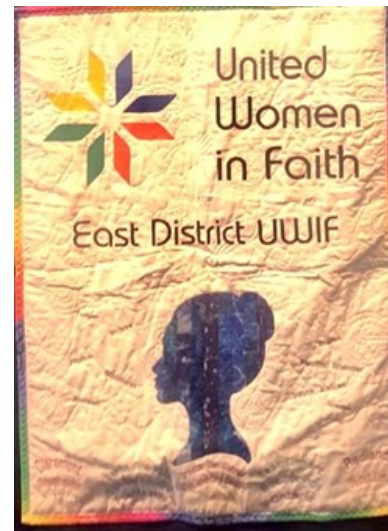


EAST WINDS

Fall 2023 Newsletter

Table of Contents

President.....	2
Treasurer.....	3
Remittance Form.....	4
Year End Report.....	5
Secretary.....	6
Committee on Nominations	7
Gift and Graces Form.....	8
Program Resources.....	9
Program Completion Form.....	10
Mission Education.....	11
Mission Today Criteria.....	12
Social Action.....	14
Deaconess Article	16
Western Jurisdiction Article.....	17
Quadrennial Event Registration.....	18
Communication Corner.....	19
Our Sisters in Action.....	20
Frequently Asked Questions.....	22
UWF Save the Date & Purpose.....	25
UW Faith Subscriptions	26





United
Women
in Faith

President's Message



What a wonderful and humbling honor it is to serve as your president for the upcoming year. Our core of officers is eagerly waiting to assist our local units in helping you succeed in your goals and are only a phone call or email away.

We have some exciting programs planned for the upcoming year with new ways of being able to participate. Watch your email as we begin experience God's presence in our lives as United Women In Faith.

We will be having our training of local officers during the week of January 15th with a wrap up sessions on Saturday January 20. All sessions will be held via zoom. Presidents, please send your list of officers into our District Secretary, Zeni Casimiro, zncasimiro@gmail.com, 1703 Tonopah Ave., West Covina, CA 91790. This will assist your district officers in their communications.

I would like to start having zoom meetings with the presidents of the East District to share your ideas as to what programs or events you would like to see take place within the East District. I can't promise they will all be met this year, but it will give your Leadership team an idea where to start. Please email or text me your thoughts as to whether this is something you would like to be part of and how often.

As we enter the Holiday Season let us be ever mindful of those who are less fortunate than us.

Blessings,

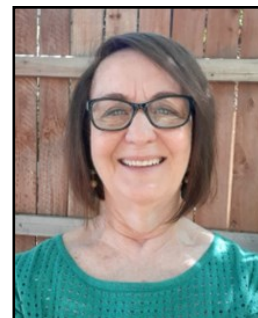
Angel Copeland-Wolf

760-927-5884

amazinggracelove@aol.com



A Note from your Treasurer



Greetings United Women in Faith,

Fall is in the air. Here we are in November with the weather turning cooler and the leaves turning color. We can also tell it's fall by all the pumpkin drinks, pastries, and desserts that are available in the stores.

First of all, I want to emphasize my great appreciation for your efforts to meet our pledged goal. East District and Conference appreciate the money that has been sent in for our Mission work.

As of the end of October 2023, only 24 of the 44 active local organizations have submitted their remittances for Mission Giving. As a friendly reminder to those who have not yet paid towards their 2023 pledges, I urge you to please check your records and submit your remittances by the end of November. Every little bit adds up and helps in Mission Giving. The 2023 East District pledge is \$50,000. We have received \$25,585.36 as of the end of October. We need an additional \$24,414.64 to meet our goal. Let's end the year with a bang and send those final payments in for 2023.

Treasurers should be finalizing their End-of-Year reporting, and the form is included in this newsletter. Each local organization will also be receiving an email regarding the deadline for the End-of-Year report and final remittance. The 2023 End-of-Year remittances need to be sent to me and received by **December 5, 2023**, accompanied by a completed Remittance Form. Write out your checks to East District United Women in Faith, and please mail checks and forms to me early so I receive it by the deadline date. Any remittance received after the deadline will be processed for 2024.

Organizations that would like to receive the 5 Star Certificate must have submitted money into the categories of (1) Pledge to Mission, (2) Special Mission Recognition, (3) Gift in Memory, (4) Gift to Mission, and (5) World Thank Offering. To receive the 60/40 certificate, the Year End Report must also be submitted to the District Treasurer by **December 5, 2023**. If you would like to confirm that your organization meets the requirements, you can email or call me at the information below.

