

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF MINISTERS' WIVES AND
MINISTERS' WIDOWS, INC.

NEWSLETTER

4th Quarter 2025

SEASON OF HOPE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S
FELLOWSHIP
WITH THE
SISTERS

UPDATED 2026
CRUISE FLYER

VAMWMW 75TH
ANNUAL
CONVENTION

INSPIRATIONAL
BOOK
SUBMISSIONS

LOCAL
ALLIANCES AT
WORK

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

A Season of Hope



**As winter's chill surrounds our days
And nights grow long and still,
We lift our hearts in quiet trust
To seek God's holy will.**



**For hope is born in darkest times,
A light the world can see—
Not shaped by fear or circumstance,
But faith in Christ and free.**



**So in this season, may our lives
Reflect His endless grace,
Proclaiming hope, renewing faith,
Until we see His face.**

Author Unknown



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President Wormley in Fellowship with Virginia Sisters



President, Vice Presidents, and State Conference Co-Chair conducting a site visit for the April Conference.



President Wormley and Sis. Doris Pinkard fellowship with Rev. Dr. Amelda Jones at her Women's Prayer Breakfast, where Sis. Stephanie Craddock served as the speaker.

**President Wormley sharing at Bouey Gayton Day
Hosted by the Fredericksburg Alliance.**



Happy Birthday



President Wormley, fellow sisters, and their husbands sharing in fellowship with Rev. Dr. Natalie White at her 65th Birthday Celebration.



**International Association of Ministers' Wives
and Ministers' Widows, Inc.**



**Dr. Elizabeth Coles Bouey
Founder**



**Elder Dr. Vernita Josey
International President**

**FOUNDER'S
WEEKEND
2025**

December 5-6, 2025



**Sis. Ernestine Dockery was
inducted into Wall of Honor**



**Rev. Dr. Amelda received
award for giving largest
amount to Headquarters**



**President of the Richmond
Local received an award for
the local giving the largest
contribution to Headquarters**

Greetings to Our Sisters,

Warm greetings to you as we welcome this Season of Hope. As we start the new year, we are reminded that even in quieter, colder seasons, God continues to work, renew, and restore.

This edition is filled with reflections, updates, and stories that reflect faith, fellowship, and the hope we share in Christ. We pray that each page encourages your heart and strengthens your walk.

Thank you for your continued support, prayers, and contributions. It is our joy to serve and share with you.

With love and blessings,

The Newsletter Committee



Jan Smallwood



Karen Turner-Minor



Jacqueline Williams



Virginia Association

of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Inc.

Reverend Dr. Patricia A. Wormley, State President



75th ANNUAL CONVENTION

APRIL 23-25, 2026

LYNCHBURG GRAND HOTEL
601 MAIN STREET
LYNCHBURG, VA 24504
(434) 528-2500

ROOM RATE: \$134.05 NIGHTLY
(TAXES INCLUDED)

GROUP CODE:
MWMWAL

WWW.VAMWMW.ORG



Registration Deadline Extended to March 14

Reverend Dr. Sherleen B. SCOTT
Local President/General Chairperson

Reverend Dr. Patricia A. WORMLEY
State President

Dr. Peggy K. DUNNING
Co-Chairperson

Lady Carla D. PANNELL
Co-Chairperson

Join the
Virginia Association of Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows, Inc.
for a

CRUISE to the BAHAMAS

October 25-31, 2026

*Book Your
Reservations
NOW!*

Your Cruise Highlights

- 6-day cruise aboard the fun ship *Carnival Sunshine*
- Cruise roundtrip from Norfolk
- Ports of Call in Bimini & Nassau in The Bahamas
- A exciting day at Celebration Key, Carnival's private island
- All meals on board the ship
- Amazing entertainment including live musical performances & stand-up comedy
- Endless activities including deck parties, outdoor sports, game shows & trivia
- Pools, hot tubs, lounges & fitness center

Cruise Cost

- Balcony (8B): \$1,129 per person
- Oceanview (6B): \$934 per person
- Inside (4E): \$879 per person

Nonrefundable Deposit Due at Booking:
\$350 pp

Balance: Due July 1, 2026

*Pricing is cruise only including taxes and fees.
Prices are per person based on double occupancy.
Prices subject to change and availability.*

**WE HAVE A NEW TRAVEL AGENT
HANDLING OUR 2026 CRUISE,
MS. KLAUDIA LIPFORD**



World Class
TRAVEL
TRAVEL LEADERS

**For more information or to book, contact Klaudia at:
540.940.1668 - Klaudia@KKETravel.com**



Education Has Gone Digital!

Exciting news, Sisters! The IAMWMW Education Department has officially gone **DIGITAL**, making it easier than ever to stay connected, informed, and enrolled.

Online Registration Is Now Open

- ➔ Visit the **IAMWMW Website**
- ➔ Click the **Education** tab
- ➔ Select the **Registration Form**
- ✓ Quick
- ✓ Simple
- ✓ Designed with you in mind

Important Reminder

Please **register early** to ensure:

- ✓ Proper placement
- ✓ Accurate academic credit

Module IV – General Assembly Credit

Sisters who pre-registered for Module IV (**General Assembly**) will

- ✓ **automatically receive their credit**

NEW THIS YEAR: ALUMNI CORDS!

We are proud to introduce **Alumni Cords**, to be worn by graduating alumni this year.

Let's move forward—together.

Ingrid Bishop, Ph.D.
Dean of Education

Sisterhood in Action

We encourage our tech-savvy sisters to assist those who may need help navigating online tools.

Each one helping one.

Together, we grow stronger.

Interested in Serving?

If you feel led to serve as a

Class Secretary, please contact:

Anna Smith, Registrar

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF MINISTERS' WIVES AND
MINISTERS' WIDOWS, INC.

Call for Submissions

The VAMWMW is excited to announce that we will be publishing a special book of inspirational messages, and we invite all members to take part. Share your voice, your story, your words of encouragement in this special publication.

Rev. Dr. Patricia A. Wormley
VAMWMW State President

Inspirational Gems

From the Heart of the VAMWMW

Submission Deadline
July 31, 2026

Submissions Guidelines

What are we looking for?

