

UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS

November 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The colors of fall enhance our walks and drives. What else does fall bring? The Fall Festival!



The doors will open for shoppers at 8:00 a.m. Those working the first shift should be in the church at 7:30. Set-up is Friday, November 3, 9:00 to 4:00. Baked goods are to be delivered on Friday between 12 and 3. Bakers are asked to label the baked goods with the name and a list of the ingredients. All the money raised goes to support global and local missions. Encourage families and friends to come. Please join with the UWF Executive Officers, outgoing and incoming, Sunday, November 19 at 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for the General Meeting and Installation of new officers. Again this year Lynch Creek Farms will be the contact for ordering wreaths and centerpieces. To place an order, be sure to use the order form provided by Circle Leaders or picked up after church services or at the Fall Festival. That way UWF gets credit and earns 15% of the cost of the order. Happy Fall with all the colors and a chill in the air!

Linda

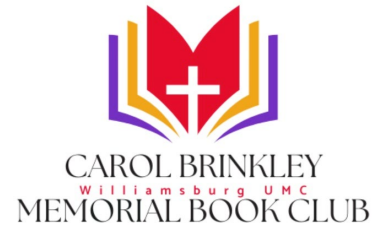
CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

Carol Scott met October 10 with 12 members and guest Connie Bland in attendance. Connie presented a very interesting and informative program about the UWF reading program and the five different plans available. She also shared about the Carol Brinkley reading group. Many members expressed interest and visited the UWF book shelves in the library. The group made plans for participation in the Fall Festival and organized the volunteer schedule for members.

Friendship met October 10 with 10 members present and 2 guests, Donna Ward and Michelle Roy. After a business meeting which included discussions of the Fall Festival and plans for upcoming meetings, Michelle Roy enlightened all with information about her work as Director of Congregation and Community Engagement. As the group began to understand the communications element, many questions were asked and suggestions made. Then Michelle shared her testimony leading to "Let go and let God." For the social time with healthy food, the group enjoyed yogurt and discussed its health benefits.

Heritage met on October 3 with 12 members present. Guest/former member Carolyn Spencer was welcomed. Zach Griggs presented the program and shared his pathway to ministry, providing an opportunity for the ladies to get to know more about him and his family. Following the business meeting, several ladies stayed for a brown bag lunch.

Ruth Simpson met on October 4 with 9 members and 1 guest in attendance. Speaker Deacon Troy Sims presented a delightful program describing his spiritual journey that led him to the ministry. He interspersed his talk with his guitar and hymns that related to the steps in his journey. Members collected sanitary products and toiletries for Avalon.



Sisters in Grace and Sisters in Mission met together on October 10 with 25 in attendance. Fellowship began with casual dining, each sister bringing her own dinner. Terry McKenna gave an uplifting devotion titled, "I Will Sing with Joy." Laura Viancour then shared an interesting article from the Response Magazine emphasizing the Endowment Fund. During the business part of the meeting Bonnie Knizatko announced the November 1 deadline for all "UWF Special Recognition Nominations." Gayle Justice shared information concerning the November 10/11 WUMC Sisters in Spirit Retreat for women and young girls thirteen and over to be held at the 4-H Center here in Williamsburg. Renee Goode explained the Christmas greenery sale and Susan Miller gave a final update of the Fall Festival. Sisters in both circles then worked diligently decorating and making the filled jam and jelly jars supplied by Patty Benesh. The group agreed that preparation for the Fall Festival has been a time of joy and perseverance. Gwen Hinton closed the meeting in prayer.



ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 7

From the Social Action Chairperson
Elections for state government offices often don't attract a great deal of interest. However, this is an important year when ALL 100 House of Delegates and 40 Senate seats will be decided, along with which party will have the majority. Redistricting has occurred since the last election; to find out who is running in your district, go to www.VPAP.org and enter the home address. Do take the time to read about candidates before voting.

The UWF Library is now located in Room 208 (at the top of the ramp). Come check it out! The annual operating budget, supported by UWF donations, allocates funding for Educational Materials/UWF Reading Program. This includes the purchase of Response magazine subscription, Program Books, Prayer Guides, and library books. After reviewing the 2023 and 2024 UWF catalogs, suggestions for book purchases can be submitted to Connie Bland by Nov 30. A list of books can be found in the Carol Brinkley Book Club section on the WUMC website <https://williamsburgumc.org/ministries/adults>

Book Club Zoom meetings are bi-monthly on the second Monday of the "odd" months. The next gathering will be held November 13 at 7:00 pm. Please watch (in advance) the movie Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools by Monique W. Morris. The movie can be streamed free via TUBI TV; or downloaded free from the WRL library using the Kanopy app; or rented from Amazon Prime Video. Or participants can choose to read the book. This selection counts as two books in the Social Action category.

WORLD THANK

Thanksgiving is almost here, a time of following past traditions and creating new memories with family and friends. Count all your blessings and put a dime for each one into your World Thank container. And this month is our World Thank Offering collection month. It's time to empty that container you've been filling each month using our Newsletter World Thank Offering fun ideas. The deadline for submitting your annual offering to our Treasurer Suzanna Chapman is **November 20**. Be kind and count your coins yourself; then send in a check!

CONCERNS Healing prayers for Fran Lane, now at Windsor Meade, and Elane Strange, at home with broken ribs. Thoughts and prayers are with former UWF member Joanne Sutlive on the passing of her husband Vince and with Donna Potts on the passing of her husband Fred.