



United
Women
in Faith

Timely Reflections

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

Our Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth has brought us a new concept to ponder, "Window Work." I have pondered this in relation to our United Women in Faith's Purpose, Mission, and overall program and it seems most fitting! We surely have been OUTWARDLY focused as we seek women in our communities in need of invitation to join our special events as well as our monthly local unit meetings. One current goal is to welcome at least two new members to each unit. We impacted women, *and* two men, from across Inland District through our very special "Voices from the Field" event featuring missionary Katherine Parker at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, organized by our Inland District Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Madelyn Bafus. We did outreach to include women new to Mission u events to learn about "Living the Kin-dom." We hope to impact and inspire new women as well as current members at our Annual Meeting September 16th in Sandpoint, Idaho. During that day we will not only be looking out the window but will be moving outside to examine accessibility of the church's grounds guided by Deaconess Lynn Swedberg whose area of expertise is accessibility. Who might welcome an invitation to learn about the work of our Inland District United Women in Faith? Who might appreciate a day of Christian fellowship? Who might be yearning to feel God's presence in their lives? Where is God calling you to do "Window Work" in your community?

Until Annual Meeting!
President, Judy Dirks

AUGUST 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PAGE 1: PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

PAGE 1: THE PURPOSE

PAGE 1: WHERE TO FIND UWF ONLINE

PAGE 2: CALENDAR

PAGE 2: MEMBERSHIP N&O

PAGE 2: EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

PAGE 2: SOCIAL ACTION

PAGE 3: TREASURER

PAGE 4 & 5: WESTERN JURISDICTION NEWS

PAGE 6: DISTRICT NOMINATIONS

PAGE 7: DISTRICT MEETING REGISTRATION

PAGE 8 & 9: MISSION U PHOTOS

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.

Find United Women in Faith on:

WEBSITE: uwfaith.org pnwumc.org/uwfaith

INSTAGRAM: [Instagram.com/uwfaith](https://www.instagram.com/uwfaith)

PINTEREST: [Pinterest.com/uwfaith/created](https://www.pinterest.com/uwfaith/created)

TWITTER: [Twitter.com/uwomenfaith](https://twitter.com/uwomenfaith)

YOU TUBE: [Youtube.com/user/uwfaith](https://www.youtube.com/user/uwfaith)

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

MISSION TODAY

Thank you all for sending the information I need for the United Women in Faith Inland Missional District meeting September 16th. We will be handing out the Gold and Silver Certificates for the ones that qualify and Reading Program Certificates to the Units that read. Continue with your reading and keep thinking about what qualifies for the Mission Today.

Charlene Mullis
Education and Interpretation Coordinator and
Secretary of Program Resources

SOCIAL ACTION

As we approach the Fall season I am thinking of how our units can engage in Social Action activities. We as United Women in Faith are engaged in justice programs on many levels. You can read about the issues, talk with other UWF members and your family and friends, and you can be actively involved in some of the activities.

I have been reading this summer and have two books on the reading program that I hope you will read. The first is *Caste* by Isabel Wilkerson, this was featured on the UWF National Reading Program. This is a tremendous read! She talks about the caste systems in the USA and around the world. I personally think every UWF member should read this book!

The second is *The Land is Not Empty* by Sarah Augustine. She discussed the Doctrine of Discovery and how it is still affecting many Indigenous People around the world. This too is an important read!

Blessings to all
Linda Hansen
Social Action Coordinator



MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

Hi all, I was recently asked what the information that you give for the Unit Survey is used for. I found this on the UWF.org website:

The survey is intended to be completed by the unit president or All Access group convener. Questions are related to how your unit or group is thriving in sisterhood, faith and action and how you are committed to act boldly for justice and transform communities.

If you are completing the survey, please choose your conference first from the list below and then dive into the questions. Answering the questions will take about 15-20 minutes.

