



This 1st Quarter 2023 issue includes
introductions to our new
UWF Three Notch'd Officers



United
Women
in Faith

A Word from:
Our
District President

Hello, everyone!

I am Linda Porter, your Three Notch'd District UWF President. I live in Richmond and I'm a member of Asbury-Church Hill UMC.

I became active in UMW/UWF in 1994 when I was asked to be President of my local unit. Since then, I have been engaged in all aspects of UWF because I believe in our purpose and in our sisterhood as women organized for mission. I am passionate about mission and look for opportunities to be in service with women, children, and youth and to bring a brighter future to those who need a helping hand.

I look forward to meeting and working with you in our "new" District. I can't wait to see what God has in store for us as UWF!

Happy 2023 to everyone!

I pray that you are enjoying the new year and staying healthy and safe.

I am looking forward to meeting new friends and becoming reacquainted with others as we continue to be women organized for mission in our new district. There is much work to be done as we put our faith and love in action to change the world. As a sisterhood, united for mission, with God's help, we can change the world. We can make the world a better place for women, children, and youth. This is our calling as UWF. Whether it's through giving to mission projects, supporting UWF missionaries around the world, helping in food pantries or clothes closets, working for justice and peace, becoming involved in environmental justice, learning about the school-to-prison pipeline, reading, and growing through books on the reading program list, UWF are making a difference in the world. There are many, many ways you can become involved with UWF.

My challenge to you this year is to bring other women along for the journey. Invite the women in your church or community to become a part of our UWF sisterhood. Start a group for young women in your church. Start a teen group. It is never too early to get young people involved in mission. Volunteer to pick someone up and bring them to your meetings. Sometimes that is all it takes to get a woman hooked on UWF.

Our first district event for the year is on Saturday, February 25th, our "**Hearts for Environmental Justice**" program sponsored by the District Charter for Racial Justice Policies Committee (as listed on page 13 of the 2023 District Yearbook). Representatives of the Virginia Interfaith Power and Light (VAIPL) will be our guests. They will enlighten us on environmental issues that negatively affect communities of color. You might wonder how this affects you. Not protecting communities of color puts everyone at risk when it comes to climate change and environmental justice. We can't afford to

sit back and do nothing. Come and learn how you can advocate to bring change to unjust environmental policies. This event is via Zoom. When you register, you will receive the Zoom link. The program is from 10:00-12:00 on February 25th.

We will have some in-person meetings that will also be live-streamed. These will be highlighted at other places in this newsletter. Let's come together as sisters in Christ and make a difference in someone's life. Everyone is invited and can put love in action to change the world.

Let's work hard to meet our District Pledge to Mission this year which is \$40,000. Working together, we can do it!

I am excited about the opportunities and possibilities that 2023 holds for the Three Notch'd District UWF.

Your district leadership team is available to answer your questions and visit your units. Contact us when we can help. Our contact information is in the Three Notch'd District 2023 Yearbook which has just recently been distributed via email & you should have received a printed copy for your unit.

In Christ's service,

Linda Porter



Vice President

Greetings, sisters in Christ! I look forward to meeting many of you via Zoom or in person in the months ahead. To share a little about myself, I am a native Virginian and have lived in Virginia my entire life (so far!). My first involvement with United Methodist Women was at Drummondtown UMC in Accomac on the Eastern Shore of Virginia in the early 1990s, after which I attended churches that did not have units until coming to Louisa UMC in 2017. I have served as Spiritual Growth Coordinator for my local unit, and I served as President of the Charlottesville District UMW/UWF 2019-2022. I look forward to working with you in our new Three Notch'd District in my capacity as vice president to carry on the types of effective mission work for which Methodist women have been known for over 150 years.

Blessings,
Sandra Thornton



Secretary

My name is Sandy Sowder and I am the Secretary for the Three Notch'd UWF Mission Team and the President of the Discovery UMC UWF unit where my husband, Adam, is the lead pastor. I grew up in Blacksburg, Virginia where I met my husband in high school. We have three children, Samantha (25), Tedrick (16), and Henry (13). I attended Virginia Tech and received a degree in Music Education as well as Shenandoah University where I received my Master's in Business Administration. Currently, I am the Payroll Manager at Owens & Minor in Mechanicsville and am a Certified Payroll Professional. In my free time, I enjoy singing in church as well as in the Richmond Choral Society, hiking, and spending time with my family.

Treasurer



I am Marion Daughtry, new Treasurer of the Three Notch'd District UWF. I am a member of Stanardsville UMC, and the treasurer of our local Unit. I was also Treasurer of the former Charlottesville District UMC.

We begin 2023 with the combination of the Richmond District UMW's and the Charlottesville District UMW's, which resulted in a new district named, Three Notch'd District UWF, a new treasurer and a combined 45+ Units. Hopefully this year all Units will get back to having regularly scheduled meetings and doing the mission work that the UMW/UWF are known for.

