



August 2025

District  
President

## A MESSAGE FROM MARGARET

I am looking forward to journeying together in our Mission u study, Practicing Hope. As we prepare, I'd like you to do a few things:

- Ὑ Pray for our time together--that it would be filled with hope, wisdom, grace, and transformation.
- ★ Read the book if you have it--this will help enrich our conversations and reflections.
- ✉ Send me a message or email with:
  1. A couple of your favorite hymns or song about HOPE
  2. A favorite Hopeful scripture or Bible verse about hope
  3. Bring your Bible and a pen or pencil and let me know if you are willing to be a reader during or session.

Read Luke 24:13-14 and ponder in your heart.

I am looking forward to walking this road alongside each of you that come to Hilldale UMC on August 23 at 9 am.

Margaret Fisher, Red River District President

[mfisher0844@gmail.com](mailto:mfisher0844@gmail.com)



# Red River District Mission u



**Practicing Hope Together by Tabitha Holley**

**Date: Saturday, August 23, 2025**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Location: Hilldale United Methodist Church, 1751 Madison St., Clarksville, TN 37043**

Our Red River District Mission u study will be held at Hilldale UMC on August 23, 2025, and the study is called Practicing Hope. The Conference Mission U was held at Scarritt Bennett in Nashville, which some of our members attended on June 12-14.

The teaching team at the District event will be Sheila Allen (Bellevue), Margaret Fisher (St. Bethlehem), Joanna Newberry (Mt. Carmel), Holly Plump (Bellevue), and Jerlean Bass (Gordon Memorial), who was one of the youth leaders.

We come to this study reflective of the spiritual and political moment we are in, a time when many of our churches are discerning where Christ is calling us to be morally courageous when our world leaders fail us and our communities work to “come back” together after being on the brink of collapse. This study’s purpose is to allow all our communities to cultivate hope that is honest about our current conditions, hope that is restorative when everything feels urgent, and hope that is possible even when we transgress. Our lesson on Saturday will be approximately a three-hour summary of the eight-session curriculum.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with a light brunch/refreshments.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend! Don’t miss this important opportunity to learn, reflect, be inspired, and share in fellowship. Come be encouraged---and bring a friend!



Members of Red River District UWF who attended the Conference Mission U at Scarritt Bennett in Nashville on June 12-14



# Back to School Bash

The Back to School Bash is an annual event sponsored by the Cheatham County Chamber of Commerce.



Members of the Ashland City United Women in Faith joined with volunteers from Pleasant View to participate in the event held on July 26 at Riverview Park in Ashland City, TN. Pastor Allison Gilliam (Ashland City UMC), Denise Settle (Pegram UMC), and Pastor Don Terry (Pleasant View UMC) all helped with this event. The United Methodist Churches of Cheatham County gave away hand sanitizer, tissues, and a little bag of goodies.



From left to right: Dixie Perry, Martha Lynn Newton, and Lucille Downs



The color-the-cardboard school bus was a highlight for children and adults.

# TWK Conference Racial Justice Event

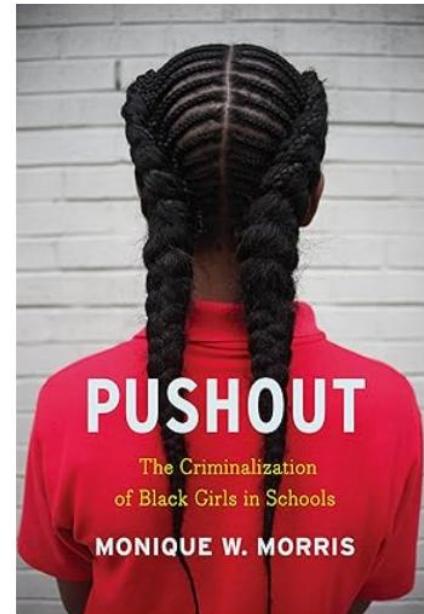
Ladies from United Women in Faith from eight churches in the Red River District met in Nashville on Saturday, July 12, to attend a Conference Racial Justice event at McKendree UMC.



