

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED - ATLANTA UNIT

JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



Committee Updates

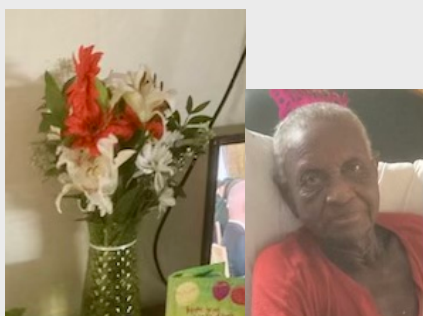
Celebrations - World Day of Prayer 2024 is Friday, March 1, and focuses on **Palestine** with the theme, *I Beg You...Bear With One Another in Love*

Awards Committee -

Congratulations to **Ms. Joyce Lorraine Thomas, our Woman of the Year.** She will be recognized in Macon, GA, at the CWU State Luncheon on February 17, 2024.

Honoring a Member...

Ms Gertrude Adam's 94th birthday celebration and flowers from her friends at CWU Atlanta



2023 Review and President's Message

by **Sheila Louder** Greetings and Happy New Year!

Abundant thanks, members and friends of **Church Women United in Atlanta, Inc.** for a successful and productive 2023.

We were blessed to have 60 members (renewing and new); four wonderful celebrations (see picture above of **World Community Day with Cobb Unit**); an "**Everybody's Birthday**" fundraiser raising \$900; submitted a centerpiece for auction at the **Georgia Festival of Trees** that raised funds to support Street Grace Human trafficking advocacy; donated 83 pairs of socks for Greater Deliverance Gateway Men's homeless shelter; donated \$100 to **Atlanta Community Food Bank Hunger Walk** and supported our partnership with **Interfaith Children's Movement** annual "Children's Prayer Celebration in October".

As we begin a new year I remind you that January is "**Human Trafficking Awareness Month**". As a movement we must be vigilant with helping to prevent and eradicate this crime of sexual exploitation and forced labor of our children throughout the year. CWU members have been asked to wear **BLUE** every Monday in January to show support for victims and survivors of this crime. Also remember that we should wear **Black** on Thursdays as a gesture to remind us of our responsibility to speak out against sexual and gender-based violence.

We are blessed to have **Hope AME Zion Church** as tenants at our Savannah Street property where they connect with the Cabbage Town community with activities and advocacy.

CWU State Luncheon - Woman of the Year - Macon, GA on Saturday, February 17 - Tickets are \$50 - Text Sheila Louder ([404](tel:4043766648)) [376-6648](tel:4043766648) to order a ticket.

Coming in June 19-22 - **2024 CWU Quadrennial Assembly in Oakbrook, Illinois - Theme is All Things New - New Beginnings, New Perspectives** - For more info & to register go to www.churchwomenunited.net

Community Opportunity

Sunday, March 10, 2024 - it's time to lace up for **Hunger Walk Run** This year is the 40th anniversary of the Hunger Walk/Run as an event of the **Atlanta Community Food Bank** that unites the Atlanta community to raise awareness and critical funds for local hunger relief. Proceeds from the event benefit the Atlanta Community Food Bank and other non-profit organizations. Register now to participate in person or virtually.

Cookbook Pre-Sale

Family, Peas, Poetry by Odessa Hargro Huff is available for pre-sale - \$24.95 softcover; \$34.95 hardcover.; shipping \$8.00 - Make checks payable to: Reed's Accounting Service P.O. Box 508, Villa Rica, GA 30180, Zelle to reedsacct@yahoo.com

Email:

bookordersfamilypeasandpoetry@gmail.com

(President's Message continued)

The **Young Church Women** from the unit led the planning and implementation of a very successful CWU in **Georgia State Assembly** in September with approximately 30 members from the unit attending.

Let's plan to: (1) Attend the **United Nations Commission on the Status of Women** in New York City March 11-22, 2024 (virtual or in person).

(2) Visit our website by February 1, 2024 to submit projects we can engage with and support that align with our priorities and community needs.

(3) Work together to retain old memberships but also get new members through community visibility and local church affiliations.

(4) Better advocate for justice and peace concerns especially issues affecting women and children.

(5) Attend the **CWU Quadrennial Assembly, June 19-22, 2024**, Oak Brook, IL

(6) Make an individual commitment to support our celebrations and join a committee.

Please visit our website at cwuatl.com for ways to pay membership dues of \$25 by January 31, 2024. These dues help establish our upcoming budget, support our yearly projects and maintain our administrative and financial responsibilities of the movement locally, state and nationally.

**Fondly,
Sheila Louder, President**

Finance Committee Grants Given in 2023

\$500 to **Brookview Elementary School**- Student needs range from uniforms to personal hygiene items; also addresses the needs of the large number of homeless students who attend Brookview by providing laundry to wash students' clothing and provide healthy snacks for the weekend.

\$300 to **Empowering the Lives of Inquiring Minds (ELIM)**, Inc.- Services include curriculum development and instructional design, graphic design, marketing material production, health education and promotion programs, and Outreach and community events. Website: <https://elimnow.org/>

\$300 to **The Legacy Builder Fund** via Players Philanthropy Fund Financial literacy program teaches. critical money skills and healthy money habits. Website: <https://firstrate21.com/legacy-builders/>