

THE SHARING LINE

A PUBLICATION OF UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH — PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

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Paul writes, "Friends, don't get me wrong; By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward — to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back. — Philippians 3:14-19 (MSG)

DEB'S DISPATCH

I was recently very inspired by the overall theme of our Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of our United Methodist Church. "Go and Do Likewise" is centered on the parable of the Good Samaritan. How are each of us being called to see our neighbor... not just "see" but reach out and welcome in!

As United Women in Faith, we have been called to "Go and Do Likewise" for over 150 years. God has led us in different directions over these many years, but our mission and ministry still focuses on women, children, and youth. There is much work yet to do!

We were also introduced to "Mirror Work" and "Window Work." I see this in two perspectives as it relates to United Women in Faith. For me, I think of "Mirror Work" as taking a look at our history and

the vital ministry of those women who went before, who dreamed dreams, and who mentored us and inspired us. Sisters who cared and nurtured each other and the least of these. Women who led the whole church into justice and mercy issues through transforming education, passion, spiritual growth, leadership, and so much more. What inspires us and challenges us still? Let us build on that work as a springboard for our "window work."

"Window Work" helps us to take a realistic look into our future as **United Women in Faith**. Where are we being called into mission and ministry in the times ahead? How are we reaching out to women of all ages and in all walks of life to bring more diversity into our planning and

(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)

programming? How are we inspiring leadership? How are we looking past our church walls (and doors) to include women we may have not yet met so that God may speak to us through different voices? How are we making a safe space for innovative thinking? How are each of us inspiring, influencing, and impacting each other as sisters who have a passion for faith and action?

During these past few months, I have been blessed to visit several of our lay-led churches that do not currently have local United Women in Faith units. During all of these visits, I was consistently surrounded and inspired by women who have a passion for mission and yearn to make a difference in their local churches, local communities, and the world. They were eager to share their “her-stories” of their mission focus over the many years! These are stories worth sharing!

I encourage every unit, local church, and district organization to do some research about stories of passion for ministry and leadership by these women. Let us learn from this “mirror work” in order to help inspire and challenge us to continue in the “window work” of how our amazing Creator is calling us to “Go and Do Likewise.”

Personally, I am looking forward to participating in our 2023 Mission u at Wesley UMC, Yakima, July 21-23. This is truly an opportunity for transformative education. There are classes for adults, children, and youth as we study what it



means to be “Living in the Kin-dom.”

Next, I am excited to be a part of our Pacific Northwest Conference Annual Meeting of United Women in Faith in Olympia, WA. The theme for this time together on October 20-21 is “**Living Our Mission; Being the Hands and Feet of Christ.**” Again...a “window work” theme as we are inspired through word, action, music, and worship.

What better way to mentor and motivate all women as they share a common passion...being united in faith! Think about women in your life who have a passion for justice and bring them along on an amazing journey through United Women in Faith.

Deb Avery
PNW Conference
United Women in Faith President

2024 WESTERN JURISDICTION
Get Together!
United Women in Faith

JOIN US IN
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event
May 9-11, 2024
Hotel Captain Cook

spirited worship
engaging workshops
motivating speakers
exciting election

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
wjumw.com
Facebook.com/wjumw



Paul writes, "Friends, don't get me wrong; By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward – to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back."
— Philippians 3:14-19 (MSG)

Pacific Northwest United Women in Faith

ANNUAL MEETING

Olympia First United Methodist Church

1224 Legion Way SE, WA 98501

REGISTRATION FEE

\$35

SCHEDULE

October 20 - 21, 2023

Start time: 5:30 PM with dinner on Friday

End time: 1:00 PM on Saturday;

Lunch is NOT included.

OFFERING & DONATION DRIVE

An offering will be accepted, benefitting Mission Giving.

Write checks to PNW Conference United Women in Faith.

Everyone is encouraged to bring some of the following items that will be used in outreach ministries of First Olympia United Methodist Church

- **For Homeless Kits:** socks, gloves, washcloths, snack bars, band-aids
- **For The Community Kitchen:** cake mixes, canned frostings, & vegetable oil for cakes & cookies
- **For Prayer Shawls:** yarn
- **For The Homeless Camps:** garbage bags, phone cards, batteries for flashlights, & hand warmers

HOTEL INFORMATION

Participant is responsible for making their registrations!

All the hotels listed include breakfast.

• Holiday Inn Express & Suites Other local hotels:

Lacey – Olympia

(Please use the group name:

United Women in Faith, as we have

reserved a block of rooms here.)