UWF members from 8 churches in the Red River District attended the Racial Justice event.

The event centered on the book “Pushout” by Monique W. Morris, which examines the criminalization of Black girls in schools. Attendees viewed a film adaptation of the book, featuring interviews that highlighted these issues.

Morris chronicles the experiences of Black girls whose lives are often misunderstood, judged, and degraded by teachers, administrators, and the justice system—stitutions meant to support their growth. “Pushout” reveals the reality of restricted potential and advocates for the movement challenging policies, practices, and cultural ignorance that drive students out of schools and into uncertain and sometimes unsafe futures.



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Described as “compelling” and “thought-provoking” (Kirkus Reviews) and called “timely and important” (Booklist), “Pushout” has become a classic resource not only for educators and families, but for anyone concerned with the well-being of children. The book has garnered praise from figures like Gloria Steinem and Kimberle Crenshaw, and has been featured in outlets such as The Atlantic, Education Week, NPR, New York magazine, Essence, and Elle. Readers report that its impact lingers well beyond the final page. The UWF library offers this book and other titles on racial justice as part of its reading program.

After a group lunch, all participants engaged in discussion at nine tables.



Very proud of Red River's own Freida Outlaw from Clark Memorial who was on the Conference committee for the event.



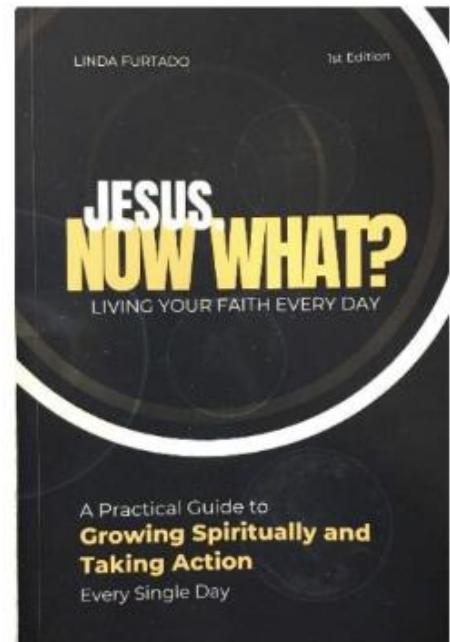
The St. Bethlehem attendees were (from left to right): Grace Manning, Karen Keen, Alisha Dawn Siders, Mary Turner, and Margaret Fisher .

# Spiritual Life Fall Retreat

**September 5-7, 2025**

**Spiritual Life Fall Retreat  
Lakeshore Camp & Retreat Center  
1458 Pilot Knob Road, Eva, TN 38333**

The study will be based on the book: ***Jesus. Now What? Living Your Faith Every Day***, and the retreat will be led by author Linda Furtado.



Music: Linda Furtado & Janet Pierce

**\*\* DEADLINE TO REGISTER: Tuesday, August 22 \*\***

For form, go to:

[Spiritual Life Fall Retreat Registration Form](#)



**LAKESHORE**  
united methodist camp & retreat center



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# Red River District Annual Meeting

Red River United Women in Faith will hold our Annual Meeting on October 18, 2025 at Belle Meade United Methodist Church in Nashville. The meeting will be hosted by both the Belle Meade UMC and Bellevue UMC units of United Women in Faith.

The program will be Putting Faith, Hope, and Love Into Action. Pastor Anne Marie Vines will lead the program.

Please go ahead and put this event in your calendar. More details will be provided in the next newsletter.

Deborah Kay Murphy, Red River District Vice President

[murphykay2880@gmail.com](mailto:murphykay2880@gmail.com)



It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.

PSALM 74:17



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# Gift Baskets for Conference Annual Meeting

The Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference UWF is asking each district to create and donate a themed gift basket for the Silent Auction that will take place during Annual Day on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at Gordon Memorial UMC (located at 2334 Herman St, Nashville, TN 37208).

Proceeds from the auction will support the Legacy Fund—a permanently invested endowment that ensures our mission and ministry continue for generations to come. Every basket you donate helps keep our vital work strong and sustainable!

