

*The Voice of the
Harpeth River District
United Women in Faith
Newsletter*

“Food, Faith, and Fellowship”

Happy New Year!!

*Mark in your Calendar ~~ and ~~ Plan to attend ~~ the
Harpeth River District’s*

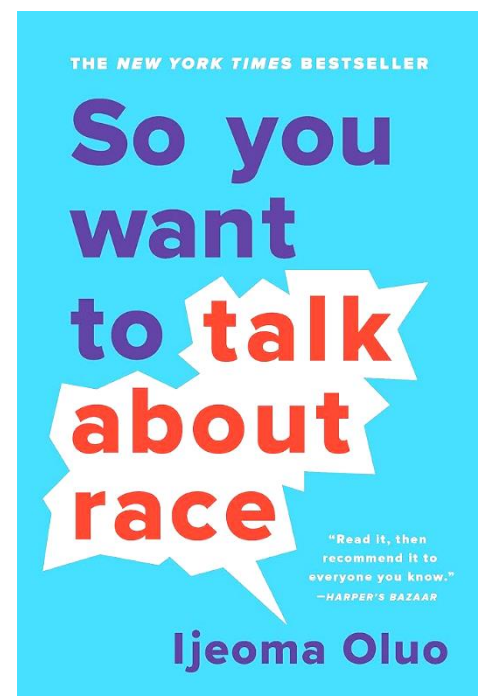
Faith Lift

February 3 @ 2:00 pm

@ Mt. Pisgah UMC

Rev. Kimi Brown

“So You Want to Talk About Race”



From the President

Greetings sisters in Christ! I hope all of you had a blessed Christmas and I pray your 2024 is filled with much happiness and good health.

The Harpeth River District is looking forward to another year of fellowship and mission work. Our schedule is set, and I would like to sincerely thank the Units who have graciously volunteered to host events.

I would like to warmly welcome Savannah First UMC to the District. They have reorganized with over 30 enthusiastic members! They will be a blessing to all of us.

A reminder to all to Unit Presidents please double check all the contact information for your officers, as Marilyn Smith will be working on our directory in the coming weeks. We appreciate your attention to this.

Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Blessings,

*Beth
bethstockwell7534@gmail.com*



Prayer Requests

		Bobbie	Brooke	Frances
	Harry	Joy	Judy	
Kate		Katie	Kila	
Linda	Sydney	Tim		



From the Treasurer

Did you know that you can get greeting cards from your unit or district treasurer for different events going on in the lives of your family and friends?

Not only do we have **Gift to Mission** cards, to honor someone with a donation to United Women in Faith, but we have **birthday, new baby, thinking of you, congratulations, your special day, and thank you** cards.

With as little as a \$5 donation (you can send more), you can get a card to send to someone to let them know you are thinking of them. The money is forwarded to the conference and national offices to be used for missions.

Gift in Memory cards are also available. They let a family know that their loved one is remembered.

Where else can you get a card for someone and donate to missions at the same time? I will plan on having cards available anytime the district has an event. If you need them at any other time just contact your unit treasurer or me, the district treasurer, to order the number of cards you want.

Have a great new year!!

Debbie Miller

debbie.miller718@gmail.com



PURPOSE of the UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

The United Methodist Women
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.



*From the Spiritual Growth Officer****Soaking Prayer***

A soaking prayer invites you to simply rest in God's love. Soaking prayer is not a time for intensive intercessory prayer or Bible study. Lay aside all of that for another day. It is a time of prayerful rest and relaxation, so find a comfortable chair, a hammock, a bed, or place a blanket on the ground. Play peaceful worship music to help quieten your soul and bring your heart closer to God. Soaking prayer can last as long as you need, from fifteen minutes to an hour or more. If you feel exhausted, let this be your only form of prayer for a while.

Prayer Practices for Disciples, © The Upper Room. Source: www.UpperRoom.org JUNE 5, 2023, BY REV. DR. AMY E. STEELE

*Marina Rawls
Harpeth River District
Spiritual Growth Coordinator*

*From the Social Action Officer*

Happy New Year!

Looking forward to our Faith Lift event on February 3. In preparation for that and other United Women in Faith events coming up this year, I encourage everyone to read or listen to Ijeoma Oulo's book, *So You Want to Talk About Race*. A key quote from the book: "When we identify where our privilege interests with somebody else's oppression, we'll find our opportunities to make real change."