• Red Lion—Olympia

• LaQuinta—Lacey

• Quality Inn—Lacey

• Comfort Inn—Lacey



Keynote Speaker:

United Women in Faith's
National President
Ainise Isama'u



**Registration Form – Pacific Northwest United Women in Faith
Annual Meeting, October 20 - 21, 2023**

Olympia First United Methodist Church — 1224 Legion Way SE, WA 98501

REGISTRATION DEADLINE—SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

Name for your Name Badge _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Church _____

District _____ Conference _____

Officer? Yes ☐ No ☐

Home hospitality needed Yes ☐ No ☐

Dietary: We will work hard to accommodate most diets by providing various options. Gluten-free and diabetic choices will be available.

Food Allergies: _____

ADA needs: We are happy to help you prepare for an enjoyable experience! Please share your challenges or concerns. If we don't know before the event, we may not be equipped to assist:

Childcare will be available. Please note the ages and number of your children:

Infants _____ 2 to 3 years _____ 4 to 5 years _____

6 to 8 years _____ 9 to 11 years _____

Do you need a lanyard for your name badge? Yes ☐ or No ☐

(Please bring a name badge holder if you have one.)

Can we use your photo in promotional materials? Yes ☐ or No ☐

Registration Fee—\$35: Make checks payable to PNW Conference United Women in Faith

MAIL COMPLETED A REGISTRATION FORM AND A CHECK TO

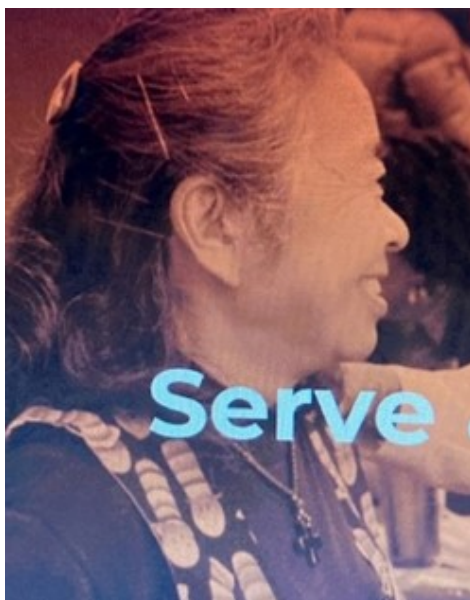
Donna Gaddy, Registrar

9233 Applegate Loop SW,
Rochester, WA 98579

For questions, call Donna at 360-858-7725 (Home) or 206-785-5264 (Cell)

or email: donnagaddy210@gmail.com

FIND YOUR PLACE TO PLUG-IN ON THE CONFERENCE TEAM



Pacific Northwest United Women in Faith need your help and assistance. Positions to be filled in October are Treasurer, Spiritual Growth, Education and Interpretation, and a Member of the Committee on Nominations.

If you can find time in your busy schedule to fulfill one of these officers or have questions, please get in touch with the Nomination Committee.

Blessings,

Marsha Aufenkamp
Member of the Pacific Northwest
Conference Committee on
Nominations
m.aaufenkamp@gmail.com
509-322-6338

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2023-2024

TO BE ELECTED BY MEMBERSHIP:

- Vice President: Stell Wallace (1st 2-year term)
- Secretary/Communications Coordinator: Jenny Bygland (2nd 2-year term)
- Treasurer: **OPEN**
- Membership, Nurture & Outreach: Gail Simpson (2-year term)
- Spiritual Growth: **OPEN**
- Education and Interpretation: **OPEN**
- Chair, Comm. On Nominations: Marsha Aufenkamp (2-year term)
- Member, Comm. On Nominations: **OPEN** (4-year term)

CONTINUING IN OFFICE:

- President: Deb Avery (2nd year 2 year term)
- Social Action: Sara Krum (2nd year 2-year term)
- Member, Committee on Nominations: Jan Catrell (2026)
- Member, Committee on Nominations: Linda Key (2025)

THE 2023-2024 RACIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

By virtue of office and Term of office:

- Conference President— Chair— Deb Avery
- Chair, Committee on Nominations— Marsha Aufenkamp
- District President:

National Director

- Marilyn Reid
- Jan Catrell
- Alternate: Janet Crouse

National Program Advisory Group

- Marilyn Reid
- Jan Catrell
- Janet Crouse
- Alternate: Judy Dirks

Western Jurisdiction Voting Delegates

- Deb Avery
- Sara Krum
- Marsha Aufenkamp

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

Many of us gathered for Mission u, and being in Yakima again was exciting. If you were at Lazy F for the Spiritual Retreat, you would remember the beautiful weather and the wonderful fellowship. It was time to connect and share. Whether conference, district, or local, these group events take leaders willing to step up and share their talents, creativity, and know-how. It cannot be done without you. Most of us step into our roles not knowing precisely what we are doing. Be bold and step up when asked to take on a leadership position. There is support from other team members and resources that are available nationally and locally.

We are meeting our giving goals and working on keeping expenses in check. The real excitement is that we now have a Washington State UBI number and a new EIN number for the UWF Conference which means that we can begin the banking changes which reflect our new name. I will be sharing more information as we start this process.