We welcome uplifting, faith-filled, and encouraging messages that reflect one of the Fruit of the Spirit categories: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, or self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). Submissions may take the form of short reflections, devotionals, poems, or words of wisdom.

How to submit?

- Length: 2 to 3 paragraphs
- Format: Typed, double-spaced, Microsoft Word document
- Include your full name and Local Alliance
- Each entry must be original work created by the member submitting
- Deadline: Last date to submit is July 31, 2026
- Send to: book.vamwmw@gmail.com; with the subject line: Book Submission - [Your Name]

This is a wonderful opportunity to inspire others and contribute to a lasting collection of encouragement from our VAMWMW Sisterhood.
We look forward to sharing your submissions!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JAN SMALLWOOD
Email: book.vamwmw@gmail.com

**PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO WATCH
THE NEWLY RELEASED
REVITALIZATION VIDEO NOW
AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE.**

International President

Elder Dr. Vernita Josey

*“A Sisterhood Bridging the Gap:
Embracing Change, for Effective
Service in Kingdom Building”*

Isaiah 58:12



Revitalization and Membership

The Revitalization of Chapters and Membership Increase Team invites you to view a special presentation on how you can help work to Bridge the Gap in our membership.

IAMWMW is more than an organization - it's a Sisterhood of Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows united in faith, fellowship, and purpose.

Reach out and Touch a Sister!

**Scan the QR Code to view the special presentation by the
Revitalization of Chapters and Membership Increase Team.**

Min. Edris Cunningham, Chair



**Scan the QR
Code to watch
the new
revitalization
Video**

LOCAL ALLIANCES

The latest news and updates from the local alliances



LOCALS AT WORK

IN THIS ISSUE

CHARLOTTESVILLE

E.C. BOUEY

E.C. THOMPSON

FREDERICKSBURG

MARTINSVILLE

NORTHERN VIRGINIA

SUFFOLK

WAYLAND BLUE RIDGE

**“Sisters Continuing
to Make a Difference
by Building Up,
Reclaiming, and
Strengthening Each
Other in Such
a Time as This.”**

Nehemiah 8:10b

Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows Alliance of Charlottesville & Vicinity

Rochelle Clark Alexander
President

Dr. Brenda Arrington
Editor



President Rochelle Clark-Alexander

From the desk of:

Rochelle Clark-Alexander, President

February is the second month of the year 2026. This month is dedicated as Black History month. We celebrate our ancestors that opened doors for us to work through. We celebrate their sacrifice so that we can walk in the manifestation of their prayers. The accomplishments are priceless and should never be forgotten. We must never forget our ancestors as we journey through this life. We should walk proud in knowing that we are the benefactors of their prayers.

Jesus paid the price for us all on the Cross.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

My Sisters, this month speaks of Love. Love is paramount in all that we are. It is our core and passion to love.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3 *"If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing."*

My Sisters, please remember to love on yourself whether you take time to sit quietly and meditate on the Word of God or take a walk praying as you go. God wants to love on us, He loves us just that much and more.

Sisterly love,

Rochelle



<p>Day 1: Love is Patient</p> <p>Reflection: Patience is love in action, showing grace even when others frustrate us.</p> <p>Challenge: Practice patience today—whether in traffic, with a loved one, or at work.</p> <p><i>"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."</i>—Ephesians 4:2</p>	<p>Day 2: Love is Kind</p> <p>Reflection: Kindness is love expressed through our actions.</p> <p>Challenge: Do a random act of kindness for someone today.</p> <p><i>"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."</i>—Ephesians 4:32</p>	<p>Day 3: Love Does Not Envy</p> <p>Reflection: Love celebrates others' blessings rather than feeling jealous.</p> <p>Challenge: Compliment and encourage someone genuinely today.</p> <p><i>"A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones."</i>—Proverbs 14:30</p>	<p>Day 4: Love Does Not Boast</p> <p>Reflection: Love lifts others up rather than seeking personal glory.</p> <p>Challenge: Spend the day encouraging others instead of seeking recognition.</p> <p><i>"Let someone else praise you, and not your own mouth; an outsider, and not your own lips."</i>—Proverbs 27:2</p>	<p>Day 5: Love is Not Proud</p> <p>Reflection: True love is humble and does not elevate itself above others.</p> <p>Challenge: Apologize or admit a mistake without hesitation today.</p> <p><i>"When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom."</i>—Proverbs 11:2</p>
<p>Day 6: Love Does Not Dishonor Others</p> <p>Reflection: Love treats others with dignity and respect.</p> <p>Challenge: Be mindful of your words and actions—speak only with respect and encouragement.</p> <p><i>"Do to others as you would have them do to you."</i>—Luke 6:31</p>	<p>Day 7: Love is Not Self-Seeking</p> <p>Reflection: Love prioritizes others' needs over personal gain.</p> <p>Challenge: Put someone else's needs before your own today.</p> <p><i>"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves."</i>—Philippians 2:3</p>	<p>Day 8: Love is Not Easily Angered</p> <p>Reflection: Love chooses patience over irritation.</p> <p>Challenge: When frustration arises, take a deep breath and respond with love.</p> <p><i>"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."</i>—James 1:19</p>	<p>Day 9: Love Keeps No Record of Wrong</p> <p>Reflection: Love forgives and moves forward.</p> <p>Challenge: Let go of a past hurt and choose to forgive today.</p> <p><i>"Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."</i>—Colossians 3:13</p>	<p>Day 10: Love Does Not Delight in Evil but Rejoices in the Truth</p> <p>Reflection: Love is rooted in truth and righteousness.</p> <p>Challenge: Speak only truth today and encourage honesty in others.</p> <p><i>"The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy."</i>—Proverbs 12:22</p>
<p>Day 11: Love Always Protects</p> <p>Reflection: Love provides safety and care for others.</p> <p>Challenge: Look for ways to protect someone—physically, emotionally, or spiritually.</p> <p><i>"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ."</i>—Galatians 6:2</p>	<p>Day 12: Love Always Trust</p> <p>Reflection: Love gives others the benefit of the doubt.</p> <p>Challenge: Trust someone today instead of assuming the worst.</p> <p><i>"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."</i>—Proverbs 3:5</p>	<p>Day 13: Love Always Hopes</p> <p>Reflection: Love believes in the best for the future.</p> <p>Challenge: Speak words of hope and encouragement to someone today.</p> <p><i>"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."</i>—Romans 15:13</p>	<p>Day 14: Love Always Perseveres</p> <p>Reflection: Love endures through hardships and challenges.</p> <p>Challenge: Show unwavering love today, even when it's hard.</p> <p><i>"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."</i>—Galatians 6:9</p>	<p>"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."</p> <p>— 1 Corinthians 13:13</p>

