

United Women in Faith
Spring/Summer Newsletter



DUNWOODY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



United
Women
in Faith

Dear Friends in Faith,

I hope you are enjoying the slower pace of summer—with its longer days, more casual worship services, and opportunities to celebrate. This year, we've marked our nation's 250th birthday and recently celebrated the June 28 birthday of John Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism. (Save that tidbit for your next trivia game!)

Although many circles take a break during the summer months, United Women in Faith members have remained active and engaged. Our circles wrapped up the program year with meaningful projects and celebration lunches, and many of our members continue to support the ministries of our church, our community, and the North Georgia Conference. Earlier this summer, one of our members had the honor of speaking at the United Women in Faith Breakfast during the North Georgia Annual Conference.

We also continue to support the mission and ministry of DUMC through our financial giving. Recently, our board voted to fund two important initiatives—one long-standing and one new. United Women in Faith will provide support for a scholarship for ministerial interns and will also help fund the church's new bookmobile ministry.

Even while some of us are traveling and enjoying vacations, we are still supporting United Women in Faith by reading! Books on the UWF Reading Program list help us grow in faith, understanding, and service. Our church book club meets regularly to discuss these books and encourage participation in the Reading Program. Be sure to watch for the new reading list in September and consider joining us for another year of learning together.

Please also save the date for the second Ladies Night Out dinner on October 5, at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and sponsored by DUMC Women's Ministry. All women of the church, including United Women in Faith members, are invited and encouraged to attend. Details are coming soon.

In the meantime, enjoy these warm summer days and the opportunities they bring for rest, renewal, and service. We look forward to gathering again in the fall. Most circles will resume meeting in September, but if you'd like to connect sooner, Tapestry will continue meeting for social events throughout the summer.

May God continue to bless and guide us as we serve with faithful hearts, sharing Christ's love wherever He calls us.

Grace and Peace,
Angela Arnold Go
United Women in Faith

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." — 1 Peter 4:10

Celebrating Circle Life!

Holy Week lunches

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Holy Week lunches back in April. UWF members set tables in the Fellowship Hall, served guests food, and cleaned up each day during Holy Week following special noon worship services. Extra thanks to Zacka Gomes and his team, and Sharon Conway for organizing the circles' service.



Highlights of our circles' late spring activities:

Rev. Garrett Wallace spoke to **Bible Study** about Mary Magdalene (who was featured in a Response magazine article).

Circle of Joy hosted speaker Harry Findley, who gave a talk on near-death experiences.

Gracetime co-chair Allie Benston Scott welcomed a daughter with her husband, Will.

Family Living & Giving were treated to a presentation by Joy Gregory on music in April and held a year-end luncheon in May, where they voted to use money left in this year's budget to support DUMC Performing Arts and Corners Outreach.



Heart & Home held a cereal drive to help stock the Community Assistance Center food pantry.

Tapestry made sandwiches for The Sandwich Project in April and hosted DUMC puppeteer Glenda Joiner in May.



More circle life highlights



In March, **New Horizons in Christ** hosted a Lunch & Learn for 37 women from various circles to hear from guest speaker and circle member Holly Middleton, who is a board-certified clinical psychologist. She led a session on strengthening oneself with a personal plan for greater hope and happiness.

In April, they sorted medical supplies at MedShare, a global healthcare nonprofit that provides safe, unused surplus medical supplies and equipment to hospitals and clinics around the world



LIKE THIS NEWSLETTER? We are seeking a new communications officer to produce future issues. Contact nominations officers Susan Anderson (susananderson822@gmail.com) or Cathy Elliot (wbefive@aol.com)

Upcoming events

Save the date, Monday, October 5, at 6:00 pm for the second annual DUMC Ladies Night Out dinner, sponsored by Women's Ministry—details, including speaker and reservations, to come soon.

Mark your calendars now for the annual Green and White brunch on Saturday, December 5, 2026, in the morning. Exact time, cost, speaker, and registration details to be announced in the fall.



Book club news

UWF Book Club, a group supporting the UWF Reading Program, meets on July 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the church library to discuss *God's Ghostwriters: Enslaved Christians and the Making of the Bible*, by Candida Moss. Please join us!

In addition to *God's Ghostwriters*, the Book Club read the following books this year: *Grace Can Lead Us Home* by Kevin Nye; *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times* by Jane Goodall & Douglas Abrams; *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray; and *Seventy Times Seven: A True Story of Murder and Mercy* by Alex Mar.

Books for the new year (2026-2027) will be selected at the September meeting. For more information, contact Amanda Masters at amandahmasters@gmail.com.

