

# THE SHARING LINE

A PUBLICATION OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN – PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

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## DEB'S DISPATCH

### "JOURNEYING INTO THIS NEW YEAR....2023!"

Here we are, looking ahead with anticipation and excitement as we open our hearts and minds to how our Creator may call us into Ministry and Mission as United Women in Faith!

We know that we can expect a "new normal," and we are excited about those new possibilities and aspects of creativity that may move some of us beyond our comfort zone.

How are you planning to introduce new Sisters to our Purpose that has existed for over 150 years? How are you caring for your own personal renewal, reflection, and recommitment to that Purpose? What steps are you planning to take outside your comfort zone to support this aspect of renewal, reflection, and recommitment? How are you prioritizing your giving to United Women in Faith?

I am excited to share that we now have a coordinator for Social Action and our conference level of United Women in Faith, Sara Krum, and you will learn more

about her in this issue. We still have work to complete our team in order that we may be the most productive, creative conference team possible.... It really takes a village to do the work we are called to do with women, children, and youth!

If you have an interest in program planning; staying up to date with educational resources and sharing them effectively with others; reaching out and nurturing new members as well as supporting the revitalization of current members and units; interpreting the work of education in mission; a passion for keeping track of our history... please let anyone on the Conference Team know of this interest, and it will be passed on to the members of our Leadership Development Team (lovingly called Nominations). Our goal is to match persons with areas of expertise and passion!

I hope you are planning to share in the rich experience of our upcoming Spiritual Retreat at Lazy F in April. What a great

*(Continued on page 2)*

## THE PURPOSE

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.



United  
Women  
in Faith

(Continued from page 1)

way to inspire a new Sister! Consider inviting/sponsoring a woman of any age you feel would benefit from this rich experience.

Mission u is one of the most profound educational opportunities provided jointly with United Women in Faith and the Conference United Methodist Church. We have classes for all ages, and it will, again, be held at Wesley UMC in Yakima; from July 21 to 23! A special highlight for me last year was sharing the experience with my youngest granddaughter and also the various “hands-on experiences” within the local community that we were able to participate in!

October 20-21 will bring our Conference Annual Gathering of United Women in Faith. Crest to Coast District will host this at Olympia First United Methodist Church. Your District Presidents developed the theme this year...

**“Living Our Mission, Being the Hands and Feet of Christ!”**

2023 is promising to be a fantastic year within our organization! We have work to do, so much to learn, and relationships to build! Spread the word! We, as United Women in Faith, have so much to offer!

## READ SOME GREAT BOOKS IN 2023!

Take a look at the 2023 Reading Program book lists [here](#).

## REMEMBERING ELIZABETH MAXWELL WILLIAMS

1957 - 2022



Elizabeth Maxwell Williams passed away peacefully on November 30, 2022, after courageously battling brain cancer for over a year.

Elizabeth was born on April 19, 1957, in Seattle, Washington, to Rev. William "Bill" and Laura Virginia "Ginny" (McManaway) Andrews. A United Methodist clergy family, Elizabeth's family lived and served in many communities throughout her childhood, including Seattle, Sunnyside, Pasco, and Shelton. She graduated in 1975 from Shelton High School and in 1979 from the University of Puget Sound, where she studied psychology and recreation. Elizabeth was a gifted athlete, competing in track, cross-country, and cross-country skiing.

Elizabeth's greatest joy in life was spending time with her four children, Crystal, Andrew, Marla, and Aric, and she was always eager to share how proud she was of each of them. Elizabeth raised her family in Ocean Shores, Eatonville, Port Hadlock,

Snohomish, and Spokane. A faithful Christian, she was drawn by her faith to passionate action and advocacy in caring for God's creation. She was actively involved in the environmental organizations 350 Spokane and the United Methodist Climate Justice Movement and was Social Action Coordinator for PNW United Women in Faith. She loved her work in recreation therapy at Providence St. Joseph's Care Center, bringing joy to the residents through costumes, jokes, and creative activities.

Elizabeth is survived by her four children, Crystal Natland (Cody), Andrew Williams (Alanna), Marla Williams (David McMorris), and Aric Williams; three grandchildren, Charley, Aleeha, and Cedar; brothers Bill and David; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Ginny Andrews.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. at Moran United Methodist Church in Spokane (3601 E 65th Avenue). It will also be live-streamed at [www.moranumc.org/live](http://www.moranumc.org/live) and [www.facebook.com/moranchurch](http://www.facebook.com/moranchurch). Memorial donations may be sent to 350 Spokane ([www.350spokane.org/support-350-spokane](http://www.350spokane.org/support-350-spokane)).

Watch Elizabeth's memorial service video here: <https://fb.watch/hvx5-dAsm9/?mibextid=i8LeHn>



## GET READY FOR MISSION U 2023!

**JULY 21-23, 2023 AT WESLEY UMC, YAKIMA, WA**

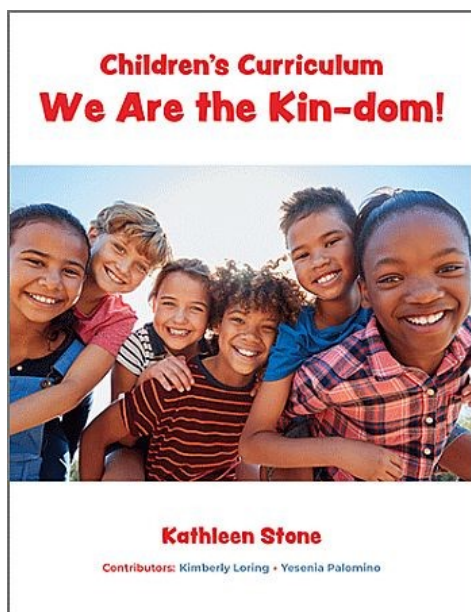
**Katherine Parker will be one of the Adult Study leaders.**

Join us at Mission u as we explore the Good News and what it means for our lives!

Jesus' teachings in the gospels proclaim the good news of the kingdom or reign (basileia) of God. In fact, Jesus mentions the kin-dom 90 times in the synoptic gospels! What does the Bible tell us about God's basileia, and why do we call it the kin-dom? For Jesus, the kin-dom was not simply something to talk about but something we could live and experience. From the Lord's Prayer to the beatitudes to the parables, this good news is at the heart of Jesus' preaching, teaching, and ministry.