Treasurer Training will be held in January 2024. The date and information are not available yet. Please fill out the attached form to let me know who your 2024 treasurer will be. I will send the training information to the Treasurers when the information is available.

Wishing you all a Wonderful Thanksgiving and a Safe Holiday Season!

Myra Richardson, East District Treasurer
2532 North Quince Avenue, Rialto, CA 92377
Email: myrahalsey@aol.com
Phone: (951) 218-7933



United Women in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

REMITTANCE FORM FOR ALL TREASURERS

Thank you for giving

Local Unit: _____ Remittance #: _____
 District: _____ Date: _____
 Conference: _____ Period From: _____ To: _____

Local: Submit Remittance Form to district treasurer with every check to explain how the money should be used.
District: Consolidate local remittances. Submit Remittance Form (online or paper) to conference treasurer with check.
Conference: Consolidate district remittances. Submit Remittance Form (online or paper) to national office with check.

MISSION GIVING*	\$ Donation
1. Pledge to Mission (general)	
For Conference only: Minus designated percentage of Pledge retained for budget	
2. Special Mission Recognition (SMR)	
3. Gift to Mission (GTM)	
4. Gift in Memory (GIM)	
5. World Thank Offering	
* All five channels help fund the budget and count for Pledge goal. Sub-Total Mission Giving	\$

SUPPLEMENTARY GIFTS**	\$ Donation
6. A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial #3001145	
7a. A Brighter Future for Children and Youth #3001146	
7b. Assembly Offering #3001148	
7c. United Women in Faith Project Names & Codes (list below):	
7d. Enter Total from Supplementary Gifts Details Form (if attached to list more projects)	
8. Bequests #3001177 (attach copy of or excerpt of will)	
9. Other designated gifts (list):	
**6-9 are unbudgeted extra support for specific projects. Sub-Total Supplementary Gifts	\$
Make check payable to: _____ TOTAL CHECK	\$

Last remittance of year due: _____ Check Number: _____

Prepared by: _____, Treasurer
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Email: _____

Submit to: _____

(Keep a copy of submitted forms for your financial records.)

EAST DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH YEAR-END REPORT FOR 2023
Due to District Treasurer by Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Local Organization:		
---------------------	--	--

Number of Members:		Number must agree with President's Report
--------------------	--	---

2023 Pledge to Mission:	\$	2024 Pledge to Mission:	\$
-------------------------	----	-------------------------	----

\$		1	Mission Giving Sent to District
\$		2	Candle of Commitment
\$		3	Designated Mission Sent to District
\$		4	For Local Missions
\$		5	For Local Unit Administration

Instructions:

Line 1. Mission Giving Funds: This includes your Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift to Memory, and World Thank Offering. You are recognized as a Five-Star Local Organization if you support all five of the above. You are a 60/40 Organization if 60 percent of your funds go to Mission Giving, including Candle of Commitment. Designated Mission sent to District, Local Mission, and Administration costs all should not total over 40 percent.

Line 2. Candle of Commitment: Funds sent to District or given during Conference Annual Meeting.

Line 3. Designated Mission Funds to District: This is the total of Designated Mission Funds remitted on Lines 6-8 of your remittance forms, except for Candle of Commitment.

Line 4. Local Missions: This is the amount that was sent direct to local missions of your option.

Line 5. Local Unit Administration: This is the expense of running the organization. This includes travel, postage, the supplies for your officers, and all other local expenses.

Treasurer:		
Address:		

Email:		Phone:	
--------	--	--------	--

Please mail early to: Myra Richardson, 2532 North Quince Avenue, Rialto, CA 92377

Notes from our Secretary



There is much to be done before winter, and autumn is the season of endurance through harvest and perseverance through ingathering. It is about patience and anticipation: we expect something to come from our efforts. The heart in fall especially lives with this expectation.

Our United Women in Faith East District Leadership team are working toward the harvest: we meet, greet, and make plans via zoom or in-person. With our shared thoughts and commitment coupled with patience and anticipation, we expect something positive to come from our coordinated efforts and perseverance. Our hearts in all seasons live with this expectation.

