On September 19 and October 17, I attended the Well, a worship service for attention and cognitively challenged individuals at Washington Street UMC. This was especially pertinent to me as my home church of Mt Hebron UMC had hosted a Dementia 101 workshop on September 25 in connection with the SC UMC Conference in connection with the SC Department on Aging.

As one of the Hospitality Team members at Mt Hebron UMC, I greeted and handed out programs to those attending the service on October 3 to welcome our new bishop, Rev Leonard Fairley. I also served in this capacity for a Board of Ordained Ministry workshop held at Mt Hebron on September 26.

In addition, I attended the Columbia District United Women in Faith at Washington Street UMC on September 21 where I was honored as Mt Hebron's Woman of the Year. On October 26, I attended the SC United Women in Faith Annual Meeting held at Woodland UMC in Rock Hill, SC. On November 9, I zoomed in the virtual training meeting for United Women in Faith District Officers.

Meanwhile I'm being kept involved with meetings of the Wesley Foundation at the University of South Carolina of which I'm a board member. I'm on call for this organization next week. As the end of 2024 nears, I was voted as co-president of the Mt Hebron United Women in Faith in which I'm sure there will be plenty of planning and outreach to keep me even busier. But before those duties begin, I will have finished singing in several area nursing homes with the Jubilant Singers. This interdenominational group lifts the spirits of those frequently forgotten or ignored at this time of year.

### **Membership, Nurture & Outreach Heidi Ankeny**

We do not yet have a date for the Survey to be completed, since Angela Allen, MNO Coordinator for the Conference communicates a date, I will let you know.

Aug 17th: I helped Sandra Love and accompanied her to the Catawba Indian Reservation in Rock Hill where we, along with others, provided homemade blankets to those in need. We also had a tour and heard about the history of the tribe and their journey from the early days to the present.

Aug 24th: Attended United Women in Faith Retreat at Francis Burns UMC; theme: Rejoice, Rejuvenate and Recognize your Strength. What a wonderful day with a roomful of amazing women and speakers!! I was also asked to give a 2–3-minute soulful reflection about the topic of the day which I was happy to accommodate.

Sep 16th: Made corsages for the Women of the Year recipients

Sep 17th: Helped Debra Schooler with creating certificates for all individuals receiving awards

Sep 19th: Met with other United Women in Faith members at Washington Street UMC to review and assure we had everything needed for smooth sailing on Saturday, September 21st for Woman of the Year Awards Ceremony.

In addition, I have been sending cards to members who are experiencing illness or loss! Please keep me posted if anyone knows of one of our members who needs a card from the district.

## Education & Interpretation Rhonda Washington

To the Executive Committee - This is a reminder about the upcoming Killingsworth Gala, scheduled for **Thursday, November 14**, at Seawell's. Please inform your church members about this important event.

We also need **Christmas decorative boxes** for the table centerpieces, which should be dropped off at Killingsworth by **November 13**. Box sizes should be either **10x10x6 inches** or **12x12x10 inches**. You can find suitable boxes at Hobby Lobby or If It's Paper.

Additionally, each box should include a **gift of at least \$10.00** (please, no regifting).

For further details, please reach out to Betty Jeffcoat-Void.

## Program Resource Stella Chisholm

Thank you to Carrie Murray and Vilma Cobb for helping me get my reports ready and stepping in for me at the Columbia District.

Mt. Hebron's reading report was not recognized in the conference book. Mary Nell Trussell and Georgia Heise completed plan 1 of the program.

There were 10 churches that participated in the reading program...with a total of 64 participants.