On a practical note, if you use the Supplementary Giving Projects List, please give the code number and the name of the project you wish to donate to. I am excited that some of you are using it, but because it is seven pages printed on both sides, giving both pieces of information is helpful when putting this on your remittance sheet.

As always, if you have questions about the banking changes or

anything, ask, don't ask your neighbor – ask me!! Please give me your name and unit on phone calls or emails.

Kendra Smith

*Treasurer for United Women in Faith
Pacific Northwest Conference*

206-390-9736

kendradornsmith@email.com

WHERE THE MONEY GOES 2023

FIRST, LET'S HEAR ABOUT WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM, THE SOURCES OF OUR FUNDING...

United Women in Faith is trusted with pledges and donations from individual members as well as mission partners and anonymous donors who have a heart for mission. The national office is committed to good stewardship of this generous support.

The Five Channels of Giving (pictured below) show the various ways that our members give undesignated funds to our organization. When local members give, a portion of the Pledge to Mission is kept by their respective



unit and conference for its own administrative and membership development (A&MD) expenses as well as local mission. The remainder of the Pledge and the other channels of Mission Giving is forwarded to the national office. Therefore, our members' giving supports both local, national, and international work aligned with our mission! At the national level, the elected Board of Directors votes on the budgeted spending for each year.

Members can also give to projects on our Designated and Supplementary Projects List which is updated each year. Visit this webpage to view the list: <https://uwfaith.org/who-we-are/financials/>

In addition to these sources of funding, United Women in Faith also receives bequests and holds endowments that significantly support our work. We currently have an active Legacy Fund Endowment Campaign, which will be an ongoing support of income, ensuring that our important work will always continue.

NOW LET'S LEARN ABOUT WHERE THE MONEY GOES...

Social Action and Justice Work

We mobilize our members to learn about and take action on key social justice issues. Currently, our focus is on climate justice and ending the school-to-prison pipeline.

Education and Leadership Development

We equip women, children, and youth to become leaders in the church, their communities, and the world. Programs include:

- Leadership Development Days

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- Mission u
- Reading Program
- Scholarships to students in the United States and internationally

Spiritual Growth and Nurturing Opportunities

We offer resources and programming that enable women to explore their faith and nurture their souls, including:

- Daily Prayer Guide & Program Book
- Bible studies
- Soul care events
- Faith Talks

National Mission Institutions

We support nearly 90 NMIs across the United States that offer vital services to and advocate for women, children, and youth in vulnerable communities. In 2022, more than \$1.6 million was provided in grants to Community Centers, Residential Treatment Centers, and Women's Residences within the network.

International Mission

We support international partners that are enhancing the capacities of local and regional women leaders and supporting economic development programs for women and youth. We support Regional Missionaries and personnel serving in their home regions with the church and ecumenical and grassroots partners in educational and empowerment programs. Our international work empowers women and youth to find local solutions and make positive, measurable changes in their communities.

Office of Deaconess and Home

Missioner

Deaconesses and Home Missioners are laypeople who are called by God to be in a lifetime relationship in The United Methodist Church for engagement with a full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice, and service. Together they form a covenant community that is rooted in Scripture, informed by history, driven by mission, ecumenical in scope, and global in outreach.

Organizational Support

Funds are also used to support services that are critical to making the programs listed above possible. These services include:

- Board and staff development
- Fundraising
- Accounting and financial services
- Grants and scholarships administration
- Human Resources
- Information technology
- Event planning
- Communications and publications

WHAT WE DON'T FUND

United Women in Faith does not fund projects and programs that:

- Don't benefit women, children, or youth
- Don't comply with our UMC Social Principles
- Are administered by discriminatory organizations

Here is [more information about our finances...](#)

In addition to the work mentioned above, we also own and operate the Church Center for the United Nations (CCUN) located in New York

City across the street from the United Nations; and the Brooks-Howell Home Retirement Home, originally founded for deaconesses located in Asheville, NC. These operations are primarily funded by the rental and service fee income that they derive and are overseen by some of our national office staff.

Each year we release an Annual Report which describes the work we were able to do together and includes our audited financial information. You can read notes from our key leaders, see pictures and stories about projects, view the financial reports, and imagine the possibilities for the coming years! In addition to the work we do with our members on training, service, and social action, we award grants and scholarships to deserving organizations and individuals. The recipients and purposes of the grants and scholarships are released each year in our Grants Disclosure.

