



United
Women
in Faith

The United Women in Faith (UWF) is comprised of the women of our church, and all women are welcome to join. At Wrightsville UMC, UWF actively supports ministries that advocate for women, youth, and children in need within our local community and district. We foster a supportive environment through activities that nurture spiritual growth, promote mission education, and encourage Christian social engagement.

UWF is organized into “circles”—small groups that meet monthly for planning and fellowship. While each circle pursues its own projects, outreach initiatives, educational programs, and fellowship activities, all work together to support the UWF “Do Three Things Well” campaign, a fundraising initiative benefiting our annual ministries. This campaign includes:

- Annual Gifts to Mission – Direct financial contributions to mission programs
- Low Country Boil – A signature fundraising event
- Annual Cookie Walk – A community-driven holiday fundraiser

Circle of Hope: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12:00 noon.

Contact: Jeannie DeGaetano
jeanniedegaetano@gmail.com

Lydia Circle: Meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 4:00 pm

Contact: Betsy Summey
epsummey@gmail.com

Ruth Circle: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am

Contact: Marie Cooke
marievcooke@gmail.com

Esther Circle: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm

Contact: Kristi Jarnagin
kjjarnagin@gmail.com

***Square Circle*:** Does not meet! For women who are unable to attend monthly meetings but still want to support the UWF through fundraising events, outreach projects, and other volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

Contact: Melissa Wagenseller
wagensellermelissa@gmail.com



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Circle of Hope

About Us

Formed in the early 2000s, Circle of Hope is a welcoming and active group that meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:00 PM. Members are encouraged to bring a lunch or snack for a time of fellowship and planning. Our group currently has 25 active members, primarily in their late 50s to 70s, but all ages are welcome. We love having guests who are considering membership!

Our Mission & Activities

Circle of Hope is dedicated to serving the church and community through various outreach projects. We remain open to both short-term and long-term initiatives. Our current missions and activities include:

- **Supporting Congregation Members:**
 - Creating and distributing seasonal/holiday gift bags twice a year (Easter & Christmas) for older church members who may be alone, in care facilities, or in need of a thoughtful gift.
- **Supporting UWF Fundraisers:** Actively participating in:
 - The Low Country Boil
 - The Cookie Walk
 - Annual Gifts to Mission
- **Church & Community Outreach:**
 - Providing lunch for 150 Vacation Bible School volunteers and children.
 - Hosting Fellowship between church services twice a year.
 - Supporting Snipes Elementary teachers and staff through the TeachReach program by providing breakfast, brunch, or snacks.
- **Church Committee Involvement:**
 - Serving on the Nurture Committee, STARS Luncheon Committee, and Bereavement Committee.

Circle of Hope is a vibrant, faith-driven community dedicated to service, fellowship, and care. We welcome new members and look forward to growing together in faith and mission!



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Esther Circle

About Us

Established in March 2022, Esther Circle was founded by a small group of newly "Empty Nesters," many of whom had been active volunteers as parents of Youth Group members. The group quickly grew, and we now have about 30 active members.

Our circle is centered around three key objectives:

1. **Service in the community**
2. **Service in the church**
3. **Growing our community through fellowship**

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM and welcome new members looking for faith, fellowship, and service opportunities.

Our Mission & Activities

Esther Circle is dedicated to meaningful outreach and church involvement. Recent projects and activities include:

- **Church & Community Engagement:**
 - Hosting fellowship between Sunday services on a quarterly basis.
 - Providing lunch for 150 Vacation Bible School volunteers and children.
 - Writing and sending encouragement cards to college freshmen and sophomores three times a year.
 - Supporting members in times of need by providing meals and care packages.
 - Celebrating life events such as marriages of children and the births of grandchildren.
- **Fundraising & Outreach:**
 - Hosting a "Pi Day" fundraiser, with proceeds benefiting The Methodist Home for Children
 - Actively participating in UWF Fundraisers, including:
 - The Low Country Boil
 - Christmas Cookie Walk
 - Annual Gift to Mission

Beyond service, Esther Circle values fellowship and off-site gatherings, encouraging members to "Bring a Friend" to help grow our community.

We are a welcoming and dynamic group of women committed to supporting each other and making a difference. If you're looking for a place to connect, serve, and grow in faith, we'd love for you to join us!



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Lydia Circle

About Us

Established in the 1960s, Lydia Circle is a welcoming and active group within the UWF. We meet on the second Monday of each month at 4:00 PM, typically in a member's home. With approximately 31 active members of varying ages, we also welcome guests who are considering membership.

Our Mission & Activities

Each year, Lydia Circle sets meaningful goals and tailors our meetings, programs, and outreach efforts to align with them. Our recent projects include:

- **Supporting UWF Fundraisers:** Participating in the Low Country Boil, The Cookie Walk, and Annual Gift to Missions to raise funds for outreach programs.
- **Community Service:**
 - Providing lunch for 150 Vacation Bible School volunteers and children.
 - Preparing supper for 75 members of the church youth group.
 - Provide lunch for Cape Fear Life Care Center
- **Ongoing Ministry Support:**
 - Methodist Home for Children
 - TeachReach (Wrightsville UMC's outreach program for New Hanover County teachers)
 - Foster Care Pantry
 - Guardian ad Litem Program
 - First Fruits Ministries
 - Church World Services
- **Collaboration:** Partnering with other circles and groups within the church for shared initiatives.
- **Summer Sharing Lunches:** A summer gathering to share book recommendations, personal celebrations, favorite recipes, and more.
- **Encouraging Growth:** Our "Each One Ask One" initiative encourages members to invite a guest to a meeting or event to foster community engagement.

Lydia Circle is committed to faith, fellowship, and service, and we welcome new members who want to make a difference in our church and community.



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Ruth Circle

About Us

Ruth Circle was formed by former members of Lydia Circle who preferred a daytime meeting option. As a senior circle, we meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM in the church parlor. Our group currently has 28 members, and we welcome others who share our passion for service, fellowship, and faith.

Our Mission & Activities

Ruth Circle is dedicated to supporting the church and local community through various outreach efforts. Recent projects include:

- **Supporting UWF Fundraisers:** Participating in the Low Country Boil, The Cookie Walk, and Annual Gift to Missions to help fund mission work.
- **Church & Community Support:**
 - Providing lunch for 150 Vacation Bible School volunteers and children.
 - Preparing gift baskets for teachers at Snipes Elementary.
 - Hosting Christmas and Easter Bingo for residents at Eden Village.
 - Filling Easter eggs for Wrightsville UMC Preschool.
 - Assisting with the Wrightsville UMC Preschool graduation event.
- **Collaboration:** Working alongside other circles and groups within the church to support shared missions.

Ruth Circle is a strong community of faith-driven women dedicated to making a positive impact. We invite others to join us as we serve, grow, and support one another in Christian fellowship.



United Women in Faith 'Square Circle' Non-Circle Opportunities

Wrightsville United Women in Faith "Do Three Things Well"

You don't have to be part of a Circle to get involved!

All women are warmly invited to participate in the Wrightsville UWF "Do Three Things Well" campaign, which raises funds for ministries that support women, children, and youth. The three key events are:

- **Annual Gift to Mission**
- **Low Country Boil** – Friday, July 24
- **Annual Cookie Walk** – Saturday, December 5

These events offer wonderful opportunities for fellowship and meaningful service. Each one relies on many volunteers to be successful—and we welcome your help!

If you're interested in getting involved with WUWF without joining a Circle, please contact:

Melissa Wagenseller
United Women in Faith
President
910-262-1942
wagensellermelissa@wrightsvilleumc.org