## Committee on Nominations Vilma Cobb

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

## Cluster reports were received from the following leaders:

**Cluster 1:** Vikki Hill, **Cluster 2:** Vanessa Key, and **Cluster 6:** Linda Kennedy

The business portion of our meeting consisted of the Columbia District United Women in Faith newly elected officers for 2025. Debra Schooler the outgoing president graciously passed the gavel on incoming president Carry Murray. Carrie Murray thanked Debra Schooler for her service and well wishes in her new position. The Columbia District United Women in Faith Conference Officer Training will be held virtually on Saturday, November 9, 2024, Columbia District Local Officers Training will be held Saturday, January 11, 2025, at Northeast United Methodist Church, 4000 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223. The Columbia District United Women in Faith Executive Committee will meet following officers training.

Dismissal prayer was given 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: <https://www.umcsc.org/women>  
Gleanings Newsletters: <https://www.umcsc.org/uwfnewsletters/>

Rhonda Washington/Sharee Washington  
Communication Chairs

## A Note From Our Treasurer:

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

-Columbia District 2024 Pledge to Missions **\$50,000.00**

-Pledge to Missions Funds Received/Sent: **\$30,388.50**

**\*Please send me any additional money your Unit can in December before the end of year so we can meet our 2024 Pledge to Mission we are \$19,611.50 short of meeting our Pledge.**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Remittance Reporting Period 12/01/2024- 2/29/2025.

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Remittance Form are due by **03/05/2025**.

(Remittance form received after 03/05/2025 will be counted towards 2nd Quarter)

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Remittance Period 03/01/2025- 05/31/2025. Report Due by **06/05/2025**.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Remittance Received/Sent: \$** (Sent September 2024 )

Pledge: \$7,716.50

SMR Special Mission Recognition: \$1,230.00

Gift to Missions: \$190.00

Gift in Memory: \$240.00

World Thank Offering: \$ 468.00

Annual Meeting Love Offering (Pledge): \$1,110.00

Pledge to Missions Total: \$ 10,954.50

Spartanburg BETHLEHEM CENTER: \$972.50

Conference Annual Meeting Love Offering: \$150.00

Killingsworth: \$1947.50

Call to Prayer and Self Denial: \$323.80

Columbia BETHLEHEM COMMUNITY CENTER: \$702.50

Wallace Family Life: \$921.53

Legacy Fund: \$20.00

Brighter Future for Children and Youth: \$5.00

District Love Offering: \$25.00

District Annual Meeting Live Offering: \$150.00

**\*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 Remittance forms/money to me at the address below.

Hope to see you at Officers Training in January!

*Tiffany Phillips*

Columbia District Treasurer

2336 Hard Scrabble Rd

Columbia, SC 29223

# *Spiritual Growth Coordinator Report*

Hope that your Summer has gone well, and you are ready to welcome the Fall with cooler temperatures.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own.

Soul Care and Self Care is still flowing in my mind and spirit from our Day Apart in March. Ladies and Gentlemen, we must take time for ourselves by doing the things we need to do to keep us in good working order 😊. If we don't...Who WILL!!

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and do good works, not neglecting to meet together, as it's the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25

This scripture was our theme from our annual meeting in September. Let us stay connected!! Take time to call a friend or send cards to let them know you are thinking of them. Let's stay connected!

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the past four years. Everyone has always been supportive and loving and caring. And you have made me feel encouraged every time I have presented a devotion to begin our time together. Wish me well as I move on to the position of Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the SC Conference.

Help me welcome Vilma Cobb our new Spiritual Growth Coordinator. She is a member of Rehoboth Columbia. She is perfect for the job. She carries lots of love peace and grace and will fit right in as our new Spiritual Growth Coordinator.

Thank you to Debra Schooler for her leadership in the Columbia District. Let us all keep her in prayer as she takes over as Conference President.

Welcome to Carrie Murray as she leads us in 2025 serving as our new District President.

Watch your emails for notices on Legislative Advocacy Day in February at Epworth Children Home and Spiritual Growth in April location to be determined. Also, our District Day Apart on March 1, 2025 at Wesley UMC.

Love peace and Grace,

*Sandra Love*

Spiritual Growth Coordinator



## Social Action Coordinator Report

Save the date, I look forward to seeing you in person at Legislative Advocacy Day which will be held at Epworth Children's Home on March 18, 2025. Our theme is **Faithful Advocacy; Faithful Service; Transforming Justice and Equity**.

