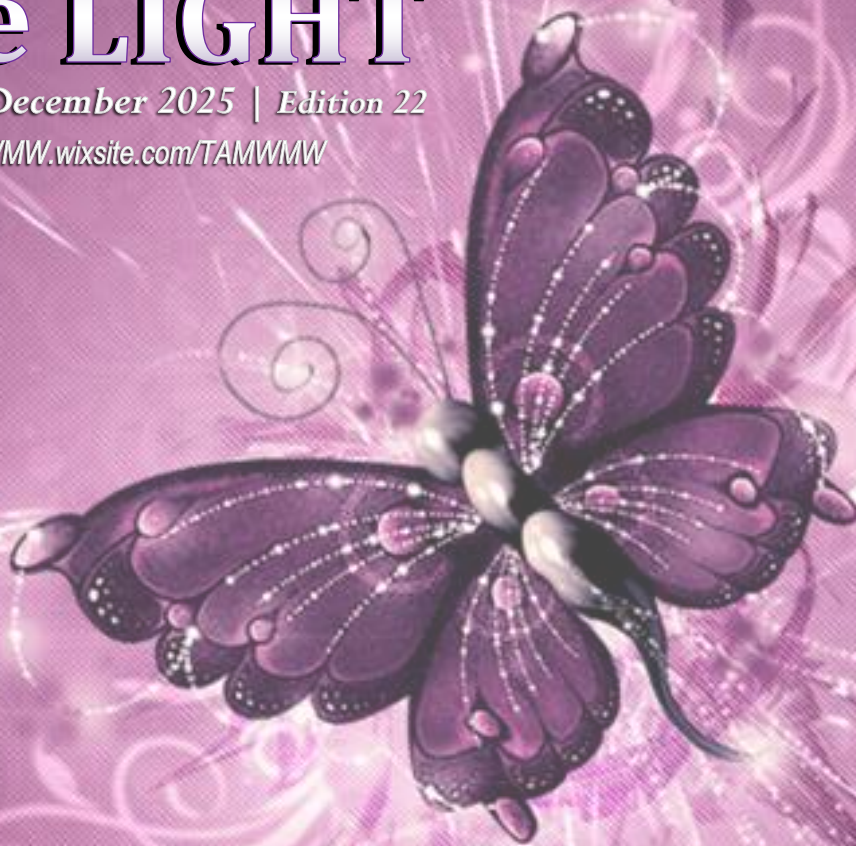


# The LIGHT

October – December 2025 | Edition 22

Visit Us: [TAMWMW.wixsite.com/TAMWMW](http://TAMWMW.wixsite.com/TAMWMW)



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE *A Look Back at...*

**San Antonio IAMWMW**  
**2025 Living Legacy Luncheon**  
**May 17, 2025 • San Antonio, TX**

**Christian Faith Women of Virtue, Inc.**  
**25th Leading Ladies Luncheon**  
**August 8, 2025 • Port Arthur, TX**

### **IAMWMW THEME**

*"A Sisterhood Bridging the Gap:  
Embracing Change for Effective Service in Kingdom Building"*  
*Isaiah 58:12*

Quarterly Newsletter Published by:  
Texas Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Inc.

## From the President's Desk

TAMWMW State President | Michelle M. Reid | 210-383-1723 | saiamwmw85@gmail.com



Greetings and blessings to all of you my sisters in Christ Jesus. We have begun the journey of rebuilding our beautiful state with Chartered Local Chapters. I have reached out to each Local President personally. I will continue to do that from time to time to maintain an open line of communication. Our state of Texas is a very large state and we must grow to increase our impact in Kingdom Building.

Our yearly State Conference, the first weekend in February, allows us to gather together as a collective family of like-minded believers sharing what we have achieved throughout the year. I am excited to see you all and prayerfully meet your new members.

Matthew 5:15-16 *"Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."*

Blessings Be Upon You All!

*Michelle M. Reid*



## A Note from the Editor

TAMWMW Newsletter Editor | Regenia Blackmon | regblackmon@yahoo.com

Hello Sisters!

Welcome to **The Light Newsletter** (October – December 2025 Issue). This edition offers an awesome opportunity to take *"A Look Back At"* local chapter news, community activities, church events, and acts of service.

Although 2025 is coming to close, let's look forward [with great expectation] to what the Lord has for us in 2026. I am certain that "the best is yet to come."

**The Light Newsletter** is a tool to help share our continuous fellowship while increasing the membership of our Sisterhood. To God be the Glory!

