

# UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

4th Quarter 2022 Newsletter



United Women in Faith

## PURPOSE OF UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

The organized unit of United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

“Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable, and receives the impossible.” — Corrie ten Boom



## Letter from the President June DeWeese

I am happy to report that **United Women in Faith Sunday** was celebrated on **October 16**. We received **\$1372** in **Candle Burning** donations in honor or in memory of persons chosen by members of our congregation. Those donations are designated for missions. **We added three new UWF members on that day.**

Our **4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Unit meeting** was celebrated on **December 7<sup>th</sup>** and I am happy to announce that there was a delicious Christmas meal that day. Special thank you to **Alicia and Doug Henderson** for preparing the turkey, mashed potatoes, and gravy. And, there was an outstanding array of side dishes and desserts that everyone brought! We have had a hiatus in our meals because of COVID and it was wonderful to celebrate that tradition once again. We had a memorial service for UWF members who passed away in 2022. We installed new officers, including Vicky Elliott, who will serve as President and who will represent UWF on Lead Team in 2023.



**It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your President for the past four years!**

**June DeWeese, President of UWF**

[deweesej@missouri.edu](mailto:deweesej@missouri.edu)

573-445-2252

**Incoming president, Vicky Elliott, presents gifts to June DeWeese for four years of service as UMW/UWF president.**



## Searcy-Feely

Each year **Searcy-Feely** circle supports the program through **VAC** that helps to provide Christmas gifts and food to families in need. This year, **we supported a single mother and her four children providing over \$400.00** for the purchase of gifts and food.

After three years of hiatus, the circle organized a **pecan sale in October**. We were delighted to receive **106** pre-orders for pecans. In addition, we were able to sell the remaining pecans one Sunday in the connector which enabled us to sell all of the **600** bags of pecans ordered. **The entirety of the \$1,680.00 of profit will be donated to four local missions: Wilkes Boulevard UMC for Turning Point; Wilkes Boulevard UMC for the emergency shelter; LOVE Columbia; and the Central Pantry of the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri.**

In **November**, circle members served the community by providing a meal for **Loaves and Fishes**. **Volunteers** reported that **125 people** were served. College students and some helpful men assisted in serving!



Our last scheduled activity for 2022 was with the college-age ministry. **On December 12<sup>th</sup>, we provided lunch during finals week.**

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at the church.** If you are interested in visiting or becoming part of **Searcy-Feely Circle**, please contact chairperson, **Paula Richards** - [prichards950@aol.com](mailto:prichards950@aol.com); 573-442-1432 or communications coordinator, **Diana Revelle** - [revellediana@gmail.com](mailto:revellediana@gmail.com); 573-489-2228.

## Bratton - Cunningham Circle



**November Meeting** - We gathered to learn how to make Prayer Beads.  
**December Meeting** -

**Carol Evans** gave a program on Angels. She brought her lovely collection to share with us. Following the presentation **Mary Jean Leeper** gave each one of us a small angel from several that she had, which were much appreciated!



**Submitted by:**  
**Carolyn Steinhaus, Chair**

Searcy-Feely members & some of the Neighborhood students serving for Loaves & Fishes.



Circle members enjoy serving **MUMC** in a variety of ways. As part of the program for the **November meeting**, members polished brass pieces for the sanctuaries: candle sticks, crosses, and offering plates.



## Gibson Circle

At our **October** meeting, **Gibson Circle** looked into the history of the **World Thank Offering** and then we gave our contributions to that offering.

In **November**, we addressed **Christmas Cards** for our church members that are in care facilities or are no longer able to attend church services.

**Submitted by: Evette Nissen, Chair**



## Sophia Circle November Meeting

A group of **Sophia Circle** members worked at the **Food Bank** on **November 12th**. They helped with **544 food boxes for seniors**



MUMC members help David & Kathy Lawson pack Dental Kits for the Festival of Sharing.

## Eagle Online Circle

**Sally Dorrell**, a UWF resident of Eldon MO and a **Pledge to Mission** member of our **Eagle OnLine** group, was elected as a **member of the 2023 MO Conference Leadership Team at the MO Conference UWF meeting in Jackson, MO on September 23-24, 2022**. Sally will be serving on the **Nominating Committee** as a representative of **North Central District** (our Unit's new Missouri district in 2023). Sally's updated address may be found in the **2023 UWF Yearbook** distributed at our December Unit meeting and luncheon. **Congratulations Sally!**  
Submitted by **Barbara McClure**

## Esther Circle

**Esther Circle** has been working on on-going projects and mainly consolidating and organizing materials that have been donated. It had been a while since we had taken the time to do this and it definitely needed to be done. We are hoping for a different space so we don't have the stairs to climb and hoping to have a bit larger space so we can have 'stations' for people who want to stop in and help. For example cutting stations, tracing stations, etc., as not everything has to be sewn.