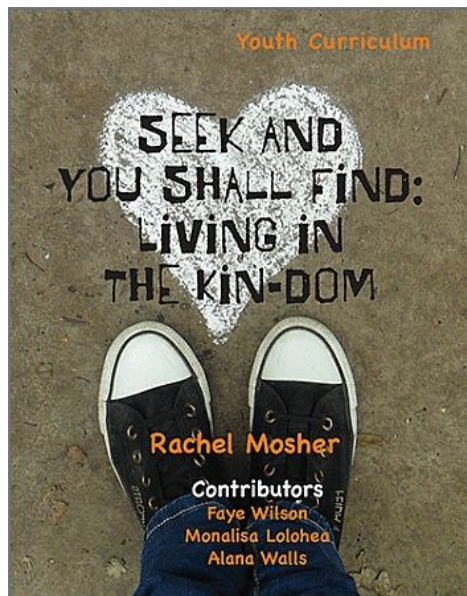
**Come!** Let's explore together the heart of Jesus' good news and what fresh vision it offers us as we seek to be in mission today.

**2023 CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM –  
"WE ARE THE KIN-DOM!"**



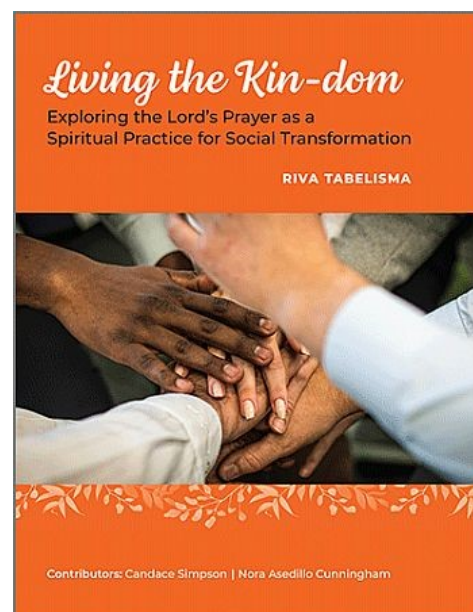
Through this curriculum, children will explore kingdoms, build a kingdom together as if it were an earthly realm, and think about things that earthly kingdoms do. Children will then explore God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. The final goal of this curriculum is to see all of us working together with the Holy Spirit to share whatever we have, like that little boy, to build a "kingdom of God on earth as it is in heaven."

**2023 YOUTH CURRICULUM –  
"SEEK AND YOU SHALL FIND:  
LIVING IN THE KIN-DOM."**



In this youth curriculum, the overarching theme is teaching youth to find the kin-dom within the world around them and how to live what they have learned. Each of the eight sessions builds upon the one before it to introduce participants to finding the kin-dom in the world around them and how to tell others about the kin-dom.

**2023 ADULT CURRICULUM –  
"LIVING THE KIN-DOM:  
EXPLORING THE LORD'S PRAYER  
AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE FOR  
SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION."**



This curriculum explores the Lord's Prayer as recorded in Matthew 6:9–13. It is an invitation to take a deeper look at prayer and its role in our faith journeys. Moving from personal to communal application, the curriculum explores how the Lord's Prayer helps us "live the kin-dom" and become a reflection of God's love to the world.

*Marilyn Reid  
Dean of Mission u*

## JUST ENERGY FOR ALL 101: OVERVIEW AND PLANNING



Thank you for registering to join us for this month's Just Energy for All Webinar,

Energy For All 101: Overview and Planning. Please contribute to 2023 planning by taking 10 minutes to complete our survey.

Below you will find the link to the slides, recording, and resources we want you to take advantage of. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to [climatejustice@uwfaith.org](mailto:climatejustice@uwfaith.org).

- **Just Energy For All 2023 Survey:** <https://forms.gle/w67HjG9nzru5RbpEA>

- **Slides, Recording, and Presentation Slides the Google Drive:** [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1F-pP6cJnEnGFp\\_GlaFXBiIS58B0pF5G9?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1F-pP6cJnEnGFp_GlaFXBiIS58B0pF5G9?usp=share_link)

- **Resources:** Equity Day, February 4, 2023-<https://actionnetwork.org/event/campaigns/transit-equity-day-2023>

- **Transit worker grievance survey for local chapters in connecting with workers:** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCce1bhFfNLM97JR3HMiiv6t-NgRki8bgBLBSPE10-xJE64A/viewform>
- **Climate Justice Simulation:** <https://umwomen.wufoo.com/forms/climate-simulation-experience-request-form/>

*Kind Regards,*

*Kisha Nicolas*

*Just Energy for All Coordination Consultant  
Office of Economic and Environmental Justice  
United Women in Faith*

