



MISSION MESSENGER

United Women in Faith of Indiana

<https://www.inumc.org/united-women-in-faith/>

MAY 2024

April Moss

Editor

Sharing with our Sisters

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MISSION U

DATE: July 12-14
Franklin College,
101 Branigin Blvd.,
Franklin, 46131

MISSION U SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JUNE 8

United Women in Faith of Indiana offers scholarships to women who are interested in attending Mission u for the first time. The applicant must be a member of United Women in Faith or affiliated with the United Methodist Church. The scholarship covers 100% of the cost of registration, housing, textbooks and meals for attendance at Mission u. Housing is dormitory style. The Mission u daily schedule includes time of worship, a study in a classroom setting, and evening gatherings.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE APPLICATION](#)

PRESIDENT'S POST:

Holy Conferencing!! Zoom!!

I am just about done ... you know, DONE. It seems like we have had a revolving door at our house this spring. One of us stays home to shoot the cat (don't panic – Dora is diabetic and needs a shot of insulin every 12 hours) and the other one heads off to a conference. That one comes home, we say hello, we do loads of laundry, we pack it up again, and then off we go again. Preaching conferences, library conferences, UMC General/Jurisdictional/Annual conferences, UWFaith events, and then there are the work schedules to coordinate, the farm to visit/manage, the uncle to oversee, the kids to try-really-hard-to-remember-they-are-grown-adults, and so on. (And someone really needs to vacuum the carpets and considering the state of the carrots in the crisper bin it may be time to do some grocery shopping.)

Remember the pandemic shut-down? When we didn't have to do all that stuff because none of it could happen? Frightening to be sure but also

a chance to reset. Breathe. Pause. And then we discovered Zoom.

And now we live in a hybrid world. One where we have even more possibilities for connection and community. We can "time shift" by listening to recordings when a live event (like the UWFaith Faith Works podcast or UWFaith of Indiana's Legislative and Advocacy Day) doesn't fit in with our other responsibilities. We can gather with people we've never met and likely would never meet otherwise with streamed events like the monthly Community Gathering for the UWFaith Program Resource. We can still attend meetings when our immune systems are compromised or we need to be somewhere across the country taking care of business.

Of course the other side of the hybrid world is physically being there – getting your pandemic postponed local events started again, attending one of the UWFaith of Indiana spiritual growth and silent retreats, clearing the calendar to be at Mission u or one of the new Mis-

sion u Express events, and committing to be at your district and conference annual fall meetings.

On both sides of the hybrid coin we need to help each other ... know someone without a computing device? Invite her to join you for a beverage of her choice and view an online event. Carpool to a district or conference event with a couple of other women (beverage of their choice in a covered container) to save gas and the planet too.

Think of Hebrews 10:24 – here is how The Message puts it: "Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out." And in the NRSV Hebrews 10:24-25 says "And let us consider how to provoke one another in love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." So, let's get out there and be inventive and start provoking!

La Donna Weber, UWFaith of Indiana, President



MISSION U IS ALMOST HERE



We are excited to invite you to Mission u 2024! Click on the link to find the registration form ([LINK](#)) and welcome letter ([LINK](#)) for Mission u event at Franklin College, Franklin, IN. It's a beautiful small campus; a perfect setting for fun, fellowship and, of course, transformative educational experiences! The dates are Friday, July 12 - Sunday, July 14th. Check - in is from 3pm-5:30pm and dinner is at 5:30pm (Eastern Time).

Waivers for adults, children and youth (required by Franklin College) must be returned with the registration forms. ([LINK](#)) Additionally, waivers (required by UWFaith) for children ([LINK](#)) and youth ([LINK](#)) must also be returned with the registration forms.

Also included in this document is a registration form for Mission u Express events! We are excited to offer a single day, Mission u event (previously known as a Sampler Day). The same adult study will be presented as a "sampler" within the one-day Mission u Express event. Pick a location and date that works for you! Childcare is provided. ([LINK](#))

A Welcome Home letter (click on the link) explains the studies for adult, children and youth at Franklin College. The same adult study will be presented as a "sample" within the one-day Mission u Express event.

See the flyer ([LINK](#)) explaining our Hands On Project collection for The Family Preservation Center at the Indiana Women's Prison. We will be collecting these items at all Mission u events (both at Franklin College and Mission u Express events).

A few other things--Study Books are optional this year and are not included in the registration cost but will be available for \$ 15 at all Mission u events. There are great resources to take back to your churches for group studies.

Invite others from your church and your friends outside your church including children and youth to join us at Mission u this year! We can't wait to see you at one of these transformative educational and fun events! God's Kin-dom will be among us!