Starting this fall, we would like to reconnect via phone call or email with all the East District local unit presidents or contact persons. We would like to invite all of you to email us your local unit's calendar of events quarterly. We anticipate your response so we can post it in our East Winds Newsletter. This is an effective way to help us be aware of all the events in our East District' local churches. Also, we want to know what we can do to help with your concerns regarding your local unit. It is with anticipation that these efforts will bring about harvest of inclusivity. Let us then encourage and engage one another to reflect the love and compassion of God for all!

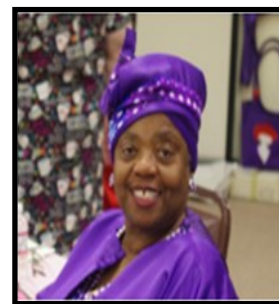
Blessings to all,

Zeni Casimiro
626-941-4396
zncasimiro@gmail.com





United
Women
in Faith



Sisters in Christ,

We have been truly blessed. During our Annual Celebration, we were able to install the following officers...Angel Copeland Wolf, President; Secretary, Zenaida Casimiro; Treasurer, Myra Richardson; Social Action Coordinator, Sandi Harris; Communications Coordinator, Karen Eagans; Mission Education and Interpretation Coordinator, Margie Schriener; Filipino Language Coordinator, Lina Marbella; Limitless Mentor, Lesieli Vao; East District Coordinator, Freda Low; Committee on Nominations, Class of 2024, Lisa Mendoza, Annie Solomon, interim Chairperson; Class of 2025, Freda Low. Congratulations and Blessings to each one of you.

East District UWF local units: we are prayerfully seeking individuals with the passion, gifts and graces for Vice president, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Limitless Young Women's Coordinator and Membership. If you or someone you know are interested in getting more information about the above vacancies, please contact Annie Solomon solomonlouise75@gmail.com - 760 221 6650.

Local presidents please email me the name and contact information of your Chair of Nomination or designee. The CON Training is scheduled for January 2024. More information will be emailed.

Chair of Nomination or Designee

Email

Local

President's Name

Yours in Christ,

Annie Solomon

East District Interim Chair of Nominations

solomonlouise75@gmail.com



United Women in Faith

Gifts & Graces Inventory

Potential Leaders Information Form

(to be completed by potential leader)

Type or Print (attach additional sheets as necessary)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (hm) _____ (wk) _____ Email: _____

Member of Local Church: _____ District: _____

Age: 20's ___ 30's ___ 40's ___ 50's ___ 60's ___ 70's ___ 80's ___

Languages Spoken: _____ Racial/Ethnic Group: _____

Employed: No _____ Part Time _____ Full Time _____

Professional skills, job experience _____

Office(s) held in United Methodist Women:

	<u>Office</u>	<u>Date of Service</u>
Local	_____	_____
District	_____	_____
Conference	_____	_____
Jurisdiction	_____	_____

Additional experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Methodist Women), or in the community:

How will your spiritual journey strengthen your commitment to serve on the Conference Leadership Team?

Jan2022

Return to: Annie Solomon—Committee on Nominations, 760-221-6650
173027 Sun Valley Dr. Twentynine Palms, CA 92277 **Email:** solomonlouise75@gmail.com



United
Women
in Faith

Program Resources Room Manager

Dear Sisters in Faith,

Our reading year is quickly coming to a close. It is time to fill out your reading forms and submit them to your local program resource chair or president. The program resource person or president will combine your lists and send the district form to me. Directions for submitting the district form, as well as the forms themselves, will follow this article. The district reporting form is due to me by **December 15, 2023**. This will allow me time to make out the Reading Recognition certificates for our Mid-Winter event.

To help you round out your reading for the year I have chosen a title from each area as suggested reading. Most of these titles are available online, or through your local library. Some are also available as audio books. *I want to remind you that you may also attend two of the Faith Talks podcasts which will count as one book in the Spiritual Growth category. Several movies also can count as credit, including "Hidden Figures", "Pushout", and "The Hate U Give."*

To access the complete UWF Reading Program catalog for 2023, go to: unitedwomeninfaith.org/resources.

Education for Mission:

How Far Do You Love Me? By Lulu Delacre (2021) Suitable for children.

Nurturing for Community:

The Barber's Cutting Edge by Gwendolyn Battle-Lavert and illustrated by Raymond Holbert (2004) Suitable for children.