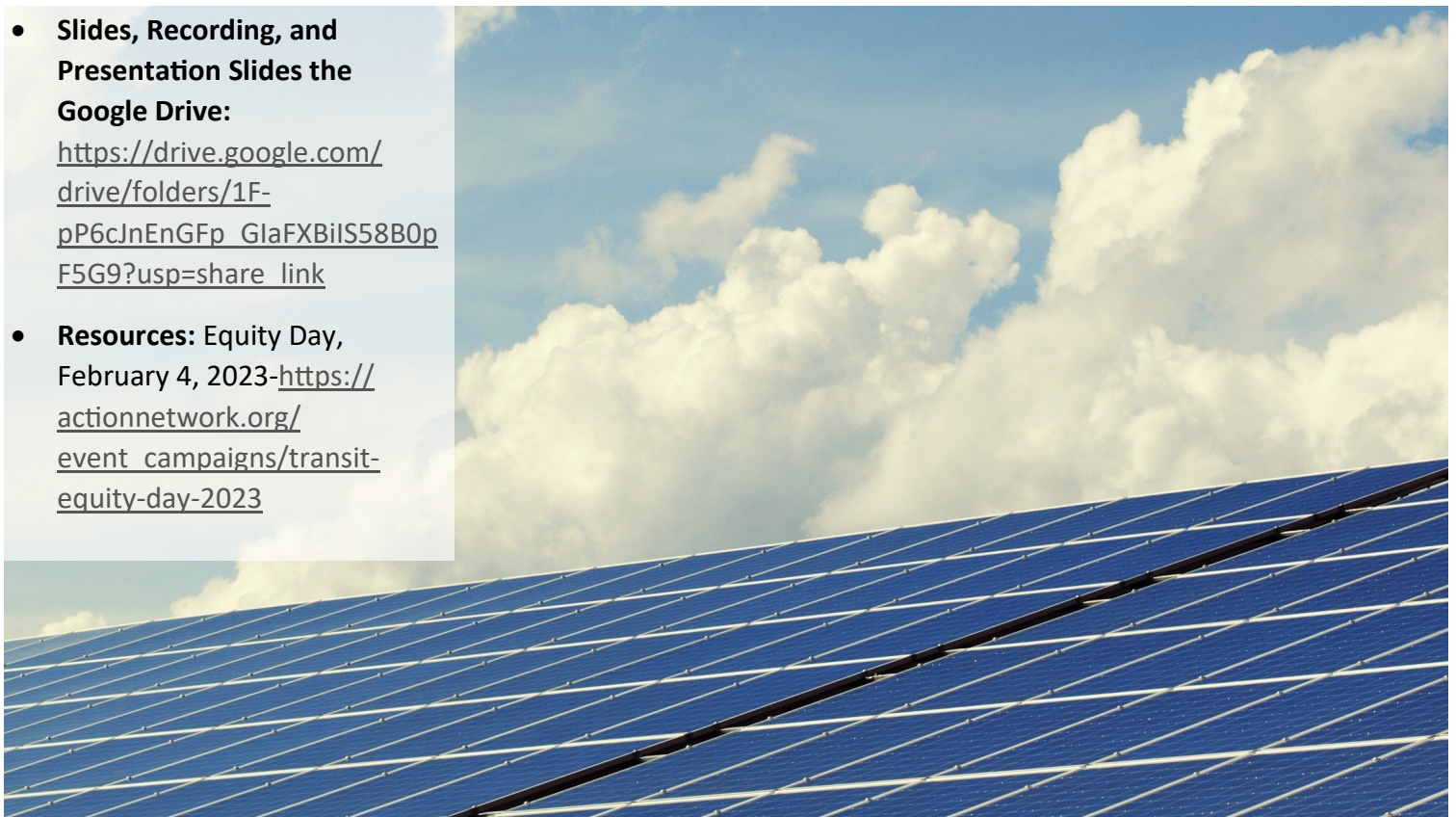
## ENDOWMENT FUND DISBURSEMENTS FOR 2023

On January 18, 2023, the Endowment Committee adopted the following disbursements for 2023: \$1,183.21 for pledge (25% of the amount available), \$640 for Atlantic Street Center, \$640 for Tacoma Community House, \$640 for Nome Community Center, and \$100 for Legacy. They reserved 1,500 for the Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting in 2024

The current amount in the Endowment Fund is \$93,000. Our goal is to reach \$100,000.

Last year the legacy contributions were \$765.

*Ja net' Crouse,  
Endowment Committee Chair*





# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DAY HIGHLIGHTS

**JANUARY 19 – 21, 2023**

**"PRESSING ON TOWARD THE GOAL" PHILIPPIANS 3: 12-16**



"Our Roots, Our Present, Our Future" CEO Harriet Jane Olson spoke to us about change, courage, and opportunities. She is stepping down after leading us for 15 years!

## **WORKSHOP AND PLENARY 1—THURSDAY EVENING**

1. How is God working in United Women of Faith?
2. What is God calling us to, as United Women in Faith?
3. Where is God calling YOU in your Leadership in United Women in Faith?
4. What are you most excited about in the FUTURE with United Women in Faith?
5. Which inspires, influences, and impacts you: Soul Care – Love in Action!
6. WHY are you a leader? WHY do you believe in United Women in Faith? WHY does God call you to love your neighbor?
7. How we work together – Welcome, Listen, Mentor (our Mission and Purpose). Two 20-minute breakout rooms to discuss.

## **CENTERING RITUAL & PLENARY 2—FRIDAY MORNING**

"Many Voices, One Faith"  
"Recruitment, Retention, Renewal"

What does this mean to you?  
"Commitment, Accountability, Invite, Excite." Love in action, sisterhood, vision, community, legacy, faith, fun, bold, modern, personal, experience, and diversity strengthens us.

### **Mapping the Member Journey**

1. How do you generate awareness of what your group offers or what United Women in Faith offers?
2. What's the "hooking point"? What internal functions, handoffs, resources, and communications need to be in place?
3. What resources will you be offering? How do you incorporate giving into membership?

Go to [UWFaith.org](http://UWFaith.org) for help and resources.

## **WESTERN JURISDICTION MEETING—FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

Questions for breakout rooms: Challenges and Opportunities before us. What changes do you want to see in the world? Including the younger generation.

United Women in Faith Leadership Development Days continued Saturday, January 21, 2023

## **PLENARY 3—SATURDAY MORNING**

"Answering Our Call: Women Leading in the midst of Anxiety."

1. Conflict; blame, criticism, emotional triangle (taking sides).

2. Anxiety; Anticipation, we listen to the loudest voice in the room!
3. Be Calm; women are fixers, stay calm and have a prayer candle to remind you to pray.
4. Trust God...  
Self-care, Soul care Be open and honest

## **TEAM BUILDING AND NAVIGATING CONFLICT USING ENNEAGRAM—SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

Take the Personality Test; the nine types are:

1. The Perfectionist
2. The Giver
3. The Achiever
4. The Individualist
5. The Investigator
6. The Skeptic
7. The Enthusiast
8. The Challenger
9. The Peacemaker

The Enneagram shows opportunities for personal development and provides a foundation for understanding others. We had breakout rooms to share your personality and discuss "conflict."

After that, we had one hour of hymn singing and closing worship, "Gather Us In." and Jeremiah 29: 10-13.

Pacific Northwest Conference had at least ten participants.

*Blessings,  
Marsha Aufenkamp*

## MEET SARA KRUM, OUR NEW SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR



Greetings,

My name is Sara Krum, and I am your new Mission Coordinator for Social Action here in the Pacific Northwest Conference. A little bit about me: I am a 30-year-old mom of two toddlers and wife to a high school teacher. I have my Bachelor of Science degree in Anthropology and Biology from Iowa State University and my Master of Philosophy degree in Biological Anthropology from the University of Cambridge.

