

SKY LIGHTS

News for the Mountain Sky United Women in Faith

Dear Friends,

Recently, our community had its annual county fair parade. The senior center I work at had a float this year to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Everyone worked really hard to get the float together. We had wonderful volunteers and staff to decorate, drive, toss candy, etc. On the morning of the parade, we couldn't get the tractor that was pulling the float started. We called the owner and he graciously came and started it. We were on our way!



As we got in line for the parade, we had to go up a fairly steep hill, and the tractor died. Once more our hero came to the rescue. Those of us riding had to push the float to turn it around so that it was going down hill and the engine would catch. Success - the engine caught and we turned around to get back in line. We chugged along fairly well for several blocks, waving, smiling, having a great time --- until the tractor died again. This time we couldn't get it started, and the driver of the pick-up ahead of us was kind enough to tow us through the rest of the parade. In spite of all the hiccups, we all had a great time, and it reminded me of the Beatles song, "I Get By With a Little Help From My Friends."

I think Jesus understood that there is very little we can do in this world alone. That's why he sent out his disciples in pairs, and why he assured us that God is always with us. We sometimes get so focused on our own lives and our personal issues that it feels like we

live in silos. And most people I know (myself included) have a fairly deep independent streak that screams, "I can handle this myself."

We are often too self-reliant to ask for help. But God has gifted us with communities and families and congregations. We need to learn to rely on these groups to live out our faith.

Our Annual Gathering will be focusing on "Mission for Change." Our mission with United Women in Faith is to transform the lives of women, children, and youth around the world. We know that we can't do it alone. It takes a little help from our sisters in Christ around the world to truly bring God's vision into reality. We hope that you will join us on October 7 & 8, either in Cheyenne, WY or virtually via Zoom. We will be having Ubuntu experiences on Friday morning, followed by leadership training on Friday afternoon. We are thrilled to welcome Rev. AJ Bush to speak to us about Adaptive Leadership. Then, on Friday evening and Saturday, we will hear from our keynote speaker, Laurie Day. We will also have presentations from our deaconesses, the Conference mission committee, and others. Make plans to join us for this special gathering. It will be a great time to re-connect with friends and re-energize our passion for mission!

Blessings,
Linda Cockett
President



United
Women
in Faith

faith

action

sisterhood

Sky Light Sky Bright

Event Dates

- Annual Meeting
October 7 & 8,
Cheyenne, Wyoming
- Voices from the Field
September 27 - 2:00 pm
- Mission u February
5, 12, 19, on 26 on Zoom

Highlights Inside

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This issue can be printed in whole or just print the pages you want to share. Use for bulletin boards, inserts, reminders. Any comments or questions please email

Claudia Davis at
mountainskyumw@gmail.com



**United
Women
in Faith**

Report from

Jana Jones, Director

How can it be September already? I sure wish there was a “pause button” available on life sometimes. There are so many times I’d like to just be able to hold onto for a bit longer, wouldn’t you? This summer held special memories for me as we celebrated my mother’s 100th birthday and had a long-delayed trip to Europe. We pulled out of our COVID cocoons to see each other at church, at Assembly and finally at our annual MSC United Women in Faith gathering in Cheyenne. Sadly, I will be unable to join you in person at the gathering as I have a conflicting Board of Directors meeting at the same time, but will try to zoom in when available.

Did you get your latest Response magazine? It was all about Assembly and it was exciting to see how well the Mountain Sky UW Faith was represented! I could see the MSC group pictures in Bright Lights, Bishop Oliveto in Several pictures, our new Deaconesses and Home Missioner – (listed by name!), and Peggy Taylor and Nancy Friday playing at the art station. I loved remembering the highlights of Assembly.

As we continue to live in to our new Brand, many still have questions. What stays the same? What does this mean to me and my unit? I would be very

happy to help answer your questions by email or by phone, or come visit your district, unit and local women, even if it is a virtual visit. We know things are still in progress. We continue to wait patiently, (or not so patiently) for the all-access portal of the website. It really is coming.

What we really want you to know is with the changes that are probably going to happen in the UMC, all women still have a place in United Women in Faith, even if their church disaffiliates from the UMC. Our mission remains, as it always has been, to women, children and youth in the US and around the world. Our organization is made up of individual women (that means you) with a passion for justice, grounded in our faith. Together, we can change the world.