Hope to see you there!

Stacey Hagewood
shagewood@gmail.com



Trivia –

How many of the 10 Commandments are you able to list?



From the Program Resources Officer

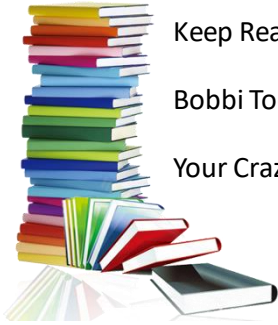
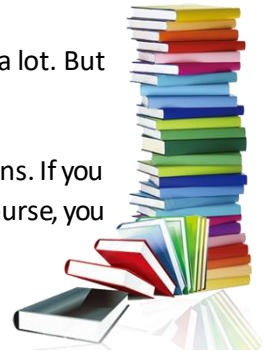
Happy New Year United Women in Faith!

I keep finding new reads on the 2024 reading list! Please let me know if you find something you think everyone might enjoy.

The November/December **response** magazine has an excellent article about our Reading Program. I highly recommend that everyone read it!

I have gotten a little behind in reading after my back surgery because of sleeping a lot. But I am back on track and have almost read my 20 books on the 2024 Reading List.

I am available to visit any unit/circle to encourage reading and to answer questions. If you call, please text so I know who you are or leave a voice mail: 615.516.9428. Of course, you can always email me at bobbitoombs@att.net.



Keep Reading!

Bobbi Toombs

Your Crazy Book Lady

*From the Communication Coordinator*

Happy New Year!

I look forward to working with each of you this year! I get the newsletters together and keep the website up to date. I want you to know that you are the Communication, and I am the Coordinator! In other words, I depend on you for information about your unit, the programs, the projects, and everything else in-between. Plus, I need photos to go with it! The pictures will be included next to your write-up and in the Gallery on the website.

So, let's Communicate!! 😊

Website: hrumw.weebly.com

My email address: pdj1169@gmail.com



Janet Pierce
931.242.0428

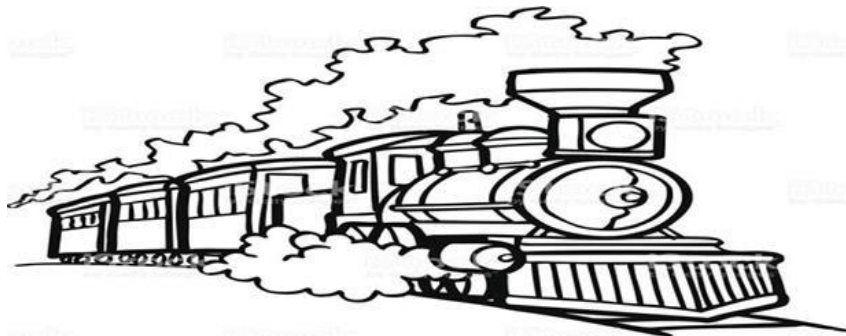


From the Committee of Nominations Chair

Welcome to 2024! As we see so many of our sisters inactivating their units, it is timely to ask that we all keep these units in our prayers. As our numbers decrease, it becomes harder and harder to gather a slate of officers. However, it is my hope that 2024, a leap year, will cause our organization to "leap" into a new year full of commitment and involvement. Won't you join me in this prayer?

Judy Davis

jldavis71391@att.net



Greetings My Sisters in Christ,

Early registration for our next Southeastern Jurisdiction's Quadrennial Meeting to be held in "Good old Chattanooga, TN" is almost over however we still have a few more days before late registration begins.

Ladies we have been looking into getting a charter bus to travel to Chattanooga and in order to do this we must have at least 40 passengers to confirm they will travel on the bus and so far we only have 4. Please let me know that you want to ride the bus so that we can go ahead and reserve our space. If we do not have 40 by January 20, 2024; we will cancel plans for bus. Cost of bus will be a minimum of \$150 - \$200 dollars depending on the number of people on the bus. You may contact me at Melbamalibu@att.net or 731-780-0873.