Leadership Development:

On the Come Up, a novel (sequel to The Hate U Give) by Angie Thomas. (2019)

Social Action: (Bonus Book)

Caste by Isabel Wilkerson. (2020)

Spiritual Growth:

Community in the Midst of Challenging Times: A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13 by Kenya Cummings (Mission U Youth Study, United Women in Faith) (2022)

I am looking forward to receiving your reporting forms. Program Resource chairs may send the form to me online at: sjelin2@aol.com or you may mail your form to me at the following address: Sandra Jelinek, 9534 Flaherty St., Temple City, CA 91780

Wishing you many blessings,

Sandra Jelinek, Program Resources Coordinator

REPORT OF COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

(Send completed form to your secretary of program resources or equivalent according to your conference's schedules.)

NAME	PLAN CHOSEN	I	II	III	IV
------	-------------	---	----	-----	----

CURRENT YEAR

I have completed the required reading for PLAN . The books I have read are listed on this form.

MISSION EMPHASES	
Education for Mission	
Leadership Development	
Nurturing for Community	
Social Action	
Spiritual Growth	

LOCAL UNIT _____

DISTRICT _____

CONFERENCE _____

PRINT NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

I have also read response regularly.

response *Check off the issues you have read!*

--	--	--	--	--	--

MISSION EDUCATION



Greetings from Margie Schriener, your new East District Mission Education and Interpretation Coordinator. I am excited about serving again on the East District UWF Leadership Team and working with many of you to help women, youth and children lead fulfilling lives. I presently have some restrictions health wise in my ability to travel but Zoom has opened up doors that will allow me to fulfill the duties of my office. I am looking forward to seeing my local unit counterparts for officers training in January. The date for our training will be sent as soon as it is determined.

Hopefully many of you held World Thank Offering programs this November to help UWF fund projects which fulfill the mission part of our Purpose throughout the world. Hopefully you have also mailed your offering to Myra Halsey our district Treasurer. In this newsletter you will find a "Mission Today Criteria" form. I know some of you are also working on becoming "Mission Today" units for 2023. I would love to be able to recognize you with certificate s ignifying a job well done in January. I know it is not easy for some units who are small to complete all of the criteria necessary but I encourage you to at least try to do so. I will need your completed forms by December 20th and you can either mail them to me at 79605 Camelback Drive, Bermuda Dunes, CA. 92203 or e mail them at margieschriener@yahoo.com.

Finally I ask that as you end the year don't forget to send a Christmas gift, if possible, to one of our Conference Mission Institutions. David and Margaret Youth and Family Services, Toberman Neighborhood Center, Calexico Neighborhood House and Susannah Wesley Community Center could all use our help. I will be telling you more about each of them in future East Wind Newsletters.

May God continue to Bless you all!

Margie

"I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me." Matthew 25:40



**C R I T E R I A Cal-Pac Conference United Women in Faith
2023 MISSION TODAY CRITERIA**

To become a Mission Today Local Organization, the Local Organization (LO) must meet EIGHT (8) of the following criteria, including a minimum of FOUR (4) of those marked with an Asterisk (*). Return To Your District Mission Education & Interpretation Coordinator no later than December 15, 2023.

District Mission Education Coordinator's Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Local Organization Name: _____

Contact Person's Name: _____

E-mail / Phone: _____

- __1.* Use the Prayer Calendar at EACH general meeting of the LO to pray for persons in mission & for our mission work with women, children, & youth.
- __2.* The LO will lead their members in the UMW purpose EACH meeting.
- __3.* The LO will make and meet its pledge to mission.
- __4.* The LO will add at least TWO members to its roll.
- __5.* The LO will have at least TWO members subscribing to response magazine. (Order from the Mission Resource Center)
- __6.* The LO will use TWO programs from the Program Book for UWFaith each year.

- __7.* At least ONE member of the LO other than a Conf. or Dist. officer took Mission u Study virtual class.

- __8. The LO will ADD or ENCOURAGE their LO's Young Women's or Youth Circle.

- __9. The LO will ADD or ENCOURAGE their LO's Language Group Circle.

- __10. At least TWO members of the LO other than a Conf. or Dist. officer attended the District or Conference Annual Celebration in person or virtually.
- __11. At least TWO members of the LO attended any Young Women's Event in the Cal-Pac Conference in person or virtually.