Blessings,

Lori St Pierre, Dean of Mission u

Barbara King, Registrar

Lora Ward, Business Manager

Raquel Brown, Assistant Dean of Mission u

Shannon Priddy, District Representative (Central)

Joan Lawrence, District Representative (Southeast)



A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-VICE-PRESIDENTS

Hello Sisters in Christ,

Let us exclaim, this is the day that the Lord has made, and how we thank Him for it! We are so excited at the coming of warmer weather, and the feeling we get from this season. There is something about shedding the heaviness of winter literally, putting away all that heavy winter attire, and pulling out the shorts, summer tops and sandals. We enjoy the beauty of this season; brilliant flowers of every hue abound, the gentle breezes infused with the fragrant of those flowers, feeling the warmth of the sun, and just the feeling of freedom that summer brings. Summer also marks the end of school and for many that means lots of activities, family gatherings, graduations and finding ways to keep the kids occupied. But, amid the demands of family, remember to take time for yourself as well. Self-care is very important, as we all know, you cannot pour into others from an empty vessel.

A good way to enhance your self-care is with the UWF North Central Jurisdiction's Quadrennial Event, May 31-June

2nd which will kick off with a pre-event Soul Care Retreat on the May 30th. There will be prayer, songs, workshops, break-outs, and a girl's Fun Night! We hope you registered to take advantage of this bit of respite and self-care to start your Summer. If you missed this, there are still lots of offerings and opportunities available. You may want to consider joining an online book discussion or Faith Talks with other women accessible through our online platform, or reach out to your District or church unit to get involved with more localized programming. Your rejuvenation is important for your own wellbeing and that of your family, but it's also important to being in mission for Women, Children, and Youth, which is at the heart of what we do.

Also, as we focus on being in mission and preparing for our upcoming Annual Celebration, we are brainstorming ideas and reaching out to potential participants, along with finalizing accommodations. An emerging issue we are looking into addressing is the significant impact to the demographic in Indiana's

housing instability. For a myriad of reasons this issue is pervasive in urban communities, especially those of color, but it is by no means exclusive to those areas. Poor communities across the state, including those in rural areas are experiencing housing instability. Families who find housing are often paying more than 50% of their income to house their families in dwellings that are woefully substandard. This includes those on fixed incomes like Seniors and Disabled persons, and laborers at the low end of the wage scale.

The Conference is working with our Social Action Coordinator and other organizations championing equitable housing laws in Indiana as we look at ways for our organization to become educated on the issue and get involved to make a difference for those populations impacted by this disparity. Watch for information to come, and in the interim enjoy the start of summer, time with family and friends, and make sure you care for yourself.

Sherrae Davis
Stacey Moore
Co VPs Indiana Conference

UPCOMING DATES

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Annual Conference - June 6-8
St. Luke's UMC

Mission U - July 12-14
Franklin College

Mission U 1 Day Sampler
Aug 3 - Central Indiana location
University UMC, 5959 Grandview Dr.
Indianapolis, IN

Aug. 10 - Northern Indiana location
Rochester Grace UMC
201 W 7th St.
Rochester, IN

Aug. 10 - Southern Indiana location
St. Mark's UMC
100 North State Rd 46
Bloomington, IN

SW District Fall Gathering - Sept. 7
Location TBD

NC District Fall Meeting - Sept. 21
10-noon; 9:30 registration
Shiloh UMC, Kokomo

Annual Celebration - Oct. 4-5
(Fri - 5pm dinner; Sat 9:45-3 p.m.)
St. Mark's UMC
4780 E. 126th St.
Carmel, IN 46033

Silent Retreat - Oct. 11-13 (Fri 7pm- Sun noon)
St. Joseph's Retreat and

Conference Center
1440 W. Division Rd.
Tipton, IN

Rainefest - Oct. 21-23
Lucille Raines Residence
947 N. Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, IN

**Leadership Team Meeting
Leadership Development and
Officer Training - Nov. 3 (10am-3pm) Virtual**
Topics: Mighty Works and UWF
Website (navigation and what's
new); lead by national staff,
Praveena Balasundaram, Com-
munications Director and An-
nette Apitz, Senior Web Editor

LUCILLE RAINES NEWS

Just a reminder that each member is asked to give at least \$12. You may always give more on a monthly basis or whenever you want and as often you want. Just give to your local treasurer who will send it on. We as the Indiana United Women in Faith are the owners of the facility and the program so we are responsible for the building and everything to keep things going and that takes money. Just think of the upkeep on your home. LRR is a 6 story building that needs air conditioning now and heat in the winter and all the other needs for a building that is home to up to 49 residents, women and men.