Visit the webpage below to view multiple years of our Annual Reports and Grants Disclosures. <https://uwfaith.org/who-we-are/financials/>

2023 PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CONFERENCE CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
January 15	10 am – 2 pm	Spring Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	Zoom
January 19-21		Leadership Development Days	Zoom
January 21		Eastern Washington Legislative Conference	Online
January 22	7 pm (MST)	2023 Idaho Leadership Conference #1	Zoom
January 29	7 pm (MST)	2023 Idaho Leadership Conference #2	Zoom
February 9	9 am – 3 pm	Washington Interfaith Advocacy Day	Olympia, WA
April 27-28		Spring Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center, Ellensburg, WA
April 28-30		Conference United Women in Faith Spiritual Retreat	Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center, Ellensburg, WA
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	Hybrid
July 20-21		Summer Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	Wesley UMC, Yakama, WA
July 21-23		Mission u	Wesley UMC, Yakima, WA
August 21	12 noon to 1 pm	<u>Advocacy 101</u>	Zoom
September 16		Inland Missional District Annual Meeting	Sandpoint UMC, Sandpoint, ID
September 16		Puget Sound Missional District	Bothell UMC, Bothell, WA
September 16		Seven Rivers Missional District Annual Meeting	Wesley UMC, Yakima, WA
September 30		SeaTac Missional District Annual Meeting	Kent UMC, Kent, WA
September 30		Crest to Coast Missional District Annual Meeting	Vancouver Heights UMC, Vancouver, WA
October 20		Fall Conference United Women in Faith Executive Meeting	Olympia First UMC, Olympia, WA
October 20-21		Conference United Women in Faith Annual Meeting	Olympia First UMC, Olympia, WA
2024			
April 19-21, 2024		District/Conference Leadership Training Event	Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center, Ellensburg, WA
May 9-11, 2024		<u>Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting</u>	Anchorage, Alaska

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

SOCIAL ACTION—MAKING AN IMPACT

FAITH ACTION NETWORK

A Partnership for the Common Good

The theme of this newsletter is to share how we can “Go and Do Likewise.” One of the most incredible things about the United Women in Faith is that we are constantly working to educate ourselves on the issues facing women, children, and youth worldwide. But how can we take that a step further here in the Pacific Northwest? How can we impact those women, children, and youth here in our communities?

One way we can make an impact coming this fall/winter is through our new partnership with Faith Action Network (FAN). FAN is a multi-faith advocacy group here in Washington. I contacted FAN because I believe many of our core values and interests are aligned. With our new partnership, we will be advocating at the Capitol during the next legislative session with the help of FAN on the issues near and dear to our organization—specifically, the issues facing the climate, women, and children. Additionally, I will be working with FAN to review upcoming bills that align with our desire to improve the lives of women and children in our communities. This will allow me to share that information with all of you and HOW you can reach out to your legislators

to share your thoughts on these bills.

Before all these wonderful opportunities to advocate as United Women in Faith, we have a virtual

advocacy 101 course with FAN on August 21, 2023 from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm. **Register now for Lunch and Learn - Advocacy 101 with United Women in Faith**

This is one way we will be able to make an impact on a state-wide level this upcoming year.

But how can we make an impact in our communities? This year, I want to challenge all units to reach out to local foster care agencies and women’s shelters to see how best we can serve the women and children they care for. I would recommend asking if the women and children need basic supplies, clothes, luggage, etc., and doing a church-wide drive to provide those items. I will provide a list of foster care agencies at our conference later this Fall. Please get in touch with me if you have more questions about how this might work.

Want to know more about how we can make an impact this year? Please reach out to me, and I would be happy to do an in-person visit with your unit or district or an online Zoom to discuss a personalized plan for you!

Finally, please send me your Racial

Justice Club paperwork by October 1st to be recognized at the Annual Conference in October. You can find resources on our [website](#). You can send your paperwork either by email at saraeskrum@gmail.com or by mail at 5091 N Sky Vista Ave. Yakima, WA 98901.

I cannot wait to see how you all make an impact this year! Please send me pictures of your activities as we work to “Go and Do Likewise.”

With Blessings,

*Sara Krum
Social Action Coordinator for
United Women in Faith
Pacific Northwest Conference*

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT VS. WELCOME BY THE ORIGINAL PEOPLE

**SUGGESTED GUIDELINES FOR THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
FIND OUT MORE HERE.

WHO WILL YOU NOMINATE FOR THE SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARDS?

WHO SHOULD RECEIVE THE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH PNW CONFERENCE RACIAL JUSTICE AWARD FOR 2023?

Each year the United Women in Faith PNW Conference honors someone with the Racial Justice Award.

Whom will you nominate from your district? Attached are the instructions.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH RACIAL JUSTICE AWARD NOMINATION

The Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice of the United Women in Faith PNW Conference is seeking nominees for the annual Racial Justice Award to be presented at the United Women in Faith PNW Conference Annual Meeting in October.

CRITERIA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Exemplifies the implementation (We Will section) of the Charter for Racial Justice
www.pnwumc.org/uwfaith/resources/racial-justice/
2. They may be an individual United Women in Faith member, a local unit, a district, or an individual or group from outside United Women in Faith.
3. The activity may be a one-time or ongoing event but must have occurred within the last year.