The program continues our national priority focus areas of Climate Justice and Ending Mass Incarceration and Criminalization of Communities of Color. Climate crisis is an injustice issue which disproportionately impacts those most vulnerable and marginalized in societies, as well as women and girls. Eighty percent of people displaced by climate change are women. Well over two million individuals are impacted by mass incarceration, and the school to prison pipeline disproportionately affects girls of color.

Programs such as Legislative Advocacy Day awaken and empower our UWF sisters to:

**Equip** – We equip women and girls around the world to be leaders.

**Organize**- We are connectional because together we can do more to make a difference in our lives, communities and world, especially for women, children and youth.

**Educate**- We provide educational information and experiences that lead to personal change that helps transform the world.

**Serve and Advocate**- We work for justice through compassionate service, and we advocate to change unfair policies.

Many organizations have been formed to combat injustice in our state, including:

The Faith & Justice Table is a coalition of faith leaders from across South Carolina who come together to encourage social advocacy on a variety of issues in our state. The mission of the SC Faith & Justice Table is to gather, equip and mobilize faith leaders to serve as prophetic voices in the public arena. This grassroots group specifically aims to connect with members of the SC General Assembly legislators because they know their need to hear from faith leaders in our community with a dedication to progress. This coalition addresses a wide range of policies related to civil liberties and the pursuit of justice. They are conducting an Advocacy 101 training at Washington Street UMC on January 6, 2025. More information about this training will follow later.

However, in the meantime, I encourage you to do the random acts of kindness that we may not think of as social action acts. By that I mean small ways to combat injustice or to reflect God's love to others and show them they are worthy. Open the door for someone loaded down. Send an unexpected card to uplift another's day. Take an extra plate to that shut-in you're visiting. But my favorite, give a great big old smile and a really tight hug to remind people of God's love!

Submitted by,

*Lexie Chatham*

Columbia District Social Action Coordinator  
LexieChatham@yahoo.com

## Secretary, Program Resources

Oops!!! MT. Hebron was not recognized on the Program Reading list...  
 Congratulations to Mary Nell Trussell and Georgia Heise for completing plan 1.

This year **10** churches participated in the reading program for a total of **64** participants.

Based on the report at the South Carolina Conference, **Columbia District** had the most readers. **Congratulations Columbia!!!**

Thank you, Dale, administrative assistant at Northeast UMC, for printing the reading certificate. They looked amazing

### Let's Get Started!!!

Our Reading Goal for 2025: Each Church recruits 1 new reading participant.

Now is the time to order the:


\*Daily Prayer Guide

\*Program Resource

**\*Response Magazine**

*The 2025 Book list is Out. Check out the website for information about the reading program. [www.uwfaith.org](http://www.uwfaith.org)*

### *Jump Start Your Reading Program:*

 *Read- books from the 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 Reading Program list. Read Response Magazine for one year (6 issues)*

 *Listen: Faith Talk Podcast and Voices From the Field podcast.*

*Faith Talk*

*is a bi-monthly United Women in Faith podcast. This podcast explores timely themes and resources. 2 podcasts = 1 book under Spiritual Growth*

*Voices From The Field*

*learn about the national and international initiatives that benefit from missions. You will hear directly from the program leaders about their work, daily challenges, hopes and dreams. 2 podcasts= 1 book under Education for Mission*



*Watch a movie or television program based on current Reading Program books.*

***Training***  
*for All Local units,*  
**Secretary of Program Resources**  
**January 11, 2025**

*Looking Forward to seeing you*

*Happy Holidays*

*Stella J. Chisholm*

Secretary Program Resources  
 starrjackson8@yahoo.com

**2025**  
**Reading Program**  
**Programa De Lectura**  
**독서 프로그램**



United  
 Women  
 in Faith

**[2025 Reding Program Book](#)**

# Education and Interpretation Report

FALL 2024 NEWSLETTER



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings CBCC Family,

As the leaves turn and we embrace the beauty of fall, I am excited to share the vibrant activities happening at the Columbia Bethlehem Community Center. We had a tremendous summer filled with joy, laughter, and connection, and our momentum continues into the fall season!