*Your responses matter. Your answers will allow the United Women in Faith National Office to:
Deliver more resources on the areas that matter most
Gather engagement data based on region
Celebrate all the work you are doing on behalf of women, children, and youth*

I hope this will inspire each of you to complete the survey to the best of your abilities.

Sue McGovney
Membership Nurture and Outreach

CALENDAR

September 16 – District Annual Meeting
Sandpoint UMC, Sandpoint Idaho

October 21-22 – Conf. Annual Meeting
Olympia First UMC, Olympia WA

April 19-21, 2024 – District/Conference
Leadership Training Event, LAZY F

May 9-11, 2024 Western Jurisdiction
Quadrennial Meeting, Anchorage AK

TREASURER

Hi, to all Unit treasurers, as you may know our name has changed to United Women in Faith.

See the following note (in italics) from Kendra Smith, Conference United Women in Faith treasurer:

You can and should be using the new Conference EIN number, (that number is 88-064541). We are classified as an "Association" and not a Corporation and I believe that has something to do with local units, districts and the Pacific Northwest Conference all being able to use the same EIN number. Each Conference has their own EIN number and should use that number when opening their banking accounts at all levels.

*Regarding the name change. the name on your checks should read as follows:
PNW Conference United Women in Faith-Inland District, (local unit name)*

*It's the name first of our organization and then the district name and or the local unit name. You should **not** put your address on the checks - the bank will have your name on file and most of you get your statements "paperless" anyway. There should be enough room even if you go to the 3rd line.*

This is important because the name will need to match the paperwork. We are still United Methodist Women but are doing business as (dba) United Women in Faith.

*You will be helping your local units do this as well when they decide to make the move to do so. Some wish to do so now because of the cost of their accounts and others will wait till they are out of checks or perhaps have new leaders. It is a good idea **not** to be using the church EIN number especially if there are any issues. I am here to help you and your local units make this change. Please ask questions!! If there are units ready to get started and make the change let me know as well. I am available to help and if you have any questions at all ask!! Even though the banking process has been confusing at times the bankers who I have been working with have been more than helpful and have worked with me.*

So, starting 9/1/2023, when you send checks to the District, please make check out as follows: PNW Conference United Women in Faith-Inland District. You can make changes to your unit account when you are ready to do so. Questions, please feel free to call me at: 509-238-6583.

Roberta Headley, Inland District Treasurer.

Robin Gregory
Western Jurisdiction Committee on Nominations
(858) 344-7462

Your WJ leadership team is working and planning diligently to bring you all an intellectually, spiritually and emotionally fulfilling Jurisdictional event in Anchorage, AK from May 8-11 2024. Less than a year to go- time to get this amazing trip on your calendar. Anchorage is a fantastic city- in how many airports are you greeted by a giant Moose? We are gonna have a FUN weekend together!

On that note, the WJ team is pleased to announce our proposed WJ leadership slate for 2024-2028 term! The following ladies have agreed to serve in this capacity and what an amazing group they are! I've included a brief summary of each nominee's bio so you can get as excited about these ladies as we are. I think you'll agree that we have a diverse and highly qualified group agreeing to lead us in the coming quadrennial!

Western Jurisdiction United Women in Faith Slate of Nominations 2024-2028

President:

Diane Gin (CA/PAC)

Diane is retired, lives in Monterey Park, CA and is of Asian heritage. She has a BA of Education and completed a career in early childhood education as an elementary school teacher. She considers herself a lifelong learner and has served UMW/UWF as Program Resources coordinator, Vice President and President at the local unit level, Committee on Nominations, Secretary and President at the District Level and Committee on Nominations, Vice President and currently President (2nd term) at the Conference level.