Editor's Notes:

My dear sisters in Christ. We are, indeed, living in perilous times. The Scriptures tell us that in the Last Days, men will be covetous, blasphemers, lovers of themselves more than lovers of God. *II Timothy 3:1-5*. We are witnesses of these activities. We listen to the news and see destruction both abroad and in our beloved America. The Word admonishes us to "Be strong in the Lord and in the Power of His Might." *Ephesians 6:10*. We are to continue, as part of the Body of Christ, in service to those who need the comfort of the Holy Spirit. As the wives and widows of Men of God, we continue doing the Will of God, knowing that The Most High is in control. He is our Joy. "The Joy of the Lord is our strength." *Nehemiah 8:10*. Continue in the Joy and share what God is doing in our lives; how He is using the "Woman of God" in Kingdom-building. You are a Woman of God. Abide in Him. Thanks to those who contribute to this newsletter. It is encouraging to read. Let's encourage one another.

Thessalonians 5:11



Dr. Brenda Arrington

Cedar Grove Baptist Church and Mount Airy Baptist Church

Worship together at Cedar Grove Baptist Church in Nelson County for a joint Watch Night Service



Pastor Caruso Brown Cedar
Grove Baptist Church



Pastor Alex Burruss
Mount Airy Baptist Church

On December 31, 2025, Cedar Grove Baptist Church and Mount Airy Baptist Church came together at Cedar Grove for a joint Watch Night Service to worship the Lord. What was so significant about this service, is that it represents on a small scale what is essential for churches to do. Coming together as brothers and sisters in Christ is far more important to understanding ourselves as a unified body in Christ, than only members of individual branches of Zion. The service lasted approximately an hour, but it was surely an, "Hour of Power," as Pastor Alex Burruss of Mount Airy and Pastor Caruso Brown of Cedar Grove each delivered mini sermons, with maximum effectiveness to usher in the New Year.

The idea to have a joint Watch Night service came from Deacon Greg Jackson of Mount Airy. He presented the idea to his Pastor and then to Deacon George Wells of Cedar Grove, who then passed the idea onto his Pastor and as they say, the rest is history!! Two interesting facts associated with this program are these: History has it that Cedar Grove came out of Mount Airy and secondly, both pastors are new to the pastoral ministry. Their installation services were within a couple weeks of each other.

Next year, the joint service will be hosted by Mount Airy. In addition to Watch Night services, both pastors have committed to planning future activities together, all to the Glory of God.

Submitted by

Sis. Christine Brown, First Lady of Cedar Grove Baptist Church

Celebrating our Black History

THE BLACK ROSIES of WWII ~ THE FORGOTTEN AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN



Black women were a part of the corps of “Rosies” who were riveters during WWII. Black Rosies made up a large part of the workforce during World War II. They learned the skilled trades and became experienced electricians, welders, railroad conductors and sheet metal specialists. During a time of discrimination, the African American “Rosie the Riveter” demonstrated the resilience, tenacity, dedication, and pride of a people, with lessons that transcend the barriers. An estimated 600,000 African-American women served America. These women were pioneers of social change; their story a powerful testament to overcoming adversity and fighting for justice.



UVA

SCHOOL of CONTINUING
and PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Enslaved Ancestors College Access Scholarship Program



Celebrating 2026 with Descendants of Enslaved Communities of Virginia

This program was created under § [23.1-615.1](#) of the Code of Virginia and under guidance provided by the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia (SCHEV). In the words of § [23.1-615.1](#), the program aims to provide “a tangible benefit for individuals with a demonstrated historic connection to slavery that will empower families to be lifted out of the cycle of poverty.” Towards this end, the program provides scholarships to one or more students each year who are enrolled in degree or certificate programs at UVA. To set priorities for the program, identify scholars, and establish processes that honor the legacies of enslaved ancestors and their descendants, UVA collaborates with the [Descendants of Enslaved Communities at UVA \(DEC-UVA\)](#), an independent, non-profit, self-determined organization.

The Enslaved Ancestors Scholarship Program is offered to any outstanding academics from the State of Virginia who can provide documentation of ancestors who were enslaved and worked to build the Grounds at the University of Virginia.

For information and an application packet: Email: scpsinquiry@virginia.edu Phone: 1-800-346-3882

PK's Making a Difference



DR. RENATA ARRINGTON-SANDERS
 Division Chief of Adolescent Medicine
 Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
 (CHOP)
 Professor of Pediatrics (Adolescent
 Medicine)

As Division Chief of Adolescent Medicine at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Dr. Arrington-Sanders teaches medical students and residents and is one of the compassionate physicians leading the charge to improve the health and well-being of children and adolescents in economically challenged developing countries. The focus is to provide excellent clinical care and effective training to indigenous medical staff, facilitate locally relevant, high-quality research, and engage in evidence-based advocacy in over 18 countries around the world. Much of her work includes setting up clinics in remote areas that lack adequate health care. Toward this end, she and her team have worked in Thailand, Peru, Dominican Republic, Rwanda, Botswana, Ghana, Nigeria and Johannesburg, South Africa. Currently, she is training doctors in Nairobi, Kenya.

She and her medical team also provide care at Covenant House PA, setting up an on-site clinic to serve homeless youth.

Dr. Arrington-Sanders is the daughter of Dr. Brenda Arrington of the Charlottesville Alliance and the Late Reverend Angus Arrington III.

OUR COMMUNITY ~ WHAT'S GOING ON ?

Save the Date,
 — A SPECIAL LUNCHEON HONORING —
 Minister
Barbara Singleton Edwards
 At the Omni Hotel
 Charlottesville, Virginia
 Saturday, June 13, 2026 • 12:00 PM
 Please join us as women honoring a woman of God
 Formal Invitation to Follow

GENERAL GRIEF GROUP
Grief, Loss & Hope
 Union Run Baptist Church

You don't have to grieve alone.