There is a new website on Facebook for the Lucille Raines Residence with a short video at the beginning with Carolyn Marshall sharing a great message. If it doesn't have the video, it is the old one.

In the month of May, the LRR Board will have a special meal and celebration for the staff as we appreciate all they do

for the residents.

Additional funds are still needed for the broiler fund. We had to put a new system in because heat was needed for the residence. When sending a donation, mark it for the broiler or as needed.

There are 2 books that have personal stories of residents that can be purchased. Sarah Spearman interviewed the residents and compiled them in the books. These are for sale at District and Conference events. They can be counted for the reading program.

If you want to know more, take a group for a talk and tour and learn. It is like a show and tell. Contact Carolyn Marshall to set up a time – 317-636-3328.

Indiana Conference UWF Representative on the LRR Board

Martha Milhouse
1070 W. Jefferson St., Franklin, IN
46131
Cell 812-372-2062

Some hard truths about home ownership

I hope you know that United Women in Faith of Indiana are the owners of the Lucille Raines Residence. And as the owners we have bills to pay – must keep the lights on, the staff paid, the appliances operating ... all the stuff that comes with ownership of this particular home.

We (UWFaith of Indiana) have budgeted \$8,500 per month to keep this ministry running.

Which means we need to have the local units send in their askings (the annual amount we ask for PER MEMBER) to their district treasurer in a timely manner – don't wait until the end of the year! And be aware that the askings do not cover the total so we need the creative thinkers out there to find ways to top up their donations. And remember that your first choice when emptying the treasury at the end of the year should be Lucille Raines Residence.

Tea with Lucille? How about a charcuterie board auction before the World Series? Casserole sale on the Sunday before school starts? What other ideas can you come up with?

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

Greetings from the Committee on Nominations. As I am writing this article it has been raining for all day. I think of God giving new life to all living things through water. We love the beautiful sunny spring days, but we also need rainy days for new life. Through United Women in Faith, we are putting Love Into Action. Our members are the life of our organization. We have had many wonderful ladies who have put their heart and soul into offices in our UWF Local Units, Districts, and Conferences. As these dedicated ladies have completed their terms of office we need to find new ladies to fill these positions.

We have been working hard to fill the needed positions beginning in 2025 but have many positions still open. We need several ladies to "step out of their comfort zone" and try something interesting and very rewarding. The officers still needed for 2025 are:

Treasurer - This person handles all financial aspects of the Indiana Confer-

ence. She chairs the Finance Committee and prepares the budget for the next year as well as prepares financial statements for the Conference Leadership Team.

Committee on Nominations and CON Chairperson – We need 4 new members for 2025. Our purpose is to work through the year in identifying ladies for leadership roles in the Conference. We meet several times per year usually on Zoom but also in person 1-2 times per year.

Mission U Assistant Dean – This person works closely with the Mission U Dean and Mission U Committee to plan and carry out Mission U and other Mission U educational opportunities.

Language Coordinator – This is an appointed position and works with non-English speaking Local Units to promote and support UMF.

Young Women's Coordinator – This is also an appointed position who works with the Conference Leadership Team to increase membership and participation of younger women. She also works to develop

programming to meet the needs of younger women.

If you are willing to consider any of these positions, please contact me through email at raewallis@comcast.net or through my cell phone at 317-625-2523. You may also email any of our CON Committee members:

Billie Sommers

billiesommers@aol.com

Sarah Spearman

sjspearman@ameritech.net

Kathy Byerly

kjpblyerly54@yahoo.com

Janette Stuber

stuberj@pnw.edu

Trisha Stanart

Stanart@frontier.com

Blessings,

Rae Wallis,

raewallis@comcast.net

317-625-2523

CON Chairperson



Clues to a phished email ...

We do so much by email at the conference and district level that we seem to get spoofed or hacked or phished or spearphished too often. Here is an example and some clues to look for in a not-quite-right-email. The clue to really pay attention to is #1

From: La Donna Weber <lcoulter3@ntlworld.com>
Date: December 11, 2023 at 6:32:14 PM EST
To: kathy.lentz@gmail.com
Subject: Operating & program services expenses

Hi Kathy,

I am currently out of office with limited phone accessibility. Could you handle an association Operating expense for the board's benefit?

Jacki Moore is unavailable to get it done now, let me know if you can pay for it through Zelle/Venmo/PayPal, so I can send you the vendor's payment information for any of the payment options most suitable for you, And I will have your reimbursement processed once the treasurer is available.

Kind Regards,

La Donna Weber
President.

Sent from my iPhone

Clue # 1 -- what?? Who's address is this?? **Always** look for this clue.