Early Registration:

Begins September 1 through December 31, 2023: \$210

Late Registration:

Begins January 1 through March 19, 2024 \$240

Grace and Peace to all and hope to see you there,

Melba Mitchell



2024 Book Suggestions

Education for Mission ~

The Book of Rosy: A Mother's Story of Separation at the Border
Rosayra Pablo Cruz and Julie

The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story
Aaron Bobrow-Strain

Leadership Development ~

Beautiful Country: A Memoir
Qian Julie Wang

I am a Girl from Africa: A Memoir of Power, Community and Hope
Aelizabeth Nyamayaro

Nurturing for Community ~

A Little Piece of Light: A Memoir of Hope, Prison and Life Unbound
Donna Hylton

Crying in H Mart: A Memoir
Michelle Zauner

Social Action ~

Running
Natalia Sylvester (Youth)

The Nickel Boys / Los Chicos De Nickel
Colson Whitehead

Spiritual Growth ~

Glory in the Margins: Sunday Poems (Great read as Daily Devotion)
Nikki Grimes

Land of Silence
Tessa Afshar

+++++

- Note:
 To find out what a book is about, follow these steps:
 * Open website: hrumw.weebly.com
 * On the Navigation Bar, place your cursor on Book Report.
 * On the Drop-Down menu, click on 2024.
 * Scroll down to the book you are wanting to read about.
 * Keep on Reading!!



~~ *Mission u* ~~

In 2024 of Living the Kin-dom, we will deepen our study to include the ways Jesus preached and ministered a proximity to the kin-dom. Jesus said those inheriting the coming and future kingdom were those typically pushed outside the hierarchies of belonging – the hungry, the stranger, and the prisoner (Matt 25:40). Not only would they inherit the kingdom, but to enter the kingdom we have to become like children (Matt 18:1-5), be more righteous than a Pharisee (Matt 5:20) or be poor in spirit (Matt 5:3). Furthermore, the Lord’s prayer speaks well to the second year of the curricula when we will be exploring the proximity of the kin-dom. This second study will focus on the invitation to posture our lives and transform ourselves in ways that bring us proximity to the kin-dom and the kin-dom in proximity to us.

Study Leaders:

- Adult Leaders – Rev. Brigitte French, Rev. Chris Haynes, Rev. Marie King, Holly Neal
- Children’s Leaders – LaSonia Scantling assisted by Ashley Gardner
- Youth Leaders – Caroline Martin assisted by Jerlean Bass

Pricing:

The Kin-dom is among you

Drawing Closer to God and One Another

July 11-13, 2024
Scarritt Bennett Center
Nashville, TN

Staying on campus - \$175 (2 nights) or \$140 (1 night)
Commuters - \$85
Virtual - \$35
Children/Youth \$50-\$75 depending on accommodations.

Hands on Mission Project:

Edgehill United Methodist (located very close to Scarritt Bennett)

** More details will be in the registration packet which we hope to have ready for distribution by February 1, 2024. **

In the meantime:

- (1) Mark your calendar and plan to attend.
- (2) Encourage others to come.
- (3) Focus on inviting children and youth.
- (4) Pray for the success of Mission u 2024.

Blessings,

Peggy Owen, Dean and Delores Smith, Assistant Dean



~ ~ *Unit News* ~ ~

Bethesda ~

On October 11, Bethesda's UWF went to the UMCOR Disaster Relief Warehouse in Decatur, AL. Seven of us repacked over 300 health kits for the warehouse to send to those in need. On the way home, we stopped for lunch at Longhorn where we enjoyed a great time of fellowship. We had loads of fun working together and look forward to another workday in the spring.



Christ ~

What a great time we had together on December 3rd - cookies, cocoa and CHALLENGES! Rev. Janet Wolf shared a powerful Advent message and here's just a bite of that message: Advent is a reminder that the good news is not compatible with the way things are - God's kin-dom disrupts and challenges. We are called to embody kin-dom, God's dream of justice. The church is not an escape, but a calling to WORK!

What is kin-dom? "The unfolding of the kin-dom of God happens when instead of working to become part of structures of exclusion, we struggle to do away with such structures" (Cuban-American theologian Ada María Isasi-Díaz).

Amen? AMEN!

Our November bake sale raised over \$1300 for the TSU Wesley Foundation and the ministry of Rev. Michele Morton.