In September, our **Fun Day** brought families together for a day of games and bingo, creating cherished memories and strengthening our community bonds. October was equally special with our **"A Box of Treats"** fall celebration for the kids. It was heartwarming to see their smiles as they enjoyed the festivities and engaged with one another.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to announce our upcoming **"Giving Thanks"** event in November. This celebration will not only highlight gratitude but also reinforce our commitment to supporting families in need. We're dedicated to making this season meaningful for all, and we have some exciting giveaways planned over the next two months. We hope these initiatives will bring joy and assistance to those we serve.

Thank you for being a vital part of our community. Together, we are making a difference, and I can't wait to see what we will achieve in the coming months!

With gratitude,  
Kara Simmons

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

Bags of Love • P. 2

CBCC Events • P.2



308 McRae Street  
Columbia, SC 29203



Email: [cbccinfo@umcsc.org](mailto:cbccinfo@umcsc.org)  
Website: [columbiabethlehemcc.org](http://columbiabethlehemcc.org)



[Facebook.com/CBCCServes](https://Facebook.com/CBCCServes)

[www.columbiabethlehemcc.org](http://www.columbiabethlehemcc.org)

## BAGS OF LOVE

In September, we proudly distributed 200 bags of fresh produce to the students, teachers, and staff at E.E. Taylor Elementary School. Our dedicated staff and volunteers at CBCC came together to prepare these bags, and we are incredibly grateful for our partnership with Diane's Garden, which enables us to sustain our Bags of Love program. Thank you for helping us support our community!



### PREVIOUS EVENT

This summer, kids visiting the CBCC enjoyed a variety of engaging events, including a special one where they had the chance to decorate pots and plant flowers for their parents. This creative activity allowed them to express their appreciation in a meaningful way, bringing joy to both the children and their families.



### UPCOMING EVENT

Join us for our Giving Thanks event on November 9 at 12 PM! Celebrate the spirit of gratitude with delicious food, fun activities, and great company. It's a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community and share in the joy of the season. We can't wait to see you there!



[www.columbiabethlehemcc.org](http://www.columbiabethlehemcc.org)

### Columbia Bethlehem Community Center Amazon List

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/32WOF1A9ZVSTV>

*Rhonda Washington*

Columbia District E & I Coordinator

## *Committee On Nominations*

We want to take a moment to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who stepped up to fill the positions on the Columbia District Executive Team.

Your willingness to take on these responsibilities showcase your commitment to our mission. Your hard work, dedication and teamwork will not go unnoticed.

The United Women in Faith of Columbia District truly appreciate you.



Thank You For Stepping Up...

*Vilma Cobb*

Chairperson

*Stella J. Chisholm*

Vice-Chairperson





United  
Women  
in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH  
SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE

INFORMATION ON PROSPECTIVE  
DISTRICT LEADERSHIP

(To be completed by prospective district leader)  
Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Age: 20's \_\_\_\_\_ 30's \_\_\_\_\_ 40's \_\_\_\_\_ 50's \_\_\_\_\_ 60's \_\_\_\_\_ 70's \_\_\_\_\_ 80's+ \_\_\_\_\_

Languages Spoken: \_\_\_\_\_ Racial/Ethnic Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Employed: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Full Time \_\_\_\_\_ Part Time \_\_\_\_\_

Professional skills and experience \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Experience In United Women in Faith (or in any of the predecessor groups)

LOCAL: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CONFERENCE: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Women in Faith) or in the community. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Special talents or skills: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of special interest and concerns: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Which office(s) on the \_\_\_\_\_ District United Women in Faith Team would you most like to hold given the opportunity to serve?