This six-week grief support group offers a safe, caring, and supportive space for individuals experiencing loss. Together, we will explore grief honestly, share coping strategies, and discover hope through connection and community.

Each session builds on the last, creating a meaningful journey of healing. Participants are encouraged to attend as many sessions as possible so everyone can grow together in trust, strength, and understanding.

Katherine Jackson, MDiv, CGC
 (Certified Grief Counselor)

DATES & TIMES

February Sessions
 Wednesdays at 12:00 Noon

- February 11
- February 18
- February 25

March Sessions
 Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.

- March 7
- March 14
- March 28

LOCATION
 Union Run Baptist Church
 3220 Keswick Road
 Keswick, VA

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT +

- Weekly grief-focused themes
- Guided discussion & reflection
- Practical coping tools
- Compassionate, confidential support
- Strength through shared experience

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Adults experiencing grief or loss of any kind
- Those seeking encouragement, healing, and hope
- Anyone desiring a respectful, supportive group setting

*There is hope beyond loss.
 There is healing in community.
 All are welcome.*

ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME

Join us for free workouts with qualified fitness instructors. Our classes are held weekly. All equipment is provided, and no registration is required. Just grab your sneakers and come find us. Fun and judgment-free, we promise!

- 6:00 pm-7:00 pm:** **St. John Family Life Center**
Tuesdays **St. John Baptist Church**
1595 St John Road
Gordonsville, VA 22942

For Information: Min. Penny Hawkins (434) 979-9338



E.C. BOUEY MWMW ALLIANCE

Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Local President



CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP

E.C. Bouey MWMW Alliance Christmas Fellowship was held at the First United Baptist Church on December 20, 2025, Reverend Edgar R. Graham, Pastor, Gloucester, VA. The event was hosted by his lovely wife, our dear sister, Mrs. Gwenda F. Graham. We had a joyous time fellowshiping with one another in Christ. Other ministers' wives and special guests joined us on that special day. Musical selections were rendered by the "Gloucester Matthews Men's Chorus."



Rev. Floyd E. & Mrs. Patricia
Johnson
Beulah Baptist Church
Tappahannock, VA



Back row left to right: Mrs. Gwenda
Graham, Mrs. Mary Acree, Mrs. Valarie
Kelly, Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Mrs. Julia
Cain, Mrs. Marlene Jackson



Rev. Edgar R. & Mrs.
Gwenda F. Graham
The First United Baptist
Church, Gloucester, VA

Front Row, left to right: Mrs. Julia Jones,
Mrs. Alice Bryant, Dr. Eleanor Morris

E.C. BOUEY MWMW ALLIANCE



Rev. Benjamin F. & Mrs. Valarie
D. Kelly
First Baptist Church
Shackleford, VA



Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dr. Pamela
Stubbs
Gethel Baptist Church
Gloucester, VA



Mrs. Mary Acree & Mrs.
Rochelle Acree, Daughter-
in-Law
Bethamy Baptist Church
King William VA



Mr. Kelvin & Min. Carrie Forest
The First Baptist Church
Gloucester, VA



Rev. Samuel A. & Mrs. Julia L.
Cain
Calbary Baptist Church
Kilmarnock, VA



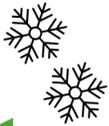
Rev. Warren & Mrs. Cleo Ward
First Baptist Church
Orginary, VA



Pastor Vincent & Mrs. Ellen Proyor
New Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Gloucester, VA



E. C. Thompson Alliance of Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows



The Ladies of E. C. Thompson Alliance have been blessed and highly favored as we continued to strive to keep our local active and involved. We are few, but God says, "For where two or three gather in my name, I am there in the midst of them." As we gather as Christian women, we feel His presence. As president of this local, I am peacock proud and humbled the way these godly women work together for Kingdom building. "Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name we give glory."

E. C. Thompson's Service Ministry

Madilene's House

Madilene's House is a safe haven for battered women and children. E.C. Thompson has been partnering with them for several years, providing clothing of every kind for women and children. E.C. Thompson was blessed to receive 250 pairs of Bombas socks from a local church organization, The Spring Hill Community Empowerment of Virginia, who received a grant. We provide whatever is needed at Madilene's House. This year, along with the socks, we donated cleaning supplies of all types—bleach, laundry detergent, Windex, dish detergent, along with gloves, hats, scarves. Pictured upper left are Sisters Ruth Williams and Sandra Pettis giving out Bombas socks. Pictured on the right are Sisters Barbara Green and Georgiana Hawkins delivering the items.





Christmas Celebration 2025
313 Franklin Restaurant



Sister Hazel Hill
Our beloved sister, Hazel, has relocated to Avon, Indianapolis with her granddaughter. She still plans to remain an active member in the E. C. Thompson Alliance. We miss you, Hazel, but God knows what's best for you, our beloved sister.

MWMW ALLIANCE OF FREDERICKSBURG AND VICINITY

Dr. Eva J. Brown, Local President

“Empowering, Connecting, and Inspiring Minister’s Wives and Widows in Our Community and Vicinity”



As we step into a new season, we embrace the opportunity to connect, uplift, and celebrate the remarkable achievements of our chapter within our group and beyond. This newsletter highlights upcoming events, member spotlights, and resources designed to support and enrich your journey.

Service Projects



Jacob’s Ladder

The MWMW Fredericksburg Alliance donated monetarily to Jacob’s Ladder and looking forward to a date in the next few months to continue our efforts by volunteering at Jacob’s Ladder.

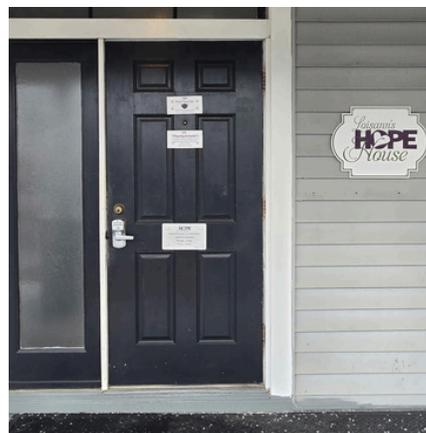
Hope House

MWMW donated supplies for families in need of items at the many homes sponsored through Loisann’s Hope House in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Many requested items were donated through their Amazon wish list.