Submitted by **Alicia Henderson, Chair/Communications**



## Fall & Early Winter Events

Looking back on Fall and Winter activities **Sophia** sisters have been busy. We started the fall with our **Annual BBQ**, a favorite meeting for fellowship and planning for end of the year projects. Over the months of **October through December**, we **collected warm clothes for The Wardrobe**, **packed diapers for First Chance for Children**, **served a hungry group at Loaves and Fishes** and **volunteered at the Food Bank** where we made lots of boxes and packing of food. In addition, **we adopted a VAC Christmas Family** and made some Christmas wishes come true. We also want to give a shout out to **Kathy and David Lawson** for their dedicated leadership for the **Festival of Sharing** and to **Jean Gruenwald**, who received the **United Women of Faith (UWF) Special Mission Recognition** at the MUMC UWF December meeting. In **January** our first meeting will be our **Annual Soup Supper**.

**Sophia Circle is pleased to welcome three new members: Ann Alberty, Jo Lee and Kathryn Sapp**

Submitted by **Carol Beahan, Chair**

"For we walk by faith, not by sight."

**2 Corinthians 5: 7**



## Wesley Circle October Meeting

Wesley Circle met at Wilson's Gym on Forum on **October 13** for a presentation of **Biofield Tuning presented by Catina Wise Topasch**. Catina offered this description: **The biofield contains the record of our memories and the blueprint of our physical bodies embedded as energy and information in standing waves within the structure. Through the use of tuning forks and sounds bowls, we can integrate this information into the body, creating potential healing for the individual.**



The members enjoyed this unique wellness experience.

**Facilitator: Judith LeFevre**

## November Meeting

On **November 10** Wesley Circle met at the new facility of **Mobility Worldwide** for a tour. The speaker was **Dell Epperson**. This impressive volunteer organization provides mobility vehicles in 3 models for leg handicapped persons in developing countries. The center was founded by the Rev. Mel West and is part of a nationwide network in several states. Last year alone **1357 mobility carts** were built at the Columbia facility and shipped to areas in need.

**Facilitator: Nancy Franklin**



## December Meeting

A group of **Wesley Circle** members met at **Broadway Christian Church** on December 8th to help with the annual **VAC Christmas Distribution**. Around **1030 families** were assisted this year.



**Facilitator:**  
**Suzanne McDavid,**  
**Chair**

**Adoption of VAC Families**  
**Suzanne McDavid assists**  
**MUMC members in the**  
**Connector**



**Wesley Circle member, Debbie Schulte**, coordinated with the **Wesley Circle** and **Rebes Bennett** to provide a meal on **December 13**, during finals week for **the MUMC College Ministry**.

## Social Action

### CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

Many of you know that, at the end of each year, **UWF units** are given the opportunity to become a **"Five-Star Unit"** by looking back over the year to see how many of the requirements the unit has met. **For 2023, I am asking the circles, small groups and individual members to keep this in mind throughout the year as you plan activities and programs.**



Listed below you will find some suggested activities in which you may want to participate to help us meet our goals in the area of **Social Action** and to maintain our membership in the **Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice Club**. Please look them over and decide how you, your circle or small group might want to learn more while you help the unit.

#### Social Action

1. Join the **UWF Social Action Network** and respond to legislative information at least **3 times a year**.
2. Attend a Legislative Event and **contact your Senator and Representative**.
3. Have a program about one of the **UWF Christian Social Responsibility Campaign** issues.

**Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice Membership** - Activities that focus on inclusiveness, justice and social action. Books, videos, college and community activities, inviting members from a culture other than your own to join you in a discussion of our respective cultural identities. **If you would like a copy of specific suggestions, let me know.**

*I would be glad to help you with any of these activities. We can learn together. We will not only help the unit meet its goals. At the same time, we will be enriching ourselves with new knowledge, insights, and inspiration to continue the work of **Christian Social Justice**.*

**Submitted by Caryl Bryan**

## Mid-State UMW/UWF Meeting

In **January**, the name of the organization known as **United Methodist Women** will **officially change to United Women in Faith**. The current district that has been known as **Mid-State District** has been changed to **North Central District** which encompasses churches and units in the central and northern sections of Missouri. **Mid-State District has been in existence since 2002 and the United Methodist Women of that district since 2003.** A meeting of the current Mid-State District United Women was held on **Saturday December 17<sup>th</sup> at MUMC** to celebrate the district and remember its legacy. The meeting was organized and facilitated by **Julia Goodell who is the current President of the Mid-State District UMW and the President-elect for the North Central United Women in Faith**. Attendees shared together both in person and online through Zoom.