I have sent the Unit Treasurers an email with information and forms attached for the coming year. If you did not receive this email, it is possible I do not have a correct email address for you. Please send me your new email address or your postal mailing address. My email address is mgsd2@aol.com.

The A&MD was increased this year to \$5.00 per member and is what pays our budgeted operating expense. Our total budget dollar amount is \$6,250. Also, the Recommended Pledge to Mission this year is \$40,000.00.

I am looking forward to working with everyone this year. If you have questions or need any forms please feel free to call me at 1-540-738-2207.

Remittances need to be mailed early enough to reach me by March 10th, June 10th, Sept. 10th, and Dec. 10th. You can send SMR's and Rainbow Giver forms to me anytime or with the quarterly report.

Blessings,
Marion Daughtry, Treasurer



Mission Education and Interpretation

Hello, I am Jean Swann. I am the coordinator for Education and Interpretation. I have been a UWF member since 1980 when I attended Reveille UMC. I have had the pleasure of membership at Christ, Lebanon, and now Shady Grove-Hanover. Since joining UMW, I have been district secretary, district treasurer, and conference secretary. I have been Richmond District Coordinator for Education and Interpretation for one year.

Save the date for the summer session of Mission Encounter on July 28-30. It will be a hybrid event: in person at VAUMC conference center and Good Shepherd UMC. The classes will be held at the conference center. Dinner, fellowship, and worship will be at Good Shepherd. Virtual classes will also be offered for those who are unable to attend in person. The theme is "Living in the Kin-dom" <https://umwmissionresources.org/> to get your book. Some information is available on the

VAUMC website with more information to be available later. <https://www.vaumw.com/events/mission-encounter-2023/>

Units are encouraged to use their Living into our Purpose form to help guide their mission and ministry.

Jean Swann



MNO - Membership Nurture and Outreach

Hello, I am Scotty Doyle, your 2023 United Women in Faith MNO representative for the Three Notch'd District. My home unit is Ramsey Memorial UMC, Richmond, VA. I have served in several positions in my local unit at Ramsey and as District MNO and President in the former Richmond District.

I look forward to the coming year as I get to know the unit members across our new district.

Please notify me of any prayer concerns for persons or events in your units that you would like me to communicate to our Three Notch'd District members and VA. UWF Conference officers.

I am responsible, with your unit, to obtain your census information for the coming year. To date we have not received any information on this year's census due date or the final results from last year's census which we completed in August 2022. I will notify the unit leaders as soon as I receive the data. In the meantime, I ask that you keep membership directories current as you proceed through the year.

Recognizing, honoring, and reporting all of our deceased UWF sisters on a yearly basis is also my responsibility. I rely on your reporting each year to be sure all our sisters who have passed each year are recognized and honored.

Please utilize the many Resources that are found on the UWF National website uwfaith.org to Enrich your unit programs, to Nurture and grow in your faith, to see new ways of joining and participating in UWF, to have questions answered and to donate. There are currently 66 episodes of Faith Talks, 112 Episodes of *response* and 11 Voices from the Field for your listening pleasure. These are all very informational and inspiring.

Let us grow in faith and knowledge together

Scotty Doyle

sdoyle22@verizon.net

804-640-5355 call/text



Social Action

Brianna Penfold has been writing the articles for this Social Action section for the last two years. I will be writing them for the next two years with Jo Ann Perkins as the current co-coordinator for Social Action.

How Do I Love Thee?

With a nod to Elizabeth Barrett Browning,
“**Let me count the ways.**”

February 2023 begins the fourth year of Creation Justice Tips—
a collection of little and large ways to show the Creator love
by loving God’s Creation.

More than 375 Tips are on the Creation Justice Movement [website](#). Use any or all!

Share these Tips with your family, friends, and congregation. Choose any or all. Forward them to someone you care about. Cut-and-paste to put them with your email signature, in your letters and emails, worship bulletins, newsletters, social media, or website.

Each month 10 Tips will arrive in time for you to choose and use.
The service is free.

The Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy (VICPP) advocate policies that benefit those who often don’t have the most power in our society – families with low incomes, immigrants without documentation, people who have been victims of discrimination. The VICPP priorities for 2023 are seeking limits to the use of solitary confinement, stopping profiteering in jails and prisons, addressing maternal health disparities, advocating more money for affordable housing and childcare assistance, and continuing to push for paid sick days. Fact sheets are available on their website for each of the issues (www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org). VICPP has been drafting policies, developing strategies, writing fact sheets, and organizing opportunities - to join with others to make a difference - for the past 40 years.

Another link you may be interested in is umcreationjustice.org They will send ten tips every month.