(continued on next page)

__12. Members shall write to FIVE persons listed in the Prayer Calendar at least once a year.

__13. The LO will BE a Five Star LO, contributing to ALL FIVE channels of Mission Giving.

__14. Each LO, circle, or subgroup will INCLUDE a mission moment where an article from response magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.

__15. Have at least TWO persons from the LO, circle, or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on at least ONE of the books read.

__16. The LO invited a Dist. or Conf. officer, other than a member of the LO, to ONE of the LO meetings during the year.

Other Mission Work: _____



SOCIAL ACTION By Sandi Harris



Ban Assault Weapons ...

My dear sisters in Christ:

If you believe that gun violence is alarming in our country. Then contact your elected officials. Let them know how you feel. There is a need for legislation.

As United Women in Faith we can take action by writing letters, postcards, emails, or phone our elected Senators. These lawmakers need to receive as many letters (and weekly calls) as possible from their constituents to show them this issue isn't going away.

Mention you are a member of United Women in Faith. Remember that as UWF we believe "Love in Action can Change the World". Be respectful.

Share a personal story or whatever is important to you & your family. Add or omit what you are comfortable with.

Let them know you want to ...

- Reinstatement of the ban on assault rifles (We already had this from 1994-2004 signed by President Clinton). Assault weapons were designed for military and law enforcement to quickly do as much bodily damage as possible, even death, to as many as possible. **There is a reason we never see photos - either they are too gruesome or the bodies no longer exist.**
- Ban high-capacity ammunition magazines, which have no place in civilian life.
- Close dangerous loopholes that unlicensed gun sellers have exploited for decades to sell guns online and at gun shows without running background checks.
- Raise the age limit for buying a gun to age 21.
- Common sense background checks, including improving and expanding to cover private sales and gun shows.
- Ten day cooling off period
- Red Flag Laws nation wide
- Make gun trafficking a federal crime, with stiff penalties.
- Fund research and care for persons with mental illness, impulse disorders and substance abuse issues to prevent violence.
- Ban civilian full-body armor.
- FUND the ATF, so we can have better enforcement of new laws and ones already on the books
- Hold the gun industry accountable and ensure there is adequate oversight over the marketing and sales of guns and ammunition.
- restrict right-to-carry laws.

(continued on next page)

- Create requirements for trigger locks and safe gun storage.
- Require micro stamping technology on all firearms sold, bought or delivered, in order to improve bullet tracing by law enforcement.
- Fund research and care for persons with mental illness, impulse disorders and substance abuse issues to prevent violence.
- Engage responsible gun dealers and owners in solutions.

The gun lobby tells us that the only way to make us safer is to carry more guns. I believe that is wrong. Uvalde, Texas had armed guards. Louisiana Rep Steve Scalise was shot playing softball, Arizona Rep Gabby Gifford, President Kennedy, President Reagan, and James Brady were surrounded by the U.S. Secret Service, the best-trained professionals in the world, when they were shot.

Enough is enough. Now is the time for change and action.

Don't know who to contact? Here are our California Senators ...

The Honorable Senator Laphonza Butler, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg, Room G-12, Washington DC. 20510

Comment: 202-224-3841 www.Butler.Senate.gov

The Honorable Senator Alex Padilla, 112 Hart Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC 20510.

Comment: 202-224-3553 www.Padilla.Senate.gov

Write President Biden and Vice President Harris...

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>

The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20500

Comments: 202-456-1111. Comments: 202-456-6213

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Philippians 4:13

Sandi Harris

Social Action Coordinator

Sanderella01@live.com

626 201 6491



Greetings my Sisters in Christ,



Angel asked that I write a few words for the East District, which is always a pleasure. My roots are firmly planted in the East District; this is where I was groomed, loved, and nurtured to be who I am today within the United Women in Faith. Nothing beats returning home to share with those you “grew up” with and new siblings that have joined. Blessings!

It was wonderful to see many of you at our 51st Annual Celebration. It truly was a celebration with meals, vendors, speakers, and stories about Maui from one of our very own. The President of the Phillipino Deaconess Association joined us, Deaconess Perla Cunanan Baker, her very first time with United Women in Faith.