Clues # 2-4 – these terms sound nothing like UWFaith. Spooky, though, that Jacki (who IS the treasurer) is mentioned. This is some pretty impressive phishing.

Clue #5 – I don't have an iPhone ... and never sign my letters that way anyway! If you are in doubt about an email and you've received email messages from that person in the past, go back and look to see how they usually end a message.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Share Your Story....God's Story

Biblical story telling was the theme of the April Spiritual Growth retreat lead by Rev. Cindy Reynolds. She said that there is nothing in your life that God is not a part of. He is in you, weaving His story throughout your life. Yet she shared that 43% of people do not feel connected to anything. How tragic! Sisters, God promises to hold us by the hand, never leaving or forsaking us. This connection gives our lives purpose and hope.

Jesus said we are the LIGHT, not that we should be, or sometimes try to be, but we ARE. Sounds like a big job, right? But our task is simply to stay so connected to Jesus, that His LIGHT reflects to those around us. So, Sisters, share your story, God's story, and your passion for serving Him through United Women in Faith. We have a Purpose and a connection that people long for. Invite someone to attend Mission u with you. God's stories are sure to be in abundance there!

LANGUAGE COORDINATOR

A Sunday in May a friend and I visited Abundant Vida Nueva UMC to attend their service in English and Spanish. We were warmly welcomed at each service by the congregation and pastors. They have hospitality well in hand.

At the English service we sang traditional favorite Hymns. At the Spanish service we sang praise songs accompanied by several tambourines played by many in attendance.

The message at both services was one we all need to take to heart. Taking care of our earth. The scripture reading was Romans 8:18-23. We can each do our part. Even small steps will help, such as carrying your own reusable water bottle instead of disposable ones.

A highlight for me was one of their traditions. Anyone having a birthday that week was recognized. That Sunday was my Birthday! I and a member went

forward and were gifted with everyone singing Feliz Cumpleaños. The pastor gave a special blessing prayer over each of us.

We are blessed that we can visit a United Methodist Church and be warmly welcomed.

Kathy Lentz
Language coordinator
KathyLentz@gmail.com

SOCIAL ACTION CONNECTION

Tips from the UMC Creation Justice Movement:

REUSE! Take your reusable bags to the grocery; purchase a reusable water bottle; print double-sided; turn the backs of printed paper into scrap paper for notes; switch from plastic cups to reusable mugs. Before you trash anything, ask yourself if it can be reused as is or repurposed for a new use.

REPAIR! Learn and use the simple skill of mending. Consult YouTube or a local hardware store for possible fixes for non-working appliances or gadgets. Refinish or touch up wooden furniture; recover chair seats with new fabric; fight for “Right to Repair” laws for your state.

Rethink! We used to think of the earth’s benefits as endless. Earth is telling us we need to think again. If we want our children and grands to live well, we need to support a more sustainable way of being now. Explore thrift stores before catalogs; purchase from companies that are environmentally conscious; buy from local farmers and merchants.

REDUCE! Buy in bulk to reduce packaging and emissions from shipping whether to you directly or to the store. Choose “paperless” for bills and newspapers and reduce the trees cut down. To reduce filling landfills, donate purchases that don’t fit instead of returning them because companies often send “returns” to landfills instead of restocking.

RESTORE! Look for damage—a stream filled with litter, a beach area polluted with plastic, loss of trees from tornado or fire. Recovering from a climate disaster is accelerated through reforestation. Organize for clean-up locally or contribute funds to reforestation efforts across the world.

REVIEW! Regularly or at least annually, step back and look critically at your “stuff.” Are you a victim of “creep”? Have “wants” taken higher priority than “need”? Continue asking what else you might do to contribute to the health of Earth and give all a better future. Talk with family and friends about your insights.

REFUSE! Resist the constant pounding of advertising that says buy more and more. Say no to a plastic straw when out to eat and no to a bag for a few items that you can carry easily. Reject products that include pesticides or are wrapped in plastic packaging.

REGENERATE! On a personal level, compost your food and lawn scraps; participate in no mow May, which helps bees and other pollinators; consider turning growth back to nature by rewilding at least a portion of your property. On a larger scale, examine your agricultural practices for changes that will regenerate the fertility of the soil.

RECOMMIT! Keep learning, taking more steps, talking to others about your actions on behalf of creation justice. The comprehensive and complex impacts of environmental issues can lead to anxiety and despair. Our children need to know we are doing something. Join organizations that are working for legislation and other changes. Watch for and celebrate good news. Persist.

TAKE SOCIAL ACTION

Remember! Remember who you are and Whose you are: You are a beloved child of God. The very first commandment God gave humanity was to care for creation (Genesis 1–2). In your approach to all things created by God and by humans, remember you are a caretaker. Let that sacred charge be your guide.