FORMAT FOR NOMINATION:

1. Name, address, phone number, and/or e-mail of Nominee(s).
2. Name of Activity or Event.
3. One or two paragraphs summarizing the individual or group activity and how it relates to the Charter for Racial Justice.
4. Your name, address, phone number, and/or e-mail address.
5. Deadline to be returned to Deb Avery or Sara Krum by October 1, 2023
6. Nomination may either be mailed or e-mailed.

2. This is a great opportunity to recognize persons who fulfill our Purpose and our Mission Today Charter for Racial Justice component in a significant way.

Questions may be directed to Deb Avery or Sara Krum.

Deb Avery
2202 NE 124th Ave
Vancouver, WA 98684-5534
davery51@q.com
360-896-4209 (c)

Sara Krum
5091 N Sky Vista Ave
Yakima WA 98901
saraeskrum@gmail.com
360-589-2016

SELECTION OF AWARD RECIPIENT

1. Racial Justice Committee will make selections before the annual meeting.



HAVE YOU SEEN OUR DIGITAL RESOURCES?

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH HAS SOME EXCITING RESOURCES ONLINE.

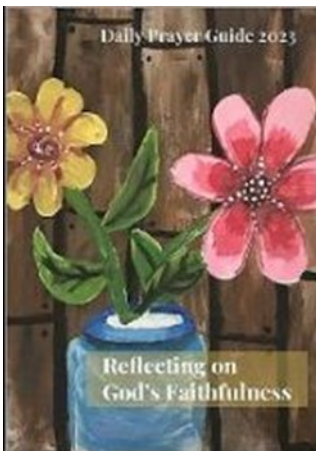
While the internet is nothing new, we have all been thrown into new depths over the past few years, discovering ways to connect with one another and engage resources to nurture our faith and support how we put faith, hope, and love in action.

United Women in Faith Digital is a safe and secure online space to do exactly that—access online versions of your favorite United Women in Faith resources, and connect with over 4,000 other members on the platform!

Visit uwfaith.org/digital and create your free account or log in. Here are a few of our favorite resources that we don't want you to miss:

2023 DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

The digital version of the Daily Prayer Guide includes all the same content and artwork you know and love but allows you to access it from your phone and share your prayers and reflections directly on the online platform, \$19.99. [Click here to learn more.](#)



2022 ASSEMBLY VIDEOS

Revisit these powerful moments from Assembly 2022. Use the link below to purchase the recordings from Rev. Janet Wolf, Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow, and Heather McTeer Toney. These videos are available for individual and group pricing and can be accessed through United Women in Faith Digital. [Click here for the videos.](#)



READING ENTHUSIASTS



It's one thing to participate in the Reading Program but another to have an online space to connect with members from across the country and worldwide to talk about the books we love. We're reading to understand the world, change the world, and grow our faith. Reading Enthusiasts is an online group where members can reflect on the books they're reading, suggest a book, and participate in regular book discussions. [Click here to join.](#)

GIVE now so we can continue our work on these resources and more!

Your Gift to Mission supports resources like these that educate, empower, inform, and inspire women. Gifts to Mission make it possible for United Women in Faith to carry out its vital work to connect and nurture women through Christian formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

NEW NATIONAL ADDRESS

Due to recent issues with receiving mail at 475 Riverside Drive and potential postal fraud, United Women in Faith is using our alternate office address at the Church Center for the United Nations for regular mail. That address is:

United Women in Faith Church
Center for the United Nations
777 United Nations Plaza,
11th Floor New York, NY 10017

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY LINK

All local units, please remember to submit your [Membership Survey](#) (census) by August 30, 2023, so we can improve our number of responses from previous years.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH—LOOKING OUT WINDOWS INSTEAD OF LOOKING INTO MIRRORS.

I hope you have been blessed with a renewing, inspirational, and restful spring and start to summer. With the Spiritual Growth Retreat and Mission u, we have been given great opportunities to be inspired, challenged, and connect.

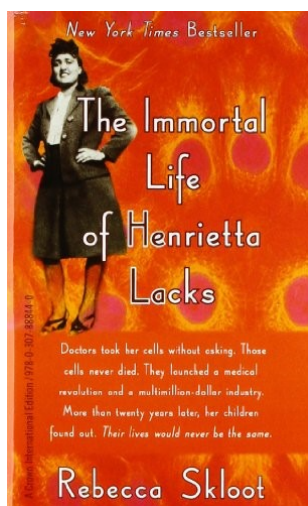
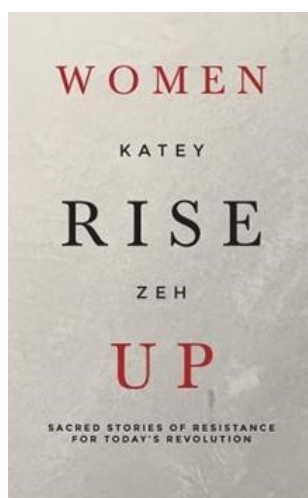
Our new bishop, Bishop Cedric D. Bridgeforth, has challenged us to follow the Command of Christ put forth in Luke 10:25 - 37 to “Go and do likewise,” as he instructed the lawyer in the story of the Good Samaritan. We are asked to “get neighboring” by (1) Praying with our feet, (2) Healing with our words, and (3) Loving with our resources.

