

# UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS OCTOBER 2025

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the leaves begin to change and crispness fills the air, we welcome October - a month brimming with transformation and vibrant energy. There will be cozy nights by the fire, pumpkins on the front steps, and the enjoyment of the beauty of autumn. This season offers new beginnings. Yet the UWF remain constant in mission - busy focusing on God's work.

On September 6, a successful Blood Drive was held at our church. Then on September 20, the WUWF Membership Event was held lead by Janet Henke. Thank you to those who attended. On October 11, The Call to Prayer and Self Denial program was held in our Fellowship Hall. Cindy Banek led us in an inspirational program centered around "Hands to Acts".

On October 22, Wagsters Magic Show will be on our schedule. It will be held at their new theater and promises to be a show loved by all ages.

Decisions on mission donations will be made at the November Board meeting.

Best wishes and stay warm and well,

*LINDA*

## CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

### **Heritage-Carol Scott**



The Heritage-Carol Scott Circle met on Tuesday, October 7th. Twelve ladies and 1 guest (Pastor Madison) helped sort and mark the sweaters, fleece and hoodies that were so generously donated by church members. We delivered 30 large bags of clothing to FISH! Following our business meeting, several ladies stayed for a brown bag lunch.

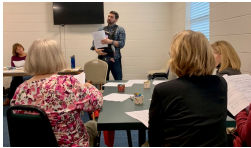
### **Ruth Simpson**



The Ruth Simpson Circle met on October 1, with 8 members present. Circle member Mary Yates presented an enlightening program on the Lord's Prayer. She explained the seven petitions found in the prayer and helped us to more fully understand why Jesus taught us to pray those specific words.

During our meeting time, we discussed our participation in an upcoming fundraising activity and how we are going to support it. We were also reminded about upcoming fundraising and membership events.

## Sisters in Grace



Sisters in Grace met on Tuesday, October 14 with 17 members and 3 guests present. Anthony Williams shared his composer toolbox along with several of his composed pieces. We realized how talented he is and how blessed we are to have him on staff! We discussed our Christmas outreach project with Latisha's House, upcoming WUWF events, continued plans for our partnership with Arc of Abilities, signed cards for our pastors since October is Pastor Appreciation month, and members volunteered to bring the items needed for the cookie/soup jars mission project. Susan Miller closed our meeting with a devotion and prayer from *Jesus Calling*.

## Sisters in Mission



Sisters in Mission met on Tuesday, November 14, with 11 members present. Deborah Hewitt presented a program on her trip last summer to Lyon, France. Her focus was specifically centered on the history and artwork within the Basilica of Notre Dame that featured pictures and sculptures of the Virgin Mary and Christ child given as gifts from countries around the world.

Susan Griffin gave her report on Rahab in our last Women of the Bible series shared by members over this past year. She spoke in first person and shared dried fruit and nuts, with music in the background, as she gave information about the life and influence of Rahab in her lifetime.

Business topics discussed: Homeless Shelter dinner, Christmas Shoebox mission project, December fundraising projects.

## SOCIAL ACTION - Learning and History

I have been working on decluttering my house and attic ever since I moved back to Williamsburg. Parting with books seems to be one of the hardest tasks. Over the years I finally purged most of my college textbooks. The one book I kept was from Art History titled, *History of Art*, by H.W. Janson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1977. This is a beautiful book with lovely pictures and a lot of information. It is very heavy and yet a prized possession. What does this have to do with Social Action you may ask? Or the current educational debates about textbooks, teaching history and curriculum?

Well, the big missing part of the history of art is that there are no women artists mentioned in this 761-page book from 1977! I never questioned that decades ago nor was this ever a topic in class. It was years later that I learned that the first time a woman was mentioned in this book was in the 1987 edition. I'm encouraged to know that some women artists are now included. This does not take away from the magnificent artistry of Rembrandt or DaVinci who will continue to be recognized. Including women artists finally just provides a more balanced history....of art.

## CAROL BRINKLEY MEMORIAL BOOK CLUB



Here are the wonderful books that will be read for the next several meetings:

|             |                                          |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|
| November 10 | <i>A Knock at the Door</i> by B. Barnett |
| January 12  | <i>All That is Secret</i> by P. Raybon   |
| March 8     | <i>The Girl With 7 Names</i> by H. Lee   |