My passion for social action started when I was five years old, helping my parents cook and serve meals for the homeless in our community. My parents are still active volunteers, and I continued this service opportunity until I went away to college. I am grateful to my family for instilling empathy and deep respect for those who provide for others.

When I was in college, I worked for the AVID tutoring program helping middle, and high school students prepare to become first-generation college graduates. My team would work with 7th-grade through college-level students, helping with homework, learning strategies, and study skills. During my work with the AVID program, I found assisting others in succeeding through difficult odds to be very fulfilling; it truly made me feel like I could make a difference for people in the world.

My degrees in anthropology have provided me with a greater understanding of the need to combat inequity for women and children across the globe. Additionally, they have shown me different avenues to appropriately reach out and help those in need. I am very excited for my background in anthropology to help the United Women in Faith further our mission.

Since becoming a mother in 2018, I have become more aware of the problems facing women/birthing people in the US and around the world. I am particularly passionate about making birth safe for women and birthing people in this country. The “spark” for this passion came from the documentary “Aftershock” (which I highly recommend) and a subsequent presentation to my local United Women in Faith chapter. Exploring the disparaging differences in the quality-of-care received by women and birthing people of color while pregnant and postpartum, I quickly found how detrimental these issues

are to our communities. I hope we, as United Women in Faith, will be able to help with this epidemic.

I did not grow up going to church but started participating with my friends in high school. My husband grew up in the United Methodist Church, and when we met, I felt instantly drawn to this community. My family and I joined Wesley United Methodist Church here in Yakima last September when we moved back to the Pacific Northwest. I joined the local United Women in Faith unit in May of 2022 and, after sharing ideas, was elected their social action coordinator.

My faith has been intricately linked to my passion for social action. I believe the church’s main job in our communities is to be a beacon of hope and life. To do this, we must continue providing meaningful services for those in need, advocate for our communities, and actively participate in local life. Our motto at Wesley UMC is “Caring for Christ, Community, and Creation,” which perfectly describes our mission and values as United Women in Faith.

I invite you to reach out as we seek ways to do more, help more, and be more for women and children. I am honored to accept this position and excited to continue the meaningful work of United Women in Faith!

## TREASURER'S MESSAGE

We are closing out 2022 with being able to meet and exceed our Conference Pledge to Missions. The Pledged amount voted on was \$45,000, and we were able to donate \$78,421. This amount included \$2,394 sent by some of you directly to the National Office. Another \$1,121 was earmarked to the Pledge from the Endowment Distribution received in early 2022. This leaves \$74,905 received from local units to the districts and onto the Conference to be sent to National Office in New York City.

It is also the time of year when audits are being done on the books. Please plan to get them done soon and send the report to me. This is especially important for the districts. I have the forms and instructions if needed.

The state needs to catch up on processing its paperwork, so we are still waiting. When that happens, I will be able to move forward with instructions for all of you to change the name and EIN numbers on your bank accounts.

*Kendra Smith*

*Treasurer for United Women in Faith  
Pacific Northwest Conference  
206-390-9736*

## 150 LEGACY BUILDER



With the Legacy Builder, you can help move our mission steadily forward by making a monthly gift of \$18.69 or more.

Why \$18.69? To honor our foremothers who, in 1869, first put out the call to action to raise money to improve the lives of women and children.

What could \$18.69 impact? By endowing core expenses, we are equipped to make a difference in areas such as:

- Providing healthy snacks to an afterschool program for children living in poverty in rural Kentucky
- Supplying books for an international scholarship recipient in the Philippines
- Purchasing baby chicks to create entrepreneurship opportunities for women and youth in Mozambique.

<https://uwfaith.org/give/legacy-fund/>

### TOGETHER, WE ARE BUILDING OUR LEGACY.

As a permanently invested endowment, the Legacy Fund will be an ongoing source of income, providing the assurance that our important work can always continue.

Giving to the Legacy Fund will support United Women in Faith in perpetuity. That's why gifts to the endowment fund are such a vital way to sustain and grow our capacity to serve and advocate.

In 2014, the Legacy Endowment Fund Campaign was created and set a bold goal of raising \$60 million for the endowment. Through the generosity and efforts of women like you, we are confident this goal can be reached!

With every gift received in 2022 and beyond, we will secure the financial resources needed to deepen and expand our mission. Consider joining your legacy with ours and making a gift today.

Phone: 800-278-7771

Mail Check To:  
United Women in Faith  
Attn: Legacy  
475 Riverside Dr, Suite 1500  
New York, NY 10115

### MANY MEMBERS, UNITED IN ONE PURPOSE

We are all women united in our desire to make a difference. Here, you will find many ways to get involved and make a positive impact.

### GET INVOLVED

*Marsha Aufenkamp*  
*Legacy Liaison*

## CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF BISHOP ELAINE STANOVSKY



As you know, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky has retired. She has been an excellent advocate for women in ministry and a champion for those in the margins. In lieu of other retirement gifts, she has requested funding for the [Circle of Indigenous Ministries](#), which she helped to start here in the Northwest. The Foundation has set up a [crowdfunding page](#) where people can make gifts and also leave well wishes, which will be printed out and delivered to her. I'm hoping you would share this message with other members of our region's United Women in Faith.

I appreciate your help in celebrating Bishop Elaine Stanovsky and in getting the word out to others who may be interested in this opportunity!

## AN UPDATE FROM MARIA REMINGTON

### 2022 RACIAL JUSTICE AWARD RECIPIENT

Maria Remington, recipient of the PNW Conference Racial Justice Award, 2022, shared the following with Pioneer United Women in Faith:

*"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community...Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others for their sake and for our own."*

*No Podemos buscar logros por nosotros mismos y olvidarnos del progreso y la prosperidad de nuestra comunidad. Nuestras ambiciones deben ser lo suficientemente amplias como para incluir las aspiraciones y necesidades de los demás, por el bien de ellos y el nuestro."*

*Cesar Chavez*

Maria inspired our unit to provide several Thanksgiving dinner boxes to farm labor families whose work has ended until the spring. It was such a heartwarming experience that we will triple the number of Easter dinner boxes we will deliver.