Two priorities of Focus for 2024:

- Ending Mass Incarceration/Criminalization of Communities of Color, with a focus on Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline

<https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/mass-incarceration/>

- Climate Justice, with a focus on Just Energy for All

<https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/just-energy-4-all/>



Harpeth River District Officers

President	Beth Stockwell	St. Andrew Memorial UMC	bethstockwell7534@gmail.com
Vice President	Vacant		
Secretary	Marilyn Smith	St. Andrew Memorial UMC	momamia1950@gmail.com
Treasurer	Debbie Miller	Franklin First UMC	debbie.miller718@gmail.com
E & I Coordinator	Vacant		
MNO Coordinator	Diana Garner	Thompson’s Station UMC	grits3790@yahoo.com
Spiritual Growth	Marina Rawls	Franklin First UMC	anient@att.net
Social Action	Stacey Hagewood	Christ UMC	shagewood@gmail.com
Program Resources	Bobbi Toombs	Nolensville First UMC	bobbitoombs@att.net
Communications Coord.	Janet Pierce	Centerville UMC	pdj1169@gmail.com
Nominations Chair	Judy Davis	Thompson’s Station UMC	jldavis71391@att.net
Class of 2024	Patsy Elliott	Nolensville First UMC	pelliottquilter@comcast.net
Class of 2024	Peggy Owen	Centerville UMC	owenpeggy@gmail.com
Class of 2025	Frances Warpool	Bethesda UMC	bwarpool@bellsouth.net



**2024 United Women in Faith Officers
Tennessee Western Kentucky Conference**

President	Meredith Bingham (Metro District)	901-355-4573
	267 River Commons Cir., Memphis, TN 38120	mbingha@bellsouth.net
Vice President	Karen Saunders (Caney Fork River District)	401-603-8454
	127 Hedgewood Point, Crossville, TN 38558	karanns@aol.com
Secretary	Vacant	
	Contact Meredith Bingham	
Treasurer	Geralyn Seals (Metro District)	901-603-5820
	2731 Davies Plantation Rd., Cordova, TN 38016	geralyn.seals@att.net
Mission Coordinators:		
Spiritual Growth	Holly Neal (Caney Fork District)	931-265-0824
	28 Hampton Square, Crossville, TN 38555	hneal56@yahoo.com

Membership	Nita Wright (Stones River District)	615-828-9279
	203 Brookhaven Trail, Smyrna, TN 37167	nita_wright@bellsouth.net
Social Action	Carol Overton (Cumberland River District)	615-987-7579
	1959 Leighton Ct., Clarksville, TN37043	Caroloverton67@gmail.com
Education & Interpretation	Katie Harris (Stones River District)	931-637-1778
	2981 Beasley Road, Chapel Hill, TN 37034	kh14@united.net
Communications	Janet Pierce (Harpeth River District)	931-242-0428
Coordinator	698 Hwy 50, Centerville, TN 37033	pdj1169@gmail.com
Program Resources	Bobbi Toombs (Harpeth River District)	615-516-9428
Coordinator	9925 Debra Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129	bobbitoombs@att.net
Nominations Chair	Pam Nelson (Cumberland River District)	615-596-7465
	917 Waldkirch Ave., Nashville, TN 37204	pam.nelson@rvtlc.net
Dean - Mission u	Peggy Owen (Harpeth River District)	615-948-1518
	1116 Maddox Road, Centerville, TN 37033	owenpeggy@gmail.com
Assistant Dean - Mission u	Delores Smith (Mississippi River District)	731-487-0084
	808 S. College Street, Trenton, TN 38382	smithumw@gmail.com
Program Advisory	Beth Brown (Mississippi River District)	731-885-7218
Group	258 E Hwy. 22, Union City, TN 38261	sebrown1@bellsouth.net
Director, UMW National	Caroline Martin (Stones River District)	615-207-5809
Office	2079 Stoney Meadow Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37128	cbmartin67@gmail.com
Conference	Class of 2024	Class of 2024
Nominations Members	Marilyn Jeanes (Tennessee River District)	Marie Lamon (Metro District)
	846 Lane Avenue	211 Leaning Tree Lane
	Jackson, TN 38301	Memphis, TN 38109
	731-217-1739	901-789-2242
	mayjeans@aol.com	glamon6@gmail.com
	Class of 2025	Class of 2027
	Mozell Starks (Metro District)	Melba Mitchell (Mississippi River)