The Western Jurisdiction will be meeting on May 9-11, 2024, at Anchorage, Alaska. Our theme is, “Get Together!” Please join us if you can, registration is now open: <https://www.wjumw.com/>. In many ways it is like a “mini-Assembly” giving everyone an opportunity to share in prayer, Ubuntu session, upbeat music, new conversations, elections and meeting our newly elected General Secretary/CEO, Sally Vonner. It is an opportunity to connect in every level and leave recharged.

As your National PAG, (Program Advisory Group) I have participated by serving as a liaison between our national organization and California-Pacific Conference. We come together to share best practices, ideas and ways to make the organization stronger, vibrant and resilient.

Please consider participating as a PAG. Skills needed are: excellent communication, prompt email response, good organizational techniques, team player and understanding of the organization then and now. Each conference selects/nominates at least one PAG; providing a Board Member from that conference is NOT elected, a PAG is selected as the PAG member for that specific conference. We need you! Your involvement is necessary!

As always...I remain just a phone call away!

BHAPY,

Deaconess Rosie Guadarrama



Love thy Neighbor

-Matthew 22:37-39

From the Western Jurisdiction United Women in Faith



Greetings United Women in Faith Sisters!

Let's **"Get Together"** for the United Women in Faith - Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event in Anchorage, Alaska at the Hotel Captain Cook on May 9-11, 2024 to participate and/or witness voting delegates elect our region's representatives to serve a four-year term on the national Board of Directors. Register now at wjumw.com – see following page for registration information.

Every four years, United Women in Faith members gather in the five Jurisdiction Events convened around the nation for this exciting event. Each conference submits their nominees and their delegates will be voting at the election. We just had our exciting Annual Celebration of United Women in Faith Cal-Pac Conference on October 21, 2023 at Wilshire UMC (*thank you to our wonderful host church and UWF Sisters*), where our Cal-Pac Nominee(s) for national director and PAG members were introduced. They are: **Director** – Laddie Perez-Galang and **PAG** – Young Mae Kim, Maxine Wheeler

Per National Committee on Nominations, following is:

The Election Process -

Conferences elect 2 nominees and an alternate at their Annual Meeting in 2023.

- ✦ Each jurisdiction elects the designated number of national directors at their 2024 Jurisdiction Meeting. (*Note: Western Jurisdiction - 2*)

- ✦ June 23, 2024: Extended Governance Committee selects 1 director per jurisdiction to serve on the national Committee on Nominations.

- ✦ All nominees not elected at jurisdiction meetings will be considered by the national Committee on Nominations for service as an additional member of the board or as a member of the Program Advisory Group.

- ✦ A national director is also a member of the Program Advisory Group.

Other activities at the event will include: Worship, Music, Workshops, Fellowship, Meditation Room, Displays of National Institutions, Legacy, Art Work, Alaskan Native Heritage, Ubuntu Experience, Tours, Presentations from Inspirational Speakers on topics: Climate Change, Racial Justice, Soul Care

Keynote Speaker: Amy Valdez Barker, PhD – the Congregational & Pastoral Formation Curator

Notable Speakers: Sally Vonner - our new General Secretary/CEO

Ainise Isama'u, President/National United Women in Faith

AND - The new Western Jurisdiction Leadership Team 2024-2028 will be installed at the Quadrennial Event in 2024. Prayers and blessings to all; we hope to see you there in Alaska!

With Much Faith, Hope and Love,

Julie Asuncion, Western Jurisdiction Committee on Nominations Member, juleton610@gmail.com



Only a few days left before early registration closes on November 30. Secure your place at this educational and fun-filled Quadrennial Event for the Western Jurisdiction of United Women in Faith, May 9-11, 2024 in Anchorage, Alaska at the Captain Cook Hotel before prices go up on December 1.

Don't miss your chance to save \$50!