_____ President	_____ Membership, Nurture & Outreach
_____ Vice-President	_____ Social Action
_____ Secretary	_____ Spiritual Growth
_____ Treasurer	_____ Program Resources
_____ Chair of Nominations	_____ Communications
_____ Education & Interpretation	

Why are you interested in this position and what qualifications do you feel you have for your office(s) of choice? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Are you able to be away from home or employment for:

Full day \_\_\_\_\_ Weekend \_\_\_\_\_ Extended time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes or No Yes or No Yes or No

\_\_\_\_\_ I am sorry but I am unable to accept an office this year. Please keep my name on file and contact me in \_\_\_\_\_ (year)

Please give any other information you may feel is pertinent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to: (Chairperson of your District Nominating Committee)**

**Marlene Sipes**  
**1001 Wanda Street Columbia, SC 29205**  
[marlenesipes@yahoo.com](mailto:marlenesipes@yahoo.com)



## *Membership, Nurture and Outreach Report*

The census for 2023 is due March, 2025. I will be teaching our MN&O representatives how to complete the census during the training on January 11, 2025. The website to register is UWF.org. I would encourage all MN&O representatives to go to the website to review as it has great information that may answer many of your questions. In addition, the census can be completed on the website.

Any questions can be directed to me but the website is apt to be our best resource for answers.

Ladies, I look forward to working with you! Here's hoping you each enjoy a wonderful holiday season!

Blessings,

*Heidi Ankeny, MNO Coordinator*

[hanken60@hotmail.com](mailto:hanken60@hotmail.com)

803-840-0204

## South Carolina Conference



### Legislative Advocacy Day 2025

**Faithful Advocacy; Faithful Service; Transforming Justice and Equity**

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Epworth Children's Home 2900 Millwood Ave, Columbia, SC 29205

8:00am- 8:45 am Registration    9 am Program begins

### Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ -

Email \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

Visiting the State House after the meeting (no cost) \_ Yes or No

Registration fee \$35.00. Make check payable to SCCUWF Memo LAD2025

Mail registration form and check to:  
Lexie Chatham. 301 Sortwell Street  
West Columbia, SC 29169

**Registration deadline February 28, 2025**



## 2024 Church Women United Calendar

**Celebrations:** Registration and refreshments begin at 10:30 A.M. with the program beginning at 11:00 A.M. for Bible Study, World Day of Prayer, May Friendship Day and World Community Day. Registration for Human Rights Celebration will begin at 11:30 A.M. followed by the program at 12:00 noon. Registration for our Annual Meeting will begin at 11:30 A.M. followed by lunch and our business meeting and program.

January 5, 2024	Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
February 2, 2024	Bible Study Executive Meeting	Bethel United Methodist 4600 Daniel Dr. Columbia, SC 29205
February 23, 2024	Annual Luncheon/Meeting	Brookland Baptist Banquet Center 1066 Sunset Blvd. West Columbia, SC 29205
March 8, 2024	World Day of Prayer	Trinity Episcopal Cathedral 1100 Sumter Street Columbia, SC 29201
April 5, 2024	Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
May 3, 2024	May Friendship Day	Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church 530 St. Andrews Road Columbia, SC 29210
June 7, 2024	Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
July & August	No Meetings	
September 6, 2024	Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
October 4, 2024	Human Rights Celebration	St. Paul AME Church 835 Kennerly Road Irmo, SC 29063
November 1, 2024	World Community Day	Francis Burns UMC 5616 Farrow Road Columbia, SC 29203
December 6, 2024	Executive Board Meeting	Zoom
January 3, 2025	Executive Board Meeting	Zoom

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

### DECEMBER

#### *Mission Echo published*

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

## 2025 South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Calendar of Events

### JANUARY

Saturday – 4	9:30 am	President's Consultation	Virtual
	9:30 am	Committee on Nominations	Virtual
Saturday – 11	1:00 pm	Social Action and Limitless Team	Virtual & In-Person
Saturday – 18		Local District Officer's Training	Virtual & In-Person
Saturday – 25	9:30 am	Spiritual Growth Committee	Virtual