Jana Jones
United Women in Faith Director
JL.jones@outlook.com
303-910-5199



Spiritual Growth comes with guidance from above.

“As United Women in Faith, we are a sisterhood acting in faith. We believe love in action will change the world for the better.”

Five reasons to grow your spirituality

by Joe Wilner, Psych Central

1. Hopefulness – strengthening of our hope and optimism.
2. To grow in compassion and understanding.
3. To realize a sense of purpose and meaning and that we are meant to contribute something to this world.
4. Learning to be grateful and finding inspiration, beauty and wonder in our everyday lives.
5. Strengthening our connection to God brings peace of mind - knowing we do not carry life’s burden alone.

Check out our new United Women in Faith website (uwfaith.org/resources)

for resources to “grow your spirituality”! There you will find the traditional old favorites as well as new options. Webinars and podcasts will stir your soul and explore how love in action changes the world. The following are just a few of the options available to help you “grow your spirituality”

Response magazine available in both digital and print formats. Each issue will speak to your heart and soul as well as challenge your mind with features such as: Bible studies, articles on people and projects, opportunities for spiritual growth and development.

Response Podcast – audio versions of top articles from each Response magazine including topics on living our faith and local, national, and international work.

Faith Talks – Live monthly conversations hosted by Jennifer R. Farmer. Check the events calendar on the website to find the next scheduled Faith Talk. Themes are timely with insights on living your faith and interviews with spiritual leaders.

2022 Reading Program – A cherished tradition that enlightens and shares knowledge of the world around us, provides leadership development, presents ideas for social action and opportunity for spiritual growth.

Continued on Next Page



**“Aspirin is okay for headaches
but loving is good for heartaches”**

From *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*
©Bill & Jeff Keane
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Prayer for Spiritual Growth:

Lord: Do not allow me to become complacent. Instill in me a desire to grow in your guidance, your love, and your grace. Fill my life with the joy of your Spirit. Let me serve others and share your love through Christ, my Lord.

Amen.

REQUEST FOR MEMORIAL NAMES:

During our Annual Gathering this October, we will hold a memorial service to remember members who have passed away since our last gathering in 2021. Please submit the names of these ladies to Cathy Speich-Ferguson at cathysf@bresnan.net. Perhaps, you have some information and/or a photo of your deceased member(s) you could share for use at the memorial service.



**Submitted by Cathy Speich-Ferguson
Spiritual Growth Coordinator**

We want to use the full name, **United Women in Faith**, as often as possible. It helps us all get used to it and get the name out there! **Uwfaith** is the abbreviation used when the full name doesn't fit in the space allowed.



United
Women
in Faith

Find United Women in Faith Online

United Women in Faith Website: **uwfaith.org**

This is our primary website. Here you will find the latest news and information about United Women in Faith programs, initiatives, and events. It's where you connect with other members and get involved. You'll also find links to our many resources and the e-store.

Downloads: umwmissionresources.org

Find new brand elements, member materials, programs, and catalogs here.

Online Community: **uwfaith.mn.co**

Connect with United Women in Faith members on Mighty Networks, a safe and secure online space to deepen our community and engage digital resources for local programming and transformative education. The platform features the digital Program Resource, Prayer Guide, Mission u curricula, online groups around specific interests, and more.

Facebook: **facebook.com/uwomenfaith**

If you're on Facebook, be sure to "like" United Women in Faith. Follow the link and sign up so that our regular posts will appear on your home page.

Twitter: **twitter.com/uwomenfaith**

Do you tweet? So does United Women in Faith! Use the link to find our Twitter account @uwomenfaith. Follow us, tweet with us, and become a part of the continuing conversation around faith, hope, and love in action.

YouTube: **youtube.com/uwomenfaith**

Need a video for a presentation? You'll find it on YouTube. Check out the video resources available by following the link. New videos are posted often!

Flicker **uwfaith.org/flickr**

Need a photo for your newsletter or PowerPoint? Follow this link and you'll find terrific images illustrating the work of United Women in Faith members.

Treasurer Tidbits

The summer seems to be behind us. I know in my neighborhood it is getting cool at night and the grass is looking like fall. Which also means we are approaching the annual meetings for Districts and the Conference. A time where we look back at our year and forward to the next.