Be sure to keep an eye out for more information regarding the Hearts for Environmental Justice Program on February 25 from 10 to noon about environmental justice and its relationship to racial justice.

Until next time...

Susan Johnston, Social Action Co-Coordinator



Spiritual Growth

It is with genuine pleasure that I write this article to say hello, and introduce myself to you. My name is Rosa Lewis and I live in the City of Richmond. I am a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in the City of Richmond. I am currently the president of our local unit.

I have served on the Richmond District for several years in different positions. I started out as the district secretary, and then social action coordinator, representative to Blackstone, nominating committee, and treasurer.

It is a blessing from God to currently serve as a co-coordinator along with Mary Jeffries of Spiritual Growth. Mary and I are looking forward to working with all of the local units Spiritual Growth Coordinators. We are also looking forward to working with the executive team, and all in the Three Notch'd District.

In God We Trust
Rosa Lewis
Co-Cordinator Spiritual Growth



Program Resources

Greetings, I am Joyce Osburn your new Three Notch'd District and the former Charlottesville District UWF Secretary for Program Resources. I am a former public school teacher and librarian who loves to read, travel, sing, and swim. To make all of those possible my husband Frank and I happily retired, moved from Woodbridge to Lake Anna, found some travel buddies, moved our membership to Mt. Pleasant UMC in Louisa, jumped into a book group or two, found places to volunteer, adopted a cat, and joined several choirs. I am excited to continue my duties as *Reading Program Person* for our new district. Please email me any questions you might have and be on the watch for a book review from me from time to time. Happy reading!

The UWF Reading List for 2023 is out (finally) and can be found in the November/December 2022 issue of *Response* magazine and on the UWF web site. Each unit should have received from me a list of titles and the local libraries where they can be found. Thanks to Kim Gatzek for her help with that. For those of you reading for one of the four reading plans you may read from years 2018-2023. More information and book summaries can be found on the website and while you are there take a look at **Mighty Networks** and see if this social media site might be something you would like to join in on.

Once again you may count faith talks, podcasts, and three movies, Hidden Figures, Pushout, and The Hate U Give. If you listen to faith talks and/or podcasts you are asked to keep track of the ones you listen to or watch. UWFmissionresources.org

If you have looked at other print or online resources for this coming year you will have noticed that there has been a price increase. Although this is not surprising there has not been a price increase for a decade. Check carefully before ordering because to mitigate the price increase a discounted rate is offered for special bundled items and new shipping options are available.

You can subscribe to *response* magazine - One-year subscription=\$24; two-year subscription=\$45. To subscribe, go to uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine or call 877-881-2385 for mailed or digital version.

Happy reading everyone and let me know if there is anything I can help you with.

Joyce Osburn joyjerosburn@gmail.com 703-946-5045



Communications Co-Coordinator

Welcome to the new UWF Three Notch'd District! My name is Lloydette Diggs and I am a member of Christ UMC in Richmond and have been a member of the Richmond UMW/UWF District for over 8 years (I've lost count) and have enjoyed preparing the Yearbook and the Newsletter from the beginning of my service. I look forward to serving with many new officers and units and working with Darla on the communications within this district. I believe 2-way communication is very important and so invite you to let Darla Hensley or I know when you have changes to your email, mailing address or phone numbers or to your units. Also, be sure to let all your unit members know about this newsletter and have them send their email address to us so we can add them to the distribution. It's always good to have everyone in the loop!

Hoping by now everyone has received their new 2023 Yearbook— updates are ongoing so if your information is missing or incorrect, please let us know. Below are the corrections/additions/updates we have already received.

Blessings for a new district leadership, new unit leadership and a new year!

Hello United Women of Faith,

I'm Darla Hensley, serving as Communications co-coordinator for the Three Notch'd District. I live in Orange and attend Trinity UMC-Orange. I have served as Communications Coordinator for the former Charlottesville District from 2019-2022. I'm excited for the opportunities to grow as UWF, now that Charlottesville and Richmond have combined. (540) 219-3195

2023 Yearbook Corrections:

Pg. 21 Palmyra UMC –

Jennifer Lewis, 83 Ruritan Lake Road, Scottsville, Virginia 24590 434 987 8804

Pg. 22 Rock Spring – Joyce Powell's street name should be Stage Bridge Rd.

Nominating Committee Co-Chairs

We Need



I am **Kay Smith** and have served on Nominations on the Richmond District for about 5 years.

I am also the Unit Chairman at Mt Pisgah UMC

We will need your help in finding people to accept positions for 2024. Please have your units fill out the **Talent Bank** form included with this newsletter edition.

I am **Susan Fletcher** and served on the joint nominations committee this past year with Kay Smith.