Sisterly Love,

*Regenia Blackmon*





# A Look Back at...

## SAIAMWMW 2025 Legacy Luncheon

May 17, 2025 | San Antonio, TX

Each recipient was awarded with a Certificate of Official Congratulation from the San Antonio City Council members and signed by former Mayor Ron Nirenberg. They also received a Personalized Living Legend Blue Plate Award. Other gifts were showered on them with great love.

Our Immediate Past Vice President at Large, Dr. Jannie Daniels, brought a mighty word from Titus 2 to culminate the evening. Never forgetting the loves of our lives, the husbands, we presented our first Living Legacy Gatekeeper Award to five faithful spouses. They were thrilled and surprised. To God be all the Glory!





**SAIMWMW Sisters in Action at the Lilly Hat-Attitude**  
*What's under your hat? Always keep on your "Gospel Hat."  
"Galatians 5:22-25*





### SAIAMWMW Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery Flag Removal

*Pastor Reid became the Section Leader. We recruited this group of wonderful Team Members and had a beautiful day removing and rolling flags for our resting Veterans and their family members*

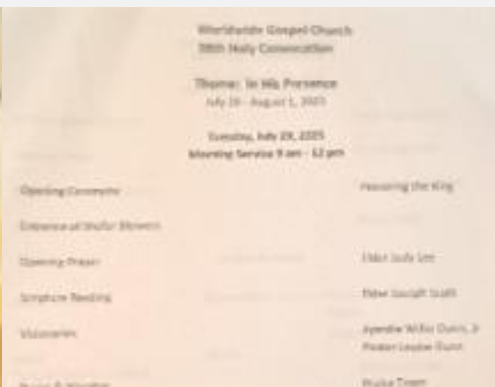




# A Look Back at...

## Worldwide Gospel Church Holy Convocation

Texas Association MWMW State President Michelle Reid greeted Mother & Bishop Dunn when they came to Beaumont, Texas to attend the World Wide Gospel Church 38th Holy Convocation. The event was held at the Love and Compassion Ministries from July 28 – August 1, 2025.





# *A Look Back at...*

## **Flood of 2025 – Kerrville, TX**

The Kerrville, Texas community began building a memorial wall for the precious souls lost and missing in the horrific flood during the early morning hours of July 4, 2025. A community came together, giving of themselves, time, resources, finances or just simply being present to listen and be a friend in a time of great sorrow. Strangers praying with one another, hugging and bearing one another's burdens: that's love. Being the hands and feet of Christ.

I am grateful for the great response from TAMWMW and SAIAMAMW. Combined with additional donations from Second Baptist Church, Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, and Rhema Bible Fellowship, a total of \$2,225.00 was donated for disaster relief.

Please continue to pray for those impacted by the flooding in the Texas Hill Country.





### Christian Faith Women of Virtue, Inc. | 25th Leading Ladies Luncheon | Psalm 138:7

Lady Harriet Collins of Port Arthur was one of 7-Leading Ladies honored Friday, August 8th at Christian Faith Women of Virtue, Inc. 25th Annual Leading Ladies Luncheon! What a blessed time in the Lord we all had. First Lady Charlotte Moses, Port Arthur Mayor, is a true testament to giving back to her community.

The luncheon was part of the organization's larger Diamond Conference 2025, a one-day event focused on spiritual renewal and empowerment, honoring seven phenomenal women from the Port Arthur community. The Christian Faith Women of Virtue purpose is to honor seven "hidden figure" women from Port Arthur who have made significant contributions to the community; provide a space for women to experience sisterhood, gain insight, and receive encouragement; and to serve as a catalyst for spiritual and personal renewal through faith, purpose, and community.





### Evangelist Debra Richardson

**The Blood still works and the Blood still saves! If I can just touch the hem of His garment.**





## In the Spotlight... *Houston #1 MWMW*

### *Mrs. Marie Brown-Polk*

Lady Brown-Polk was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana but raised in Houston, Texas. She attended Our Mother of Mercy Catholic School and graduated from Kashmere High School.

She married Jeffery Whitaker Jr., a member of the US Marine Corps, with whom she had four children. Marie worked as a short-order cook, forklift operator, and built computers at Texas Instruments. Later, as a single mother, she raised her children, following the teachings of our Lord and Savior.



Marie united with the Fiesta Missionary Baptist Church where she loved singing in the choir (she was a very good soprano). It was there that she met and later married the late Reverend John Polk. They remained at Fiesta until Rev. Polk's death. Afterward, she relocated her membership to First Mission Baptist Church, where she remains to date.