The **first meeting of the North Central District United Women in Faith will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2023 in Chillicothe, Missouri**. Watch for more information as it becomes available. **Submitted by Diana Revelle**



**Incoming MUMC UWF President, Vicky Elliott, welcomes attendees with Julia Goodell.**



**District Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Judy Shannon, leads the Memorial Service**

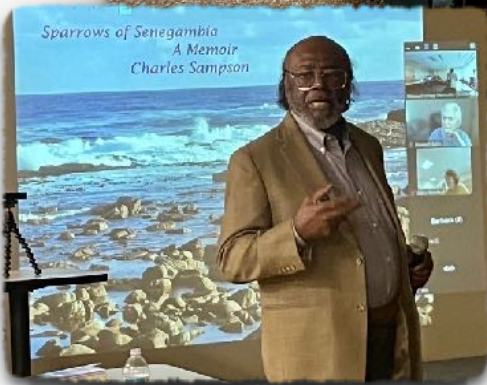
**District Librarian, Rene Rau prepares the Reading Program display table.**

## MUMC Book Club



MUMC Book Club meets at 10:00 a.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Our meetings generally occur via Zoom, but in November, we had a special in-person gathering with a Zoom option. On November 9<sup>th</sup>, we met at MUMC in room 103. Our book for November was *Sparrows of Senegambia, A Memoir* by MUMC's own Dr. Charles Sampson. Dr. Sampson presented his book and led the discussion of his fascinating memoir, allowing time for questions and discussion following his presentation.

Our next meeting will be on January 11<sup>th</sup>. The book for January is *My Two Elaines, Learning, Coping and Surviving as an Alzheimer's Caregiver* by Martin J. Schreiber. If you are interested in joining MUMC Book Club or need more information, contact Diana Revelle: [revellediana@gmail.com](mailto:revellediana@gmail.com); 573-489-2228.



Dr. Charles Sampson, author of *Sparrows of Senegambia, A Memoir*



October, November, December 2022

## Unit Treasurer Announcements

- **UMW/UWF 2022 Giving Statements** have been submitted electronically to all Unit members who have made **Pledge to Mission** and other **Mission Channels of Giving** directly to the Unit Treasurer for the UMW/UWF Unit at Missouri Methodist. If you have questions, *please email the Unit Treasurer, Barbara McClure.*
- Unit members **still have an opportunity to make a 2023 Pledge to Mission for the upcoming program year.** Contact your Circle Chair for a Pledge to Mission form to submit your pledge to the Unit Treasurer.
- If you requested a **print copy of the 2023 Unit Yearbook**, please check with your **Circle Chair** for your copy. **There is no charge for a print copy of the Yearbook this year.**
- **If you would like a print copy and did not request a copy, please let your Circle Chair know so that those additional requests may be processed through the Unit Treasurer.**

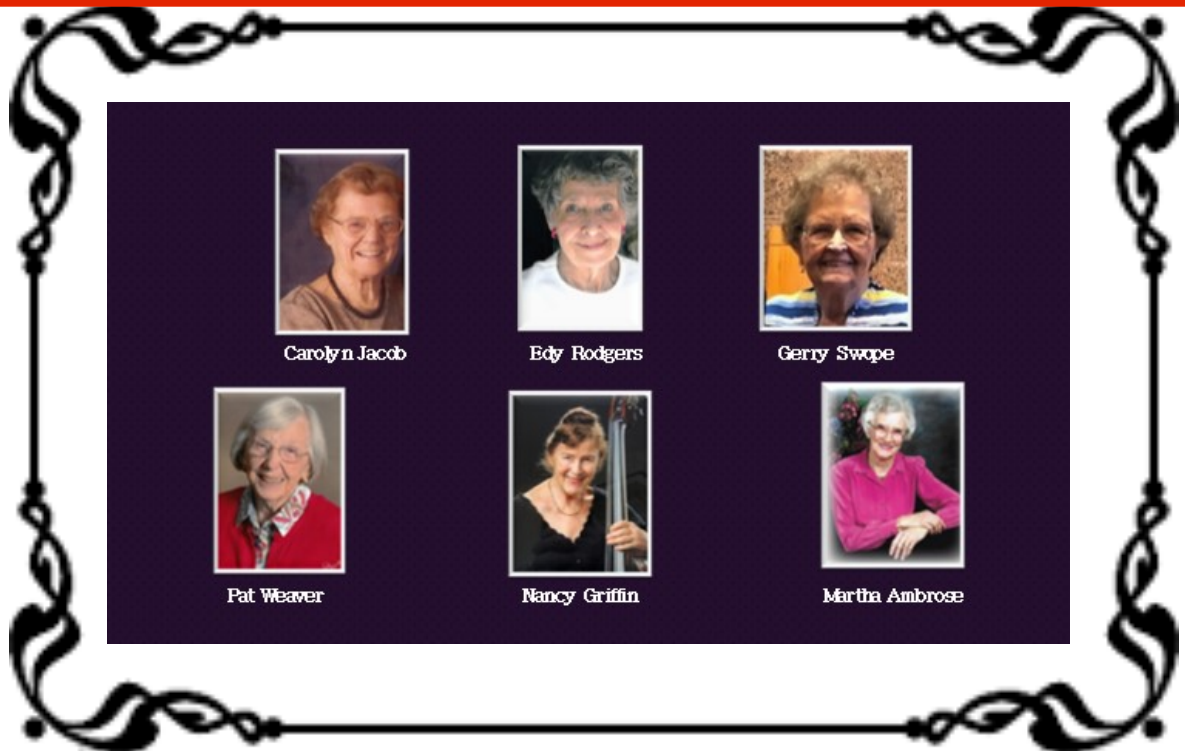
Submitted by:



