



**Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Fellowship of Northern
Virginia & Vicinity
Mrs. Darlene B. Kelly, President
July 2022**

Greetings Beloved Sisters,

All praise, glory, and honor to God my Father, and my Lord Jesus Christ. Hallelujah! Gardening is one of my favorite hobbies. And one of the first things I do in the morning is to step out onto my deck and into my very own secret garden, a place of peace and beauty and where I feel so close to God. This year I planted a variety of green and colorful flowers and a variety of peppers and tomatoes plants. Every day I appreciate something new and wonderful, gardening makes me happy by allowing me to nurture life and the wonders of God's miracles every day.



WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO:

Our Fellowship continues to meet virtually every month to conduct business, outreach services, special focus on self-care, development, and activities that encourage engagement and fun.

We had 4 delegates who attended the 81st IAMWMW Convention; 1st Vice President Nadine Frost, 2nd Vice President Meredith Smith, Executive Chair Hattie Blackmon, Mrs. June Johnson and of course we are blessed that Dr. Maragret Brown, IAMWMW President is part of our Fellowship. They shared that they enjoyed the activities and that this was one of the most spiritual convention they had attended.



We have reviewed, revised and approved our Constitution and Bylaws. Our Facebook page is undergoing an update and we plan to have it completed by fall.

It has been 2 years since we have had a Scholarship Award Ceremony. We are excited to announce that Saturday, July 23, 2022 at 2:00 p.m we will host our first Virtual Scholarship Award Ceremony. All donations received will be restricted to the Scholarship Fund.

This fall we will host the 2nd Virtual Widows' Tea Party. We are looking forward to greet fellowship, catching up on what they have been doing, and celebrating these lovely ladies.

NOVAMWMW's "LOVELY LADIES OF WISDOM":

"LOVELY LADY OF WISDOM" #1



Mrs. Terriza Jefferies celebrated her 96th birthday in June. She was married to the late Reverend James Edward Jefferies and together they had 77 children, 5 daughters, 2 sons (3 deceased) 3 grandchildren (1 deceased) and 4 great-grandchildren (1 deceased.)

Mrs. Jefferies still enjoys driving her car and does so regularly. She loves to garden and this year she is enjoying her many flowers and waiting to harvest her peppers and tomatoes. She shared loves to share her produce with her family and friends.

Sister Jefferies has belonged to our fellowship for 44 years; she has served on several committees. She states that she never wanted to be a Chair or an officer; she just liked working behind the scenes. Her favorite scripture is "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Psalm 27 (KJV). I asked Mother Jefferies what she contributes to her living in her season. She stated that "God has been good to me, and I will continue to live in His goodness!"

Our Dear Sister has a contagious smile and laughter; she speaks with such love, kindness and continues to offer her support and encouragement to our fellowship.

"LOVELY LADY OF WISDOM" #2



Mrs. Renelda Brown is 87 years young. She is married to Reverend Dr. Daniel Brown and together they have 2 children, 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She loves to travel and has fond memories of vacations with her family.

Sister Brown has been a member of our Fellowship for 35 years. She was President from 2003 to 2005, and she also chairs and is a member of various committees.

She currently is the chair of the Constitution and Bylaws committee, and they were reviewed, revised and approved this year. She worked diligently to make sure that our Constitution and Bylaws is compatible with the VAMWMW's, and the IAMWMW's Constitution and Bylaws. Her favorite scripture is "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13 (KJV). I asked Sister Brown what has kept her going in this season of her life, and her reply was; "My peace and being able to keep thankful, no matter what."

Sister Brown affectionately calls us “Dears.” She has a caring heart and when someone is hurting she emphasizes with them and shows compassion and love. She is a strong Woman of God and is dedicated and supportive to our fellowship.

“LOVELY LADY OF WISDOM #3



Mrs. Bertha Woods is 86 years young and was married to the late Reverend Dr. Richard Woods; together they have one son, 4 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild.

Sister Woods has been a member of our Fellowship for 25 plus years. She was President from 1997 to 1999, and she also participated on various committees as chair or member.

Her favorite scripture is “I will bless the LORD at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth.” Psalms 34:1 (KJV). She stated that in this season of her life she lives in peace and gives thanks to the Lord at all times.” When she and her husband moved to Texas, she continued to be a faithful member of our fellowship. She appreciated all the information that was shared with her by email, mail and telephone calls. Now that she is back in Virginia she attends our virtual meetings, events, and is usually one of the first to dial in to the Prayer and Praise Service. She has a great memory, pictures and names of people are helpful, and she really chuckles and smiles when she sees a face or hears a name, and can recall how she once fellowshipped with them. We are so happy that Sister Woods relocated back to Virginia, she is a true inspiration and a witness as to what God will do.

“LOVELY LADY OF WISDOM” #4



Dr. Janice Winters is 83 years young and was married to the Reverend Dr. Ronald Winters, and together they have 2 children, and 4 grandchildren.

Dr. Winters has been a member of our Fellowship for 57 years. She was President from 2009 to 2013, and she has chaired various committees. Dr. Winters has a passion for widows and has been responsible for establishing our Widow’s Ministry.

Her favorite scripture is “Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our LORD: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.” Nehemiah 8:10 (KJV). Dr. Winters describes this season of her life as wonderful, full of joy and happiness.

She is a great historian and volunteered to update NOVAMWMW’s History. During the past year she used her analytical skills, writing ability, broad knowledge of our culture and history, and today we have a narrative recreation of events that have shaped our organizations values and characteristics. She is patient, kind and enthusiastic about life, and we are grateful that she is always willing to share her knowledge and skills with us.

“Women Walking With God” That Ye Might Walk Worthy Of The Lord Unto All Pleasing, Being Fruitful In Every Good Work, And Increasing In The Knowledge Of God; Colossians 1:10 (KJV)