### FEBRUARY

#### *Wallace Family Life Center Special Emphasis Month*

Saturday –1	9:30 am	Education & Interpretation	Virtual
	1:00 pm	Communications	Virtual
Saturday – 8	9:30 am	Executive Committee	Virtual
	1:30 pm	Legacy Committee	Virtual
Saturday – 15		Connectional Ministries	TBA
Saturday – 15		CRJ Field Trip	TBA
Saturday – 22	10:00 am	CRJ Meeting	Virtual
Saturday – 22	11:00 am	Membership, Nurture and Outreach	Virtual

### MARCH

#### *Mission Echo published*

Saturday – 1	9:30 am	Mission u Committee	Virtual
	1:00 pm	Finance Committee	Virtual
		Connectional Ministries	
Saturday – 8	9:30 am	Program Committee	Spartanburg District On-site visit
Saturday -8	12:00 am	Book Study	Virtual
Saturday – 15	10: 00 am	Committee on Nominations	Virtual
Tuesday -18	9:00 am	Legislative Day-Epworth Children's Home	In-Person
Saturday – 22	All Day	Legacy Fund Day of Giving-156 <sup>th</sup> Year	
Saturday -22	12:00	Book Study	Virtual

### APRIL

#### *Columbia Bethlehem Community Center Special Emphasis Month*

Saturday – 5	9:30 am	Scholarship Meeting	Virtual
	12:00	Book Study	Virtual
Saturday – 12	10: 00 am	Spiritual Growth Event	
Saturday- 26	12:00	Book Study	Virtual

### MAY

Saturday – 17	10:00 am	Come Together Be Together	Virtual, Florence District host
---------------	----------	---------------------------	---------------------------------

### JUNE

#### *Mission Echo published*

Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup>		SC UMC Annual Conference	Greenville, SC
Saturday – 21	10:00 am	Charter for Racial + Environmental Justice Event	Virtual

## 2025 South Carolina Conference United Women of Faith Calendar of Events

### JULY

Saturday – 5	10:00 am	Limitless Event			In-Person
Wednesday – 16	6:00 pm	Administrative Committee	Spartanburg	Fireside Room	Spartanburg
	6:30 pm	Executive Committee	Methodist College		
Thursday – 17	9:00 am	Executive Committee	Spartanburg	Fireside Room	Spartanburg
			Methodist College		
Thursday – 17	10:30 am	Spiritual Growth Committee	Spartanburg	Fireside Room	Spartanburg
			Methodist College		
Thursday – 17	11:00 am	Charter for Racial Justice	Spartanburg	Fireside Room	Spartanburg
			Methodist College		
Thursday – Saturday, 17 – 19	TBA	Mission u	Spartanburg		Spartanburg
			Methodist College		

### AUGUST

Saturday – 9	9:30 am	Mission u Committee		Virtual
	12:30 pm	Program Committee		Virtual
Saturday – 16	9:30 am	Administrative Committee		Virtual
	1:00 pm	Social Action Committee		Virtual
Saturday – 23	9:30 am	Finance Committee		Virtual
	1:00 pm	MN&O Committee		Virtual

### SEPTEMBER

<b><i>Killingsworth Special Emphasis Month</i></b>			<b><i>Mission Echo published</i></b>		
Various	Various	District Annual Meetings		Virtual & In Person	

### OCTOBER

<b><i>Bethlehem Center – Spartanburg Special Emphasis Month</i></b>					
Thursday-Friday	TBA	Executive Committee Meeting			Spartanburg District
Friday – Saturday, 24-25	12:30 pm – 3:00 pm	SCCUWF 53 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting			Spartanburg District

### NOVEMBER

Saturday –8	9:00 am	District Officers Training	Host Church	Virtual
-------------	---------	----------------------------	-------------	---------