	1880 S Lauderdale	3820 Highway 19 W
	Memphis, TN 38106	Brownsville, TN 38012
	901-774-4541 (H) 901-827-0597 (C)	731-780-0873
	starksm@bellsouth.net	melbamalibu@att.net
Bishop	William McAlilly	615-329-1177
	304 Perimeter Park Dr. Suite 2	bishop@twkumc.org
	Nashville, TN 37211	
District Presidents	Susan King (Caney Fork River)	Evelyn Tade (Cumberland River)
	24 Woodland Ter	187 Harbor Drive
	Crossville, TN 38558	Old Hickory, TN 37138
	931-678-1889	615-477-7754
	sking30224@att.net	evelyndtade@aol.com
	Beth Stockwell (Harpeth River)	Rebeca Grinstead (Metro)
	201 Drew Drive	1640 Cherry Rd
	Pulaski, TN 38478	Memphis, TN 38117
	931-309-0577	901-484-7385
	bethstockwell7534@gmail.com	heyuena@yahoo.com
	Marilyn Ramsey (Mississippi River)	Jennifer Rose (Purchase)
	3068 Maple Street	7176 Old US Hwy 45
	Milan, TN 38358	Boaz, KY 42027
	731-414-8461	270-832-0731
	marilynramsey@me.com	jen.rose22@yahoo.com
	Margaret Fisher (Red River)	Robbie Hooper (Stones River)
	247 Rossvie Road	1501 Avellino Circle
	Clarksville, TN 37043	Murfreesboro, TN 37130
	931-338-5537	615-584-2763
	mfisher0844@gmail.com	hooper.robby.m@gmail.com
	Beverly Mueller (Tennessee River)	
	1047 Old State Route 22	
	McKenzie, TN 38201	
	731-358-4642	
	blm61@icloud.com	

Calendar of Events

[District in Red]

Jan. 1 (Mon.)		Happy New Year!!	
Jan. 15 (Mon.)		Martin Luther King Day	
Feb. 2 (Fri.)		Groundhog Day	
Feb. 2 (Fri.)		National Wear Red Day	
Feb. 3 (Sat.)	1:00 pm 2:00 pm	Local Unit Officer Training District Faith Lift	Mt. Pisgah UMC
Feb. 10 (Sat.)	1:00 pm	Weather Date for Officer Training and Faith Lift	Mt. Pisgah UMC
Feb. 14 (Wed.)		Ash Wednesday	
Feb. 14 (Wed.)		Valentine's Day	
Feb. 15 (Wed.)		Year End Audit Due	
Feb. 19 (Mon.)		President's Day	
Mar. 10 (Sun.)		Daylight Saving Time	
Mar. 23 (Sat.)	TBD	Charter for Racial Justice	TBD
Mar. 24 (Sun.)		Palm Sunday	
Mar. 31 (Sun.)		Easter	
Apr. 6 (Sat.)	2:00 pm	Partners in Mission	Coleman Memorial UMC
Apr. 19-21 (Fri.-Sun.)		SEJ Quadrennial Event "Get Together"	Chattanooga
May 3-5 (Fri.-Sun.)		Women's Retreat	Beersheba
June 17-19 (Mon.-Wed.)		TWK Annual Conference	Murfreesboro First UMC
June 22 (Sat.)	10:00 am 11:00 am	Local President's Round Table District Leadership Team Meeting	St. Andrew UMC
July 11-13 (Thurs.-Sat.)		Mission u	Scarritt Bennett
Aug. 4 (Sun.)	9:30 am 2:00 pm	District Mission Study / Brown Bag Lunch District Leadership Team Meeting	Thompson's Station UMC
Sept. 6-8 (Fri.-Sun.)		Fall Retreat	Lakeshore
Sept. 21 (Sat.)	8:30 am 9:00 am	Registration for Annual Meeting DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING	Centerville UMC
Sept. 28 (Sat.)	10:00 am	Conference Annual Meeting	McKenzie First UMC
Nov. 2 (Sat.)	10:00 am	District Officer's Training by Conference	Lawrenceburg First UMC