That includes budgets and pledges to mission giving. We have been scratching our heads as to what will 2023 look like. Will we have large gatherings in central locations? Many smaller gatherings in the districts? Hold our gatherings on Zoom?

The basic question is how do we support members in their community? How do we spread the word about our great organization and the work we do? And how do we use our money to do that and support our missions?

I would love to hear your thoughts. Please send me an email at nanas91@yahoo.com.

The Mountain Sky Conference of United Women in Faith pledged to give \$170,000 in 2022. To date we have submitted \$83,341.43. Not quite half-way. Yes, donations increase in the last few months of the year but

If everyone could give another \$10 we would be able to meet our goal.

Please spread the word about our mission work and encourage people to support that work.

A summation of the proposed budget for 2023 is included with this newsletter. You will notice the pledge for 2023 is \$165,000. The Districts have decreased their pledges which is reflected in the Conference pledge.

Please feel free to send me any questions you may have about the proposed budget. Since budgeting is kind of like looking in a crystal ball, some of the numbers are based on history and others are based on best guesses as the program hasn't been done this way before.

Thank you for your continued generosity

Robin Ball



Did you know you can Give to
Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith online
Left menu bar on the homepage
<https://www.mtnskyumw.org/donate-pay-it-forward/>

When you shop on Amazon,
Support United Women in Faith of Mountain Sky Conference



(Choose United Methodist Women of Rocky Mountain Conference on Amazon)

When you shop at smile.amazon.com Amazon donates .5% of your purchase
Use this address to set up your account with Smile <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/90-0646827>
Once you set up with smile.amazon, it will link to your account

Proposed Budget for 2023
 Accepted by Leadership Team

Mountain Sky Conference
 United Women in Faith

			Proposed 2023	2022 Budget	2022 YTD	2021 Budget
Income						
	District Pledges		\$ 214,300.00	\$ 222,250.00	\$ 91,834.04	\$ 225,250.00
	Offerings		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,338.00	\$ 1,000.00
	Spiritual Retreat Registration		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 20,000.00		\$ -
	Annual Mtg Registration		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 4,000.00
	Resource Sales		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 100.00
	Smile Amazon		\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 57.81	\$ 60.00
	Interest Income		\$ 1,728.00	\$ 1,736.00	\$ 1,160.49	\$ 1,224.00
	Total Income		\$ 219,108.00	\$ 248,066.00	\$ 94,390.34	\$ 231,634.00
	Pledge to National		\$ 165,000.00	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 133,551.42	\$ 156,000.00
	General Expenses					
	Audit (Agreed Upon Procedure)		\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00
	Directory-Conference		\$ 75.00	\$ 75.00		\$ 100.00
	Newsletter (Go and Tell)		\$ 120.00	\$ -		\$ 100.00
	Web Page		\$ 500.00	\$ 150.00		\$ 300.00
	Program Resource Purchases		\$ -	\$ -		\$ 50.00
	A & MD District		\$ 14,570.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 22,140.00
	A & D Western Jurisdiction-2%		\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00
	Church Women United		\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00		\$ 300.00
	Program and Events					
	Jan Planning Event		\$ 6,400.00	\$ 6,400.00		\$ 6,400.00
	Spiritual Retreat		\$ 5,600.00	\$ 29,021.00	\$ 504.41	\$ -
	Annual Meeting-net		\$ 13,600.00	\$ 13,100.00	\$ 304.24	\$ 11,450.00
	Mission-u & Events					\$ 6,850.00
	UMC Annual Conference		\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 504.41	\$ 550.00
	Western Jurisdiction			\$ 5,000.00	\$ 15,438.83	\$ 2,100.00
	Officer Expenses					
	Travel, Meals & Housing		\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00		\$ 500.00
	Computers,software, Zoom		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 823.85	\$ 1,000.00
	Officer Resources Literature		\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 23.40	\$ 1,000.00
	Printing & Postage		\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 126.42	\$ 300.00
	Office Supplies		\$ 120.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 51.18	\$ 300.00
	Bank Charges		\$ 145.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 32.84	\$ 130.00
	Sec of State		\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
	Transfer of Funds		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 4,000.00
	Miscellaneous-Contingency					
	Total Admin & Membership Dev Budget		\$ 54,080.00	\$ 83,066.00	\$ 25,459.58	\$ 61,320.00
	District Pledges		\$ 214,300.00	\$ 222,250.00		\$ 225,250.00
			25%	37%		26%

Mission u Happenings

Summer Mission u Study Successful, Plans Made for February 2023

Eighty-eight registrants participated in Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom study held in July and August.