The bishop suggests we look out our windows instead of looking in the mirror to determine who our neighbor is and what is needed. We may start by looking in a mirror at our history to be inspired but then take that inspiration to meet the needs of others. In the June 29th edition of Faith Talks (found on the UWF website), Ashley Boggan, author of *Never the Less American Methodists and Women’s Rights*, talked about Susanna Wesley and how she valued Education for her daughters at a time when girls were not educated. How she led an after-church study when a substitute pastor wasn’t measuring up. The “study” grew to 200 in membership. Our history, looking in the mirror, as Methodist and United Women in Faith, can inspire us, and then we can take that inspiration and “look out the window” to see where we are

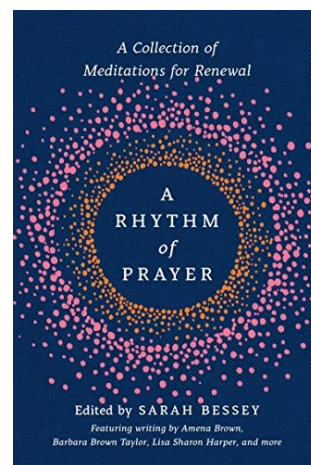
called to “Go and do Likewise.”

Let us look to our many resources for UWF for guidance and inspiration about how we can join with others to make a difference in our world and our neighborhoods. (See our Conference Directory for online resources.) Recommended books from Nora Cunningham, Spiritual Growth & Formation Specialist:

Women
Rise Up:
Sacred
Stories of
Resistance
for Today’s
Revolution
by Katey
Zeh



The
Immortal
Life of
Henrietta
Lacks by
Rebecca
Skloot



A Rhythm
of Prayer,
edited by
Sarah
Bessey

Good
Enough:
40ish
Devotionals
for a Life of
Imperfection



by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie.

May God give you guidance,

Sharon McDaniel,
Spiritual Growth Coordinator for
United Women in Faith
Pacific Northwest Conference

WHAT'S NEW AT TACOMA COMMUNITY HOUSE



TACOMA COMMUNITYHOUSE

IMMIGRATION • HOUSING • EDUCATION • EMPLOYMENT • ADVOCACY

TCH • REACH CENTER



And there are so many new ways to get involved at Tacoma Community House. Though the name suggests a very local ministry, their approach is to assist a wide variety of people and needs. Presently

250 immigrants and

What an exciting time to get involved in the ministries and mission of Tacoma Community House! I had the privilege of meeting with the new Executive Director, Aimee Khuu, recently. She comes to the organization with a wealth of administrative and organizational skills from the Providence Hospital system. Her father was an immigrant from Vietnam and she has lived in that country as an ESL teacher and volunteer. She has a passion for refugees and helping people in new situations.

refugees are served on site. About 70% of those participating in the language and citizenship classes are Ukrainian! They can also receive pro bono and low bono legal assistance when navigating the legal hurdles to citizenship. If you watch the news and see the plight of the people in Ukraine and think, "I wish there were something I could do to help," Tacoma Community House might offer that "something." While monetary assistance is ALWAYS needed, if you want a more hands-on approach, Talk Time might be an option. You could meet with a small

group for about 10 minutes and engage in conversation with them. You would get a list of vocabulary words they are studying and talk to them about their culture, their struggles, how they are adapting to their new situation, and so on. What a personal way to experience the life of one of our newest residents! TCH provides English and citizenship classes, employment and legal services, and GED preparation.

And then there is the REACH program, Resources for Educational Advancement, Careers, and Housing. Their mission is: At The REACH Center, our mission is to equip and embolden young people to succeed in education and employment through a strong network of dedicated partners. The staff is committed to helping meet the needs of every young person. Tacoma PRIDE awarded REACH the 2023 Emerald Award for their outstanding work.

As far-reaching and ambitious as the programs sound, small ways exist to get involved and support Tacoma Community House. Aimee shared that she would love to see a couple of picnic benches in front of the facility so teens and neighborhood folks could have a relaxing place to meet and chat. Whatever gifts and skills you have to share, there is an outlet for your talents at Tacoma Community House. Visit the website www.tacomacommunityhouse.org to see how you might support the ministries and mission!

