

# FLAME

## Newsletter for the United Women of Faith Seven Rivers District Pacific Northwest Conference Quarter 1, 2025

HELLO

2025

### A Message From Our President

by:

**Robin Inlow**

It seems to be an understatement that we are living in stressful and overwhelming times. I am usually one who advocates for being informed even when it's uncomfortable, but even I have been struggling with listening to the news and keeping up with current events. Everything seems so heavy, be it local, regional, national, or international. And while it's important to accept and acknowledge those feelings, it's even more important not to get paralyzed by them.

This month at our local general meeting (shoutout to the Wesley of Yakima chapter), our speaker was a local pastor who is involved with the immigrant community. Rev. Dr. Christie Love is part of the Yakima Immigrant Response Network which supports our immigrant neighbors in many different ways. I want to share just a few of the notes I took:

- We cannot unpack scripture without connecting it with what's going on in the world today.
- Ubuntu (a familiar word for us UWF-ers!): "My humanity is wrapped up in and depends on your humanity".
- "Imago Dei" ("The image of God") means that nobody's image is more or less valuable than others, regardless of immigration status, race, education...or anything else.
- Don't alienate or add to the division with those on the "other side". Learning to disagree and stay friends is a skill set we're not taught. And to give a bit of hope when things seem overwhelming:
- When everyone is engaging somehow, the whole starts to come together. To quote a climate activist named Shelbizlee, "You cannot do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good you can do."

Recently UWF National held a "Solidarity with the Sojourner" webinar which looked at the current U.S. immigration landscape and the challenges and policies that affect migrants. Bishop Julius C. Trimble, General Secretary of the Board of Church and Society of the UMC said "As United Methodists, our Social Principals affirm our commitment to offer support and welcome immigrants, migrants, and refugees into our congregations...[we have a] moral calling to welcome and protect the vulnerable." The recording of this talk is still available and I encourage everyone to watch it if you weren't able to be at the live webinar. You can find that recording at:  
<https://www.resourceumc.org/en/content/solidarity-with-the-sojourners>

Finally, I would like to extend Dr. Love's challenge to each of you. "As Christians, we should be able to explain why this is important to us and our faith. [We should] think about this and be able to talk about it". This challenged me, and so I challenge you: what is your reason?



**Kennewick First - Starting Saturday workshops for Holly Daze Bazaar in October. Prayer shawl has started up again and Piece makers are back producing quilts. The unit meeting included a talk about Japanese gardens, castles, pagodas and shrines. 🌹**

**OMAK- Dec. meeting was a cookies exchange, wrapping gifts for needy children which the unit purchased.**



**PIONEER - Planning meeting with help from neon for setting Eye clinic in March for farm workers and Easter boxes for families in need. 😊**



**WEST HIGHLAND - The mission project "The Chaplain's" is for hospice and grief participants. Preparing for Bazaar in March. ❤️❤️**



**WESLEY - Had a consultant from the YWCA speaking and showing the remodel of the old St Elizabeth Nursing School into an Abuse Shelter for women, children and men. They will have a tour of the old facility next month before remodeling starts so they can visualize the changes being done. One of our members was a graduate of the St Elizabeth School of Nursing and will be there to answer questions. 🚗**



Comments? Questions? Suggestions? Want your story to be featured?  
Email Edel Gonzaga, at [panadodel@yahoo.com](mailto:panadodel@yahoo.com)

## EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

*Save the date, invite and join Mission U 2025 on July 24-26 @ Wesley UMC in Yakima Washington. Announcement regarding registration and scholarship will soon be available.*

Mission U is a transformative educational program that encompasses both Bible-based curricula and events. All are welcome to engage with either or both components of Mission u.