We will be continuing with the Zoom format into 2023 with the recordings of the sessions offered post-session for each week. We believe the recordings make it possible for more people to participate on their own schedule. The virtual Zoom environment continues to work well to enable participation and to efficiently and effectively use people's time. The link to the study can be found below, please use the material as you are able. There is very rich content and information shared in the study sessions.

With face-to-face participation in mind, we are encouraging future Zoom participants to meet at a church or in a participant home where you can discuss the materials presented live with your small group. If small groups of participants can gather together in one place, we believe it will help us transition to take advantage of the best aspects of Zoom and the best aspects of person-to-person interaction.

YouTube channel established for UWF/Mission u

Assistant Dean Belinda Alkula continues to supplement the weekly recording with other valuable resources making it easy for participants to take the learnings back to their local units and congregations. **The Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith have a new YouTube channel. Recordings of Mission u sessions can be found there.** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpwDuT4-UslC6Q4EREWYPIA>



Who Can We Be Together: A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13—Adult, English Study Dates Announced Registration to open by October 8.

Mark your calendars for Sundays, February 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2023; from 2-4:30 p.m., for Who Can We Be

Together? A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13, the 2022 adult curriculum by Candace Simpson brings participants deeper into Jesus' teachings in this chapter of Luke to explore what it means to be in community. As the author notes, "For followers of Christ 2,000 years later, it's important for us to sit with the range of emotions we have in response to these words. It's not easy to build and sustain communities, especially when there are forces that drain us, exhaust us, and even push us to act uncharacteristically. And yet, we are called to act on the most ethical principles of our faith so we can witness the kin-dom of God on earth."

Who Can We Be Together? can be adapted to a variety of settings outside of the **Mission u format**, including Sunday school, and other church school settings.

Dean Kathryn Witte, Assistant Dean Belinda Alkula, and new study leader trainees Courtney Randall, Charlene Elliott, Araceli Berguda and Gaylene Maka attended leader training in April, for the Luke 13 study. We are most excited about adding leaders who will teach in Spanish (Araceli Berguda) and in Tongan (Gaylene Maka). Additionally, Courtney Randall who is also the Mission Advocate for the Western Jurisdiction is planning to focus on the youth study.

At the end of the Luke 13 study our hope is that participants will leave with a bigger and broader vision of the kind of community Christ is calling us to be in times of loss, grief and massive disruption. What would be possible if we tend to the needs of our communities in small and often disruptive ways as Jesus did in Luke 13? May we do so with the faith that a multitude of small actions, like seeds, can activate a community's healing and renewal.

Pastor Charlene Elliott to Lead February Study

Rev. Char Elliott attended Iliff School of Theology in Denver, CO, graduating with a Master's of Arts in Religion in 1998. She was ordained as a Deacon in Full Connection in the United Methodist Church in 2004. During her ministry, she served as Christian Education Minister at Sunrise UMC in Colorado Springs for a total of 16 years. After ordination, she went on to serve in the area of Christian Education at Highlands UMC and Washington Park UMC in Denver. Char retired in 2015 and lives in Colorado Springs with husband, Fred Schneider.

Future Building

If you know folks who would be interested in serving on the Mission u planning team, we are looking for people adept at technology, Zoom, in particular. Also, anyone interested in developing leadership skills. We will continue to need study leaders and candidates for Mission u positions. So please pass along those who might be interested or just need to be invited! During the annual conference session in Helena, we did identify, at least one person who is interested in serving in the next iteration of the team.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Witte

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ACTION

A Word About Plastics

The history of plastics is pretty interesting. The first patent for a synthetic chemical material was in 1862—before the American Civil War.

Billiards was so popular in the late 1800's and ivory was even then an endangered commodity; so the pressure was on to find something to substitute for ivory and tortoise-shell. Interesting, right? Anyway, a man named Alexander Parkes patented that first substance in 1862 that later became known as "plastic". In 1907, Leo Baekeland, invented the first fully synthetic plastic, which he called "Bakelite." Suddenly, items that had been expensive and rare were replaced with a more affordable substance, and we've never looked back.