Blessings — Sue Raymond

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICTS

CREST TO COAST MISSIONAL DISTRICT

Crest To Coast has been doing lots of planning for visits to Units to pass on information while encouraging Units that are struggling or have just slowed due to the Pandemic and are still recovering. Our Membership Nurture and Outreach chairperson, Joan Hackett, has also worked very hard to contact churches in our District with no United Women in Faith active Unit. Sue Raymond and Deb Avery have helped her make personal visits this Spring and early summer making important contacts with Pastors and others to keep everyone informed about UWF and encouraging Unit sharing (putting two or more churches together) and the new Access program.

We made our first visit on April 12, 2023, to White Salmon. President Bev Thomas, Secretary Eileen Costuck, and Treasurer Penny Wharton attended. What a joy it was to meet the ladies of White Salmon UMC and share ideas, new information from National, and a lovely lunch. They said it was a boost of encouragement that they needed. It emphasized the importance of these "getting to know you visits." We have more planned for this spring and summer. Bev brought some new materials and ideas to share, Penny talked about our new access program, and Eileen spoke about the treasurer's duties, deadlines, and where the money goes.

Our Membership Nurture and Outreach officer, Joan, is also working on ideas and events to encourage and increase membership

in our Units. We are looking forward to what she comes up with as she has lots of experience and ideas. We will focus more on this after Mission U and our Annual Meeting.

Sheree Fitzpatrick, Education & Interpretation, has encouraged everyone to complete their Mission Today forms by August 15 and to attend Mission u.

Crest to Coast had excellent attendance at the Spiritual Retreat, and everyone had a good experience.

Our Crest To Coast Currants newsletter will go out four times a year; the next one is August 20.

We started early on planning for an exciting District Annual meeting in the fall. Our theme will be "Inspire, Impact, and Influence." We look forward to having Katherine Parker as our keynote speaker, hopefully making our Annual Meeting more interesting and increasing attendance. It will be at Vancouver Heights UMC in Vancouver on September 30, 2023, a change from the previous schedule. Information and registration went out very early this year, hoping to catch everyone's attention before the summer as many Units take a break.

We have lost a few more Units this year, so we are actively trying to support the ones we have and be optimistic about encouraging interest and growth.

*Bev Thomas, President,
Crest To Coast Missional District*

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT

"Voices from the Field" was a new special event for our Inland District United Women in Faith coordinated by our Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Madelyn Bafus. Sponsored by our District, it was open to both women and men. Held at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church which has had a Covenant Relationship with missionary Katherine Parker for the last eight years, the event was a five-hour workshop led by Katherine, who is serving in Nepal. The informative, spiritual, interactive event drew thirty-seven, including two men, from across the district. A minimal \$5 charge for lunch was the only cost. A free-will offering was taken for a project in Nepal.

Our officers continue to contact and connect with units not represented on our Executive Team this year. Personal contact is made through phone calls. We encourage participation in District events, Retreat, Mission u, and the Annual Meeting, share ideas, and listen to concerns.

Our District has been blessed with a full team this year. This has allowed the responsibilities of each office to be fulfilled, as well as sharing ideas and a supportive community for one another. Our Nominations Committee hopes to have a full slate for 2024 to present at our Annual Meeting. It is currently seeking Coordinators for Social Action, and Education and Interpretation.

The Annual Meeting will be held in

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Sandpoint on September 16th. Bonners Ferry, 30 miles between churches, will help with food and any other tasks needed. In this way, a smaller unit can host the meeting. We are excited to have as our keynote speaker Deaconess Lynn Swedberg whose message will focus on disabilities and diversity. Lynn will lead a breakout session touring the church facility to note any accessibility issues. The theme is "Invite, Inspire, Influence." All music will be theme-oriented.

Judy Dirks,
Inland Missional District President

PUGET SOUND MISSIONAL DISTRICT

The Puget Sound District has been struggling to fill positions on the district team. Our approach has been to continue to try and build relationships with our local units as much as possible, encouraging our women to step out of their comfort zone and find new ways to serve. We've visited units and have seen what the local units are doing. Some units are getting creative with meetings offering both in-person and Zoom meeting options. Some are strengthening their service areas, reaching out through food pantries, thrift shops, and clothing banks. Some are offering meals to people experiencing homelessness. All are creatively finding ways to serve others as women of faith.

I'll be honest; looking at the list of soon-to-be empty positions can get discouraging – some critical, like

president and treasurer, all important. But we're learning that it is God that provides the workers. I keep reminding myself that it's not about filling the roles with bodies; it's about providing opportunities for the women in our district to live out their spiritual gifts. Here is a chance to see God's miraculous interventions made real. God will bless us. As we act in faith, He is ever faithful.