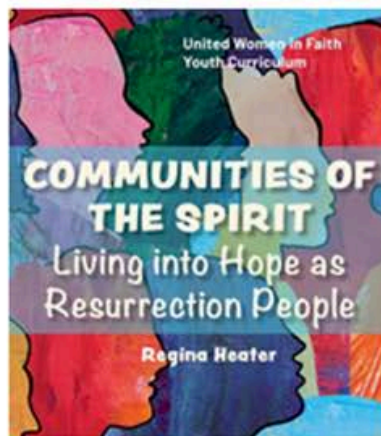
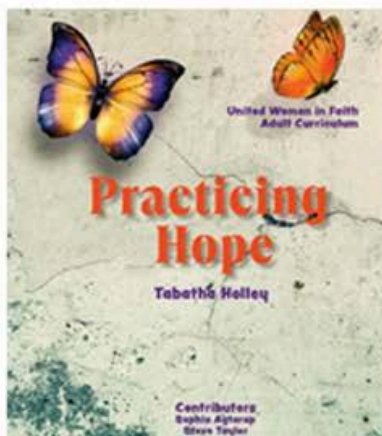
Interested in deepening your faith in community? Gaining experience interpreting Scripture? Working toward healing for yourself, your community, and all of creation? Mission u is for you!

Each year, United Women in Faith develops three justice-focused Biblical curricula for adults, youth, and children, all on a common theme.

In 2025, our theme is Practicing Hope Together. Our focus on developing three curricula around one common theme means that Mission u offers a unique opportunity for faith communities to create powerful intergenerational learning experiences.



Our 2025 Mission u offers the following curriculum available on our [e-store](#). Digital copies are available at [uwfaith.org/digital](http://uwfaith.org/digital).



[\*\*Practicing Hope: Adult Curriculum\*\*](#) by Tabatha Holley

[\*\*Communities of the Spirit: Living into Hope as Resurrection People: A Youth Curriculum\*\*](#) by Regina Heater

[\*\*Hope as a Resurrection People: A Children's Curriculum\*\*](#) by Joni Cisowski

For more information, contact your local UWF, Seven Rivers District office, PNW office and UWF website. You can also email Myra Salapang-Duncan, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation @ [mrsmyraduncan@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmyraduncan@gmail.com) or call 660 7525948.

*In the service of God and the people, MSD.*

## **A Message From Our Vice President**

We are starting a new year with "Carrying our Faith Forward." Let's remember this in selecting programs and activities of our units. I am sending out a monthly small email listing what the different units are doing either the previous month or now. These are very short paragraphs from the different units, please remind your president or secretary to include your unit! Let's look at this new year at ways we can help our neighbors not just our own friends, units, and family. Let's look outside the box. This may be a very difficult year for many with so many unknowns! BUT we know we have our strong FAITH in GOD to do the right thing. Also, remember to send pictures and articles for our Flame publication!

**Blessings,**

**Nadine Griffin, Seven River's Vice President  
nadinegriffin@yahoo.com**



**The GBHEM scholarship application opens in January of each year. All complete and qualified applications are reviewed and placed for consideration in the best available scholarship program. Award Amounts listed are a general estimate of awards given. The general application for all GBHEM scholarships is now open, apply by March 31, 2025. More details are available at : <https://www.gbhem.org/scholarships/list-of-scholarships/>**



Welcome Attendee Information Agenda Registration Record

## Join us for 7 Rivers Soul Care Retreat 2025!

Friday, April 4th 5 pm to Saturday, April 5th 1 pm

Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center in Ellensburg, WA

Registration is \$150 and includes 3 meals, overnight accommodations, retreat speakers, activities, and materials!

New Registration



### 7 Rivers Soul Care Retreat 2025

Join us for \*/eventname/\*! Friday, April 4th 5 pm to Saturday, April 5th 1 pm<

eventscloud.com

## 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 ~~your paragraph text~~ in the Phillipines

Purchasing baby chicks to create entrepreneurship opportunities for women and youth in Mozambique.

**JOIN THE LEGACY "DAY OF GIVING" THIS MARCH 23!**  
**To give TXT LEGACY 20503**



Ways to Give Today:

Scan this QR Code to be directed to the giving page

Text "LEGACY" to 20503

Thank you! Together we are building our Legacy!

EARN ALL YOU CAN,  
SAVE ALL YOU CAN,  
GIVE ALL YOU CAN