Action Plan from our National office:

As women of faith, we believe all children and youth are sacred, beloved, and deserving of an education that nurtures their God-given gifts and encourages their ongoing growth. The use of corporal punishment in schools fundamentally threatens student safety and well-being. Corporal punishment should be banned in our schools.

Corporal punishment in schools is disproportionately used against Black and Native American students. According to the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S.

Department of Education, “In 2017–2018, Black students were 2.3 times more likely than White students to receive corporal punishment.” In addition, “American Indian or Alaska Native students received corporal punishment at almost twice their rate of enrollment.” The echoes of historical violence are disturbingly clear.

Please urge your legislators to cosponsor The Protecting Our Students in Schools Act. Using United Women in Faith’s digital advocacy tool, you can send an email directly to your legislators with just one click. If you’d like to go further, you can follow the prompts on your screen to be connected to your legislator’s offices by phone, as well.

[Click Here to Take Action](#)

Housing Instability Alert:

The U.S. Senate has an opportunity to advance a bipartisan housing package with proven solutions, and Senator Todd Young needs to hear from you to ensure two of his bills are included!

Email Federal Senator Todd Young at <https://www.young.senate.gov/contact/> and ask him to swiftly reintroduce the Eviction Crisis Act and to work with his colleagues to ensure it and the Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act are included in any bipartisan housing package.

Indiana Women’s Prison Donation questions

Please email at lochambers1122@gmail.com if you have any questions regarding the Indiana Women’s Prison Family Preservation Center donations. The new center is opening for children to be able to visit with their mothers twice a month for two hours. Thanks in advance for considering to donate!



TREASURER'S REPORT

As we are making our way toward the mid-point of the year, continue to promote mission giving programs and opportunities like the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program. These programs along with other learning options like Voices from the Field and Faith Talks podcast give more in depth explanations about how our mission giving is spent and helping National Mission Institutions, providing grants, and uplifting women, children and youth around the world. In the May/June Response magazine, it was reported by the National Treasurer the 2023 Mission Giving declined from 2022 by 11.10% or \$811,000. On a positive note, 26 out of 53 conferences met or exceeded their pledge and 13 conferences increased their giving in 2023. I'm hopeful that Indiana Confer-

ence can be in that number for 2024 and increase our giving as well.

A reminder that the Special Mission Recognition pins have been updated and newer versions are available for order. The older style is also available. When you order the pins through the District Treasurer, you can indicate "Cross Pin" for the old style or "Logo" pin for the newer style. The certificates that go with the SMR pin orders are no longer provided by Mission Resources. Instead, the certificates are in a PDF format and are available from your District Treasurer.

A brief recap of the Conferences Mission Giving amounts as of April 2024 compared to April 2023.

Overall Mission Giving is up \$17,687.57 or 26.15%

Our 2024 Pledge to National is

\$220,000 and currently at \$40,591.46 or 18.45%

Lucille Raines and Raines Special Giving is \$21,606.50, up 31.5% over 2023

2024 giving is currently outpacing 2023 with is great. Historically, giving is slower in the early parts of the year and picks up as units hold fundraisers and have their fall meetings. 4th quarter giving is usually the highest giving period of the year. Every penny counts as we work to meet our giving goals for the Pledge and to support Lucille Raines Residence. Please make sure to timely send in your remittances to the District Treasurers. If you are unsure of your District Treasurer, please reach out to me at jacqueh6@yahoo.com and I'll provide you their contact information.

Jacki Moore

EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Local units – Thank you for turning in your 2023 Mission Today forms. If you have not completed them yet, send them in now to your District E & I Coordinator or to your District President. The 2024 form is in this newsletter.

Each UWF member is asked to give \$1 to the Service Scholarship Fund for Youth and Young Adults to help with their expenses for a Mission trip to serve and learn about a United Methodist mission program or another mission program. Scholarship funds are available, so please share the Scholarship form which is in this newsletter. Youth from a United Methodist Church or 2 UM churches or a district UM group can apply.

Each member is asked to pledge to their unit so your unit has funds and then at least 60% or more is to be sent to your district treasurer who sends the money on to the conference treasurer who sends funds on to National for disbursement to National and International mission programs, scholarships and special projects to help people around the world, retired and current missionaries and deaconesses, regional missionaries, etc. Read the response magazine to learn more where your dollars are going. If we

don't give, programs may not get the funds they need to help women, children, and youth. Do your part.

