



## A Word from: Our District President



United  
Women  
in Faith

Greetings, my United Women in Faith sisters,  
I hope you are enjoying the beautiful Fall weather. The vibrant colors of the leaves remind us of God and his magnificent handiwork. His work in His world continues and our work as UWF continues.

2022 is quickly coming to an end. We've had many changes in our organization and in our conference. Change is hard but we know that good things come with change and we need to embrace change and keep moving forward. As we embrace change, we must keep our purpose as UWF in focus.

At our Virginia Annual Conference in June, the Charlottesville District and the Richmond District merged to become the Three Notch'd District. We are now the Three Notch'd District UWF. We have had several meetings to make plans for 2023 and we look forward to working together as UWF sisters. Our goal is to continue to be in mission for women, children and youth in our communities and around the world. We are learning from each other and know that God is in the midst of it all.

We are busy preparing for 2023 and all that it will bring. We plan to have our Lenten Prayer Breakfast, District Annual Meeting and Advent Service together, in-person and live-streamed, at one of the churches in our new district. The Charter for Racial Justice Policies Committee is planning a "Hearts for Climate Justice" program in February. More details will be forthcoming.

As we close out the year as the Richmond District UWF, we hope you will join us for our Advent Service at Ramsey Memorial UMC on December 3. Registration and hospitality is at 10:00. The service begins at 10:30.

I want to encourage all our units to send in your Pledge to Mission so we can reach our Pledge to Mission goal this year. Our mission giving changes lives in so many ways.

I want to thank each of you for who you are and what you do for UWF. We are sisters in Christ working together to make the world a better place.

I look forward to continuing to work with you and the women of the former Charlottesville District as we live our purpose: **United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.**

Peace, joy and a bright 2023.

Linda Porter



Three Notch'd Team  
installation for 2023  
(not all officers were present)



## Vice President

“See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.” Isaiah 43:19 NIV

As we come to the end of another year, we find ourselves in a new district, but with the same needs in our communities and the world. We find ourselves with a new name, but with the same mission of serving women, children, and youth with faith, hope, and love in action. As I leave my office on the district leadership team, I will still remain active in the newly-formed Three Notch’d District United Women in Faith. Some things change, but some things don’t, and we continue to grow in Christ.

I have served on the Richmond District Leadership Team for seven years, four as Coordinator for Mission Education & Interpretation, one as a co-Vice President with Ruth Wilkinson, and two as Vice President. It has been a blessing to serve with such phenomenal mission-minded women, and I have also been privileged to work with local leaders when their units have hosted our district events. I look forward to seeing you all again and getting to know our Charlottesville District sisters at future events as we merge to become stronger in our fellowship and service.

Now we enter the season where we pray to find the balance between the “holidays” and the “Holy Days” with the vision of a star guiding us to a manger holding a tiny baby who will change the world by saving it. Before the season gets too hectic, I invite you to prepare your hearts to receive God’s Gift by attending our District Advent Service, which will be held in person and livestreamed on Saturday, December 3, at Ramsey Memorial UMC, 5900 Hull Street Road, Richmond, 23224. Registration begins at 10:00, and worship is 10:30-11:30. Our guest speaker will be Sarah Forti, Director of Christian Education at Lebanon UMC in Hanover County. Each unit leader will receive an Order of Worship online to share with members who are more comfortable joining us at home.

May the joys of the Christmas season continue to bless you in 2023 as you bless others as the hands and feet of Christ in a hurting world.

Barbara Tuttle

btuttle48@verizon.net

804-271-2289

# Treasurer



This is the quarterly report for 2022 Mission Giving and Designated Gifts.

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Year-to-Date
Mission	3,139.55	4,505.00	8,652.85		16,297.40
Designated Gifts	25.20	570.00	879.60		1,474.80

## OUR 2022 PLEDGE TO MISSION IS \$46,000.00.

The following two paragraphs and table are from an e-mail received from Christy Blagg, Conference Treasurer.

“As of the 3rd quarter remittance submitted to the National Office, we have submitted the following:

<b>Pledge Total</b>	
Quarter 1	<b>82,833.61</b>
Quarter 2	<b>76,484.63</b>
Quarter 3	<b>111,070.23</b>
Quarter 4	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Suppl</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>270,388.47</b>

So, we have some work to do to meet our pledge of \$375,000. Please share with your Districts and units so we can finish the year strong and affirm our commitments to the National and International Mission work that we do as United Women in Faith!”

This is a **reminder** that the quarterly remittance forms are due to the district treasurer, Rosa Lewis, by **December 10th**.

I have mission cards for sale; Gift in Memory, On Your Special Day, In Loving Memory, The Birth of a New Baby, Happy Birthday, Merry Christmas, A Special Day, Congratulations, Thinking of You, In the Service of Christ, and Thank You. The cards are \$5.00 each or \$50.00 a pack. Yeah, the cards are a little costly, but the proceeds from the cards go directly to the UMW Conference Treasurer for Mission Giving.