*Submitted by Linda Hay,  
President of the Pioneer UMC unit.*

## GREETINGS FROM THE SEATAC DISTRICT

**Our District Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 23.**

Our Leadership Team will be meeting via zoom on February 23 to plan this meeting. We will be deciding on our area of focus, theme, and speaker and choosing a church location.

Our SeaTac District book club is studying *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, with Douglas Abrams. We meet monthly via zoom, usually on a Thursday from 3:00-4:00 pm. We are a small group representing Haller Lake, Kent, and Wallingford United Women in Faith units. This book was on our Reading List several years ago.

New people are always welcome. If you want to join our group, you do not need to be in the SeaTac District; please email me at [wmil1218@aol.com](mailto:wmil1218@aol.com).

Our District Directory is in the process of being updated and will be distributed very soon.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2023!

*Blessings,  
Linda Mills  
SeaTac District President*



## INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

United Women in Faith's Inland Missional District got off to a good start at our Annual Meeting held at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, hosted by the Spokane Valley Unit's women, in September. We elected a full slate of officers, four registered to attend the Leadership Development Days.

Our 2023 Directory was compiled by Melva Lohstroh, printed and put together by our Secretary Susan Henderson and Nominating Committee/Spiritual Growth Coordinator Madelyn Bafus, and mailed on January 3rd. This division of labor has been a great help to our current and past Secretaries. This is one example of creative teamwork enjoyed by Inland's Executive Team.

Some of our Team are enjoying the education and inspiration of Faith Talks, Just Energy for All with opportunities to take action to care for God's creation, and Voices from the Field with our missionaries. I am now looking forward to a three-session series Bible Study on the School to Prison Pipeline. The technology of Zoom has allowed us to safely participate in many opportunities to learn, be inspired, and make an impact without compromising our health, our time, and our mission dollars!

Speaking of the benefits of using Zoom, our District Exec has moved to use it to conduct our fall and winter meetings. Cost-saving, for sure, and eliminating the stress and dangers of travel on potentially hazardous roads. Regarding cost-saving, for the past several years, we have only vouchered one-way travel expenses for our Executive Committee members.

Communication with our counterpart officers in the Local Units has been one of our goals, checking in for encouragement and provision of information. Our Membership Nurture and Development Coordinator Sue McGovney has been dedicated to connecting not only by email but by phone and in person with Madelyn Bafus and with ladies of Spokane's Moran United Methodist Church. One woman there, Jacque Davis, and the pastor have been very interested in forming a new Unit. The ladies are still discerning the way forward, but a strong relationship has been built. We also celebrate that Davenport once felt they needed to go inactive but has since continued to meet and has financially contributed. At this time, we have 14 active Units.

Madelyn and I have participated in the Conference Retreat Planning Committee with Sharon McDaniel. Our District Scholarship Committee, Treasurer Roberta Headley, Education & Development Coordinator Charlene Mullis, and Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator Sue McGovney have been developing a new scholarship application form specific to the Retreat. We look forward to this special April event when we all will be ready for the "retreat."

Some of us in Idaho are actively participating in the Idaho Legislative Days, which, this year, focuses on women's health during its first session and public education in the second. Washington leaders will be involved in Washington state legislative events.

*Judy Dirks  
Inland Missional District  
President*

## PUGET SOUND NEWS

The Puget Sound Missional District held our Annual Meeting in September. It was a wonderful opportunity to join in fellowship and draw deeper into our faith. We had an excellent turnout and were even able to live stream the event to those women unable to attend in person. Our theme was "United Women in Faith: What's Next?" I think this is a question we frequently ask ourselves. It's important to give ourselves room to sit back and ask, "What's next?" The Puget Sound Missional District is continuing to ask this question as we move forward toward other ministry opportunities, such as the Spiritual Growth Retreat in April.

Our goal in the Puget Sound Missional District is to let our units know: We are here for you. We're reaching out to local units and brainstorming ideas for the best methods to get information and inspiration from our counterparts. If you have any ideas, let us know! Over the next few months, we'll have a plan in place so our local units will have the resources they need to perform their roles confidently and have the connection and support to minister effectively. As it says in **Hebrews 10:24-25** **"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."**

*Jasmine Ray-Symms  
Puget Sound Missional District  
President*

## NEWS FROM CREST TO COAST

Happy New year to all! to Coast District Leadership Team will be having our first meeting on February 4, 2023, at the home of our President, Bev Thomas. We will plan for the coming year and the annual district meeting in the fall on September 23. Kalama UMC will be our host. We have a good start on our 2023 directory and hope to have it out soon. Like the other districts, we have seen a decline in our total number of Units again this year. We hope to work with those that are left to keep them working and strong by keeping the communication channels open and offering to move forward. We are excited about the Spiritual Retreat and encouraging our members to attend. From the looks of the planning going on, it will be a great motivator for all United Women in Faith women and a good time to meet other women at our Conference, as well as a great relaxing weekend.

Working on behalf of Women, Youth, and Children everywhere

*Bev Thomas,  
Crest to Coast Missional District  
President*

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The Bible Study in the January/February *Response Magazine*, Pp. 8-10, "Circling a New Year" by Hannah Kardon, tells us how some New Year traditions use round or circular objects to represent newness and the cyclic nature of life. "Everything that has been will be again." I've been told that in Mexico, guests on New Year's Eve are given grapes. A circle, such as a wedding ring, can also represent never-ending love. As we begin this new year, may we remember that God's love is never-ending.

With this reassurance, may we look to the year ahead with promise. United Women in Faith, at all levels, is making plans for 2023. Our conference United Women in Faith has been planning the Spiritual Growth Retreat, **Celebrating Womanhood**. It is only about three months away, from April 28 to 30! Rev. Shalom R. Agtarap will lead it. Please see her bio below. You will have the opportunity to socialize, be challenged, discuss, meditate, sing, enjoy the campgrounds and have fun. Please get your registration in. The deadline is March 10. The registration form, scholarship form, and retreat poster can be found here or online at [pnwumc.org/United Women in Faith](http://pnwumc.org/UnitedWomeninFaith).