### DECEMBER

<b><i>Mission Echo published</i></b>					
Saturday – 6	10:00 am	Limitless Event			In-Person

## Columbia District United Women in Faith Slate of Officers 2025

- President.....Carrie Murray (Francis Burns)**  
(H) 803-754-1895 (C) 803-521-9521 Email: [cmrmurra@bellsouth.net](mailto:cmrmurra@bellsouth.net)  
6509 David Street Columbia SC 29203
- Vice President .....Becky Travis (Union)**  
803-463-1542 Email: [mail@bobtravis.com](mailto:mail@bobtravis.com)  
64 Lawton Court Irmo, SC 29063
- Secretary.....Diann Selph (I. DeQuincey Newman)**  
(C) 803-354-6760 Email: [Selphdiann@yahoo.com](mailto:Selphdiann@yahoo.com)  
117 Summerhill Drive Columbia, SC 29203
- Treasurer.....Tiffany Phillips (Rehoboth/Columbia)**  
803-543-9405 Email: [tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com](mailto:tiffphillips2014@yahoo.com)  
2336 Hard Scrabble Road Columbia, SC 29223
- Communications Coordinators.....Rhonda & Sharee Washington (Francis Burns)**  
Rhonda: (C) 803-629-4503 Email: [rhondawashington@hotmail.com](mailto:rhondawashington@hotmail.com)  
Sharee: (C) 803-414-4232 Email: [shareewash@hotmail.com](mailto:shareewash@hotmail.com)  
131 Hawks Nest Court Columbia SC 29212
- Spiritual Growth Coordinator..... Vilma Cobb (Rehoboth)**  
(H) 803-814-2743 (C) 803-463-3085 Email: [Vilma29223@live.com](mailto:Vilma29223@live.com)  
609 Trader Mill Road Columbia, South Carolina 29223
- Social Action Coordinator.....Lexie Chatham (Mt. Hebron)**  
(803) 212-8350 Email: [lexiechatham@yahoo.com](mailto:lexiechatham@yahoo.com)  
301 Sortwell Street West Columbia, SC 29169
- Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator.....Heidi Ankeny (Washington Street)**  
(C) 803-840-0204 Email: [hankeny60@hotmail.com](mailto:hankeny60@hotmail.com)  
205 Meadow Lane Eastover, SC 29044
- Education & Interpretation Coordinator.....Rhonda Washington (Francis Burns)**  
Rhonda: (C) 803-629-4503 Email: [rhondawashington@hotmail.com](mailto:rhondawashington@hotmail.com)  
131 Hawks Nest Court Columbia, SC 29212
- Secretary, Program Resources.....Stella J. Chisholm (Francis Burns)**  
(H) 803-708-2682 (C) 803-446-5660 Email: [starrjackson8@yahoo.com](mailto:starrjackson8@yahoo.com)  
400 Valley Springs Road Columbia, SC 29223
- Historian.....Pat Hoesly (Northeast)**  
803-608-4905 Email: [pathoesly@yahoo.com](mailto:pathoesly@yahoo.com)  
225 Great North Road Columbia SC 29223

## Committee on Nominations

**Class of 2026 –Chairperson.....Marlene Sipes (Heyward Street)**

(C) 803-318-0895 Email: [marlenesipes@yahoo.com](mailto:marlenesipes@yahoo.com)  
1001 Wanda Street Columbia, SC 29205

**Class of 2026–.....Rosemary Wilds (I. DeQuincey Newman)**

((C) 803-960-9230 Email: [wilds.rosemary@gmail.com](mailto:wilds.rosemary@gmail.com)  
2 Clearwell Court Columbia, SC 29229

**Class of 2028..... Sylvia Cousin (Northeast)**

(H)803-788-0237 (C) 803-629-1482 Email: [Sylvia\\_cousin@yahoo.com](mailto:Sylvia_cousin@yahoo.com)  
217 Westridge Road Elgin, SC 29045