Today, I'd venture to say that we are surrounded by plastics. I'm typing on plastic keys at my plastic-housed computer. My office chair sits on a piece of plastic so my chair will roll more easily on the carpet. The pen I scratched notes with is encased in plastic. The frames of my eyeglasses are plastic. I am surrounded by plastic, and that is not necessarily a bad thing.

Ah, but there is a downside. According to the World Wildlife Federation, here are life cycles of a few of the most common plastic items we see every day:



- Ubiquitous grocery or shopping bag = 20 years
- Ever-present coffee cup = 30 years (Thank you, Starbucks, for moving to more reusable items)
- Plastic drinking straws = 200 years
- Those 6-pack rings that bind bottles together = 400 years
- Disposable diapers = 500 years
- Toothbrush = 500 years

One does not have to picket in protest or write a letter to a congressperson. One doesn't even have to be particularly interested in Social Justice. But all of us can look for alternatives to the proliferation of plastics. Carry your own cloth grocery and shopping bags. Drink from your own reusable coffee cup. Ask for a paper drinking straw, or do without one. My granddaughter, now 8 years old, wore only cloth diapers as a baby—the diaper service was a gift from loving grandma and auntie. We can all make a difference in caring for God's Creation by being more careful in our use of plastics. Plastics will always be with us. But let us be wise in our use of them.



Mary Ann Tabor
Social Action Coordinator

Follow the Facebook Prayer Guide

follow us on twitter

Find us on: facebook®

Standing Rules for Mountain Sky United Women in Faith

The Standing rules have been revised to reflect our new name. There have also been some changes and clarifications to reimbursements to officers. These amended rules will be voted on at our Annual Gathering. The leadership team has accepted them. If you'd like to read them **please click below**. The rules are 12 pages and too much to include in this publication.

Please read and be prepared to vote.



SOME THOUGHTS ON MISSION GIVING

From Education and Interpretation Coordinator, Karen Bueno

Every year the United Women in Faith give away somewhere around \$5,000,000—yes, that is 5 million dollars-- to our national and international projects, to scholarships for women from around the globe, and to special grants. If you wish to see the numbers from 2021 (which are smaller than other years because giving dropped in 2020 pandemic times) then scroll through this document on <https://uwfaith.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/2021GrantsDisclosure.pdf>

What we are doing with our donations is crucially important.

All the good that you will do with your donations will come not from you but from the fact that you have allowed yourself, in the obedience of faith, to be used by God's love.

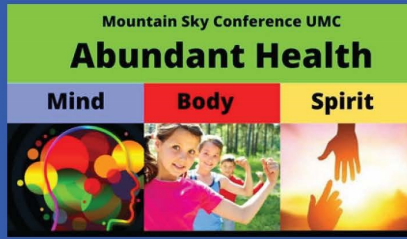
All that you and I can ever hope for in terms of visible results is that we will have perhaps contributed something to a clarification of Christian truth in this world.

Much that we do will not have visible results, but a few people may have got straight about some things and opened up to the grace of God and made some sense out of their lives.

The real hope, then, is not in something we think we can do but in God who is making something good out of it in some way we cannot see.

Our donations to the Pledge to Mission are crucially important!





Register for one or all 3



Mental Health Virtual Fair

Offered in 3 sessions on Zoom

More information at Mountain Sky Conference | Abundant Health (mtnskyumc.org)

NO FEE,
ALL INTERESED PERSONS ARE WELCOME

Ev'ryone Needs a Good Lis'nin To

9/13/22

Honing Our Skills to Practice Presence, Authenticity, and Empathy

Bren Hardt

QPR Suicide Prevention Training

9/20/22

Question, Persuade, Refer - the 3 simple steps you can learn to save a life from suicide

Tauna Groomsmith

Becoming a Welcoming Church for Mental Health

9/27/22

Congregations have a unique and important opportunity to support mental wellness.

Rev. Amy Petre Hill

All sessions are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM MT



Y' ALL COME!

Please join us for a morning of fellowship and business at the Trinity District UWF Annual Gathering at SonRise UMC in Pueblo West on Saturday, September 17th, 2022. Check-in will be from 9:00 am - 9:30 am with coffee, tea and breakfast snacks. Lunch will be at 12:00 noon and will be \$6 each. Checks should be made out to the SonRise UWF/UMW.

