



UPDATES AND REFLECTIONS DECEMBER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year to one and all! I hope this edition of *Updates and Reflections* finds you all well! As we enter the new program year, it is a good time to reflect on all our blessings. We had several successful activities in 2025 including Candle Burning, Hands on Mission Week, Call to Prayer and Self Denial and our Membership Meeting. Some of you attended one or more of these events. However, attendance at our general meetings was sparse! We averaged only 15 members per event including the General Meeting and Installation of new officers in November. Membership in a Circle makes you a member of the larger organization, United Women in Faith. It would be wonderful if we could see many more of our members at this year's programs! Check the calendar in the new Membership Directory for upcoming events. It is time to revitalize our organization.

Bonnie and I will be visiting Circles in January or February to discuss the direction we will be taking for 2026. Think of it as a Pep Talk to launch the new year. Also, as new members join Williamsburg United Methodist Church, invite the ladies to come to a Circle meeting with you! Encourage them to become members of the organization that supports local and global ministries as well as activities within our own church. My challenge to you for the New

Year is to become more than a once-a-month attendee at a Circle meeting!

Janet

CIRCLE HAPPENINGS

Heritage Scott



Heritage Scott Circle met on Tuesday, December 2, with 17 members and 1 guest present. We celebrated the upcoming holidays with our annual gift exchange. We also shared pictures of the four Angel Tree offerings for the Salvation Army. Following the meeting twelve of us went to lunch at Opus 9.

Ruth Simpson



Ruth Simpson Circle met on Wednesday, December 3rd with 9 members present. During our brief meeting time, we discussed and decided on combining this year's Rada Cutlery profits and some of our Sunshine Fund monies to donate to our agreed upon mission money recipient, Edmarc, a local hospice for children.

Following our meeting, we enjoyed our delicious annual covered dish Christmas Brunch at the home of Circle member Elaine Howell.

Sisters in Grace



Sisters in Grace's December Christmas celebration was cancelled due to weather. Wendy Geiger delivered the Christmas presents from Latisha's House's wish list to them. They were overjoyed with the badly needed household items and computers.

Sisters in Mission



Sisters in Mission Circle met on December 9, with 7 of our members present. We traveled to the Ferguson Center and thoroughly enjoyed the Cirque de Soleil performance.

SOCIAL ACTION/CREATION CARE



When the gifts are opened and the excitement settles, it's a good moment to think about how we reuse, recycle, and share what we no longer need.

1. **Recycle** cardboard boxes and plain, non-laminated wrapping paper and cards. (*Be sure to remove any tape or plastic.*)
2. **Reuse** gift bags, fabric wraps, and decorations year after year. You can also give cards new life by turning them into decorations or gift tags for next Christmas.

3. **Donate** unwanted decorations, gifts, or gift cards to local charity shops. Gift boxes are often welcome too—many nonprofits can use them for storage or packaging donations.

CAROL BRINKLEY MEMORIAL BOOK CLUB



Here are the wonderful books that will be read for the next several meetings:

January 12 *All That is Secret* by P. Raybon
March 8 *The Girl With 7 Names* by H. Lee