During the spring, the Call to prayer and Self Denial Offering and program can be presented at your gatherings. The program is in 2024 Program Book on page 106. Your selfless giving joins the generosity of others who lift their hearts and hands to God to raise the voices of those impacted by climate crises. The offering this year will support programs for climate justice put into action by United Women in Faith.

Lucille Raines Residence in Indianapolis is owned by Indiana Conference of United Women in Faith. Each member is asked to send in \$12 to support this mission in Indiana. Your unit and members can also send in additional funds through your local treasurer to support the budgeted amount that we have as a conference said we will give to LRR. The new elevator is operating now. A new boiler was added in the fall with funds still needed for that. If you want to send donations for the boiler fund, mark them boiler or as needed so funds can be used if boiler is paid for by the time your funds arrive.

Mission u is coming this summer – July 12-14 – to Franklin College, Franklin, Indiana. A Scholarship form for adult first time attendees is in this newsletter. Please submit it to your District E & I Coordinator or District President by May 25, 2024. Invite new members, invite others who haven't attended Mission u before, bring children and youth with you. Come and Join us in Franklin. Another conference asking is for each member to give \$2 which goes to help with expenses of Mission u.

Continue to tell the your mission story or stories that you read in the response. Reminder – "Day of Giving" for the UWF Legacy Fund is March 23. Give!!!

Martha Milhouse, Conference Education and Interpretation Coordinator 1070 W. Jefferson St., Franklin, IN 46131 - Cell 812-372-2062

These items are in this newsletter

2024 Mission Today form
2024 Scholarship form for Mission u –
First Time Adult Attendees 2024 Youth
and Young Adult Scholarship form
Star Woman and All Star Woman form
Unit Star and All Star Unit form



United Women in Faith demonstrate their commitment to the PURPOSE through their Prayers, Presence, Participation, Gifts and Service.

PRAYERS

Used the Prayer Guide at each meeting to pray for mission personnel and projects. *

Communicated with at least 5 persons listed in the Prayer Guide during the year.

Held a mini-Spiritual Growth Retreat.

PRESENCE

At least two members were added to the membership roll.

At least one member (not a conference or district officer) attended Mission U.*

At least two members (not a conference or district officer) attended a district or conference annual meeting. This could include attendance to districts/conference events such as: district spiritual enrichment day, district Mini Mission u, district officer training, or conference annual spiritual growth retreat., etc. *

PARTICIPATION

At least two members subscribed to and/or read *response* magazine (including online articles). *

Used at least two programs from a UWF Program Book during the year. *

Conducted at least one Mission u study during the year. *

At least one member is a member of the UWF's Action Network to receive Action Alerts and share with members.

Told a mission story at meetings through sharing "member support" articles (identified by the Mission Giving logo—see other side) from *Response*.

Included a book review/report on a Reading Program book during a meeting.

At least two members completed one of the Reading Program Plans. *

Initiated a new or expanded an already-existing Local Ministry Program which benefits women, children and/or youth. *

At least two members watch or listen to at least 2 "Faith Talks" or "Voices from the Field", live or recorded on UWF website.

Attended a "Tour-Talk-Lunch" ("TTL") at Lucille Raines Residence or gave in-kind or monetary support beyond the conference asking.*

GIFTS

Made and met its Pledge to Mission. *

Remitted the Conference Asking of \$15 per member. *

Received Five Star recognition by contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving by unit and/or member(s). *

Legacy Fund donation made by unit and/or member(s).

SERVICE

Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice in at least one way during the year. *

Invited a district or conference officer (not a member) to one meeting during the year.

Pledged to care for God's creation by becoming a "Green" local organization.

Participated in at least two events/activities during the year which focused on Current Justice issues.

WHY? The purpose of Mission Today is to fulfill the PURPOSE of United Women in Faith by:

- **Energizing** United Women in Faith to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action;
- **Increasing** contacts between local organizations and mission personnel and projects enabling a better understanding of where Mission Giving dollars go;
- **Encouraging** the use of a variety of mission resources;
- **Expanding** concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

WHO? Every local organization is encouraged to strive for Mission Today status by completing 8 or more suggested criteria as noted to the right.
Find suggestions and ideas for activities below.

CATEGORY

- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold

NUMBER OF ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED

- 8 (including 4 asterisked items)
- 12 (including 6 asterisked items)
- 16 (including 6 asterisked items)



Mission Giving Logo

Read *Response*, the magazine for Women in Mission, through a subscription or online: [Response Magazine | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#) The Mission Giving logo found in *Response* identifies a program and/or person supported by United Women in Faith's Mission Giving.

Find the Charter for [Racial Justice online: Racial Justice | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#)



Racial Justice Logo



Current Justice Issues may be found online: [Serve & Advocate | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#)

Go to [Climate Justice | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#) for 13 Steps to Sustainability; ideas for Be Just. Be Green.; and other ways to get involved in UMW's environmental work.