Vice President:

Atina Pascua (CA/PAC)

Atina lives in Hawaii and is of Macedonian heritage and speaks Macedonian as well as English. She is working full-time as a tenured professor at University of Hawaii and is Director /Administrator of Civic and Community Engagement there. She is experienced in conference planning for regional organizations grant writing and oversight, K-12 and higher education partnership building and holds degrees in Political Science and American and International Studies as well as MA and MEd. in Higher Education and Adult Education She has an interest in Indigenous People representation, Climate Change issues and Women's equity issues. She immigrated to the US when she was young, learned the language and assisted her family in their adaptation to their new country. She volunteered with Limitless in UMW and loves to mentor younger women. In UMW/UWF she served as local unit VP, President, Social action coordinator, at the District level as Limitless mentor, Social Action coordinator and District President and is currently serving as Conference Committee on Nominations member.

Treasurer:

Merlam (Rosie) Kumar (CA/ NEV)

Rosie is from Galt, CA, and is of East Indian heritage, speaking both English and Hindi languages. She is working full time as an IT Senior Business Analyst and has spent over 25 years in banking with 20+ years in IT Project Management, System and Software installation and Business Analysis, Documentation and Training. She has some college and a Certification in Coaching and Mentoring, Business Communication and Total Quality Management/Leadership. She has

served UMW/UWF as local unit treasurer, District Treasurer and Chair of Committee on Nominations and at the Conference level as Mission U Registrar and later Mission U Dean.

Secretary:

Jeannie Boese (pronounced "Bays") (OR/ID)

Jeannie is Caucasian, lives in Klamath Falls, OR and is retired from her career as an administrative assistant. She is skilled with both Microsoft Word and Publisher. She has served UMW/UWF as local unit President and Secretary, District level Communications and currently as District Secretary and at the Conference level in Communications, Nominating Committee and as Conference Secretary.

Chair of Nominations:

Madelyn Bafus (PNW)

Madelyn is Caucasian, lives in Spokane Valley, WA, and has a BA in education. She is a retired Executive Director for Family Promise of Spokane and was formerly an elementary teacher, coordinator of Christian Education and currently serves on the Mission and Service team at her local church. A long time UMW/UWF member, she has served as local unit President numerous times (currently serving in this capacity), and treasurer. At the district level she has served as Social Action coordinator, Vice president and President. Additionally she has served as Dean of Regional School (now Mission U) and as the Chair of the Nominations Committee at the Conference level.

Committee on Nominations:

Jennifer Miller (AK)

Jenn is Caucasian, lives in Anchorage, AK and has earned her AA in Early Childhood education and BA in Clerical Studies. She currently works part-time as a church administrator and is talented with clerical and tech skills. She considers herself a problem solver and a "Jill of all trades" and has served UMW/UWF at the Conference level in several roles: Conference Vice President, Dean of Mission U, racial justice task force and Communication Coordinator. She is currently serving as a member of the Program Advisory Group (PAG) for UWF national.

Suvasini McCormick (DSW)

Suvasini is of Asian/ Indian descent and lives in Mesa, AZ. She has a master's degree in nutrition and is retired from her career as a nutritionist in hospital and clinic settings. She has served UMW/UWF at the local unit level as Secretary and treasurer (her current role), at the District level as Treasurer, Secretary of Program Resources and Coordinator of Membership Care (current role) and at the Conference level as Secretary and Co-Chair Committee on Nominations.

Laurie Fujinami (MTN SKY)

Laurie is Caucasian, lives in Denver-Metro area and has a Master's in Public Administration. She has worked in administration of Mental Health, Substance Abuse and homeless programs at the state and federal level. She is currently working in this capacity part-time at the VA hospital. She has served UMW/UWF as local unit Vice President, District Secretary of Program Resources and Committee on Nominations member, and presently at the Conference level as Committee on Nominations Member. She is also a consecrated Deaconess.

Saniata Melchor (CA/NV)

Saniata is of Filipino heritage and is a preschool teacher (working full-time) with a degree in early childhood education. She lives in San Jose, CA. She has previously served as a language coordinator (she speaks Tagalog as well as English) at the conference level and as Secretary at the local unit level and is currently serving as UWF President at the local unit level and Committee on Nominations member at the District level.

The Inland Missional District Nominations Committee is pleased to announce
a full slate of officers for this coming year.
You will not want to miss being part of their installation
at the Annual Meeting at Sandpoint UMC on September 16, 2023
Thank you to these dedicated United Women in Faith for accepting their positions.