**DEVOTION AND DETERMINATION** | "Through the centuries, faithful Christians have heeded the challenge of their Lord and followed his example in bringing the whole gospel to bear upon the whole lives of people. John Wesley is remembered primarily as a great preacher and prophet. A reading of his sermons and instructions to Methodist Societies, however, reveals a deep concern on his part for the health, educational and general welfare needs of people," writes Deaconess Betty Letzig in *Expressions of Faith*, in which she talks about the origins of the social welfare institutions then related to the National Program Division of the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church. "In the former Methodist Church, most of the hospitals, children's homes, residences, community centers and schools related to the National Division today were begun by the woman's missionary societies."

**An excerpt from response magazine, 2022 November-December issue, p. 16**

## United Women in Faith December Unit Meeting



Carolyn Jacob



Edy Rodgers



Gerry Swope



Pat Weaver



Nancy Griffin



Martha Ambrose

**Kathy Lawson and Paula Richards** led the **Memorial Service** for **UWF** members who passed in 2022:



**Carolyn Jacob**  
**Edy Rodgers**  
**Gerry Swope**  
**Pat Weaver**  
**Nancy Griffin**  
**Martha Ambrose**

*Tribute Given by:*

**Betty Dillard**  
**June DeWeese**  
**Evette Nissen**  
**Carole Babel**  
**Marie Powell**  
**Carolyn Steinhaus**



### Special Mission Recognition Recipients

**Jan Mees** awards fellow **Sophia Circle** member **Jean Gruenwald** her **Special Mission pin** and **certificate**.



**Barb Sanders** receives her **Special Mission pin** and **certificate** from fellow **Esther Circle** member **Alicia Henderson**.



**Discovery Days Preschool** children presented a delightful program under the direction of **Courtney Gaunt**.

**Diana Mooney & René Rau** award **UWF Reading Program Certificates**.



**UWF Unit Meeting, cont.**

**Below - Left to right - Alicia Henderson, Evette Nissen, Carole Babel, Joy Sampson, Caryl Bryan, Diana Mooney, and Rene Rau**



**Above - Diana Revelle conducted the Installation of Officers: Left to right- Vicky Elliott, Jan Mees, Kathy Lawson, June DeWeese, and Barbara McClure**

**2023 Elected Officers**

Unit President	Vicky Elliott
Unit Vice-President	Jan Mees
Unit Secretary	June DeWeese
Unit Treasurer	Barbara McClure
Chair of Committee on Nominations	Kathy Lawson

**Appointed Officers**

Education & Interpretation/ Program Resources	Diana Mooney & Rene Rau
Social Justice	Caryl Bryan
Membership Nurture & Outreach Coord.	Suzanne McDavid
Spiritual Growth Coordinator	Joy Sampson
UWF Reading Program Coordinator	Rene Rau

**Appointed Positions**

Auditing	Kathy Lawson & Carole Babel
Church Women United	René Rau
Coordinator of Communications	Alicia Henderson
Wardrobe Coordinator	Evette Nissen
Member at Large	Carole Babel



**Dates to Remember:**

January 8	Church Women United, 2:30 pm	MUMC Chapel
January 28	North Central District UWF "Everything You Want to Know & Were Afraid to Ask"	MUMC
February 1	Executive Committee, 9:00 am	Parlor Dining
March 1	Executive Committee, 9:00 am	Parlor Dining