The Puget Sound District Annual Meeting will be held September 16, 2023, at Bothell United Methodist Church from 10 am-3 pm, with registration and continental breakfast beginning at 9 am. For more information or to register, contact PSD Secretary Pat Rudd at scarp@frontier.com at 425-418-2528.

Jasmine Ray-Symms,
Puget Sound Missional District President
425-223-9866
jasisymms@outlook.com
www.jasmineraysymms.com

SEATAC MISSIONAL DISTRICT

The SeaTac District is busy planning our District Annual Meeting.

Please note that we have changed the date from September 23 to September 30.

SEATAC DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

September 30, 2023

Hosted by:

Kent United Women in Faith,
Kent United Methodist Church
11010 SE 248th St, Kent 98030

Registration Cost \$12.

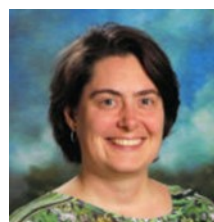
"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Schedule:

8:30-9:00 AM - Continental Breakfast

9:00-11:45 AM - Program & Meeting

12:00-1:00 PM - Soup Luncheon



Keynote Speaker:
Rev. Laura Baumgartner

Rev. Laura Baumgartner is the Pastor at Haller

Lake United Methodist Church in Seattle and serves as the Board Chair of Earth Ministry Washington Interfaith Power and Light. Laura first worked with Earth Ministry/WAIPL as an intern during her seminary program and has been part of faith-based environmental efforts ever since. She has an undergraduate degree in Chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, and Divinity from Seattle University. Laura is married to her husband, Eric, and they have a college-aged daughter, Grace, and a very fluffy dog, Calvin. She loves to walk, swim, read, and bake.

Linda Mills,
SeaTac Missional District President

(Continued from page 15)

SEVEN RIVERS MISSIONAL DISTRICT

The local units of the Seven Rivers district have been very focused on mission work, both locally and conference/nationally. I reached out to the local presidents to find out what their units were doing.

A couple of units specifically mentioned Tacoma Community House and Nome Community Center. Several units are sponsoring Katherine Parker in her mission. Other units support local organizations that serve women, children, youth, foster children, and people experiencing homelessness. Our units support food pantries, provide holiday food baskets, and provide needed supplies and clothing for migrant workers and their families.

I am very proud of the commitment of our members to help the needy and less fortunate people in our communities.

Barb Stout
Seven Rivers Missional District
President

WE WANT YOUR FUNDRAISING IDEAS!

If your unit has hosted a successful fundraiser and would like to share the fundraising strategy that was used with your sisters, please contact Jenny Bygland at jbygland@kentmethodist.com. We may share it in our next *Sharing Line*.

GET LOVE RIBBON CARDS AND SUPPORT MISSION GIVING

BRING JOY IN THE MORNING, AFTERNOON, AND EVENING. ALL YEAR ROUND!

We are the only Conference to have a Love Ribbons ministry, a lovely way to celebrate our friends and family while supporting the United Women in Faith mission.

The conference executive team voted at their winter meeting to increase the cards cost of each card to \$2.00 as a way to increase mission giving). Love Ribbon income is part of Mission Today and included in *The Pledge To Mission*. Units must go to their District Treasurer for supplies and purchases, and credit goes to your unit.

ENCOURAGE PURCHASES!

There is a wide variety for all occasions. I'm here to help in any way I can! **With God, Anything Is Possible!**

Fran Houser timandfran1952@gmail.com
Phone 509-882-4239

You can contact us about Love Ribbons through our website.

<https://www.pnwumc.org/uwfaith/resources/love-ribbon-cards/>



FUNDRAISING IDEA: HOST A DESSERT AUCTION!

Host a special event where people sit at tables with an envelope on them. Arrange for contributions of delicious desserts from either home-bakers or businesses. Have a table displaying the desserts so everyone can check them out. Encourage everyone to contribute money to the envelope on their table. Collect the envelopes and arrange for people to count how much each table collected, then start calling on the tables to get their dessert, going down the list starting with the table that contributed the most.



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.

OTHER UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH RESOURCE ONLINE

uwfaith.org

[United Women in Faith Digital](#)

Facebook.com/uwwomenfaith

Facebook.com/pnwuwfaith

Instagram.com/uwfaith

Pinterest.com/UMWomen/_created/

Twitter.com/uwwomenfaith

Youtube.com/user/uwfaith

Flickr.com/photos/UMWomen

Cover Photo by Oleksandr Canary Islands:
<https://www.pexels.com/photo/green-field-during-sunset-1172241/>

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. 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

SHARING LINE DEADLINE

Anything for the **Fall Sharing Line** should be emailed to Jenny Bygland (jbygland@kentmethodist.com) by **Monday, October 30**. 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



THIS ISSUE

**REGISTER FOR THE ANNUAL
MEETING
PAGES 2 & 3**