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Donations were also made to the Thanksgiving food drive for 15 families of the King George Headstart program headed by Fredericksburg City Schools.



MWMW of Fredericksburg also donated school supplies to Loisann’s Hope House

MWMW ALLIANCE OF FREDERICKSBURG AND VICINITY

Fundraising Efforts

Our Double Good Popcorn Campaign was a great success! Thank you to everyone who supported this effort and helped make it a success!



Most Recent Church Events

The MWMW Fredericksburg Alliance celebrates church milestones and highlight collaborative efforts that strengthen our bonds and faith.

Jordan Memorial U.A.M.E.

Pastor Joseph and Evangelist Jordan opened Jordan Memorial U.A.M.E. Located in La Plata, Maryland

JORDAN MEMORIAL U.A.M.E. CHURCH



Coming to La Plata, MD

*New Year
New Beginnings
New Church Location*

Behold, I will do a new thing... Isaiah 43:19

YOU'RE INVITED!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Come Worship With Us

Sunday, January 4TH, 2026 @ 11a.m.

Holiday Inn Express
6860 Crain Highway
La Plata, Md 20646

Follow Us on Facebook: @ Jordan Mem Uame Church

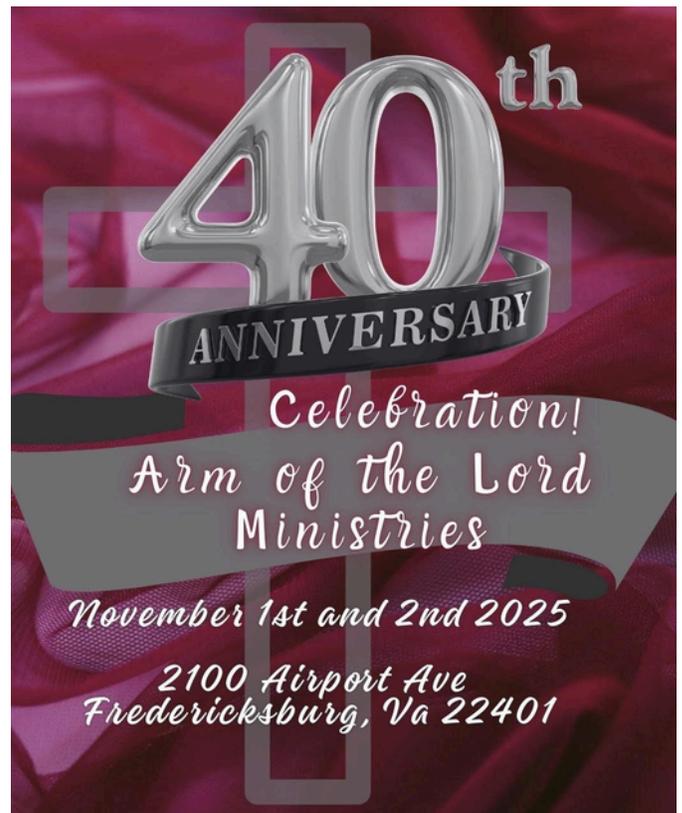
Meet and Greet Pastor Joseph & Evang. Tangie Jordan after service. Lite Refreshments after service.

Rev. Dr. Ralph T. Lampkins - District Superintendent
Rt. Rev. Charles L. Amos - Bishop



Arm of the Lord Ministries

Pastor Randy and Rev. Lady Michelle and their congregation celebrated the church's 40th Year Anniversary.



MWMW ALLIANCE OF FREDERICKSBURG AND VICINITY

Most Recent Church Events-Continued

Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Fredericksburg, VA
Annual Women's Workshop

“Preserving Women of God”

The presenter for the Saturday session was First Lady Stephanie Craddock, St. John Baptist Church, Woodford, Virginia

The keynote speaker for the Sunday morning service was First Lady Dr. Gwendolyn Young from First Silas Baptist Church Severna Park Maryland.



Self-Care Bingo
Workshop
Self-Care for All Ages & Every Community
**Ministers' Wives & Ministers' Widows Alliance
of Fredericksburg & Vicinity**
Join us for a fun and uplifting workshop to nurture your well-being
and explore simple ways to care for yourself!

SELF-CARE BINGO

Take a Deep Breath	Smile	Think of 3 Blessings	Stretch Your Body	Quiet Reflection
Send a Kind Thought	Sit in Stillness	Drink Some Water	Drink Some Water	Relax Tension
Pray or Meditate		Free Space	Listen to Your Body	Close Your Eyes

Fredericksburg's Chaplain, Reverend Cynthia Arkord recently led an engaging and thoughtful discussion on the importance of self-care, reminding participants that caring for our mental and physical health is essential to living balanced and fulfilling lives.

To bring the topic to life, Reverend Arkord followed the discussion with a lively round of Self-Care Bingo. The activity gave participants a fun way to think about everyday practices that support wellness.

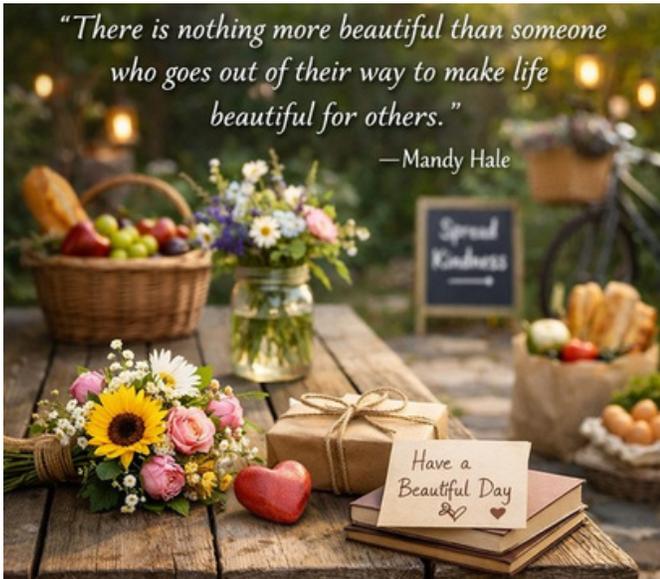
The conversation comes at a meaningful time, as the Fredericksburg Alliance has made self-care and overall well-being a focus for the year. By encouraging open conversations and sharing simple, practical steps toward healthier living, gatherings like this remind us that taking care of ourselves is an important part of building a stronger, healthier community.