I am the chair of the West Louisa Women of Faith for the churches of Ebenezer, Lasley and Mt. Horeb UMCs.

Kay and I are also looking to build a Talent Bank to fill positions for the next Nominations cycle. Thank you for your willingness to serve and grow in the Three Notch'd District!

Church Women United in Richmond, VA

THEME FOR THE YEAR

“Living a Legacy of Love: Doing God’s Work”

Ephesians Chapter 2-Verse 10

Church Women United is a racially, culturally, and theologically inclusive Christian women’s movement. We celebrate unity in diversity and work for a world of peace and justice.

Our Human Rights Program and Awards, was celebrated on December 2, 2022. Our Annual Meeting was also held on December 2, 2022. Eighteen members and guests were present for the program. The human rights awards were given to Rev. Dr. Jack Flowers and to Gary Flowers (not related) for their contributions to civil rights and social justice.

Church Women United met on January 13, 2023. At the meeting, the calendar for 2023 was planned.

Meeting Dates and Programs for 2023

March 3, 2023 World Day of Prayer

May 5, 2023 May Friendship Day—“Labor with Love-A Heart to Care”

October 6, 2023 World Community Day—“Labor with Love-Hands to Heal”

December 1, 2023 Human Rights/Annual Meeting –“Labor with Love-Respect to Heal”

In Christ

Rosa Lewis

TALENT BANK INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE LEADERSHIP IN THREE NOTCH'D DISTRICT UWF

Type or print (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Name

Address

Telephone (Home) (Mobile)

Email Address

Age (Circle one) 20 30 40 50 60 70 80

Race/Ethnicity (optional)

Languages Spoken

Local, District, Conference Office held with United Methodist Women

Local:

District:

Conference:

Professional Skills, Job or Church Experience, or Areas of Special Interest, Talents or

Skills: (additional room on back of form.)

Which office(s) on the District UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH Team would you most like to hold given an opportunity to serve? **Circle** all that apply.*

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| President | Vice President | Secretary | Treasurer |
| Education and Interpretation | Membership Nurture and Outreach | | Nominations |
| Social Action | Spiritual Growth | Program Resources | Communications |
| Webmaster | Historian | | |

As required with the positions taken, is it possible for you to be away from your home or employment for a Full day? YES ___ No ___ Weekends? Yes ___ No ___

*If you need information or clarification of duties these positions require please contact Kay Smith at (804) 370-1591 or Susan Fletcher (540) 223-1017

Three Notch'd District 2023 Calendar
THEME: "Mosaic of Faith: We are all Part of God's Story"

FEB 25 "HEARTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE"

Zoom - 10 a.m.—Noon Registration:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErfu6pqDstG9Aj8HJhcAqasXJKsXUEJgTX](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZErfu6pqDstG9Aj8HJhcAqasXJKsXUEJgTX)

Special Guest: Rev. Dr. Faith Harris, Ex. Director of Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (VAIPL)

March 11 DISTRICT LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST

Registration and Breakfast 9:30 am

Worship 10:30 am- 12:00 pm

First United Methodist Church

101 E. Jefferson St. Charlottesville, VA 22902

Worship leader and Speaker: Rev. Alex Joyner

May 13 UWF SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT - ZOOM

Speaker: Linda Porter, Three Notch'd District UWF President

(More details on www.VAUWF.org)

JUNE 10 UWF PRE-ANNUAL CONFERENCE "BRUNCH"

(Details on www.VAUWF.org)

JUNE 15-17 VIRGINIA UMC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Thurs.—Saturday Berglund Center, Roanoke, VA

(Details on VAUMC.org)

JULY 28 - 30 VIRGINIA CONFERENCE MISSION ENCOUNTER

Hybrid Event (both in-person and virtual)

Theme: Living Into the Kin-dom

VAUMC Conference Center in Glen Allen

SEPT 9 MINI-MISSION ENCOUNTER

(Time and location TBD)

SEPT 15-16 CONFERENCE UWF YOUNG WOMEN'S EVENT

Camp Overlook, Keezletown

(Details on www.VAUWF.org)

OCT 7 DISTRICT UWF 51st ANNUAL MEETING and LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Gum Spring UMC, 191 Cross Country Rd., Gum Spring, VA

Dr. Karen McElfish, a member of the United Women in Faith program Advisory Group

OCT 28 CONFERENCE UWF 51st ANNUAL MEETING

Discovery UMC—Richmond, VA

DEC 2 DISTRICT ADVENT SERVICE

Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Ave., Richmond, VA

(further details to be announced)



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>

LIOP form and Flier to register for the Hearts For Justice event on Feb. 25th is in a separate attachment.

Three Notch'd UWF District
8996 Midway Rd.
Henrico, VA 23229

**Three
Notch'd
UWF
District
News**



1st
Quarter
2023