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Sharon McDaniel  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator  
United Woman of Faith  
Pacific N.W. Conference*

## MEET THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREATS SPEAKER



Rev. Shalom is an ordained elder who has served the Pacific Northwest Conference since 2008. She graduated from Wesley

Theological Seminary in Washington, DC, and her formation as a follower of Christ was greatly shaped by the Upper Room's Two-Year Academy for Spiritual Formation. Shalom has offered pastoral leadership to several central and western Washington churches and enjoys facilitating retreats. In a recent position, Shalom was able to resource and support the growing number of church planters and innovators who are repurposing programs and buildings to create new expressions of United Methodism in the Northwest through community engagement and relational organizing. She is currently developing a decolonized space for multicultural work within an existing, predominantly white congregation in Tacoma, Washington.

Outside of work, Shalom is a daughter, sister, aunt and spouse, and mom. Collaborating and conspiring with community members around housing and renters' protections while also building spaces that allow young people to feel their power are of utmost interest to her. Shalom often creates curriculum and serves as a speaker when young adults and youth groups ask for robust formation in discipleship and justice-making.

# SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT



**April 28 through April 30, 2023**

Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center, 16170 Manastash Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 10, 2023**

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## REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Family Doctor or Healthcare Facility \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- **UPDATE!** If you are taking medications at this time and bringing them to the retreat, please have the list in your luggage or with you in case there is a medical emergency.
- If you have **special needs, dietary needs, or restrictions** that would affect your participation, *please attach* this information to the registration form.
- In signing this form, I hereby certify that this information is correct and complete as far as I know. I hereby give permission to the Retreat Leadership to provide routine health care, administer prescribed medications, and seek emergency medical treatment, including ordering x-rays or routine tests. In case of a medical need, I understand that every effort will be made to contact the above-named emergency contact person. In the event they cannot be reached, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the Retreat Leadership to secure and administer treatment, including hospitalization. I agree to release any records necessary for insurance purposes. I authorize the use of photos for future publicity.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT

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## RESERVATION

(Please check where appropriate)

☐ \$135.00 \*Skyline Cabin—Upper Bunk (includes five meals, a towel, and bedding)

☐ \$135.00 \*Skyline Cabin—Lower Bunk (includes five meals, a towel, and bedding)

**\*SKYLINE ASSIGNMENTS ARE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS.**

☐ \$125.00 Ridgeview—Upper Bunk (includes five meals; provide your own towel and bedding)

☐ \$125.00 Ridgeview—Lower Bunk (includes five meals; provide your own towel and bedding)

☐ \$120.00 Trading Post—Upper Bunk (includes five meals; provide your own towel and bedding)

☐ \$120.00 Trading Post—Lower Bunk (includes five meals; provide your own towel and bedding)

Please List Roommates \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Pacific Northwest Conference UMW.

Please send the completed registration form and a check for the total of \$\_\_\_\_\_

to Sharon Stovall at 2311 E. Marshall, Spokane, WA 99207-5438.

Email [shrstovall@peoplepc.com](mailto:shrstovall@peoplepc.com)

☐ Check if you plan to have a Chair Massage at an additional \$15.00. (To be paid on-site)

The Conference Scholarship form is on the [PNWC UWF website](#).

Requests go to Linda Mills — [wmil1218@aol.co](mailto:wmil1218@aol.co) or 12431 SE 198th Pl., Kent, WA 98031-0600

# SPIRITUAL RETREAT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



**April 28-30, 2023, at Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center**

**Scholarships are available for up to \$120.**

**Application Deadline March 1.**

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (including area code) Home or Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here if you are under the age of 35.

## **Additional funding is provided from the following sources:**

Personal Check	\$ _____
Local Church/UWF	\$ _____
District UWF	\$ _____
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

**I am requesting a scholarship in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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**You may choose to submit your scholarship application form by one of the following methods:**

- Complete the fillable PDF online at <https://www.pnwumc.org/> and email the form as an attachment to Linda Mills at [wmil1218@aol.com](mailto:wmil1218@aol.com)

Or

- Complete a paper form and mail it to Linda Mills at 12431 SE 198th Pl, Kent, WA 98031



Join the Pacific Northwest Conference United Women in Faith as we look at the characteristics of women as thinkers, problem solvers, caregivers, feisty, strong, loving, made in the image of God.

Rev. Shalom R. Agtarap, pastor and developer serving at First UMC Tacoma, will lead us.

WHERE: Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center  
16170 Manastash Rd.  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

WHEN: April 28-30, 2023

WHAT TO EXPECT: Study, Worship, Music, Relaxation, Crafts, Walks & Massages

Registration form is forthcoming

Questions? Contact: Sharon McDaniel  
360-724-3246 | [sharongarymcdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:sharongarymcdaniel@gmail.com)

**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE**



## UPDATES FROM THE WESTERN JURISDICTION

I'm writing to give you some updates on many things which you may already know.

### LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DAYS

The Leadership Development Days (LDD) Even is just around the corner - Jan 19-21 with over 1000 virtual attendees. Olivia DiAgostino [odiagostino@uwfaith.org](mailto:odiagostino@uwfaith.org) would be the person to contact if you have questions.

### SOUL CARE RETREATS

The Soul Care Retreat Manual is reported to be finalized. I highly encourage taking the Bridge Course on Soul Care to understand what these retreats are meant to be. If people do not have Bridge course access, they can email Alana Walls at [awalls@uwfaith.org](mailto:awalls@uwfaith.org) and request to take courses.

### READING PROGRAM

I currently serve as the chair of the Reading Program. I am hoping you are enjoying the list of books released for 2023. We have been hosting quarterly book events. The most recent, in November, was an author talk on "The Land is not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery" by Sarah Augustine. It was eye-opening! Our next one will be another author talk on February 8th at 7 PM ET on the book "A Knock at Midnight: A Story of Hope, Justice and Freedom" by Brittany K Barnett. Look for registration for this to be available soon. The best way to be the first to know about such events is to join the online community on

Might Networks – [uwfaith.mn.co](http://uwfaith.mn.co). You do not have to pay to join, but you can purchase the digital resources of the Program book as well as join the Soul Care and Reading Enthusiasts groups.

I am including the [excel spreadsheet of all available books](#) for the 2023 program. It makes it easier to find past books. Feel free to share. It is also available on the website under "Shop and Download".