MINISTERS' WIVES AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS
OF MARTINSVILLE - HENRY COUNTY & VICINITY
Erica O'Neil-Scott, Local President

“Committed to Serve”

DO NOTHING OUT OF SELFISH AMBITION OR VAIN CONCEIT. RATHER, IN HUMILITY VALUE OTHERS ABOVE YOURSELVES, NOT LOOKING TO YOUR OWN INTERESTS BUT EACH OF YOU TO THE INTERESTS OF THE OTHERS. PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4



Invest in the Lives of Students

A simple act of kindness can make a lasting difference for children in our community. Donating new socks, underwear, gloves, and hats to the CIC Head Start students in Danville, Virginia, helps ensure that young learners stay warm, comfortable, and confident throughout the school day.



For many families, these basic essentials can be a financial strain, especially during colder months.

By giving these everyday necessities, community members

provide not only physical warmth but also dignity and encouragement to children who are building their educational foundation.

Supporting CIC Head Start in this way is a meaningful opportunity to invest in the well-being and success of Danville's youngest students.

High Fives for Wee 3's

Our adorable “Wee 3’s” had an amazing time working on their special class project! Each three-year-old created a one-of-a-kind t-shirt using their very own painted palm prints. With bright colors, giggles, and lots of excitement, little hands turned into beautiful works of art. The room was filled with laughter as they proudly pressed their palms onto their shirts, watching their creativity come to life. It was a joyful, hands-on experience full of fun, learning, and sweet memories we will cherish!



Mrs. Erica O’Neil-Scott

Dr. Edna F. Griffith

Dr. Ellen Jamerson

We always look forward to Founder’s Day as a beautiful time to celebrate the life and lasting legacy of Dr. Elizabeth Coles Bouey. This year Lady Erica O’Neil- Scott delivered a powerful Founder’s Day tribute honoring our beloved founder, centered on the theme, “The Unity of Faith, Love, and Prayer.” The weekend was beautifully filled with uplifting music, heartfelt inspiration, and cherished fellowship with our Sisters. Together, we reflected, rejoiced, and recommitted ourselves to the vision and values that continue to guide and strengthen our sisterhood.

OUR FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT



Little Miss Serenity “Reni” Turner an aspiring dancer and rising talk show personality requested a visit to the Martin Luther King Museum. Her parents obliged without hesitation. She was captivated and engaged with our history. If we don’t teach them, how will they know?

Mom: Rev. Jessica S. Turner
 Dad: Dr. Dwayne L. Turner
 Grandmother:
 Dr. Edna F. Griffith

Our children are our future, the living seeds of hope planted in today’s soil to blossom in tomorrow’s world. Every word we speak into them, every lesson we teach, and every example we model shapes the leaders, dreamers, builders, and believers they will become. When we nurture their minds with knowledge, their hearts with love, and their spirits with faith, we are investing in a brighter, stronger, and more compassionate generation. If we guide them with wisdom and surround them with encouragement, they will rise with courage and purpose— prepared not only to inherit the future, but to transform it.



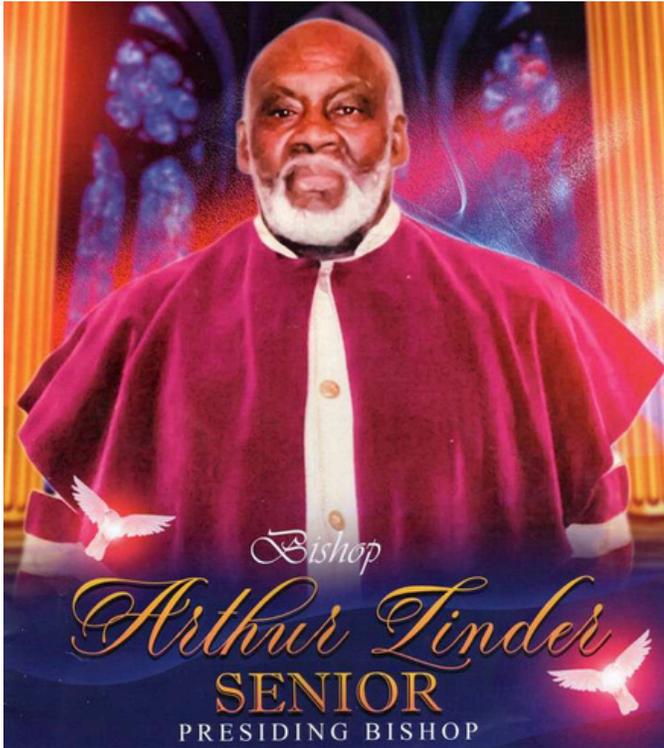
David Scott, an avid learner, is an eighth grader, taking High school courses and participates in the local High School band activities. He loves to read and finds learning exciting and fascinating.

Mom: Mrs. Erica O’Neil-Scott
 Dad: Pastor Tony Scott

HOMETOWN TV PERSONALITY HOSTS THE DANVILLE ROTARY CHRISTMAS PARADE



Jessica Turner, a TV and Radio Personality, was invited back to her hometown of Danville, Virginia to host the Rotary Christmas parade. The “Twinkling Lights and Sparkling Waters” theme featured 162 entries. Jessica added her own sparkle as she introduced entries and interviewed participants. Jessica is Dr. Griffith’s daughter.



Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

God has called His humble servant, Bishop Arthur R. Linder, from labor to reward on January 19, 2026. His life of servitude will be remembered. Bishop Linder was not just a preacher's preacher, but a preacher's teacher. He stood strong as a community activist and a mender of denominational divides. Rest in Jesus.

Our continued prayers for our beloved Sister, Mother Sandra Linder and family.



My VAMWMW Sisters.

I am blessed to have reached three quarters of a century old. All because of God's Grace I am still here, could have been dead and gone but God said not yet. Lord whatever you're doing in this season, please don't forget about me. I lift up holy hands and say, thank you Lord. Birthday: January 5th.