If you have any questions, please call me at 804-222-8480 or send me an e-mail at [olddenny@verizon.net](mailto:olddenny@verizon.net).

Rosa Lewis, District Treasurer, Peace and Love

## **Church Women United in Richmond, VA**

Church Women United celebrated World Community Day on October 7, 2022. The theme for the celebration was “Be A Bridge”. The scripture was taken from 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter Verse 1. The subtitle was “Pursuing God Heart for Racial Reconciliation”. Our overall theme for 2022 is, “It is Up to You in 2022.”

On November 15, 2022, there will be another Be A Bridge meeting. The information to attend this meeting is:

7-8:30 p.m.

ZOOM 742 683 4126

Code: 6hdLUU

### **Meeting Updates for 2022**

December 2, 2022 Executive Board, Human Rights Program and Award, Annual Meeting

In Christ

Rosa Lewis

*Just a note: Church Women United website information is included on page 6 of the Richmond District UWF 2022 Yearbook <https://www.churchwomenunited.net>*



## Secretary for Program Resources Kim Gatzek

[kagatzek@gmail.com](mailto:kagatzek@gmail.com). Phone 804-516-5711

Keep up the good reading with some great UWF selections. As we approach the season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, consider giving a good book as a gift or making your reading selection one of thankfulness for what blessings you have. There are many selections that meet this criteria from this year's list.

Don't forget that listening to 3 Faith Talks podcasts is like reading a Bonus book in the category of Spiritual Growth

### **The JOurneY Between Us** By Lisa McGrath

#### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

"Author Lisa McGrath is passionate about her faith, and it has been her lifeline through all the trials and tragedies she and her family have endured.

"The JOurneY Between Us tells the inspiring story of how Lisa's faith guided her through several unthinkable events that shook her world to its core. That same faith allowed her to grow as she learned to trust God's plan and perfect timing. In their darkest hours, she and her family turned to God, and that has made all the difference on their path together. Now she recalls the experiences of her life and reveals the ways that she has been blessed through friends and family with the support and strength she needed to persevere and find hope, peace, love, and especially joy in her journey."

This book is about how overcoming tragedy can cause a stronger faith to occur."

Also, consider reading:

### **DANGLING: I MAY HAVE CANCER, BUT CANCER DOESN'T HAVE ME** By Amy Carr

#### NURTURING FOR COMMUNITY

"Are you or someone you love facing a diagnosis of cancer? Perhaps you are coping with a chronic illness or facing one of the biggest disappointments of your life. Have you ever wondered how such a trial could change your life for the better? Let Amy show you how God used her cancer journey to teach her life-changing lessons that she otherwise would not have learned. From the darkest of days leading up to her diagnosis through eighteen months of treatment and surgeries, she shares it all. You will be inspired by her resolve to walk by faith, not by sight. This book is filled with nourishment for your soul, hope for your heart, and encouragement to live life to the fullest, with true joy, regardless of your circumstances."

Reading this book makes you grateful that you have your health or that someone else has experienced the tragedy of having cancer and overcoming a terrible disease.



## Spiritual Life

Hello and Goodbye to all of you beautiful ladies!!!!

It's been my honor and privilege to serve our Richmond District. You have guided me and loved me and I am so very thankful. I will miss you all.

Today I am praying for you to endure and be strengthened by the power of God Almighty every single day.....to have peace, calm, measured steps going forward always closer to Him.

Hear these words from Colossians 1:11

“We also pray that you will be strengthened with all His Glorious Power  
So you will have all the endurance and patience you need.”

Isn't it amazing how Our Father in Heaven patiently awaits us catching up to Him.....to His goodness, kindness, gentleness? We learn patience through Him by trusting, obeying and following His lead.

My prayer is that you be strengthened by His power and love. May your lives be filled with confidence, comfort and assurance of His joy and goodness for us. Most of all, may you have calm, measured & purposeful steps leading you always closer to Him. God grant you wisdom, endurance and strength to continue day to day on your life's spiritual journey.

Peace and Love,

Sue Ann Lewis, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, 804.368.8478



## Mission Education and Interpretation

Greetings,

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season. In planning your meetings, please look over the Living Into Our Purpose form. There are many items that are easily implemented.

Jean Swann

804-338-875

[jmswann5@gmail.com](mailto:jmswann5@gmail.com)



## Social Action

Co-Chairs: Brianna Penfold ([bpenfold88@gmail.com](mailto:bpenfold88@gmail.com)) and Susan Johnston ([ksngal@aol.com](mailto:ksngal@aol.com))

It has been a pleasure serving alongside Susan Johnston as one of your Social Action Coordinators. As you all know, life can take unexpected turns. Soon after I accepted this position with the Richmond District United Women of Faith, my husband was approached with a wonderful career opportunity in Northern Virginia. For about a year and a half, we have lived in Fairfax, Virginia. Also during the last two years, we welcomed our wonderful son, Oliver! Over the last months, I have seen the growing need for my attention to be focused on the direction of his increasingly fast and growing feet. While a lot of my service as a Social Action Coordinator has been virtual or behind the scenes, I have loved being a part of this group of women!

