

# UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS

## April 2024

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Spring is eagerly anticipated as everyone yearns for warmer weather.

Fund-raising efforts continued; March 14 was a successful restaurant night at La Terraza. Remember that a portion of the proceeds from each dinner is donated to UWF's mission fund, supporting our impactful initiatives. Stay tuned for more dining opportunities soon.

On UWF Sunday, April 14, WUMC welcomes guest speaker Rev. Becky Glass, Executive Director of the Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center (PPCC). Rev. Glass will deliver a powerful message on the theme of "Healing and Hope" based on Luke 13:10-17.

Save the dates for Hands on Mission Week; details provided in the article on page 2.

Mark your calendars for our annual Candle Burning event on June 8, where Cassie Maye will speak on the vital role of caregivers in Alzheimer's disease.

### CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

**Carol Scott** met March 12 with 9 members attending. Connie Bland and Grace Holloway visited seeking volunteers for UMWF Sunday and Hands On Mission Day. After opening with the Purpose, Linda Graham shared a Response Moment. Carol Nelson presented a devotion from "A Patchwork of Promises," devotions for quilters. The appropriate devotion was followed by a program given by Fran Finlan. She brought several quilts to show including her very first one made 50 years ago. Fran also gave us insight into WUMC's Quilt Group. The group discussed several items of business including ways the circle could participate in Hands on Mission activities.

**Friendship** met March 12 with 7 present and 3 guests. Barbara Monteith of Alzheimer's Association shared information about the disease and the association. Guest Connie Bland informed the group of UWF Sunday April 14 and recruited volunteers. Guest Grace Holloway informed the group of Hands on Mission week in May and sought volunteers. Members then shared news of themselves and of those missing. A donation of \$100 will be sent to Alzheimer's Association.



**Heritage** met on March 6 instead of the usual Tuesday meeting because of the election voting at the church. The meeting was held in the kitchen where 12 ladies worked to sort and straighten drawers and cabinets. Two ladies laminated the new signs that will be going on the drawers to indicate contents. Items that were no longer usable were disposed of and duplicates were sorted for use in the kitchen in Room 174. Following the work, the ladies shared brown bag lunches together.

**Ruth Simpson** met on March 6 with six members present and 2 guests. WUMC organist Tom Marshall gave an enlightening program about the fantastic church organ. He explained about the inner workings of the organ and how he can produce the many amazing sounds and effects while playing this magnificent instrument. He also delighted the group with the story of how he became an accomplished organist and then performed a couple musical selections to complete the presentation. During the business meeting that followed, ladies were able to sign up to volunteer for UWF Sunday and Hands on Mission Week after presentations from guest attendees, Connie Bland and Grace Holloway.

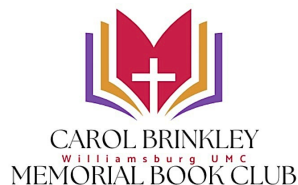
**Sisters in Grace** met March 12 with 21 members and 3 guests present. Linda Weaver's opening devotion and Susan Sallwasser's Response Moment were followed by guest speaker, Pastor Dave, who spoke about the LGBTQ issue being addressed at the upcoming UMC General Conference next month. Pastor Dave then gave a historical, informative, and interesting talk about the Methodist Church throughout the years. All agreed that a wonderful goal for WUMC is that it become a "purple" church (not just "blue" or "red") where ALL are loved, respected and are unified under Christ. Anne Hardister closed the meeting in prayer.



**Sisters in Mission** met on March 12 with 10 members and 2 guests attending. Janet Henke was the guest speaker, representing The Wesley Foundation Board of Directors. Anna Marie Warnecke, a senior co-president of Wesley Foundation, assisted Janet in sharing information about the Wesley Foundation Center. There are 8 students now who make Wesley their home base during this school year. Among the many programs that are a part of Wesley Foundation presence on campus are a Food Pantry available to any students, faculty, or staff that are in need of meal support during the year, Sunday Night dinners, Staycation Program, and a practice of Radical Hospitality for all who come into the Wesley Foundation facility.

**HANDS ON MISSION** This yearly outreach is planned for May 13 - 18. Several activities promise to be fulfilling. For more information, contact Grace Holloway [gracewholloway@gmail.com](mailto:gracewholloway@gmail.com).

- Monday, May 13, 9:00 - 12:00 - cleaning Christmas Eve candleholders in the church kitchen
- Tuesday, May 14, 1:30 - 3:30 - sizing and sorting clothes at the FISH Clothes Closet (space is limited)
- Wednesday, May 15, 9:00 - 12:00 - cleaning and organizing supplies at WUMC Respite Care
- Thursday, May 16, 10:00 - 12:00 - crafting and playing games at The Arc of Greater Williamsburg
- Friday, May 17, 9:00 - 12:00 - sorting and stocking donations at Habitat Restore
- Any time during the week - writing notes to UMC missionaries



The May reading is [Finding Jesus at the Border](#) by Julia Lambert Fogg. Contact Cindy Banek for the Zoom link or further information, [banek1@cox.net](mailto:banek1@cox.net).

**WORLD THANK** National Telephone Day is observed every April 25, in recognition of the date Alexander Graham Bell introduced his "electric speaking machine" to the world. Eventually rechristened as the "telephone," this landmark tool has helped humans stay connected for more than 140 years. Count the number of telephone numbers in your phone Contact List and drop a penny for each one into your World Thank Offering box.



### CONCERNS

Carolyn Munro recovering from surgery, Fran Lane and Madelyn Larkin at rehab facilities.