Dr. Ellen Jamerson



WELCOME SISTER

Join us as we welcome Lady Karen Churn. She is the wife of Rev. Serenus Churn, Pastor of High Street Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia.

We enjoyed a beautiful worship concert by Bishop John Williams at the Historical High Street Baptist Church in Danville.



MINISTERS' WIVES AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

MRS. NADINE J. FROST, PRESIDENT

Celebration of Life

The MWMW of Northern Virginia & Vicinity supported the Celebration of Life Service honoring longtime Community Leader, Reverend Dr. James “Floyd” Cotton, who passed away at the age of 99. Reverend Cotton was an Associate Pastor at First Agape Baptist Community of Faith Church, where the Senior Pastor is Rev. Dr. Daniel and First Lady Renelda Brown.

Dr. Cotton’s legacy includes his service as a pillar in the Alexandria and DMV Communities; Military Veteran; Owner, Repair Shop and Realtor; Author of three Books; and Educator. His Pastor, Dr. Brown preached a powerful sermon encouraging family and friends; and his son and others tributes blessed everyone.

To God be the glory for Dr. Cotton’s long life and outstanding impact on humanity.



Rev. Dr.

James “Floyd” Cotton
January 5, 1927 - January 11, 2026



**SUFFOLK & VICINITY ASSOCIATION
OF MINISTERS' WIVES AND MINISTERS' WIDOWS
Rev. Dr. Gloria Phillips Diggs, President**

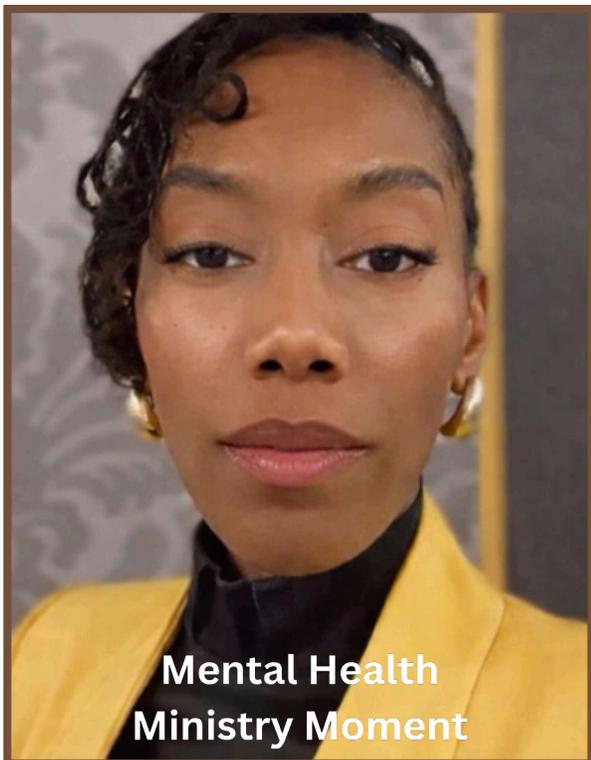


**Bouey-Gayton Day
November 8, 2025 | 9:30 a.m. | Rising St. James Church**



The Suffolk and Vicinity Association gathered for our local observance of Bouey Gayton Day, a time set aside to reflect on the foundation and forward movement of our organization.

Sisters Carol Diggs and Cheryl Wilkins led an informative and engaging discussion that walked attendees through the history of the Bouey-Gayton vision—highlighting its beginnings and bringing us up to date on its continued impact. Their presentation fostered thoughtful dialogue and renewed appreciation for the structure and mission of our Association.



Minister Shanae Cartwright offered a meaningful presentation on “Grief – During Holidays,” providing spiritual guidance and reflection. Her words encouraged healing and sparked a much-needed conversation. “Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.” (Matthew 5:4) The morning was marked by vibrant participation and heartfelt engagement, reminding us that understanding our past strengthens our future.

In Loving Memory

Sister Mary B. Warren – Treasurer Transitioned November 11, 2025

This quarter, we experienced a profound loss. Sister Mary B. Warren, our faithful Treasurer, transitioned on November 11, 2025.

She served with integrity, diligence, and quiet strength. Her stewardship and commitment helped sustain the work of this Association.

Her homegoing service was held on November 22, 2025, at New Mt. Joy Food For Living Ministry in Suffolk, VA. The sisters honored her memory by sitting together in uniform black, adorned with green and white Kente scarves, pearls, and a purple butterfly—her favorite color—symbolizing transformation and eternal life. “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.” (Matthew 25:23)

Sister Mary will be deeply missed, but her legacy of faithfulness remains woven into our sisterhood.



Christmas Fellowship Gathering Delayed But Not Denied | Mod Olive | Suffolk, VA

Although postponed from December, our Christmas Fellowship was joyfully celebrated on January 3, 2026.

The atmosphere was filled with laughter, gratitude, and the joy of welcoming one another into the New Year. President Gloria Diggs and Vice-President Kimberly Austin presented individual gifts to each sister in attendance—a thoughtful expression of appreciation and love.

Even in a season marked by grief, fellowship brought renewal.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.” (Psalm 133:1)



Respectfully Submitted by: Sister Joette Claude and Sister Carol Diggs

Wayland Blue Ridge Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Inc.
President Mary Jasper Tinsley & 1st-Vice President Marvis Baker Pitts
Apple Orchard & Luncheon Outing, November 12, 2025



President Mary Jasper Tinsley



First Lady Martha Johnson



Sister Doris Pinkard



Dr. Conchita Shorts



APPLE ORCHARD



Dr. Patricia Wormley

Wayland Blue Ridge Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Inc.
President Mary Jasper Tinsley & 1st-Vice President Marvis Baker Pitts
Apple Orchard & Luncheon Outing, November 12, 2025



Sister Janice Kilby

PEPPER'S GRILL



The Wayland Blue Ridge Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows organized a lovely outing for the Ministers' Widows at Sperryville, Jenkins' Apple Orchard. Surrounded by autumn colors, the group enjoyed picking fresh apples and sharing laughter and stories amidst the beautiful landscape. After the orchard, they headed to Pepper's Grill in Culpeper, VA, where they were welcomed into a cozy dining area. The widows enjoyed a delicious lunch of seasonal specialties and left with smiles, grateful for the joyful experience and strengthened connections.

