gift of missions



With funds from its Second Century Fund endowment, Mississippi WMU trained leaders at the 2024 Emerging Leaders Conference. Attendees enjoyed hearing Dr. Ron Hunter speak on his book Toy Box Leadership.

Throughout its history, WMU has been blessed by countless women who responded to God's call with trust, obedience, and reliance on His power. Leaders like Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, Fannie Heck, and Kathleen Mallory didn't pursue recognition or authority. They focused on following Christ wholeheartedly and putting the mission of God first. Their dedication illustrates that true leadership is not about seeking influence but about surrendering to God's will, allowing Him to use us for His greater purposes.

For more than 35 years, the Second Century Fund has carried this legacy forward by investing in women's leadership development within WMU. Because of generous supporters, this endowment is able to continue to empower female missions leaders worldwide, providing them with the resources they need to follow in the footsteps of WMU's pioneering women. When you donate to the Second Century Fund, you help ensure that the next generation of women will be prepared and equipped to serve God's kingdom.

A few examples of how the Second Century Fund continues to provide opportunities to invest in current and future leaders can be found in the annual reports state WMU leaders submit to the WMU Foundation each year. Look at some of what was accomplished in 2024:

• Indiana WMU provided a scholarship to a pastor's wife for ministry and missions training, purchased WMU

EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY THROUGH THE SECOND CENTURY FUND

leadership guides and curriculum samples for each of their state leaders for training, and hosted a statewide missions conference.

- Maryland/Delaware WMU provided scholarships for two women to complete Christian Women's Leadership Center courses and secured speakers and worship leaders for its spring retreat.
- Mississippi WMU funded training for WMU leaders at its Equipping Leaders Conference and at its annual meeting.
- Ohio WMU provided scholarships for WMU leaders to take Christian Women's Leadership Center courses and courses in English as a second language training and purchased training resources for the Ohio WMU leadership team.

Leaders across the country continue to experience the transformative impact of these grants. Thank you for making that possible. When you support the Second Century Fund, whether online (donate.wmufoundation .com/second-century-fund) or by mailing a check (WMU Foundation/SCF, 100 Missionary Ridge, Birmingham, AL 35242), you can be assured that 100 percent of your donation helps shape the future of missions leadership, ensuring women around the world are equipped and ready to answer God's call.

PEGGY DARBY serves as president of the WMU Foundation.