



United
Women
in Faith

The Connection

UW Faith Mile High Metro District Newsletter
June, July, August 2023



President's Message

By Marcia Canter
President
Mile High Metro District

It's been a hard couple of weeks. I've had meetings galore; appointments that were messed up with people

not showing; goals I set that show no progress, let alone completion and to top it off my chest freezer decided to go out this weekend.

I now have food at three friends' houses. I'm given the unclear picture of when the delivery of the new freezer will come and I had other things planned. And the condition of the contents of my freezer remind me that I am disorganized.

Yet it also reminds me of other things. I have an abundance of food at my fingertips even when I don't know what I want to eat. I have friends who will help me out. I have the means to pay for a new freezer and the time to wait for it.

And I am not dealing with the fires in Maui.

You may have seen this before but it showed up on my Facebook feed today. It's called A Franciscan Benediction.

*May God bless us with discomfort
At easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships
So that we may live from deep within our hearts.*

May God bless us with anger

At injustice, oppression, and exploitation of God's creations

So that we may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless us with tears

To shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger, and war,

*So that we may reach out our hands to comfort them
and to turn their pain into joy.*

And may God bless us with just enough foolishness

To believe that we can make a difference in the world,

So that we can do what others claim cannot be done:

To bring justice and kindness to all our children and all our neighbors who are poor.

Amen.

I certainly have enough foolishness to believe I can make a difference and that the United Women in Faith as a group can make even a bigger difference. At our annual meeting, we'll learn about zero waste as a way of combating global warming. There will be a discussion on the racial justice charter and what direction UW Faith will go. I'll be out of my comfort zone as I show participants how they can make something beautiful out of something as simple as the everyday coffee filter and we discuss ways of using our power. I hope you'll come.

And I hope that I use those emotions like anger and discomfort for the greater good. It is certainly easier when there are people to share our joy, pain and even anger. May we work together with these feelings and put our love into action. We can make a difference. By ourselves and by working together!

Marcia Canter
Mile High Metro District President
bomaanka@yahoo.com
303-477-6278



Mile High Metro District's Annual Meeting September 16, 2023

By Donna Parisi
Vice President
Mile High Metro District

YOU ARE INVITED!

Telling Our Story – Hearing Yours will be the theme for our Mile High Metro District Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 16, 2023, 9am – 1:30pm, at Phillips UMC, 1450 S. Pierce St, Lakewood, 80232. Our goal is to inform, connect, and learn with and from each other. We are so pleased to have Bishop Karen Oliveto as our featured speaker.

With so many changes to our denomination, our conference, district, and UWFaith, Bishop Karen will be speaking on “*Where do we Go from Here*”. Our meeting will begin at 9am. There will be some business to attend to; approving the Minutes from our 2022 annual meeting, approving a 2024 budget and Pledge to Mission, Nominations and Election of Officers. Then we will hear from Bishop Karen for about an hour. This morning session will be live-streamed on the Phillips UMC YouTube page for those unable to attend in person. The link is: <https://www.youtube.com/@phillipsunited-methodistchu707> which will take viewers to the church page and then choose “Live.”

After a short break, there will be four options for breakout sessions. Everyone will be able to attend two sessions. The options are:

Flower Power – Seeds for Growth, led by Marcia Canter. This will be a craft class making small flowers to give to potential members. We also will be discussing membership ideas.

Moving Forward in UWFaith, led by Myrna Prentice, former Conference President. We will discuss some of the changes that Bishop Karen will talk about and what they mean to UWFaith.

The Charter for Racial Justice in Today's World, led by Donna Parisi. First adopted in 1952 as the Charter for Racial Policies, the Charter has been updated many times to reflect the changes in our society. It is more important now than ever before.

Zero Waste – The best kept secret to fighting Climate Change, led by Randy Moorman, Director of Policy and Campaigns at Eco-Cycle, and a Creation Care member at Arvada UMC. Randy will share the benefits of going Zero Waste and strategies we can implement now that will reduce greenhouse gas emission and reduce our impacts on God's creation.

We will finish our day with the Installation of Officers, a Memorial Service for those members we have lost in 2023, and Communion officiated by Rev. Melinda Baber.

For a mission project we are asking everyone to bring baby and children's socks & underwear, and diapers & wipes for the Action Center in Lakewood. Childcare will be available and must be reserved by Saturday, September 9th. by contacting Donna Parisi at donnaparisi@comcast.net.

As always, there will be music, singing, smiles, hugs, and joy in being together! Don't forget to bring a friend!



TREASURER NOTES

By Jill Tharp

Treasurer
Mile High Metro District

We need your anticipated 2024 pledge as soon as possible. You can send it to me via email at umwmhmtreas.jill@gmail.com or bring it to the Annual Meeting.

Below is the proposed 2024 budget for the Mile High Metro District along with some budget information from the previous two years. We will be voting on this budget at the September 16, 2023 Annual Meeting. Please review and bring any questions to the meeting.