Marie had been a very active member of the IAMWMW and Houston MWMW #1, until her health kept her from being as active as she once was. She does, however, stay involved via the phone and text, demonstrating that she loves the sisterhood.

## In the Spotlight... *Houston #2 IAMWMW*

### *Mrs. Rana Robinson Perry*

Lady Rana Robinson Perry resides in Manvel, Texas. First Lady Perry graciously serves beside her husband Pastor Edward Perry, Sr at the New Hope MBC. They are the parents to two God-given miracles, Eddie and Elijah. She devotes her time to volunteering in educational, civic, and church organizations and programs.

She is an ever present and vocal advocate in the Special Education Life Skills programs within their school district. Rana Perry is a member of the Texas MWMW-Local #2; a member of the Pearland MLK Celebration Committee; a member of the NAACP chapter; and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Lady Rana Perry's heart beats for the next generation. She believes in bringing youth together, helping them truly know Christ, and discover the joy of walking with Him.

Her mission is to inspire young people to grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and embrace the purpose God has placed within them.





## In the Spotlight... Permian Basin IMWWA

### *Mrs. Nancy Ashley*

Nancy Ashley is a retired educator with over 42-years of experience, specializing in elementary and special education, holding degrees from Prairie View A & M University and certification as an Educational Diagnostician.

Throughout a career spanning kindergarten to high school, she has dedicated efforts to supporting students, particularly those in special education. Working with the students is rewarding while being impactful.



Nancy serves the Secretary in her Local Chapter, the Permian Basin Interdenominational Ministers' Wives & Widows Alliance (PBIMWWA).

She has been married for 39-years to Rev. Billy R. Ashley and she is the mother of two sons Jordan and Jamin. She is actively involved in the ministries of the Bethel Missionary Baptist Church of Midland, Texas serving as the Church Secretary, Sunday School Musician and Youth Teacher. Nancy also enjoys studying the word of God, knitting, ceramics, reading, and crocheting in her leisure time.

One of her favorite scriptures include, *"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help...."* Psalms 121:1-8

### *Mrs. Marilyn Gambrell Brown*

With a heart for service, Marilyn Gambrell Brown, a West Texas native and Pastor of Faith Tabernacle AFG Church, partners with her husband Curtis Brown, Sr. to make a difference.

As a mother and grandmother, Marilyn cherishes her family, which includes two daughters, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Her commitment to community is evident in her membership with TLCP Tabernacle of life, covenant partners and IMA of Midland Inner Domination Ministerial Alliance of Midland.

Marilyn serves as the Chaplain of the Permian Basin Interdenominational Ministers' Wives & Widows Alliance (PBIMWWA). Marilyn offers guidance and support while trusting in the Lord's promise to bring hope and a brighter future.

One of her favorite scriptures include, *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."* Jeremiah 29:11





## In the Spotlight... *San Antonio IAMWMW*

### *Mrs. Sharon Ann Norris-Cabell*

Lady Norris-Cabell was born in San Antonio Texas to Mr. Bennie and Mrs. Bernice Norris. She married Pastor Omer A. Cabell in November 2001. Sharon has one daughter, Mrs. Paula L. Keys-McCoy (Charles) of Queen Creek, Arizona. She also has a stepdaughter, Tamara Cabell of Birmingham Alabama.



Sharon retired from Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas after 24.9 years of Federal Service.

She worked as a Project Manager for the Office of Innovational Development, Defense Language Institute English Language Center. For 7 years, Sharon worked as the Church Administer for the Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church, where her husband was the pastor until his health declined.

Sharon is a member and past president of the Government Girls Club, a civic and community organization. She also served as chairperson over several groups, managing responsibilities. Sharon is currently a member of Calvary Baptist Church. She has served and participated in the following auxiliaries: President of the Courtesy Council Committee, Member of the Minister's and Deacon's Wives Auxiliary, and participated with the Comfort Chorus.

She enjoys travel, gardening, baking, painting, and of course her church.

### *Mrs. Charleen Owens*

A native San Antonian, Lady Owens graduated from Sam Houston High School in 1976. She attended St. Philips College, an HBCU, and received her Associates Degree in Hospitality in 1978.

She taught for five years in the Parent Child Incorporated Head Start before becoming a stay-at-home mom. She has three children - one son, two daughters, and six awesome grandchildren. In 2016, Charleen met, dated and married the Reverend Samuel Owens.

She is affiliated with the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows Inc., San Antonio Interdenominational Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows (SAIAMWMW), Guadalupe Association and the Lily of the Valley Ministers' Deacons' Wives and Widows as their current President. She is a fantastic soloist.