## How to contribute:

Each unit can collect small monetary donations that can be used to purchase items for your basket. Or, some units may even choose to assemble their own baskets. Get creative—this is a fun and meaningful way to engage with others in our Conference of UWF!

Here is a list of possible basket themes:

- Daily Devotionals (books, journals, bookmarks)
- Prayer Corner (candles, scripture cards, small cross, prayer shawl)
- Taste of the South (local jams, sauces, cornbread mix, pecans)
- Pasta Night (pasta, sauce, parmesan, breadsticks, kitchen towel)
- Breakfast Basket (coffee, pancake mix, syrup, jam, mug)
- Picnic in a Basket (blanket, snacks, utensils, lemonade)
- The Joy of Gardening (garden gloves, shears, plant seeds, fertilizer)
- Puzzle & Game Night (puzzles, card games, snacks)
- Bookworm's Delight (novels, bookmarks, reading light, cozy socks)
- Music & Worship (CDs, hymnal, music-themed decor)
- Mindfulness & Meditation (guided journal, essential oils, tea)
- Cozy Night In (throw blanket, socks, candle, hot cocoa)
- Fitness Fun (resistance bands, water bottle, smoothie mix)
- Fall Favorites (pumpkin spice items, fall decor, candles)
- Summer Fun (beach towel, sunscreen, lemonade, sunglasses)
- Green Living (reusable bags, beeswax wraps, plant seeds)
- Baking Joy (potholders, rubber spatula, recipe book, mixing bowl)

# Red River District Treasurer's Report

2nd Quarter Financial Report, 2025

June 12, 2025

Beginning Balance **6570.32**

## Deposits

Offering at Spiritual	
Day Apart, 3/31	490.00
Pledges	<u>2325.00</u>
	Total deposits +2815.00

**9,385.32**

## Expenses

Holly Neal (speaker)	117.60
Urban Ministries	490.00
Check Image Fee	9.00
(MarAprMay)	
Deposit slip order	15.74
1st-timer bags	104.68
(Marg. Fisher)	
TWKY Conference	2325.00
(1st qtr pledges)	

**\_\_\_\_\_ Total expenses -3062.02**

End of 2nd Qtr Balance **\$6,323.30** as of 6/12/2025

## Pledge breakdown:

Pledge to Mission	\$1725.00	(This amount is the only one that counts toward our total 2025 pledge.)
SMR	120.00	
Gift to Mission	5.00	
Gift in Memory	35.00	
World Thank Offering	150.00	
Call to Prayer	266.00	
Bethlehem Cntr	24.00	
(birthday \$\$)	<u>_____</u>	
		\$2325.00

8 units remitted pledges in this second quarter.

We are only 1/3 of the way toward the district's \$15,000 pledge for 2025.

Submitted by Treasurer Valerie Lavery, [vwlavery@hotmail.com](mailto:vwlavery@hotmail.com)



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# Red River District Calendar of Events 2025

## United Women in Faith

### Red River District Calendar of Events 2025

Date	Event	Location
22-Feb	District Executive Meeting	TBD
1-Mar	Pledge Remittance Due to District Treasurer	
Mar 21-23	Beersheba Women's Retreat	Beersheba Springs
29-Mar	District Spiritual Day Apart	Mount Carmel UMC
1-Jun	Pledge Remittance Due to District Treasurer	
Jun 1-4	TWK Annual Conference	Collierville
Jun 12-14	TWK Conference Mission U	Scarritt Bennett
12-Jul	Conference Charter for Racial Justice	McKendree UMC
13-Aug	District Reports Due to Conference Officers	
23-Aug	District Mission u Study	Hilldale UMC
1-Sep	Pledge Remittance Due to District Treasurer	
Sep 5-7	United Women of Faith Women's Fall Retreat	Lakeshore
27-Sep	Conference Annual Meeting	Gordon Memorial UMC
18-Oct	Red River District Annual Meeting	Belle Meade UMC / Bellevue UMC
Nov	Officer Training will be conducted via Zoom with each District	
1-Dec	Pledge Remittance Due to District Treasurer	