Annual Gathering will begin at 9:30 am and will include worship, business meeting, installation of officers, Communion, memorial service for those members who have passed away during the year as well as guest speakers from Anna's Mission. There will be an offering taken during the Annual Gathering for Gift to Missions. Checks should be made out to Trinity District UWF/UMW Treasurer.

Guest speakers will be ladies from the Board of Directors of Anna's Mission: Glenda Holcomb, Helen Darrow, Netté Smith, and Joyce Hudiburgh. We invite you to come and hear the story of Anna's Mission and how the book "Dream Like Jesus" was the starting point of this dream coming to life. Anna's Mission is an organization that was started in 2022 to help survivors of Domestic Violence in Southeast Colorado.

Board members of Anna's Mission are actively working on training through Violence Free Colorado. Our dreaming big includes sheltering and transitional living for Domestic Violence victims, while being able to utilize prayer, Bible Study and scripture to aid in healing and recovery.

Also, there will be a display table with pamphlets and a donation basket for Anna's Mission. Please make checks payable to Anna's Mission.

Registration Link is below:

- (1) highlight with curser,
- (2) press "control" on the keyboard
- (3) right click with your mouse to follow link

<https://form.jotform.com/222334957102148>

If you join us in person we need a head count for food.

If you plan to join via zoom, we need your email to send out the link, **which will go out Tuesday, September 13th, 2022**

See you September 17th,

Trinity District UWF Leadership Team

PLEASE NOTE:

<p>THE ZOOM LINK will go out on</p> <p>TUESDAY, September 13, 2022</p>	<p>ADDRESS:</p> <p>SonRise UMC 421 E Spaulding Ave Pueblo West, CO 81007</p>	<p>For any registration questions &/or concerns, please contact:</p> <p>Elaine Allison, 719-469-7394 or neallison72@gmail.com.</p>
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CREATION CARE 101

Restoring Faith, Justice, Creation

Pagosa Springs is participating in an exciting new free program with churches across the country on the journey of restoring faith, justice, and creation. Each session (1.5 hours each) will feature talks from leading theologians and scientists, inspiring stories from churches, facilitated heart-led conversation, and tools for practical implementation. Please consider joining us!

Creation Care 101 Fall Program Starts Sept 2022

[Information Page](#) | [Registration Page](#)

8 Sessions, 1 Session per month

Free, Live via Zoom, will be facilitated

2nd Thursday of each month

Sessions are 1.5 hours and live at 5:00pm MT

You just register and show up!

Recordings are available if you miss the live event



8 SESSION OVERVIEW:

- Sept 8th Intro: Faith, Science & Creation Care
- Oct 13th Eating: Theology of Food
- Nov 10th Hosting: Honorable Gatherings
- Dec 8th Purchasing: Living Simply & Justly
- Jan 12th Regenerating: Soil, Compost, Waste
- Feb 9th Reframing: Water & Energy
- Mar 9th Planting: Gardens & Spaces
- Apr 13th Planning: Pulling it Together

Mile High Metro District

More than 70 people enjoyed music, delicious food and fellowship while supporting women's reproductive rights at the United Women in Faith Women's Equality Tea held August 27 at Arvada United Methodist Church. The speaker was Julie LaBarr, the regional director of education at the Responsible Sex Education Institution with Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains who discussed the current ramifications of the overturn of Roe v Wade.



More than \$2500 was collected for Planned Parenthood. The tea was the day after the anniversary of the 19th amendment passage which gave white women the right to vote. The crowd there included a variety of women including nonmembers of UWFaith and several men from the Denver metro area and some guests from out of state.



response, an award-winning publication, is the official magazine of United Women in Faith and is published by the national office. Each issue will touch your heart, stir your soul and challenge your mind. Topics and issues cover spiritual growth, mission outreach and reports on our local, national and international work. **response** tells the story of United Women in Faith and is an essential resource for all members.



response helps United Women in Faith members stay informed about the work of the organization and is a great way to share the story of United Methodist Women with new and potential members and with leaders in your church and community committed to uplifting women, children and youth.

[Subscribe today for yourself or as a gift](https://www.cambeywest.com/subscribe2/?p=RSP&f=custcare)

Mountain Sky Nominations Report

Members will be voting on new and returning officers for the Mountain Sky United Women in Faith Leadership Team at the Annual Gathering on October 7 & 8 in Cheyenne, WY and on Zoom. The vacant positions are: Vice-President, Nominations (Big Horn Dist., Mile High Dist., and Wyoming Dist.) If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, you may do so during the voting process at the Annual Gathering. Here are the women running for offices.