WHEN? Receive recognition for 2024, by returning your completed checklist by January 15, 2025 to:

Your District's Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation or District President

Return completed form (front & back) to:

Deadline for reporting: January 15, 2025
Local Organization
Reporting Officer Name & Position:

District:

Email or postal address:

Phone:



THE LEGACY
ENDOWMENT
FUND

Our legacy of
more than 155
years began with
a

Together We Are Building Our Legacy

few **bold** women determined to change the world for the better.

YOU, as a Sister in Christ, are invited to assure the continuation of our legacy for the next 155 years.

Choose one exciting way to make your contribution to the LEGACY FUND.

1. Join the 1869 Society and share with United Women in Faith by leaving stocks or bonds, property, insurance policy or cash.
2. The Builder's Club is a second way to show your support. Each month send at least \$ 18.69 to the National Office. The \$ 18.69 or more can also be paid in one lump sum or you may have it placed on your charge card.
3. A third way to give is to become a Friend of Legacy by providing a gift \$ 5,000.00 over a 3-5 years period

Please contact Rita Gaither-Gant at gaitrgantm@aol.com or at 317-549-3574 for more details and to get started with becoming a member of The Legacy Endowment Fund.
 The new address for the Legacy Fund is United Women in Faith, Church Center for the United Nations
 Attn: LEGACY
 777 United Nations Plaza, 11th Floor
 New York, NY 10017

West Ohio Conference is offering a virtual option for Mission u

Focus: Living the Kin-dom Through Random Acts of Compassion
 Our Theme: The Kin-dom is Among You: Drawing Closer to God and One Another

Virtual Sessions

To learn more, visit the [website](#).

Wednesdays, July 10-31: 7-9pm EST

Thursdays, July 11-August 1; 10am-Noon EST


REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!


To learn more, visit the [website](#).


Scholarships are available on a "first come, first serve" basis. If you are a first-time attendee, click [HERE](#) to apply. If you are a returning attendee, click [HERE](#) to apply.



**This master may be copied and cut into 3 forms and given to members of your local unit to keep track of their giving/pledges – also helpful for your local unit treasurer to use.*

 United Women in Faith	All Star & Five Star Giving Form	\$ Amount
Pledge to Mission		
Special Mission Recognition (\$40 minimum)		
Gift to Mission (\$5 minimum)		
Gift in Memory (\$5 minimum)		
World Thank Offering		
All Star Woman – all of the above PLUS these Conference Askings		
Lucille Raines Residence (\$12)		
Mission u (\$2)		
Youth & Young Adult Scholarship (\$1)		
<i>Make check payable to your local unit and give to your treasurer</i>		

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LOCAL DIRECTORY INSTRUCTIONS

In order to know who our IN UWFaith members are and to learn the best method to contact them, I am compiling a UWFaith IN Local Members Directory.

Unfortunately, the national survey was difficult to understand; thus, it was completed incorrectly. For example, many checked as being "all-access" members which means they do not attend a circle and get information only from the national website. Also, it did not acknowledge the members who do not have email addresses.

This will be a massive undertaking for we have thousands of members in the state, but it will be the only way to accurately determine our membership and to know how to contact them.

Please complete the information on the Excel spreadsheet (XLSX or XLS) for your local unit including each associated local member and email it to me.

If you do not have Excel, please complete the word document, and I

will copy and paste each item for each member.

An option could be one member with Excel would bring her laptop to a meeting and type the information for individuals who do not have a computer nor email address. That would save me quite a bit of time!

If you already have a roster of local members, please send that list and I will try to use that information. abbreviation of their local office(s).

EXAMPLES:

P - president	VP - vice president
S - secretary	T - treasurer
SG - spiritual growth	SA - social action
E - education	M - membership
PR - program resources	C - communications
N - nominations	

Also, I would prefer all zip code 9 digits. If one only knows 5 digits, then look at a bill and it should contain all 9 numbers. If one still can't find all 9 numbers, then write at least the 5 digits.

I prefer cell phone numbers. If a person doesn't have a cell phone, then write their home number and write H next to the number.

If someone doesn't have an email address, then place an X in the last column.

This is a work in process. Please provide a preliminary response by June 15. There is not a specific deadline for this project; however, I won't be able to compile this information until I receive it from each local and cluster in the state.

Please forward this email to all locals. If you know of a local unit who has disbanded, please let me know.

Thank you for your assistance!

Carol Tiller

cell phone: 317 313-9376

MNO Chair for IN Conference of UWFaith

UWFaithinmembership@gmail.com is the email address to send directory items.

