

UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS APRIL 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Spring is here! The pollen is a good indicator. In fact, this week, it seems as if summer has arrived early. I hope everyone had a joyous Easter! Please remember the Membership Tea on Saturday, May 2. It will be held at 2 p.m. in Wesley Hall! In honor of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independent, the theme for the tea has to do with the American Revolution! Did you know that there were at least 17 different tea events that took place in 1773 and 1774. Come learn more about how this beverage may have played a role in showing the British that the colonists meant business. Some of these events were even the work of the women in the colonies. I hope to see you there. Remember, being a member of the UWF is more than attending a monthly Circle meeting.

Also, be sure to have UWF Sunday on your calendar. The date for that is June 7! Bonnie will be recruiting volunteers to help with the service that day, Add August 29th to your calendars as well! On that Saturday, UWF will be sponsoring a Vendor Craft Fair. Learn more about this at upcoming Circle meetings and be prepared to contribute some of your favorite baked goods!

If you haven't already made your pledge for 2026, consider doing so at your next Circle

meeting. The funds we collect support our local programs and contribute to district efforts. The pledge for this year is again \$50.

Janet

END OF SUMMER FUNDRAISER COMING!!



"End of Summer" vendor craft fair August 29th. Ask you Circle leader all about it!!

CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

Heritage Scott



The Heritage Scott Circle met on Tuesday, April 7th. There were 11 members and one guest present. The program was from the Program Resource book. It was the April meeting called "Seeds of Hope." We had an excellent discussion focused on building hope. Each lady left with a small packet of seeds as a remembrance. Following the business meeting, several ladies stayed for "brown bag lunch."

Ruth Simpson



The Ruth Simpson Circle met on Wednesday, April 1st with 10 members and 1 guest present. Valerie Lamb gave a book report on the 2022 UWF Reading Program list book entitled “Before We Were Yours.” It is a novel inspired by a true story that tells about the woman director of a Memphis based adoption organization who kidnapped children from poor families and sold them to wealthy families all over the country during the 1930’s to the 1950’s. It is a heart wrenching story of families being torn apart, secrets kept, and a reunion achieved through sheer grit.

Sisters in Grace



Sisters in Grace Circle met on April 14 with 18 members and 3 guests present. Our focus for the month was on outreach and in-reach. Janet Henke came to make an announcement regarding the upcoming Membership Tea and we were pleased that she joined us for the rest of the meeting. Cindy Banek opened the meeting with a creation care focused devotion and prayer. We then completed two outreach projects – one for Here for the Girls and another for Kairos Prison Ministry. Afterwards for our in-reach time we broke up into groups and each group came up with their TOP 5 for four different topics: tourist destinations in Virginia, chores we love to hate, best movies of all times, and pieces of advice we’d give to our younger

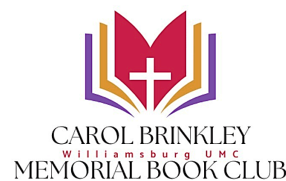
elves. We finalized plans for our monthly Arc of Abilities program and Anne Hardister shared an inspiring review from our monthly book reading, Hearts of Fire. Terry McKenna closed out meeting with prayer.

Sisters in Mission



Sisters in Mission Circle met on Tuesday, April 21 with 13 members and 2 guests present. Sharon Short shared an opening devotion that coincided with the theme for the evening, “Aprons – A Symbol of Service.” She also did a Mission Moment from the UWF Prayer Calendar. Connie then reported on an article from the Response magazine. Virginia Lee provided an enjoyable program on, “Lessons from the Apron Strings.” Janet Henke reminded everyone about the upcoming Membership Tea and Donna Potts reported on our Sunshine Fund. Laura and Deborah shared about our memory care outreaches for April. Joys and concerns were shared and then Connie closed the meeting with prayer.

CAROL BRINKLEY MEMORIAL BOOK CLUB



Here is the wonderful book that will be read for our May meeting:

May 11: *Church of the Wild*

WORLD THANK OFFERING CHALLENGE



The challenge for April's World Thank Offering will be interesting. Think about your children this month and the topic of education. Give 10 cents for each child you sent to school thru the years and add to that a penny for each year of your education. Place your contribution into your World Thank Offering "jar".