**Class of 2028.....Flo Johnson (Platt Springs)**

803-609-4510 Email: [flojo2@bellsouth.net](mailto:flojo2@bellsouth.net)  
1125 Tarrytown Lane West Columbia, South Carolina 29170

**Class of 2028.....Jo Daniels (Rehoboth)**

803-873-4404 Email: [danielsc@bellsouth.net](mailto:danielsc@bellsouth.net)  
119 Brandon Hall Road Columbia, South Carolina 29229

## **Cluster Leaders**

**Cluster 1..... Vicki Hill (Brookland)**

803-206-9534 Email: vhill13103@gmail.com  
518 A Oak Drive Lexington, SC 29073

**Cluster 2.....Vanessa Key (Brookland)**

803-917-4803 Email: vangekey1@aol.com  
4006 Bachman Road. West Columbia, West Columbia, SC 29172

**Cluster 3..... Linda Richardson (Union)**

803-920-1857 Email: Lnrebrerr5@gmail.com  
200 Brookview Lane Irmo, SC 29063

**Cluster 4.....Sandra Love (Grace)**

(H) 803-781-0986 (W) 803-476-8253 (C) 803-414-7323 Email: [slgtar@aol.com](mailto:slgtar@aol.com)  
107 Hexham Circle, Irmo, SC 29269

**Cluster 5.....Mary Mason (Northeast)**

856-340-9044 Email: masonmaryanna@yahoo.com  
305 Hester Ct. Columbia, SC 29223

**Cluster 6.....Linda Kennedy (Francis Burns)**

(H) 803-786-7671 Email: lhkhhome@sc.rr.com  
608 Wilmette Road, Columbia SC 29203



## **COLUMBIA DISTRICT CHURCHES BY CLUSTER**

### **CLUSTER 1 - Vikki Hill**

Boiling Springs  
Faith  
Gilbert  
Lexington  
Red Bank  
Rehoboth (Gilbert)  
Shiloh (Gilbert)

### **CLUSTER 2 – Vanessa Key**

Brookland  
Cayce  
Mt. Hebron  
Platt Springs  
Washington Street  
Wesley

### **CLUSTER 3 – Linda Richardson**

Ashland  
Grace  
I.DeQuincey Newman  
Salem (Ballentine)  
Shady Grove  
St. John  
Union  
Virginia Wingard

### **CLUSTER 4 – Sandra Love**

Bluff Road  
Heyward Street UMC  
Mill Creek  
Shandon  
Suber Marshall  
Trenholm Road  
Whaley Street

### **CLUSTER 5 – Mary Mason**

Bethel (Columbia)  
Francis Burns  
Northeast  
Rehoboth (Columbia)  
Windsor

### **CLUSTER 6 - Linda Kennedy**

Fairlawn  
First  
Greenbrier  
Gordon Memorial



## Columbia District Calendar of Events 2025

**January 1**

**Happy New Year!**



**January 11**

Columbia District Local Unit Officer Training  
Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting

Host: Northeast UMC

**February:**

**Wallace Family Life Center Special Emphasis Month**

**March 1**

Columbia District Day-Apart Retreat

Host: Wesley / TBD

**April:**

**Columbia Bethlehem Community Center Special Emphasis Month**

**April 15**

Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting

Host: CBCC

**April 20**

**Easter - Christ Is Risen Today!**

**June 17**

Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting

Host: Francis Burns UMC

**September:**

**Killingsworth Home Special Emphasis Month**

**September 20**

Columbia District 53<sup>rd</sup> UWF Annual Meeting

Host: Francis Burns UMC

**October:**

**Bethlehem Community Center Spartanburg Special Emphasis Month**

**October 21**

Columbia District Executive Committee Meeting

Host: Rehoboth UMC

**November 8**

**\*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 United Women in Faith Communications

**1 Corinthians 16:13-14:** *“Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.”*