

April 2025



# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWSLETTER



**Jamye A. Rooks**  
Communications  
Coordinator

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8<sup>th</sup>  
District Meeting~Zoom

June 7<sup>th</sup>  
Social Action Event & Prayer Breakfast  
~Broadmoor UMC  
Baton Rouge, LA

June 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>  
The Louisiana Methodist Church  
Annual Conference~Hilton Hotel  
Baton Rouge, LA

July 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>  
Mission U~Wesley Center  
Woodworth, LA

August 7<sup>th</sup>  
District Meeting~Zoom

August 16<sup>th</sup>  
Mini Mission U  
Camphor UMC~Baton Rouge, LA

October 11<sup>th</sup>  
Conference Annual Meeting  
Wesley Center  
Woodworth, LA

November 1<sup>st</sup>  
District Annual Meeting  
New Orleans, LA

### UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH PURPOSE

To 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.



**RAMONA LAWS**  
SOUTHEAST DISTRICT  
PRESIDENT  
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Greetings Sisters and Welcome to our  
New Community of Faith!

It is with joy and excitement that I welcome you to the Southeast District of the Louisiana Conference United Women in Faith. I look forward to working with each of you within the Southeast District as we continue to pursue our goal to improve the lives of women, children and youth.

Just as Spring is in the Air, Excitement is in the Air for the Southeast District United Women in Faith – as we plan new and innovative programming. Please make plans to join us at Broadmoor United Methodist Church in Baton Rouge on Saturday, June 7, 2025, for a combined Spiritual Retreat and Social Action Event. The theme for this event is “Nurture your Soul, Nurture your Body.” Also, mark your calendar for Mission U 2025, to be held at the Conference Wesley Center in Woodworth, July 25 – 26. Registration information is posted on the Conference website, [uwfla.org](http://uwfla.org). Our district quarterly zoom meeting is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Thursday, May 8, 2025. Finally, we need you to continue to update your unit contact information by emailing me at [molaws6@gmail.com](mailto:molaws6@gmail.com).

I love springtime, and I look to blooming flowers as an inspiration. They are a beautiful part of God's creation, each with specific parts that work together to grow, reproduce, and bless the world around us. We too, are uniquely created, with different roles, called to serve others and bring glory to our God. So, let's get to work and display our beauty, so others may grow and come to know our true and living God!

Be blessed,

Ramona Laws

President, SE District UWF

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# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH *UNIT HAPPENINGS*

## BROADMOOR

### MARCH Madness Mission Event

Broadmoor United Women In Faith hosted its annual mission event on March 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Broadmoor Casual Worship Center.

Offerings included baked goods, used books, jewelry, timeless treasures, a new items shop, a silent auction, and a fashion show presented by Chico's.

Those attending enjoyed the delightful piano playing of Lanie Wang, a Baton Rouge High and soon-to-be University of Texas graduate.

All profits go to our conference and local missions. We praise God for the beautiful weather and the privilege of being His hands and feet on earth.



There is always something special in the new items shop.



Our members make our Annual Mission Event possible.

## ST. JOHN'S

In January, we installed our new officers. Our new officers are:

President ~ Clara Maynard  
Vice President ~ Claudia Fowler  
Secretary ~ Pat Lively  
Treasurer ~ Deborah Cross-Young.

At the end of January, we had our WIF Sunday. Our guest speaker was Rev. Mary Rachel Moore, Director of the LSU Wesley Foundation.

Then, in March, we had our Days for Girls workshops. Over 100 kits were created for girls in other countries who need these supplies. So far, a great beginning to 2025.



Installation of officers- from left Pat Lively, Deborah Cross-Young, Clara Maynard and Claudia Fowler



Women in Faith Sunday- from left Clara Maynard, Pat Woods and Richard Danberg



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# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH *UNIT HAPPENINGS*

## CAMPHOR

The United Women in Faith of Camphor held their first Holiday High Tea on Saturday, February 15, 2025. Guests adorned hats and their favorite party attire for this special occasion. All were graced with various tea selections, games, savory treats, and welcoming vendors. Much fun was enjoyed by all in attendance.

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# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH *UNIT HAPPENINGS*

## ST. MARK (BR)

L.B. LEWIS CHRISTIAN INVOLVERS

At the beginning of 2025, the L. B. Lewis Christians Involved decided to begin the year by emphasizing the importance of your Soul, Mind, and Body. Our first meeting talked about the Human Body. With most of our ladies getting older, we wanted to look at how we can eat healthier and take better care of our bodies. At our first meeting, we invited Ellen McKnight Hill, who is a registered dietitian nutritionist, licensed and practicing in four (4) states. Ellen is a certified lactation counselor, professor, and public health advocate. She is currently the principal of The Maxine Firm. The Maxine Firm is a nutrition, wellness and public health engagement firm. Ellen reviewed some basic nutrition guide with us. She talked about how eating the right foods play a critical role in our overall health and well-being. Good nutrition can add years to your life, while poor choices can take them away. She gave us some simple steps we can follow and she answered the questions that we had. It was a very beneficial meeting. Some reasons we should care about our physical health:

- It honors God.
- It positions us to live out our calling.
- We will have the strength to serve others.
- This is the only body that we have.

