



UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS MAY 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The recent UWF Sunday May 11 was a rounding success, showcasing the dedication and hard work of all the volunteers involved. Rev Deborah Lewis's uplifting message "No Snatching" was enjoyed by all.

Reflecting on the Easter celebrations, the choir sent a note expressing heartfelt appreciation to those who provided breakfast items that morning. Hands-on Mission week (Mat 17-May 22) has begun.

Again, under the capable leadership of Chair Grace Holloway, a diverse array of engaging activities has begun. We will be busy at the Habitat Restore, de-waxing Christmas candleholders, working at Grove Community Outreach Center, sharing a picnic lunch with residents of Latisha's House and crafting and playing games at the Arc. Grace will soon be leaving us as she and Wayne head south to be closer to family. Yes Grace, we will miss you.

Save the date for our next dining out on June 3 at Blaze Pizza from 5-8 PM. Please make sure you have the flyer with you for us to receive credit.

The Candle Burning program headed by Susan Griffin is being planned for Saturday, June 7. This special ceremony will be held once again in the back parking lot. Please bring your own lawn chair. This gives us an opportunity to honor and celebrate our loved ones. Join others who come together to commemorate cherished memories and celebrate the enduring bonds that connect us all. The guest speaker will be Lou-Ann Smith.

As your President, I keep wondering where has the first half of this year gone? We are an active group full of fun and fellowship. Enjoy June as it is quickly approaching.

LINDA

CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

Carol Scott



The Carol Scott circle met on May 13 in the Resource room at the church. There were seven members present. Several were absent due to illness.

Following the devotion Jean Forrest presented an inspiring program on "Lectio Divina" or "Divine or Scared Reading". Contributions were collected for the Salvation Army. Members were reminded of and encouraged to attend the Candle Burning on June 7. There will not be a formal meeting again until September as we will enjoy lunch at Tuscany in June and we do not meet in July and August

Heritage



The Heritage Circle met on Tuesday, May 13. There were 6 members present. After we heard from Anne Hardister and Russ Henke about the Lighting the Way campaign, we had a Mother's Day program with the lady's sharing memories about their mothers and grandmothers.

Ruth Simpson



The Ruth Simpson Circle met on Wednesday, May 7. Seven members were in attendance, Melody Nichols gave an overview and update of the church's Local Outreach Committee programs and projects. She encouraged members to join this committee and thanked the members for their support throughout the years. During the business meeting time, the Circle ladies were reminded about UWF Sunday, the "Hands on Mission Week" activities and the Candle Burning event on June 7.

Sisters in Grace



Sisters in Grace Circle met on May 13 with 16 members and 2 guests present. Mary Lynch, from Literacy for Life, was our guest speaker. She shared how Literacy for Life empowers adults by building foundations skills for success in life and work. She then went on to share numerous inspiring stories about the many and varied people that have been empowered and the differences in their lives today. Terri McKenna reminded us, in her Bible study time, that we all need to listen for what God is calling us to do and be willing to respond as Isaiah did in Isaiah 6:8, "Here I am, Lord, send me." Blessings go both ways when we do!

During our business meeting time Anne and Russ Henke gave an informative Capital Campaign report that helped everyone to know the importance of the work needing to be completed. Mentioned also were UWF's upcoming events: "Dine Out for Missions," the Candle Burning Ceremony/Fundraiser, our Hands on Mission Week, UWF Summer Food Drive, and Kairos Prison Ministry event. Susan Miller reported on the farewell luncheons for Meghan and Pastor Dave and asked for volunteers to help with each event along with the welcome luncheon for our incoming ministers. We ended the business portion of our meeting with a discussion of our fall fundraiser with Linda Logerwell and

Nathalie Bacskay heading it up. It will be finalized at our June meetings. Cheryl Cogswell closed our meeting with prayer. The June meeting will be held in room 352 due to renovations in the older section of the church.

Sisters in Mission



Nine sisters attended our May 13 meeting. Sharon Short shared a devotional centered around "what do you like about yourself?" Her reflection involved the Golden Rule to "love others as we love ourselves". Donna Potts reported the Sunshine Fund balance, and it was decided that we would give a \$100 donation to the Abukloi Foundation, in gratitude for Bill Herman's presentation to one of our earlier programs this year.

Linda Sine and Nancy Fazzone reported on the monthly meetings of our Memory care units. Sisters in Mission extend an open invitation to members of other circles who might be interested in joining our monthly visitation times. Contact Laura Viancour or Deborah Hewitt for dates of future visits. Members gave reports on Women of the Bible as our program, continuing our study for early 2025 meetings. Note change of meeting room due to summer construction.

CAROL BRINKLEY MEMORIAL BOOK CLUB



The book club will meet on Monday, July 8, at 7:00p.m. via ZOOM. They will be discussing the book, *The Book Woman's Daughter*. This is a sequel to *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*. The book tells the story of Honey Lovett, daughter of the famed, blue-skinned Troublesome Creek packhorse librarian.