Susan Johnston and Ann Perkins will continue to educate and advocate on our priorities of ending mass incarceration of communities of color (with an emphasis on interrupting the school to prison pipeline) and climate justice.

Here are the links for the United Women in Faith's pages for resources and information regarding our priorities:

Racial Justice Page: <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice/>

Climate Justice Page: <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/climate-justice/#sign-up-form>

I will leave you with this quote by Ijeoma Oluo, the author of *So You Want to Talk About Race*, "When we identify where our privilege intersects with somebody else's oppression, we'll find our opportunities to make real change." I pray we will all help to make real change!

In Christ,

Brianna Penfold ([bpenfold88@gmail.com](mailto:bpenfold88@gmail.com))

## Communications Coordinator

Lloydette Diggs, 804-852-4350

This is the last issue of the **Women Of the Richmond District** newsletter. We are now a combined UWF District with our Charlottesville District under a new name, Three Notch'd, and our newsletter name beginning in 2023 should reflect the unity of our districts. If you have any thoughts on a new name please let me know by Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>!

New 2023 Yearbook coming in January – updates are being made to all areas of the yearbook so please be sure to provide your current information and your units so we can have the most up to date information!! Thank you for all you do!

2022 Correction:

Pg. 20 Lebanon UMC – Gail Bonanno 804-840-5505 85 Wendenburg Way, Aylette, VA 23009



United  
Women  
in Faith

### MISSION STATEMENT

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

#### **United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women**

Nurture the BASE/Current Members – members of UMW

Grow the Base – members of UMC, non-UMW members

Diversify membership - members of UMC, non-UMW members

Build the Pipeline – Women, 35 – 59, members of UMC, non-UMW members

Non-UMC Women – of all ages: nondenominational or Protestant, diverse racial and cultural identities

#### **Through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education**

Faith inspires and drives all we do! Faith Talks, Soul Care Retreats, SLR feeds us spiritually!

Mission Encounter, Bridge Courses, Leadership Development Day, Social Action Campaigns, etc.

We connect as sisters bound together by experiences that are fun, grounded in trust, and connected by shared

passions for mission, service and advocacy!

Reading Program, design of Mission Encounter Resources = Transformation Education

#### **So that they inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.**

We want Women who engage with United Women in Faith to have an experience that is:

Spiritual, Inclusive, Life-changing, Bold, and Fresh!

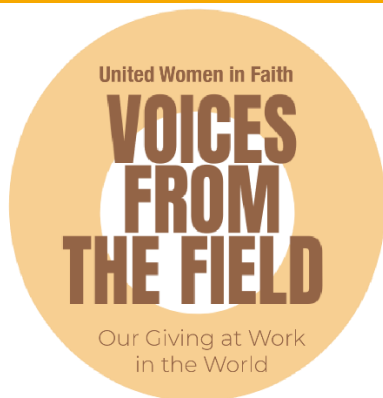
We believe love in action can change the world!

Here is the link to the PPT and Script used on June 11th

<https://www.umwmissionresources.org/content.asp?tid=1387>



**You're Invited**



**Voices from the Philippines  
with Regional Missionary  
Emma Cantor**

**Monday, December 5, 2022,  
10 AM ET  
(9:00 AM Central)**

**Virtual via Zoom**



Emma Cantor

Join Emma Cantor, United Women in Faith Regional Missionary to Asia & Pacific, to hear how God is moving in mission through our work with women in the Philippines.

United Women in Faith has a long-standing relationship with the women of the Philippines. Historically, missionaries sent to the Philippines started ministries in education and health and built local centers for social services. Today, that relationship continues with the work focusing on leadership development, skills building, and livelihoods enhancement programs.

This is an opportunity to join a discussion to engage, connect, and grow in mission as our Regional Missionary Emma Cantor shares how United Women in Faith's work equips and transforms the lives of women and their communities.

Don't miss the opportunity to join the *Voices From the Field* virtual event on December 5, 2022, to learn more about the international work of United Women in Faith and the tremendous impact it has had on lives and livelihoods of thousands of women and their families in the Philippines and around the world.

An optional breakout session will follow the one-hour program.

\*If the registration link does not work for you, please copy, and paste this text into your browser window: <https://uwfaith-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsfuyqqz4tGdx7SEjdqNgdSRngM7qQYfXx>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Please save the confirmation; it contains your personal link to the event.

We look forward to seeing you on December 5, 2022!

Tatiana Dwyer and Betty Gittens, and the Voices Planning Team

The quarterly *Voices From the Field* events feature leaders sharing their work and life stories, daily challenges, hopes, and dreams. This conversation series highlights United Women in Faith initiatives supported by Mission Giving – initiatives that significantly improve the lives of women, children, and youth – down the block and around the world.

*"Women Of the Richmond District"*  
**Richmond District Newsletter**

Communication Coordinator lloydettediggs@gmail.com  
Lloydette Diggs  
8996 Midway Rd.  
Henrico, VA 23229

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