Wayland Blue Ridge Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Inc.
President Mary Jasper Tinsley & 1st-Vice President Marvis Baker Pitts
New Member & Canned-Goods Collection, January 6, 2026

SISTERS: Shirley Lewis, Doris Pinkard, Dr. Patricia Wormley, President Mary Tinsley, Martha Johnson, Marvis Baker Pitts & Brenda Carpenter



On January 6, 2026, during our monthly meeting, we had the pleasure of welcoming our new member, First Lady Brenda Carpenter, from the Life Temple of Deliverance in Culpeper, VA. First Lady Brenda brings a wealth of experience and a strong commitment to community service, and we are excited to have her on board. Additionally, we organized a canned-goods collection that was delivered to the Fredericksburg Food Bank. This initiative aims to support local families in need, and we encourage everyone to contribute and make a difference in our community.

God Does Not Waste Winter

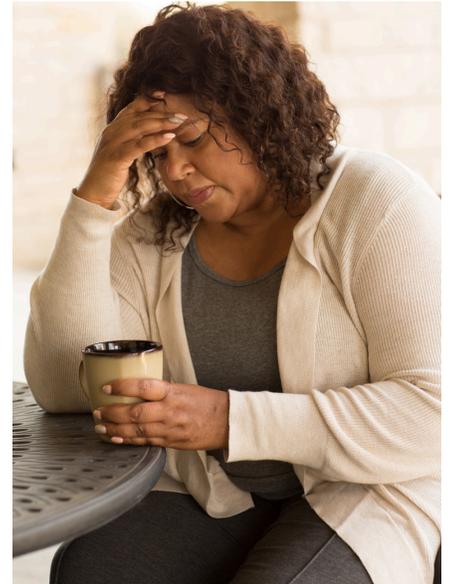
Trusting God in the still, quiet season of winter

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.” – Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV)

Winter is often associated with stillness, barrenness, and waiting. The trees have shed their leaves, the ground grows hard, and the days seem shorter and colder. Yet even in winter, God is still at work.

“The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree... They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing.” – Psalm 92:12-14 (KJV)

Just as nature has seasons, so do our lives. There are seasons of joy and abundance – and there are seasons that feel cold, quiet, or uncertain. In those moments, we may wonder if God is silent. But Scripture reminds us that He is intentional in every season. Winter is not wasted, it is a time of preparation.



“But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” – James 1:4 (KJV)

Beneath the cold hard ground, roots are strengthening. What appears lifeless is actually being developed. Likewise, when God allows us to experience a “winter” season – whether it be waiting, loss, transition, or spiritual stretching – He is cultivating deeper faith, stronger character, and greater trust.

“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” – Romans 8:28 (KJV)

The winter season teaches us to depend on God in ways that sunshine never could. It removes distractions. It humbles us. It draws us closer to Him. And when spring comes – as it always does – we are stronger, wiser, and more fruitful because of what winter produced in us.

If you are walking through a winter season right now, be encouraged. God has not forgotten you. He is not wasting your tears, your prayers, or your waiting.



The same God who ordained the seasons of the earth ordains the seasons of your life. Trust Him in the winter. Growth is happening beneath the surface.

Remember spring is on the way!

Blessings from the Kitchen

Honey Butter Biscuits

These soft biscuits are perfect for breakfast or a cozy evening with tea.

Ingredients

2 cups all-purpose flour
1 tbsp baking powder
1 tbsp sugar
½ tsp salt
½ cup cold butter, cubed
¾ cup milk
2 tbsp honey

Instructions

Preheat oven to 425°F (220°C).
In a bowl, mix flour, baking powder, sugar, and salt.
Cut in the butter until the mixture looks crumbly.
Stir in milk and honey until a soft dough forms.
Pat dough onto a floured surface and cut into biscuit shapes.
Place on a baking sheet and bake 12–15 minutes until golden.

Serving Tip: Brush the warm biscuits with a little extra honey butter.

Strawberry Cream Dessert Cups

A light and cheerful dessert that looks pretty on the table and comes together in minutes.

Ingredients

2 cups fresh strawberries, sliced
1 cup whipped cream (or whipped topping)
4 graham crackers, crushed
1 tbsp honey or powdered sugar (optional)
Fresh mint leaves (optional garnish)

Instructions

In small cups or jars, add a layer of crushed graham crackers.
Add a layer of strawberries.
Spoon whipped cream on top.
Repeat layers if desired.
Drizzle lightly with honey and garnish with mint.

Serving Tip: Chill for 15 minutes before serving for the best flavor.

A reminder that simple blessings—like time together and good food—
are gifts from God

"Taste and see that the Lord is good." – Psalm 34:8

A Little Winter Humor

1. Why did Noah stay warm in the winter?

Because he had ark-tic conditions covered.

2. Why did the church heater break in January?

Too many people were praying for a fiery sermon.

3. What's a Christian's favorite winter exercise?

Cross-training.

4. Why did the snowman bring a Bible to church?

He wanted to be solid as ice in his faith.

5. What do you call cold coffee at Bible study?

Hebrews. ❄️

6. Why don't churches like icy parking lots?

Too many can slip into the book of Lamentations.

7. What's the spiritual gift most requested in winter?

Discernment—especially when deciding whether to leave the house.

8. Why do Christian women love winter mornings with God?

Because coffee, quiet, and Jesus just go together.



A man is robbing a house. Once he breaks through the window and starts stealing items, he hears a parrot say “Jesus is watching you. Jesus is watching you.” The man ignores it and moves on. The parrot starts speaking again: “Jesus is watching you. Jesus is watching you.” The man turns around and says to the parrot “What kind of man has a parrot that says ‘Jesus is watching you.’?” The parrot replies “The same man who has a Doberman named Jesus.”



Looking for more information or need a form? Just head on over to one of our websites!

<https://www.iamwmw.org>

<https://www.vamwmw.org>

<https://www.neriamwmw.org>

**Winter Self-Care for Christian Women:
Read the Word. Drink the coffee. Cancel the plans.**



Recharge Your Emotional Battery!



VAMWMW NEWSLETTER
4th Quarter 2025