Robin Ball-Treasurer

My first memories of Women’s Society of Christian Service is working with my mother and grandmother putting something together for mission. The work was accompanied by stories of mission projects in the world. Life took me in many different directions before I moved to Pagosa Springs, CO and the family ranch. My mother, Peggy Case, was very involved in United Methodist Women and kept after me to join her. Mothers can be very persistent. Once I joined, I am hooked on the impact United Women in Faith have in communities and the world.



Since that time, I have held several positions in our local group as well as District Treasurer, President and Committee on Nominations; Conference Dean of Mission u, and have been the Conference Treasurer for the past 6 years. Yes, the term limit for treasurers is 6 years. However, I was asked to complete one more year to help in a transition.

My focus as Treasurer is to assist and support ladies as we raise funds for mission in our communities, state, conference, nation and the world. We can be creative in finding ways to involve others in our efforts to improve life for women, children and youth everywhere.

Cindy Warren-Secretary

I am a member of the Delta United Methodist Church in Delta, CO. During the time I lived in Delta, I was very active with the church. I was on the church council, finance committee and played in the hand bell choir. I was named the Quiet Disciple in 2020. I was President of the UMW (now United Women in Faith) since 2012. And, I have held the Secretary position and am currently Chair of Communications on the Utah/Western CO District team.



My husband and I recently moved to Montana. We have a ranch in Lewistown, MT and a residence in Billings, MT. We made the move to be closer to family. I enjoy spending time with my grandsons, cooking, gardening, and quilting.

I am looking forward to getting involved in the Methodist Church in Billings and continue to be active with the United Women in Faith.

Cathy Speich-Ferguson-Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Hello, my fellow UMW members, this is my story: I was born and raised in Cut Bank, Montana. I now live in Dillon, MT where I am a member of Grace United Methodist Church. I currently serve as a lay speaker and President of our local UMW group. For Mtn Sky Conference, I have served 1 year as assistant Dean of Mission u and 5 years as Dean of Mission u. I also participate on the Western Mountains District UMW team as editor of their newsletter, the *Glowing Embers*.



I love to travel, and my hobbies include doll collecting and flower arranging. I belong to the Dillon Garden Club and am a certified National Flower Show judge. In Sept., I co-chair the local Floriculture Department at the Beaverhead Co. Fair. I am a passionate lifetime member of Girl Scouts. In fact, it was at a national Girl Scout Wider Opportunity event in Iowa that I was first introduced to the art of flower arranging.

My favorite bible verse is Micah 6:8 “and what does the LORD require of you? To seek justice, love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

May you always be **loved beyond measure!** (Ephesians 3:19)

Continued next page

Nomination continued

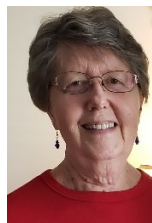
Ellie Young-Committee on Nominations (representing Utah/Western Colorado)

Ellie grew up in the Trinity District, which still holds a very special place in her heart. She has been a part of Leadership Teams of the former Denver North and Denver South Districts and in the UT/Western CO District. It was her privilege to serve as president of the Legacy Rocky Mountain Conference United Methodist Women. For the past two years, she has served on the new Mountain Sky Nomination team.

First introduced to United Women in Faith by her grandmother (Ladies Aid Society timeframe), Ellie learned of the important mission work that the organization was doing. Today, sharing the work of United Women in Faith and the opportunities that are available, especially to grow in leadership skills, remain important to her. Ellie is active in Lay Servant Ministries, teaches adult Sunday School classes, and is currently the treasurer of her local unit in Grand Junction CO. Ellie is the mother of three, grandmother of ten, and great-grandmother of six.



Mary Ann Watson-Committee on Nominations (representing Peaks Pike Peak)



I live in Longmont, CO and attend Heart of Longmont UMC (formerly First UMC). Currently I am Membership Nurture and Outreach coordinator for our local unit. I have served in several local positions including president. I have also served on the district level including president of the past Peaks and Plains district. My husband is a retired UMC pastor having served 6 churches and as D.S. in the legacy Rocky Mountain Conference. Because of his work we have lived in 4 districts of our conference where I was active in each district's UMW. We have two daughters, two sons-in-law and 6 grandchildren.