### DISAFFILIATING CHURCH OUTREACH

During our last two PAG Cohort meetings, we have been talking about our disaffiliating churches and have been encouraged to make sure someone is contacting the associated United Women in Faith units within those churches. We especially want to reach units that have been active in the past and let them know that United Women in Faith does not require them to belong to the UMC, and they are welcome to still be a part of this organization that they love. I am attaching information that may be useful in these conversations.

### GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

I serve as a director on the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM) committee, along with 2 other directors, Debra Payne and Darlene Alfred. GBGM has not met in person since the pandemic and is planning our next meeting in April in Maputo, Mozambique. In the past, all meetings have been in the US, bringing delegates here, so this time,

we are going to see what is happening "out there". Debra, Darlene, and I are excited to go and learn first-hand what great work is being accomplished through the global ministries of the church.

### GENERAL SECRETARY/CEO SEARCH

As you know, Harriett Jane Olsen will be retiring in 2023. Those will be some hard shoes to fill! Currently, a national search is underway to find her successor. Please pray that the right person will be found for the job! Boarding School Role United Women in Faith is working with Global Ministries to do a deep dive into the role of the Methodist Church in running boarding schools that institutionalized Native American children. We know that the church has had roles in this, but evidently, the records are many and confusing. It is good that we understand our past and take the first steps in recognizing our complicity. Financial state A serious conversation may need to take place about cutting back mission money if our pledges do not improve. Please continue to talk up the pledge to mission giving as well as Legacy 150 NEXT giving. It has been determined that board meetings will be held virtually, at least in the near future, to save money.

FYI - Our new Western Jurisdiction Legacy 150 liaison is Cecelia Malm – [cmalm@uwfaith.org](mailto:cmalm@uwfaith.org)

*Jana Jones*  
*Western Jurisdiction*

## MESSAGE FROM THE WESTERN JURISDICTION UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH:

Wishing you all well in the new year. The latest message I want to share with you is that the Western Jurisdiction meeting has rescheduled its United Women of Faith Quadrennial Event, and the new dates are May 8-11, 2024. Save this new date, and let's "Get Together" – In Anchorage, Alaska- at Captain Hook Hotel.

The Western Jurisdiction team has been busy with planning, together with Women's National, regarding the program and various activities. The main focus will be the national director election and the whole exciting voting process. Other activities will include an Ubuntu experience, worship services, workshops, and much more.

New date May 8-11, 2024

For the latest information, visit Western Jurisdiction United Women in Faith - Welcome ([wjumw.com](http://wjumw.com))

*Lynda Montgomery*  
Chair, Committee on Nominations  
Western Jurisdiction

## PLANNING ON THE 2024 JURISDICTION EVENT IS UNDERWAY

Your Western Jurisdiction team is busy at work planning our upcoming 2024 Jurisdiction Event "Get Together" in Anchorage, AK! We'll be engaging local groups to educate us about Alaskan culture and will incorporate some great soul care, climate justice and racial justice workshops among other topics. As you may have heard, our dates have shifted a bit and the event will now be held from May 8 to 11, 2024. I've had the wonderful opportunity to visit with the Alaska conference and the Oregon/Idaho conference (and I got to zoom with the Desert Southwest) and have met some amazing women and new friends. That, along with forming new relationships with the women on our team, as been the best part of serving at the jurisdiction level. I hope you are as excited as I am to head to Alaska and explore, connect, worship, and become inspired. Save the (new) date and join in the adventure!

*Robin Gregory,*  
Western Jurisdiction Committee on  
Nominations  
United Women in Faith  
(858) 344-7462

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH SEEKS CEO CANDIDATE

In our effort to make sure our search for a General Secretary/CEO gets in the hands of as many as possible, you may receive this message more than once.

We hope that each time you receive this, you will share it with others both in and outside of the United Methodist Church so that we will receive a large pool of candidates.

If you or someone you know may be interested in being the General Secretary/CEO of United Women in Faith, feel free to follow the directions in the [document on our website](#) to apply. Also feel free to suggest names and contact information of those we can approach to spark their interest in applying.

We thank you in advance for helping us to find the perfect candidate who can lead us in continuing our legacy.

*Michelle Y. Clemons*  
Human Resources Director

*United Women in Faith*  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York, NY 10115  
[mclemons@uwfaith.org](mailto:mclemons@uwfaith.org)



## 2023 PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CONFERENCE CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
January 15	10 am – 2 pm	Season Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	Zoom
January 19-21		Leadership Development Days	Zoom
January 21		<a href="#">Eastern Washington Legislative Conference</a>	Online
January 22	7 pm (MST)	<a href="#">2023 Idaho Leadership Conference #1</a>	Zoom
January 29	7 pm (MST)	<a href="#">2023 Idaho Leadership Conference #2</a>	Zoom
February 9	9 am – 3 pm	<a href="#">Washington Interfaith Advocacy Day</a>	Olympia, WA
April 27-28		Spring Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	<a href="#">Lazy F Camp &amp; Retreat Center, Ellensburg, WA</a>
April 28-30		Conference UWF Spiritual Retreat	<a href="#">Lazy F Camp &amp; Retreat Center, Ellensburg, WA</a>
June 4-6		Alaska Annual Conference	Hybrid
June 8-11		Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference	Hybrid
June 13-15		Pacific Northwest Annual Conference	Hybrid
June 15		Greater Northwest Annual Conference Closing Session	Livestreamed
July 19-20		Summer Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	TBD
July 21-23		Mission u	<a href="#">Wesley UMC, Yakima, WA</a>
September 17		Seven Rivers Missional District Annual Meeting	<a href="#">Wesley UMC, Yakima, WA</a>
September 17		Inland Missional District Annual Meeting	TBD
September 23		Crest to Coast Missional District Annual Meeting	<a href="#">Kalama UMC Kalama, WA</a>
September 23		SeaTac Missional District Annual Meeting	TBD
September		Puget Sound Missional District	TBD
October 20		Fall Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	<a href="#">Olympia First UMC Olympia, WA</a>
October 20-21		Conference United Women in Faith Annual Meeting	<a href="#">Olympia First UMC Olympia, WA</a>
May 8-11, 2024		Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting.	Anchorage, Alaska

**CHECK THE [CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE](#) FOR THE LATEST UPDATES.**



## TOOLS FOR COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

The following is an article sent by email by the National United Women in Faith:

Happy new year, United Women in Faith conference communications coordinators!

