

Crest to Coast Currents



A Message from Our Convenor

What a blessing it has been serving on the Crest to Coast District Executive Committee this year. I began not knowing a single person in the district and have ended with a whole circle of new friends throughout the district and feeling as if I have connected with the social action opportunities in my new location. This has truly been an opportunity to experience our “creative, supportive community” firsthand.

I have now been able to see our organization reaching out and “expanding our concept of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.” This district has responded to the call to make an impact locally and around the world by:

- Donating gift cards to the Tacoma Community House to assist recent immigrants from Ukraine.
- Sending almost \$1,000 to help furnish housing for immigrants in Brownsville, TX so that people will have a safe and comfortable place to transition.
- Taking concrete action to care for God's creation by urge our legislators to pass historic investments that will deliver on climate, justice, jobs, and renewable energy.
 - When I received the email to support this effort, I forwarded it to the district team and asked them to consider responding in honor of Elizabeth Williams, conference Social Action Coordinator. Elizabeth has been battling brain cancer since I met her earlier this year, but that did not stop her from attending conference meetings and events and promoting all sorts of social justice issues, especially climate justice. I received an email last week that she

has entered hospice care and I could not think of a more fitting tribute to Elizabeth's outstanding work than for the district to support this effort. I have heard from several committee members who have responded.

- If you would like to support this effort:

Join United Women in Faith to oppose legislation that permits fossil fuel projects and the Mountain Valley Pipeline. Fossil fuel development endangers the health of communities and worsens the climate crisis. I urge you to be a bold steward of creation and act today at this link: <https://p2a.co/4YlvEbO>

Grace & Peace,

Ilka Vega

Office of Economic and Environmental Justice

United Women in Faith

Thank you again for the opportunity to work with the district team this year and I look forward to serving as Spiritual Growth Coordinator in 2023. I hope to meet more of you at upcoming United Women in Faith Events! Blessings -- Sue

A Change to the Reading Program

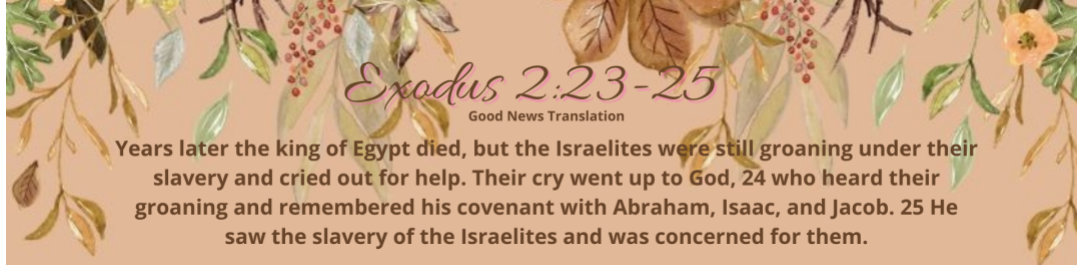
For the Spiritual Growth Bonus Books, you must participate in or lead one of the studies in order to receive Reading Program credit. You may attend or lead the 8-part Mission u study either in a conference/district Mission u context or in your own local context (church, unit, otherwise) to receive Bonus Book credit. If you read the study but do not lead/participate in a group, it counts as only one credit.

2023 Reading Program Catalog - available!

The list is a fillable PDF. You can type the books that you read into the reading record and then print it out and turn it in to your unit secretary of program resources.

[Here is the link to the catalog](#)

I will send out the link to the updated library lists as soon as they are completed.



An excerpt from this month's Program Book.

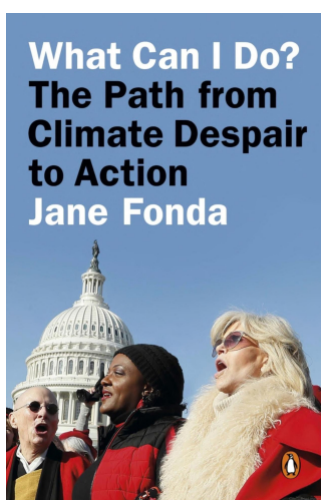
This month's program will focus our attention on God's character and how she sides with those who suffer and are oppressed.

While God's Love is universal and for all of us, She is NOT neutral towards injustice.

Reflecting about God's character allows us to better learn how we can bring her light and warmth to those who need it and also be open to see and receive God's blessings and light from others.

God hears the call of those who suffer, even when we don't call to her. God's compassion and love for us is manifest in our darkest moments, intervening to free us from our suffering and oppressors. Thus, doing God's work on earth means actively fighting for liberation, dismantling systems of injustice, and interrupting indifference.

For more, attend your unit's program this month (or the one online) or obtain a copy of the program book and read this month's section.



Book of the Month - 2023 Social Action

WHAT CAN I DO? My Path from Climate Despair to Action

By Jane Fonda

In 2019, daunted by the looming disaster of climate change and inspired by Greta Thunberg, Naomi Klein, and student climate strikers, activist Jane Fonda asked herself one question: What can I

do? She moved to Washington, D.C., and teamed up with Greenpeace, leading climate scientists, and community organizers not only to understand what's at stake, but to equip all of us with the education and tools we need to join her in protest. What Can I Do? isn't a wish list but a to-do list, urging us to wake up and take action.

Date Reminders

CALENDAR 2022 : these are tentative and subject to change as circumstances change.

These are the dates from the Conference Calendar:

2022 PNW UMW Conference Calendar

- October 13-14, 2022 Fall Conference UMW Exec Meeting via Zoom
 - [Click for registration information](#)
- October 14-15, 2022 Conf. UMW Annual Meeting via Zoom
- 2024 Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Mtg. - Alaska - TBD

If you have any other information that you want me to put here, please let me know (before the 20th) by calling (360) 609-0503 or emailing me at lmilner2016@gmail.com.



Spiritual Growth

Learn more about how God sides with the oppressed to the point of death. Read the introduction to by James H. Cone. Available on Google Books. The Cross and the Lynching Tree

Soul-Care Moment

Spend time in nature or a park, if that's available for you. Visit a tree you've known for some time and catch up about what has happened since the last time you've seen it. Sit by its shadow and appreciate the life inside it.

Building the Beloved community

Volunteer or donate to an organization working on the ministry selected by your group.

Fighting for Justice

Learn more about our work for racial justice by accessing our online resources: uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice

Contact your United Women in Faith jurisdiction president to learn about how they are implementing the Charter for Racial Justice or email Emily Jones at ejones@uwfaith.org to be connected with the RJCS Team in your jurisdiction.

Join or lead a study or activity with your unit in your community.

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