My first direct involvement with UMW was in 1972 at St. Andrew UMC in Littleton, CO. I was a young mother and pastor's wife and found lots of support from those women as well as an outlet for my interest in social issues as related to my faith. United Methodist Women was a new name at that time. My mother and 2 aunts were all members of the Women's Society of Christian Service in our Tennessee church. This past May I attended my third Assembly but under a new name this year. The United

Women in Faith has launched us into a new era of Christian service, with new approaches and ideas but still made up of women who are faithful to God's call in each of our lives. It is an exciting time to be a member of UWF and I would be glad to serve a second term on the nominating committee of the Mountain Sky Conference.

Save the date



United
Women
in Faith

"In Mission For Change"
Guest Speaker : Laurie Day

Conference Annual Meeting
OCTOBER 7 & 8, CHEYENNE, WY

"In Mission For Change" Guest Speaker: LaurieDay

Conference Annual Gathering

October 7-8 Cheyenne WY

REGISTRATION: DUE SEPT. 25

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

I am (if applicable):

- Conference Officer. District Officer
- Past Conference Officer. Past District President
- National Officer Hostess Unit Volunteer

Participants:

Virtual & In-person Full Registration	\$25	_____
In-person Cheyenne meals (2 lunches, 1 dinner)	\$38	_____
In-person satellite lunch (Friday Zoom, Sat. on site)	\$ 8	_____
Total \$		_____

I will be attending UNBUTU activities on Friday. YES or. NO
(email will be sent to you for your choice)

Any special needs including food allergies? _____

I plan on attending Officer Training on Friday afternoon at 1:00 pm:

- Leadership (President, Communications, Secretary) _____
- Programming (VP, Spiritual Growth, Membership Nurture & Outreach) _____
- Mission & Mission Giving (Tres., E & I, Social Action) _____
- Nominations _____



Your attendance Zoom link and schedule will be emailed to the email address you listed above. Watch for the link during the last week of September. Questions call 303-439-2129 or email mscumregistrar@gmail.com

Please make checks payable to United Women in Faith
Send registration to Lora Fulton
1710 Dogwood Court
Broomfield, CO 80020



United Women in Faith



United Women in Faith and National Mission Institutions

Tuesday, September 27, 2022, 4:00 p.m. ET, 3:00 p.m. CT, 2:00 p.m. MT, 1:00 p.m. PT
Virtual via Zoom

Join us for a virtual conversation featuring members of United Women in Faith that are closely involved with some of our National Mission Institutions (NMIs). Bear witness to their callings to faithfully serve organizations that are transforming lives and communities, and learn why our support as United Women in Faith is imperative.

[Register here.](#)

Guests:

KATELIN HANSON, deaconess and director of operations at Community Development for All People
 DR. YVETTE RICHARDS, former national president of United Women in Faith and board member of Della Lamb Community Services and Cornerstones of Care
 SUSAN STROUP, deaconess, United Women in Faith conference leader, and advancement services coordinator at Murphy-Harpst Children’s Centers

Introduction to

Who Can We Be Together Mission u 2023

Who Can We Be Together? is a study focusing on the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 13, where Jesus displays His frustration and rage at the institutions of His day. As followers of Christ 2000 years later, we experience our own crises, such as exploitation of the environment, racial and gender-based violence, war, famine, and poverty. Together, we can explore the range of emotions that Jesus’ words bring up in us and learn ways in which we can be proactive in working towards justice for all. Participants of this course have an opportunity to develop a stronger capacity for Biblical literacy, learning how the parables of Jesus can be viewed through an anti-oppression lens.



It’s not easy to build and sustain communities, especially when forces drain and exhaust us, and, at times, even push us to act uncharacteristically. Together, we can work towards Christian community, using the ethical principles of our faith. We are called to be witnesses for the “kin-dom”, a term coined by Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz which speaks to rationality, community, and equity as the basis of God’s reign.

Rev. Char Elliott
 8/21/2022



Mountain Sky Conference
United Women in Faith
725 Middlemas Rd
Helena, MT 59602



SKY LIGHTS *September 2022*

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<https://www.facebook.com/Mountain-Sky-United-Methodist-Women>



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