Early Registration Begins September 1 through November 30, 2023: \$295

Regular Registration Begins December 1 through April 15, 2024: \$345

REGISTER NOW

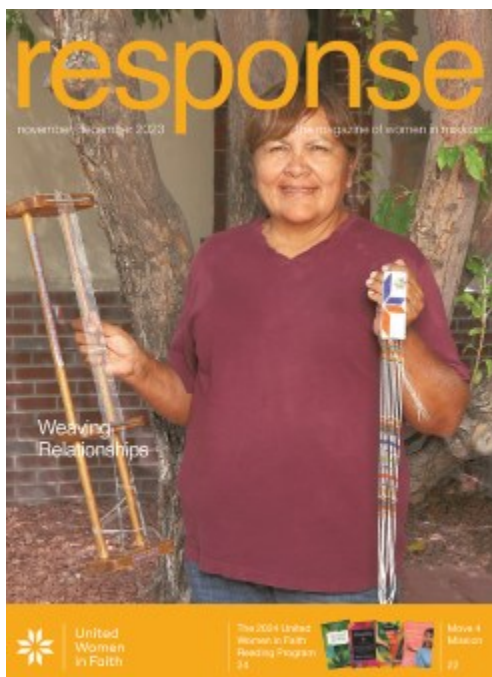
@ wjumw.com

Detailed information will also be found on the hotel, the Alaska Airline discount, time schedules, and workshop opportunities. We can't wait to see you in Alaska!

Communication Corner

response magazine is the official magazine of United Women in Faith, telling the stories of women inspiring, influencing, and impacting their communities. [Subscribe today!](#)

The [November/December issue](#) features a printed version of our new Reading Program catalog! Single copies are available in the United Women in Faith [web store](#).



Training for local Communication Coordinators will be available in January via Zoom. Please email umweastdistrict@outlook.com for more information and to sign up!

Karen Eagans, UWF East District
Communication Coordinator



United
Women
in Faith

OUR SISTERS IN ACTION



United Women in Faith, East District gathered in October at First United Methodist Church of Riverside (FUMC) to celebrate our year of service to women, youth, and children. We celebrated with song, conversation, prayer, sharing lunch, an inspiring message, presentation of East District Officers and Holy Communion. We are grateful for the hospitality of FUMC, for Communion given by District Superintendent Rev. Moonyoung Lee and Pastor J.T. Kim, and for an inspirational message by Jane Stewart.



United
Women
in Faith

OUR SISTERS IN ACTION

Wesley Riverside Celebrated UWF Sunday, October 29, 2023. How blessed we were to have as our guest speaker Ainise Isama'u, the National President of UWF. We thank you for your willingness to make the world a better place. You inspire us to do the same. Thank you for your encouragement and reminder that we can make a difference with our acts of kindness, big and small and that we have touched hearts and shown the power of compassion as United Women in Faith. Thank you Ainise for being a part of our day!



Frequently Asked Questions on United Women in Faith

Why are we taking a new operating name?

The name United Methodist Women was adopted in 1972, signaling a change not only in the life of the church but in the lives of women and how they could organize for mission.

Over the past 50 years, we have experienced vast change in how women live their lives and choose to engage the world in faith as well as great changes in the life of the church.

It is time to adopt a name that reflects how women are living and engaging their faith in today's realities.

Our new name is part of an overall move to refresh our organization that includes a new look, new feel and new and improved programs. We will be able to better nurture our current members while welcoming into our sisterhood new women who want to put their love in action. The new operating name is also welcoming to women whose local churches may choose to align with another denomination or who are already members of other denominations.

Are we still a part of The United Methodist Church?

Yes! We are still the only official women's organization of The United Methodist Church and our corporate name will remain United Methodist Women.

How were these decisions made?

As part of our strategic planning guided by the Board of Directors, and the Program Advisory Group (PAG), we have conducted an enormous amount of research over the past five years. The new name, programs and program innovations are fruits of that research along with prayerful efforts to discern the times for our organization. The member-elected United Methodist Women Board of Directors, along with input from the PAG, has guided the organization throughout this process.

We've conducted surveys, focus groups and interviews with more than 24,000 United Methodists and women of other denominations and Christian traditions. The changes and programs are data informed and tested to address the needs and life stages of current and future members.

Will these changes impact me and my local unit?

All of our traditional structures on the conference, district and local levels—circles included— remain intact. These new tools and programs are additional options available to you and your unit to help you better nurture current members, recruit new members into the organization and manage your unit's finances.

United Women in Faith has a mission statement. What about our Purpose?

The Purpose for the local church remains the Purpose as it appears in The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016 (¶1256.5.3). The core of our work remains the same: changing the world through faith, hope and love in action. The United Women in Faith mission statement—written by board executive committee members, PAG representatives and assigned staff—is a refreshed expression our core principles.

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Can we remain members, stay connected and join another local unit if our church leaves The United Methodist Church?