UWFaith LOCAL DIRECTORY INFORMATION SHEET

Local or Cluster Unit:

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

State:

Zip Code (prefer 9 digits):

Cell Phone (if no cell, type "H" next to home number):

Email (if no email, type "X"):

Carol Tiller cell: 317 313-9376

MNO Chair for IN Conference of UWFaith

Send directory items to: UWFaithinmembership@gmail.com



PROGRAM RESOURCES

Hello everyone!!! I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful spring with the exception of all the bad storms that have been roaring through. The flash flooding is terrible also. The rainy weather is good for curling up with a good book!

I have finished a couple of good books since we talked last. I had mentioned I was reading ONE DRESS. ONE YEAR. which is in the Education for Mission category. It is about a very motivated 16 year old young lady who had gotten involved in the slavery going on today referred to as human trafficking.

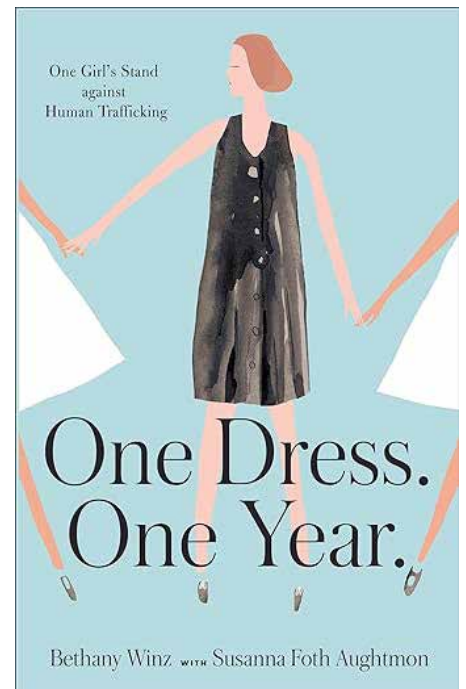
From January of 2012 to January 2013. She wore one black dress that she made herself. Her friends helped her add accessories and things to the dress to change it up from day to day. She never strayed from her little back dress, and she would travel to different groups educating them about the human trafficking problem that is an international as well as a local problem.

The money she raised travelling and on her website was used to rescue peo-

ple, provide them with rehabilitation and legal counsel and to help prevent human trafficking in vulnerable areas in partnership with International Justice Mission. I have read a couple of other books that I look forward to share with you next time. They are TILLY AND THE CRAZY EIGHTS and THE SEED KEEPER. Both of these were very interesting.

I would also like to remind all DISTRICT PROGRAM RESOURCE officers or PRESIDENTS to please send me your districts list of readers along with their church and what plan they completed.

This year I would also like to include Honorable Mention to the ladies who read a few books but did not get to complete a plan. I think that is very important to mention them also. They are on their way!!!!!! It is important that I have all the readers so they will be recognized in the Program Book at the Annual Celebration. Thank you for your help in this matter. Enjoy your summer. Keep Reading!!!



ORDER HERE

Sara Mayes
IN Conference Program Resources Coordinator
7766 Brose Rd Apt O
Newburgh, N 47630-2885
Skma092362@aol.com
270-577-9003

SECRETARY NOTES

We, as an organization are facing challenges and opportunities. We have the ongoing challenges of engagement with young women and widening the circle to excite and invite spiritual women of all faiths to join. Do you know that All Access membership is an opportunity for engagement enabling women to join United Women in Faith via the new website and participate online or in person at local units or larger events?

Our challenge is to raise awareness about United Women in Faith in the church and in our communities. How do we talk about United Women in Faith to women in the United Methodist Church? How do we talk about United Women in Faith to women outside of the church context?

I attended several online trainings recently. Conference Officer Briefing and training for new and continuing Conference Secretaries took place in late January. Conference Officer training on United Women in Faith Digital took place in early February.

The digital platform was developed in response to the challenge of providing online community experience and programming that supports connection locally, nationally, and globally. United Women in Faith Digital is free to join, and allows access to shared interest groups and to find and share resources. Additionally, you can purchase and access the program guide and Mission u curriculum.

Visit <http://www.uwfaith.org/digital>

to join. Tips are available in the app to help navigate the space. I am looking forward to utilizing this tool to connect with others in the sisterhood and to access information. If you encounter difficulties with the app, I am sure that a member of the leadership team would be willing to offer assistance.

I'm excited for the opportunity to pray, listen learn and celebrate together at the upcoming North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event, May 31-June 2, 2024 in Indianapolis. I hope to see you there.

Cathy Burris
Conference Secretary