Welcome especially to those of you new to the role of communications coordinator. I'm Tara Barnes, your national staff liaison. This is the winter edition of the quarterly newsletters I send out to help keep you resourced and informed. I'm so glad to be starting off this new year as your partner in sharing the story of United Women in Faith!

Some of you receiving this newsletter have rotated off this position, but I've kept you on the mailing list in an emeritus role. Feel free to unsubscribe (though you know I'll miss you).

### ONLINE TRAINING

I've put together **online training courses** for conference communications coordinators. The courses are open to everyone receiving this e-mail.

To take the courses, log into our online learning platform, Bridge, at [unitedmethodistwomen.bridgeapp.com](http://unitedmethodistwomen.bridgeapp.com). If you've used Bridge before, the courses **United Women in Faith Conference Communications Coordinators** and **Conference Communicators: Using the New Visual Brand** should appear under your "My Learning" tab. If you're new to Bridge, you will have received an e-mail from Bridge letting you know you're registered.

If you need help troubleshooting, contact Bridge tech support at [support@bridgeapp.com](mailto:support@bridgeapp.com) or (855) 637-1950, or you can e-mail [distancelearning@uwfaith.org](mailto:distancelearning@uwfaith.org).

### COMMUNICATORS RESOURCES

I've put together a collection of resources that should help you in your new role, including logos, templates, style guides, an example communications plan, and more. You can download them [here](#).

I've included the official job description as well—think of it as a description of all you *could* do, not all you must do. The communications plan and your conference leadership team can help you decide what to prioritize. This leadership role is a **chance to have fun** while uplifting your community.

### ZOOM GATHERING

I'll be hosting a virtual gathering on **February 2, 2023, at 7 p.m. (ET)**. It will be about an hour long and a chance to meet one another, chat, and ask questions. I'd love to see you there!

You can register for the event [here](#). After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the meeting.

### STAY CONNECTED

Make sure you're signed up for [our e-newsletters](#) so you don't miss any news, events or chances to put love into action. I'd also like to encourage you to sign up for the [MyCom newsletters](#) from United Methodist

Communications offering training, tips, and resources for church communications. UMCCom also offers [training for church communicators](#).

Be sure as well to follow [United Women in Faith's Facebook page](#) for news and content you can share as well, and join our [private Facebook group](#) for United Women in Faith communicators, where you can find resources, share advice, and ask questions.

You can e-mail me at [tbarnes@uwfaith.org](mailto:tbarnes@uwfaith.org) if you have any questions. Thank you for saying yes to this leadership role and yes to God as we put love into action for women, children, and youth!

### QUICK LINKS

[United Women in Faith Digital](#).

[United Women in Faith downloads and resources](#).

[Check out our podcasts and webinars](#).

[Join the Daily Prayer Guide Facebook community](#).

[Subscribe to response magazine](#).

*Tara Barnes,  
United Women in Faith  
National Staff Liaison*

## JOIN US ON FACEBOOK



Our FACEBOOK PAGE helps us promote upcoming District, Conference, Western

Jurisdiction and National Events. It is also a great place to share and learn about Social Issues and Action Alerts.

Help us utilize this tool in our mission work by sharing local events or social issues that you are aware of. Find this information and more at our website: [pnwumc.org/uwfaith](http://pnwumc.org/uwfaith).

## OTHER UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH RESOURCE ONLINE

[uwfaith.org](http://uwfaith.org)

[Facebook.com/uwwomenfaith](https://Facebook.com/uwwomenfaith)

[Facebook.com/pnwuwfaith](https://Facebook.com/pnwuwfaith)

[Instagram.com/uwfaith](https://Instagram.com/uwfaith)

[Pinterest.com/UMWomen/\\_created/](https://Pinterest.com/UMWomen/_created/)

[Twitter.com/uwwomenfaith](https://Twitter.com/uwwomenfaith)

[Youtube.com/user/uwfaith](https://Youtube.com/user/uwfaith)

[Flickr.com/photos/UMWomen](https://Flickr.com/photos/UMWomen)

Photo by Tim Gouw: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/woman-wearing-brown-coat-700535/>

Solar Panel Photo on page 4 by Pixabay: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/blue-solar-panel-board-356036/>

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH OFFICERS FOR 2022

**President**—Deb Avery

**Vice President**—OPEN

**Secretary**—Jenny Bygland

**Treasurer**—Kendra Smith

**Program Resources**—OPEN

**Communications**—Jenny Bygland

**Education & Interpretation**—OPEN

**Membership Nurture & Outreach**—OPEN

**Social Action**—Sara Krum

**Spiritual Growth**—Sharon McDaniel

**Committee on Nominations Chair**—Linda Key

**Committee on Nominations Member**—Marsha Aufenkamp

**Committee on Nominations Member**—Carol Gruen

**Committee on Nominations Member**—Janice Catrell

**Missional District Presidents:**

**Crest to Coast**—Bev Thomas

**Inland**—Judy Dirks

**Puget Sound**—Jasmine Ray-Symms

**SeaTac**—Linda Mills

**Seven Rivers**—Barb Stout

## SIGN UP FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER

**THE SHARING LINE** is the newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Conference United Women in Faith published four times a year. Complimentary copies are sent to the following: Pacific Northwest Conference leaders, local unit presidents, District officers, Conference officers, pastors and District Superintendents.

This newsletter is available online at [pnwumc.org/uwfaith](http://pnwumc.org/uwfaith). To receive email notification when new issues are published, or you wish to receive an email copy, send your email address to: Jenny Bygland at [jbygland@kentmethodist.com](mailto:jbygland@kentmethodist.com)

## SHARING LINE DEADLINE

Anything for the **Spring Sharing Line** should be emailed to Jenny Bygland ([jbygland@kentmethodist.com](mailto:jbygland@kentmethodist.com)) by **Monday, April 17**. Late articles will be included as space permits.

# THE SHARING LINE

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE  
PO BOX 13650  
DES MOINES WA 98198



**Blessed** be the

**God** and **Father**

of our **Lord Jesus Christ**,

who has **blessed** us in **Christ**

with every **spiritual blessing**

in the **heavenly places** ...

EPHESIANS 1:3, NRSV

## THIS ISSUE

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**GET READY FOR MISSION U**

**PAGE 3**

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**SPIRITUAL GROWTH RETREAT**

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