## The Structure and Function of the Human Heart

### Overview

Because Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the USA, understanding the heart's structure and function, is important. We not only gain knowledge of a biological wonder but gain insight into what keeps every human life in motion. The human heart is one of the most remarkable organs in the body—both in design and duty. As the engine of the circulatory system, the heart is a fist-sized muscular pump that sustains life by ensuring that oxygen, nutrients, and hormones reach every cell, while also carrying away carbon dioxide and other waste.

### Heart Structure

Located slightly left of the chest's center, the heart is protected by the sternum, and a sac called the pericardium. It consists of four chambers and several important components that maintain one-way blood flow.

#### Chambers:

- **Right Atrium:** Receives blood low in oxygen from the body.
- **Right Ventricle:** Sends this blood to the lungs for oxygenation.
- **Left Atrium:** Receives oxygen-rich blood from the lungs.
- **Left Ventricle:** Pumps this oxygenated blood out to the entire body.

#### Valves:

**Tricuspid Valve:** Separates right atrium and right ventricle.

**Pulmonary Valve:** Connects right ventricle to the pulmonary artery.

**Mitral Valve:** Lies between the left atrium and left ventricle.

**Aortic Valve:** Opens from the left ventricle into the aorta.

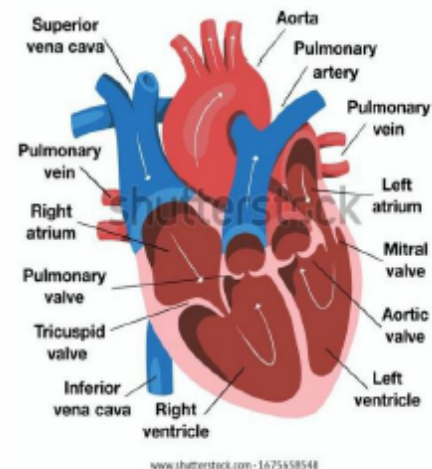
**Wall Layers:**

**Epicardium:** The protective outer layer.

**Myocardium:** The muscular middle layer.

**Endocardium:** The smooth inner lining.

**Coronary Circulation:** The heart muscle itself receives blood from the coronary arteries, which branch from the aorta.



### Function of the Heart

The heart's main role is to pump blood through two circulatory loops.

- **Pulmonary Circulation:** The right side of the heart sends blood to the lungs, where it releases carbon dioxide and takes up oxygen.
- **Systemic Circulation:** The left side pumps oxygenated blood to the rest of the body, delivering nutrients and oxygen to tissues.

### Electrical Conduction

The heartbeat is controlled by electrical signals:

- **Sinoatrial (SA) Node:** Acts as the natural pacemaker.
- **Atrioventricular (AV) Node:** Relays signals to the ventricles.
- **Bundle of His & Purkinje Fibers:** Ensure coordinated contraction.

### Conclusion

Its design and function demonstrate both complexity and reliability, supporting every aspect of human life. The heart beats roughly 100,000 times a day, pumping over 2,000 gallons of blood daily. Its reliability is astonishing—but equally impressive is its intricate design.

Veretta Anderson, RN



# *The Masterpiece*

*My life's an empty canvas Lord  
I place it in your hands.  
All of my paint and brushes  
Are under Your command.*

*Let it tell a story Lord  
Every brush stroke, every line  
Of everything I've gained in You  
And all I've left behind*

*The times I stood up straight and tall  
Singing, "I shall not be moved!"  
Those times I turned back from the fight  
And came running straight to You.*

*You formed me in my Mother's womb  
You knew me even then  
Who could better paint my life  
From where I first began?*

*So, when my life is over  
And the picture is complete  
It will be more than just a painting  
It will be a Master-piece.*



# Did you know...



[www.IAMWMW.org/about](http://www.IAMWMW.org/about)

The International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Inc. (IAMWMW) is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the spouses of ministers and those who have lost their partners in ministry. It focuses on fellowship, empowerment, and spiritual growth, and providing resources and opportunities for its members. The organization also engage in community service and outreach programs, promoting the well-being of both its members and the communities they serve.

