

UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS

June 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the summer months approach, Women in Faith reflects on a successful first half year. Most recently in May Hands on Mission week was coordinated by Grace Holloway. Over 30 members of UWF, and a couple of brave men, took part in Hands on Mission Week, May 13-17. Several members wrote to UMC missionaries, in diverse locations including Jerusalem, Puerto Rico, and several parts of Africa. One group worked in the church kitchen cleaning over 300 candleholders for Christmas Eve services. Small but mighty groups worked at FISH sizing and folding clothes, and at Respite, organizing hundreds of magazines and other supplies by season and specialized topics. A larger group had a fun time at The Arc of Abilities, helping the attendees paint rocks and enjoying games of Bingo. Finally, the week concluded with a team working at Restore. Grace sends her thanks to everyone who volunteered.



Hands on Mission at Restore

The UWF activity scheduled for June will be the Candle Burning, June 8 at 10 a.m. on the front lawn. Sylvia Allgood has planned an outdoor program with guest speaker Cassie Maye. Please bring your own lawn chair.

Thanks to all who have made a yearly financial donation; if not, perhaps others can bring it to the next meeting.

Have a great summer! See you back in September.

Linda

CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

Carol Scott met May 14 with 8 members present. Connie Magruder gave a devotion entitled "A Mother's Love". Carolyn Ebert presented the Response Moment from an interesting article about the use of shells, broken and unbroken, used in one church's outreach ministry. Ginger Palmore was the guest speaker who told about her Faith Journey; all related to her in some way. The group voted to donate \$50 from the Sunshine fund to the Global Outreach Team's Hygiene Kit Project. Lastly, the group decided to hold the June luncheon at Tuscany restaurant.

Friendship met on May 14 with 6 members present and guest speaker Connie Bland. She told of her research on the Methodist circles at WUMC, the many curiosities she learned. In conclusion, she presented copies of her book Spotlight on Circle History. Joyce Hedgepeth shared the Response moment "Responsively Yours" from the current Response magazine. The article was a perfect match for Connie's presentation as it reflected on the past through generations of Methodist women. Stacy Edwards gave a financial statement; Donna Ward led the group in prayer. Social time followed with conversation and a healthy snack of nuts.

Heritage met on May 7 with 14 ladies present and 1 guest. Deb Johnson led the group in an inspirational devotion for Mother's Day. The program was called "With a Psalm in your Heart" and was presented by Hasbrock Hughes. Following the meeting several of the ladies had lunch at a local restaurant.

Ruth Simpson met on May 1 with 7 members and 1 guest present. The group enjoyed a two-fold program. First, Michelle Roy gave a presentation of the church's new on-line giving system, explaining how much easier it is to use and offered her assistance to anyone who wishes to sign up for this

program. She then gave a sneak peek of the new and improved WUMC website. Following the business meeting, Bonnie Knizatko presented a program of the UWF Pledge Service. By participating in a few hands-on activities, the Circle ladies could see how a pledge to United Women in Faith of sharing with others makes the work of the organization possible. The group donated \$175 for UMCOR kits.

Sisters in Grace met May 14 with 15 members present. Biddie Whitt gave the opening devotion. Terry McKenna gave a thought-provoking Response Moment about faithfully moving forward and stepping into the future without fear and with God always at our side. Susan Miller, board member of Colonial CASA, presented an informative program of her experience on the CASA board and what Colonial CASA does. Members planned a celebration and donated funds to support and show appreciation to the hard-working KMO staff.

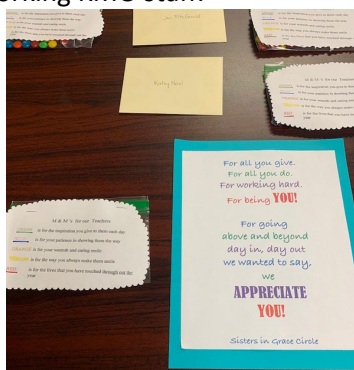
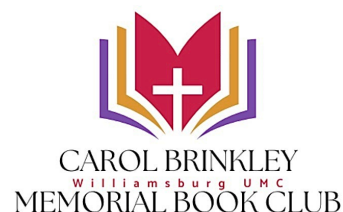


Table of notes and cards for KMO celebration

Sisters in Mission met on May 14 with 10 members present and guest speaker Pastor Dave Rochford. Gwen Hinton shared a time of thought and reflection on the process of aging that provided new opportunities for times of renewing our spirituality and practices. Nancy Fazzone followed with thoughts of seeing life happenings from perspectives other than our own, that present moments of new insights for compassion and empathy for others. Pastor Dave gave a very interesting and information-packed presentation on the history of scouting through the last 100 years, including WUMC's long-time connection with Scout Troop 103. Following were reports from Sunshine Fund, Assisted Living Visitation, Hands on Mission week, and opportunities for recycling.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Ruth Simpson Circle would like to thank the United Women in Faith ladies for the fantastic response to the recent request for help in supplying needed items for Avalon. The generosity of UWF in providing personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and paper products is greatly appreciated by Avalon. The Ruth Simpson Circle is very thankful for the kindness and support provided in April.



Carol Brinkley Memorial Book Club will meet on Monday, July 8 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah will be the topic of discussion. An absolute page-turner, the story is set in the Dust Bowl of north Texas during the 1930's and follows the life of a woman and her extended family as they try to live through the horrors of endless drought, the Depression, and unsuccessful migration to California. Anyone is invited to join for discussion! Contact Cindy Banek, banek1@cox.net, for the Zoom link.

WORLD THANK June 6 is National Eyewear Day. Spectacles have been around for about seven centuries. The first eyeglasses were invented in Northern Italy around the late 13th century; and consisted of two magnifying glasses that were set into bone with a hinge on the nose. Unfortunately, the monks and other scholars who wore these eyeglasses had a hard time keeping them on their face! How many pairs of glasses do you own – sunglasses, readers, bifocals, contacts? Put a quarter for each pair into the World Thank jar.



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Concerns include Nancy Fazzone on the death of her sister, Grace Holloway as she assists her mother in a transition move, former member Carolyn Spencer dealing with the loss of eyesight. Joys for high school graduating grandchildren of Trish Kline and Gwen Hinton, baptism of 2 great nephews of Connie Bland.