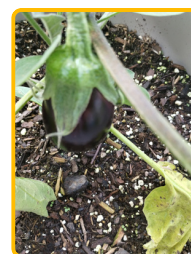
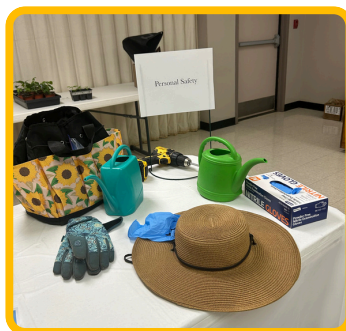


We continued with the theme of healthy habits. Therefore, our next meeting continued with a workshop on gardening in pots. Our very own member, Mary Pulliam, taught us about gardening in pots. We had choices to choose from that were provided by Mary, such as: Dwarf Cherry Tomato, small slicing tomato, bell pepper, banana pepper, eggplant, and a variety of herbs, such as onions, celery, sweet lemon garlic, and basil. What a fun time we had. She provided important information about how to care for the garden.

There are seven benefits to gardening that prove it helps your mind and body.

1. Gardening burns a lot of calories.
2. Gardening can lower your blood pressure.
3. Spending time outside is good for your bones.
4. Growing your food can help you eat healthier.
5. Gardening can relieve stress.
6. Gardening can provide a source of community.
7. Gardening can make you happier.

Many thanks to Ellen and Mary for getting us off on the right track.



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# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH *REPORTS*

## REPORT FROM SOUTHEAST DISTRICT TREASURER LORITA WILLIAMS FRANK



- Funds reported for 4th quarter: 8,245.64
- Funds reported for 1st quarter: 7,219.40

Total Funds reported for 2025: 15,465.04

- Total Budget in 2025 for Mission Giving: 35,000  
Needed to meet our 2025 Mission Giving Pledge  
19,534.96

- 2nd quarter report due 5/15/25

- 5 Star Givers for 2025 to date:

\*Asbury, Clinton

\*Asbury, N.O.

\*St. Landry

\*Hartzell/Mt. Zion

\*Neely

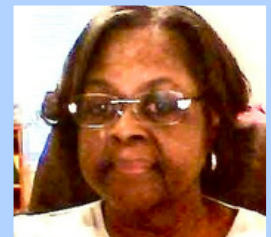
To receive credit as a 5 Star Giver for 2025,  
funds must be received by 8/15/25

## To Local UWF Presidents and Secretary of Program Resources:

Most of you should have received a mailing from me including an introduction letter, a Reading Program Report, and a Report of Completion Requirements. Please contact me via email ([dodiegant73@yahoo.com](mailto:dodiegant73@yahoo.com)) if your unit did not receive and need this information. The complete list of books for 2025 can be found in the November/December 2024 issue of the *Response Magazine* which can be purchased from the UWF website ([www.uwfaith.org](http://www.uwfaith.org)) for \$5.00. Your Reading Program Reporting Forms are due to me by July 31st.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

## SOUTHEAST DISTRICT SECRETARY OF PROGRAM RESOURCES DOLORES GILES





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# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NEWS YOU CAN USE



**Brenda Thomas-Nero**

Louisiana Conference Women in Faith  
President



*Empowered  
Women  
Empower  
Women*

Our very own madam president was honored by ByFAITH Magazine with the Women's History award in March for Women's History Month. Congratulations, Brenda, it is well deserved!



**SALLY VONNER**

GENERAL SECRETARY AND  
CEO UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

March and April are also a time of reflection, preparation, and repentance as we journey through Lent to Easter. I don't know about you, but when it seems that our human condition is beyond living the commandments that Jesus said were the most important, "loving God and loving your neighbor as yourself," I catch a glimpse of the best of humanity. In recent months it has been visible through the outpouring of compassion and support after natural disasters such as tornadoes, hurricanes, winter/arctic storms, droughts, and devastating fires where the loss of life, homes, and possessions are devastating. Our prayers continue for those impacted.

## FAITHFUL WITNESS WEDNESDAYS

A CALL FOR CONGRESSIONAL COURAGE  
WEDNESDAYS @ NOON ET

The Washington Interfaith Staff Community (WISC) is co-organizing a series of multi-faith vigils at the US Capitol every Wednesday to call on Congress to exercise greater moral courage in upholding its Article 1 powers and preventing executive overreach.

Join us in-person or virtually!  
See registration link below.

Senate East Front, Grassy Area 8  
Constitution Ave NE, First St NE

Faithful Witness Wednesdays take place every Wednesday at noon ET on the Capitol Hill grounds, Washington D.C. and virtually through the end of April. These multi-faith, nonpartisan rituals highlight what's at stake and the communities already harmed. They feature faith leaders from diverse traditions offering inspirational prayers, reflections, and calls to faithful action. Register here: [bit.ly/SOJOFWW](https://bit.ly/SOJOFWW)


Thank you, Sister Edna Hickman, for sending this important information!

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SOUTHEAST DISTRICT  
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

*"IN MEMORIUM"*



Those we love  
don't go away,  
they walk beside us  
every day.  
Unseen, unheard,  
but always near,  
so loved, so missed,  
so very dear.



**BELINDA HEARNES**  
JUNE 5, 1954 - MARCH 31, 2025

*"What is the most  
important subject  
to learn in life?  
To learn to love."*

*-Pope Francis*  
1936-2025



**POPE FRANCIS**  
DECEMBER 17, 1936 - APRIL 21, 2025

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# SOUTHEAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH *WRAP-UP*

I hope you have enjoyed our first newsletter of 2025 for the Southeast district! If you have any information you would like to see that isn't listed in the newsletter, please contact me so we can continue to share the amazing things happening in our district and conference!

Blessings!

*Jamye Rooks*

## OUR NEXT PUBLICATION DATE...

Submission Due Date	Publication Date
Friday, June 20, 2025	Monday, June 30, 2025

I will send (2) reminder emails: A week prior and 2 days before the submission due date.

When emailing your unit's newsletter submission, please put in the subject line your church's name and submission month in bold and all caps.

(Ex: ST. MARK JUNE ~NEWS)

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