Become A  
Member

## ENDOWMENTS

\$50,000

Endowment Scholarship at  
Interdenominational Theological Center,  
Atlanta, Georgia

\$250,000

Perpetual Endowment Fund

\$50,000

Endowment Scholarship Fund at  
Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia

\$50,000

Endowment Scholarship Fund for  
Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)

## SCHOLARSHIPS

**Individual Scholarship**  
presented to eligible applicants  
in pursuit of a degree  
from any accredited  
college or university

**Ada M. Palmer Scholarship**  
presented to eligible applicants  
in pursuit of a degree  
from any accredited  
college or university

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Charitable contributions made by  
IAMWMW Inc. include:

- ◆ American Cancer Society
- ◆ Angel Tree
- ◆ United Way
- ◆ Children's Orphanage
- ◆ Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation
- ◆ Hale House Center
- ◆ Meals on Wheels
- ◆ Dress for Success
- ◆ United Negro College Fund

## EDUCATION

The **Education Department** offers courses divided into three modules to support the specific needs of minister's spouses and minister's spouses left to live. Courses focuses on self improvement and achievement, technology, and skills needed to fulfill God given assignments related to church ministry and community service.

The **Leadership Academy** is a two-year instructional appendage of the International Association of Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows, Incorporated.



## TEXAS STATE OFFICERS

Mrs. Michelle M. Reid, *State President*  
Mrs. Cathy Warren, *Vice President*  
Mrs. Queen B. Shelton, *Recording Secretary*  
Mrs. Patricia Daniel, *Assistant Recording Secretary*  
Mrs. Veretta Anderson, *Corresponding Secretary*  
Mrs. Lorraine Littlefield, *Treasurer*  
Mrs. Irene H. Jones, *Financial Secretary*  
Mrs. Regenia Blackmon, *Newsletter Editor*  
Mrs. Brenda Dillard, *Scholarship Chairperson*



## Annual Monthly Events At-A-Glance

- FEBRUARY** • TAMWMW State Conference  
(Usually held 1st weekend)
- APRIL** • IAMWMW Day of Service (April 8)  
• Mid-Southwest Region Conference  
(Usually held 1st weekend)
- JUNE** • IAMWMW International Conference  
(Usually held 3rd Friday thru 4th Friday)
- DECEMBER** • IAMWMW Founder's Day/Weekend  
(Usually held 1st weekend – Richmond, VA)

## LOCAL

## CHAPTERS & PRESIDENTS

### AUSTIN

(Agape IAMWMW)  
Mrs. Linda Harvey, *President*  
[adni810@yahoo.com](mailto:adni810@yahoo.com)

### HOUSTON #1

(Houston Association of MWMW)  
Mrs. Gloria Sanders, *President*  
[sandersgloria72@yahoo.com](mailto:sandersgloria72@yahoo.com)

### HOUSTON #2

(Houston IAMWMW)  
Mrs. Constance Burnside, *President*  
[constanceburnside@gmail.com](mailto:constanceburnside@gmail.com)

### PERMIAN BASIN

(PBIMWWA)  
Mrs. Michonne Sutton, *President*  
[michonnesutton42@gmail.com](mailto:michonnesutton42@gmail.com)

### PORT AUTHUR

(Port Arthur IAMWMW)  
Mrs. Verdie L. Hudson, *President*  
[alley.hudson@icloud.com](mailto:alley.hudson@icloud.com)

### SAN ANTONIO

(SAIAMWMW)  
Mrs. Michelle M. Reid, *President*  
[saiamwmw85@gmail.com](mailto:saiamwmw85@gmail.com)

# 2026 Conference Schedule

**37th TAMWMW  
State Conference  
San Antonio, TX  
February 6-7, 2026  
Thursday thru Saturday**

**40th Mid-Southwest  
Region Conference  
Houston, TX  
April 2026 (Date TBA)  
Thursday thru Saturday**

**85th IAMWMW  
International Conference  
Las Vegas, NV  
June 26 – July 3, 2026  
Friday thru Friday**

**The LIGHT Newsletter** is a quarterly newsletter published  
January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15.

The deadline to submit articles:

December 1st: *January – March Issue*

March 1st: *April – June Issue*

June 1st: *July - September Issue:*

September 1st: *October – December Issue:*

Please email Local Chapter news and events to

Mrs. Regenia Blackmon: [regblackmon@yahoo.com](mailto:regblackmon@yahoo.com)



*Our Motto:*

***"Sisters in Christ Serving the Present Age"***

*Our Symbol:*

***The BUTTERFLY reminds Christians of the amazing  
transformation that takes place through Christ's  
redemption and regeneration.***

***When "born again," we become  
"a new creation." (2 Corinthians 5:17)***

*Our Purpose:*

***To unite ministers' wives and ministers' widows of  
various Christian denominations into one  
Christian Fellowship.***