Yes. United Methodist Church membership has never been required for United Methodist Women membership. Bylaws changes allow for women to be involved and be leaders in our organization even if they become affiliated with another denomination. Our new name captures this inclusivity.

Where can I learn about all of the changes underway in our organization?

response articles and other free downloadable resources available on the e-store under Member Resources will give you an overview of the changes underway.

What do these changes have to do with “new wineskins?”

United Methodist Women—now United Women in Faith—is again saying yes to being part of what God is doing in the 21st century by creating new ways for women today to gather for faith, sisterhood and action for women, children, and youth.

In other words, we are making new wine and new wineskins to fulfill our role in God’s mission today. We tap Jesus’ use of the metaphor in Mark 2:22 to explain the need for change to help us share with members the new tools, programs, and exciting changes on the horizon for our organization.

What new tools and programs are coming?

The new tools and programs that will rollout throughout 2022 include:

A new, easier to navigate website. The new website will have a homepage designed to pique the interest of women new to our organization and start them on a journey to membership. The homepage will also include a special portal where members can log in to access resources specially designed for them.

Templates for Soul Care retreats. A pilot member recruitment program will be debuted through which current members invite nonmember friends to themed retreats specially designed to nurture our bodies, minds and souls.

Innovations to Mission u. Beginning in 2022, Mission u will be introducing new curricula each year—one for children, one for youth and one for adults—all focused on a shared biblical theme that incorporates spiritual growth, contemporary issues and how these show up in various geographic areas. The new Mission u curricula will be more accessible and adaptable for use in small groups, local churches, vacation Bible schools, retreats and other settings. Through these vibrant, relevant, justice-oriented and biblically centered curricula, Mission u will continue its commitment to learning together for the transformation of the world and expand its impact.

A new national membership option. This option will enable women to join our sisterhood via our new website. They will learn about and be able to participate in programs and events online or in person. Of course, on-line options and resources will also be available to existing members who already participate in circles and units. More targeted giving options. Members and nonmembers alike want more options to target their financial gifts to specific programs areas such as Spiritual Growth, National Mission Institutions or international work.

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New tools for conference and district treasurers. New tools, like Vanco Faith, will be available to enable treasurers to manage, collect and distribute conference and district finances electronically.

Innovations in the Leadership Development Days programs.

New and improved resources:

Mighty Networks, an exciting new online platform where members can connect, and engage new resources like the Program Resource and Mission u curricula.

The Daily Prayer Guide, an updated replacement of the Prayer Calendar, which offers opportunities for daily devotion and connection.

What does the rebranding have to do with these changes?

Brand is a term most often associated today with commercial marketing, but in reality, everyone has a brand. Brand is just a term to describe what people can expect to experience when they encounter you. “Branding” are the things we do—our look, our actions, our messages—that help let people know who we are and what we consistently deliver.

Rebranding United Methodist Women means we are clarifying the way we tell our story and updating our programs, resources and outreach efforts so that it is easier to see who we are. The research showed us that our values, our commitments, and the work we do in the world is attractive to many women who are not yet members, including women of diverse ages, racial ethnicities, cultural backgrounds and life stages. Our welcoming new brand will highlight who we are.





SAVE THE DATE

United Women in Faith

Jan 15-19., 2024	LLTE training (Virtual)
Feb 17, 2024	Conf Mid-Winter Event
April 8, 2024	Mini Mission u (virtual)
May 8-11, 2024	Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event, Anchorage
Sept 14, 2024	East District Annual Celebration

United Women in Faith Purpose

United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

The East District UWF Newsletter (East Winds) and the Cal-Pac UWF Newsletter (Pacific Waves) are published four times a year. Both are free with an email subscription. Email your name, telephone number, church, and district to umweastdistrict@outlook.com for this East Winds Newsletter and to umwcalpaccommunications@gmail.com for Pacific Waves. Cost for a mailed subscription is \$15.00 each. For The East District Newsletter make the check payable to East District UMW and send to the District Treasurer: Myra Richardson, 2532 North Quince Ave, Rialto, CA 92377. For Pacific Waves make the check payable to Cal-Pac UMW and send to the Conference Treasurer: Barbara Simon, 11814 Paseo Lucido #28, San Diego, CA 92128-3287. For a mailed subscription please include the following information: Please clearly print all information:

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