



United
Women
in Faith

Church of the Saviour
United Methodist Women
February 2023

BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, February 7, 10:00 a.m., by Zoom

FROM THE BOARD

When we think of February, our thoughts turn to Valentine's Day. Could it possibly be that we are thinking of gifts again so soon after Christmas? Did I really see that display of Valentine items crowding out the Christmas items a few days before Christmas? How difficult it is sometimes to remember to put God foremost in our minds and hearts, to remember what 1Corinthians 13:13 tells us, "Now faith, hope and love remain - these three things - and the greatest of these is love."

1Corinthians 13 is about community and about a personal call to share the love. Love is hard and takes a lot of work. It should be bestowed voluntarily and without the expectation of compensation. It can transform lives, comfort the mourning, satisfy the soul, and soften the hardened heart. All things that we, as United Women in Faith strive to do through our work.

One of my favorite hymns is *The Gift of Love*. It goes like this:



Though I may speak with bravest fire,
And have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain,
As sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess,
And striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within,
The profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come spirit come, our hearts control,
Our spirits long to be made whole,
Let inward love guide every deed,
By this we worship and are freed.

Hal Hopson, 1972

God Bless,
Debbie Jones, Co-President



PROGRAM



Church of the Saviour United Women of Faith

Invite you to the
February 14, 2023 Program
10:00 a.m. in Room 122
LOVE Your Neighbor.

The **Valentine's** program will feature a presentation by **Bob Dunn** (Global Missions) on "***Adopting a Refugee Family: Overview, tasks to be done, & volunteering opportunities.***"

We will also share stories about showing love to our neighbors.

Devotions will be followed by a brown bag lunch in Room 100.

Dessert & beverages provided.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The United Women in Faith operating balance ending December 31, 2022 was \$5,217.56 with all current bills paid.

Anyone who has pledged to United Women in Faith can pay their pledge at any time by leaving a check made out to UMW in the yellow folder in the UMW mailbox in the church office. Thank you to those of you who have already paid your pledges. If you haven't made a pledge and wish to do so for the year ending June 30, 2023, put a note in the yellow folder in the UMW mail box located in the church office indicating the amount you wish to pledge. It can be paid any time until June 1, 2023.

During Lent individually, we begin setting aside money toward the Prayer and Self Denial offering. This year the offering will go toward work for racial justice which is helping to create a more equitable society. This offering will be collected at our April General Meeting.

Connie Carihfield, Treasurer



DISTRICT AND CONFERENCE NEWS

The North Coast District UWinF will hold their annual Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 18, 2023 at Fields UMC in North Ridgeville, Ohio. Speaker will be Michelle Belle, a volunteer with a gun safety organization. She will address how gun violence impacts women and children.

A memorial service will be held to remember those women who have passed in the last year. Also, units will be recognized as Gold Star and Rainbow. Reading program certificates will also be presented.

Registration details will be published in the March newsletter.

Debbie Jones, District Representative

Missions

At the UMC Manos Juntas Mission, the Vamos Tamauiipas Store next to the school is now open. Recall that our UWinF donated monies for the plumbing and the electrical work. All of this benefits the Community Center and the School. Blair Porter continues to be a long-term mission volunteer there.

Education

Ending Mass Incarceration/Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline has been a priority issue for UWinF since 2016. With the help of our pledges, UWinF has made a grant of \$250,000 to the Girls Embracing Mothers (GEM) program in Texas. Incarcerated mothers follow the steps to have visitation with their daughters. The goal is to strengthen relationships and empower them toward happier, healthier lives. *Response Magazine*, Jan./Feb. 2023.

READING PROGRAM NEWS

Last year the United Women in Faith Reading Program had its best success in several years. Congratulations to Kevin Schaner, Debbie Jones, Betsey Tracy, Kathleen Szabo, Mary Ann Hile, and Darlene Walker who completed Level I; and to Becky Roberts who completed Level II. If you haven't turned in your 2022 report, please do so a.s.a.p.

The 2023 reading program books are now on the shelves. There should be something interesting for everyone. They cover a wide variety of subjects covering missions, social action, nurturing community, leadership development and spiritual growth. These will be helpful for anyone wishing to enrich their Christian walk: women, men, youth, and children. Reading report forms are on the Reading Program bookcase in the Genevieve Seese Library. There you will also find a notebook explaining the program and listing all the books available to read.

Kathleen Szabo
Resources Chair and Church Librarian
Kathleen.szabo@roadrunner.com

CIRCLE MEETINGS

Edna Rhodes Circle

An Arts and Crafts Showcase will highlight the February meeting of Edna Rhodes Circle on Tuesday Feb 28 at 12:30 p.m. in the parlor. Members and others are encouraged to bring a favorite creation or treasure for viewing. Also please be prepared to share the history of, or technique used in creating your item and why it is special to you.

Brown bag lunch in Room 100 followed by the Showcase. Dessert and beverage provided.



Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet in Room 100 for an Agape meal, or Love Feast, following the Ash Wednesday noon service on February 22, 2023.

All are welcome. Please RSVP to Betsy Bartels at tracyelizabeth23@gmail.com or Mary Ann Hile at hile.maryann8@gmail.com

*Submission Deadline for March UWinF Newsletter is Wednesday, February 15.
Please send submissions to Stefanie Hiles at shiles9098@aol.com.*