Slate of officers for 2023-2024

President – Judy Dirks

VP – Melissa Jaquette

Secretary – Susan Henderson

Treasurer – Roberta Headley

Program Resources – Tana Truscott

Communications Coordinator – Sharon Stovall

Education & Interpretation – Charlene Mullis

Social Action – Patsy Charlton

Membership Nurture & Outreach – Sue McGovney

Spiritual Growth – Kathy Johnson

Nominations Chair – Madelyn Bafus

Nominations – Linda Jones

Nominations – Tana Truscott

Nominations – Linda Hansen

Nominations – Gerrie Van Voorhis





Registration Form
 2023 Inland Missional District
 United Women in Faith Annual Meeting
 "Invite, Inspire, & Influence"
 "What does that look like?"
 September 16, 2023

Sandpoint United Methodist Church, 711 Main Street, Sandpoint, ID

8:30 – 9:00 Registration; 9 – 9:30 Coffee and Snacks; 9:30 Meeting begins.

Our meeting will be in person this year. Our guest speaker will be Lynn Swedberg and her topic will be "Disability is Diversity" and how churches can be more handicapped accessible.

****All participants this year will be asked to complete a small assignment before coming to the meeting. Each person needs to write down three names: one who invited you to UWF; one who inspires you (can be anyone), & one who influences you (can be anyone). These will be shared during the meeting.

Below you will find the registration form for our annual meeting.
 Please fill it out and send it to Roberta Headley.

The cost of preregistration will be \$20.00, and at the door \$25.00.
 Registration forms need to be sent in by September 6, 2023.
 We hope to see everyone there.

+++++

NAME: _____ **UNIT:** _____

CHURCH: _____

REGISTRATION \$ _____

FOOD RESTRICTIONS: _____

Send form and money to Roberta Headley, Treasurer, at 17008 E. Bill Gulch Road, Mead, WA 99021; beancounter87@yahoo.com.

***Checks should be made out to PNWC United Women in Faith Inland District**



United Women in Faith



Mission u

JULY 21-23, 2023
WESLEY UMC, YAKIMA WA

Mission u was again held at Wesley UMC in Yakima. Our study this year was on the Lord's

*Prayer: **Living the Kin-dom** by Riva Tabelisma.*

A Primary School's version of the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in Heaven, You are Awesome!

Show us who You are, and how You want us to be

Make earth more like heaven.

Please give us what we need to keep going each day.

Help us when we are wrong and clean us up on the inside.

Help us let other people off and move on.

Keep us from bad stuff. You're in charge.

You're strong and powerful and always there.

Forever. Amen!



Bishop at Mission u



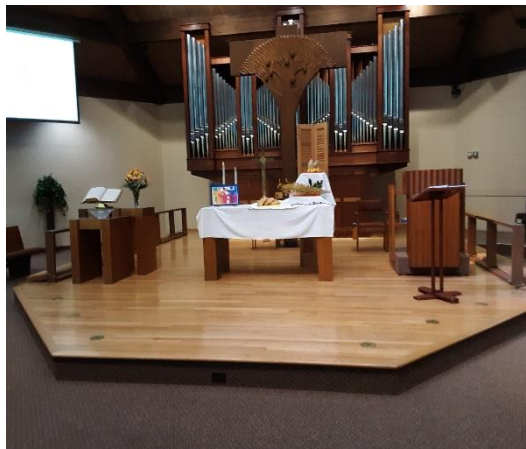
Recycling at Wesley UMC



Audience Participation



Love Ribbons for Sale



Wesley UMC altar



Top photos: Making freedom kits to open doors of opportunity for women and girls around the world. These kits enable women/girls around the world to stay in school while managing their periods with dignity and independence.

Above: Deaconesses attending Mission u.

Above right: Youth classroom

Left: worship service.

Inland Missional District
United Women in Faith
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