News from the South-Central UWF district

Our own Jo Sheetz, a deaconess in the United Methodist Church, was one of the featured speakers at the UWF Breakfast held during the North Georgia Conference in Athens, June 19. Jo talked about what being a deaconess meant in her faith journey and introduced one of the newest inductees, Tara Barnes of New York, who chose to come south to attend the North Georgia Conference.

The North Georgia Conference will have its UWF annual meeting on Saturday, October 3 at Johns Creek United Methodist Church. Registration information will be available in September.



Serving Our Community

This spring, the DUMC UWF sought ways to provide new support to our church and community. We noticed some of the ministerial interns our church hosted were women, so we voted to fund a scholarship to help support a female divinity student at Candler School of Theology. The UWF will present the scholarship at the Green and White Banquet in December.

Bookmobile

The UWF supported Tambryn Freund and the Children's Ministry's new initiative, a bookmobile. During four days in June and July, church members, including UWF members, took the church's hospitality trailer and set up mobile sites at Kingsley and Dunwoody Elementary Schools, as well as Brook Run and Pernoshal Park, to distribute books to pre-K through 5th-grade students.

"Each child who visits will be able to pick a new book and a used book. We have books purchased through a scholastic initiative that brings books down to an average of \$3 per book," said Tambryn.

Thanks to donations from DUMC and Friends of the Dunwoody Library, children could select a couple of additional used books. They also received a DUMC children's program bookmark. The UWF donated money to outfit the bookmobile with book carts and tents for the mission.



About Us

United Women in Faith of DUMC ministers to the needs and interests of women in our church family. By doing so, we provide opportunities for both personal growth and service. There will be at least one mission study each calendar year, offered by the district, open to all members of DUMC UWF and the community at large. A nursery is available (by reservation) at the church for all circles and for any morning events.

The seven DUMC circles are :

Bible Study. This group provides members with a time to enrich their study of the bible. Lessons presented by various leaders give them a sense of closeness and help them dedicate their service through UWF. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM in the Wesley Room. Typical members: senior women 70s +. Contact: Shirley Nelson (snandjn@aol.com)

About us (continued)

Circle Of Joy. This group starts with lunch (BYO) and fellowship before their program begins (featuring a mix of speakers and group projects, followed by a short business meeting). They are involved in many areas of service within and beyond DUMC. They meet on the third Monday of the month in the Young Adult Suite. Contacts: Shirley Layne (shirley.layne@gmail.com) and Amlie Lewis (amlie@att.net)

Family Living & Giving. This group is composed of women who are experiencing empty nests, retiring from careers, enjoying grandchildren, caring for aging parents, and supporting women who have already experienced those life-changing events. This active circle participates in many service projects within DUMC and in the greater community. After a business meeting and program, the group enjoys a light lunch and social time. The circle meets on the second Monday of each month at 11:00 AM in the Church Parlor. Typical members: married & single women in their 60's & 70's. Contact: Jody White (jody_white@comcast.net)

Gracetime. A UWF circle for young adult women who gather for fellowship and to spotlight unique and creative ways to give back. They meet once a month, depending on availability, at 7 PM. Contact DUMCYA@gmail.com or visit www.facebook.com/dumcya to check out our latest project and get added to our GroupMe. Typical members: young adult women. Contacts: Caroline Angstadt (carolineluehring@gmail.com) and Allie Benston (alliebenston@gmail.com)

Heart and Home. Members are moms with children, primarily college-age or young adults, who strive to build supportive friendships with one another and to help each other as they nurture their faith and their families. Several times a year, they do off-site or on-site service projects or volunteer work. They also support the church in many ways, such as helping with Holy Week lunches. This group typically meets during the school year on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:00 PM. Typical members: moms in their 40's to 60's with older/grown children. Contacts: Lauren Patton (slapatton@bellsouth.net) and Suzanne Huff (sbirdhuff@gmail.com)

New Horizons in Christ. This is a group for women with adult children, grandchildren, and aging parents. Monthly meetings are geared toward service projects to help families. Meetings are held on different days and nights depending on the service activity, but are generally in the morning. The group holds a variety of social events throughout the year, often in the evening, as this flexible schedule helps participation. Typical members: women in their 50's and 60's that are empty nesters with aging parents. Contact: Sharon Conway (conway4@bellsouth.net)

Tapestry. Tapestry is a vibrant community dedicated to fostering connections among women through service, spiritual growth, and fellowship. It meets to grow connections through crafting no-sew blankets, making sandwiches for The Sandwich Project, and decorating for Vacation Bible School. This group is open to all women, regardless of age, marital status, or professional background, and celebrates our diversity and believes that it enriches the community. Tapestry meets on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 PM, in the Young Adult Suite. Contact: Amanda Latham (amnlatham@yahoo.com)