Admin & Member Development	2022 Budget	Actual 2022 Expenses	2023 Budget	YTD 2023 Expenses as of 8/13/2023	Proposed 2024 Budget
Newsletter	\$300.00	\$58.00	\$200.00	\$63.00	\$400.00
Office/ postage	\$200.00	\$8.72	\$250.00		\$100.00
Resource/ Literature			\$100.00		\$100.00
Magazine Subscriptions	\$50.00		\$50.00		\$50.00
Audits	\$100.00	\$65.00	\$100.00		\$100.00
Mission Team Meeting	\$50.00		\$50.00		\$50.00
Leadership Training	\$400.00		\$500.00	\$98.83	\$500.00
Spiritual Day Apart	\$200.00	\$33.17	\$700.00	\$52.15	\$500.00
Annual Meeting	\$450.00	\$262.76	\$500.00		\$500.00
Membership Development					\$500.00
Child Care		\$135.00	\$400.00		\$400.00
Totals	\$1,750.00	\$562.65	\$2,850.00	\$213.98	\$3,200.00

Local unit giving	16/ 19,230.	21/28,459.60	21 units	21/15,596.18	21 / units
Mission Giving Pledge	\$35,000.00	\$28,459.60	\$35,000.00	\$15,596.18	\$32,000.00

NOTES:

Newsletters go out via email where available & mailed if no email address

Postage included with appropriate category, ie; newsletter, program expenses

Transportation expenses included in meeting expenses

Resource/Literature for books or materials from National UWFaith

Membership Development - a new category to fund member events

Mission Giving based on total received from local units in 5 areas of giving; Pledge, Special Mission Recognition, Gifts to Mission, Gift in Memory, World Thank Offering

Mission Giving had a shortfall in 2022 of \$6540.30



Mile High Metro District Nominations

By Donna Parisi

Vice President
Mile High Metro District

Nominations

This is a season of change. The Mountain Sky Conference of the United Methodist Church has re-organized their seven districts into six. This change was effective July 1, 2023. As happened when the conference experienced a merge some years ago, UWFaith will **NOT** change our districts until the fall of 2024. This gives the United Methodist Church conference a chance to get organized, and then we will mirror the changes.

The major changes to our district will be the name, Colorado Front Range; and the size; there will be approximately 82 churches in our district. We will span from Castle Rock to Loveland and from Elizabeth to Breckinridge. We will make our changes at our annual meeting next year.

For this year only, our nominations for our leadership team will be for a one-year term. The nominations are:

- President – Marcia Canter, 1yr, second term
- Vice President – Donna Parisi, 1yr, second term
- Secretary – Carla Schwartzkopf, 1yr second term
- Treasurer – Jill Tharp, 1yr second term
- Spiritual Growth – Sandy Barton, 1yr, second term
- Co-Communications Coordinator – Brenda Bronson, 1yr, first term
- Co-Communications Coordinator – Hamu Chigwada, 1yr, first term

Terry Mallinson is serving as our Membership Nurture and Outreach coordinator and does not need to be elected.

We have openings for:

- Social Action Coordinator
- Education & Interpretation Coordinator
- Nominations Chair & Committee

As a mission organization, it is imperative that we have a Social Action Coordinator. If you, or someone you know, is willing to serve in this position for one year, please contact Donna Parisi, donna-parisi@comcast.net.



Mission u

By Sandra Barton

Spiritual Growth Coordinator
Mile High Metro District

Mission u was held this past July and August on four consecutive Tuesday evenings. There were 102 people registered, and 60 of them joined in by Zoom. The rest took advantage of the recordings that were made of the four sessions.

The study this year was an in-depth look at the Lord's Prayer. We used the book by Riva Tabelisma entitled "*Living the Kin-dom: Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation.*" Instead of one study leader, there were three: Denise Logan, Mary Cousins and me.

If you would like more information, or if you would like someone to come and speak to your unit or perhaps a cluster of units, please contact me and I can arrange for one of us to come and do the program.

From those whom I have spoken with, it was a success!



Vice President's Message

By Donna Parisi

Vice President
Mile High Metro District

“Live in each season as it passes; breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit, and resign yourself to the influence of the earth,” Henry David Thoreau in “*Walden*”

Fresh fruit, beautiful flowers, root beer floats, warm sunshine, walks outside, visits with family & friends....Have you been enjoying your summer? With such a rainy spring, our summer has been green and lush. And yet Labor Day is coming up quickly.

Now we turn our thoughts to back-to-school, shorter days, and resuming the ministries in our churches. My Circle “plays” in the summer. Instead of our regular meetings we plant flowers at church, then go for ice cream; enjoy a concert in the park; and meet at a restaurant for dinner. Now it’s time to get back to programs of learning and serving.

One of the duties of Vice President, at the local and district level, is program planning. What do we want to do? What do we need to learn? Who and how can we serve? These are the questions that go into program planning. If you are looking for ideas, to learn or serve, please contact me. I would love to chat as you plan or come to your unit for a visit. We are always our own best resource and we can learn a lot from each other.

Our Mile High Metro District annual meeting, “*Telling Our Story, Hearing Yours*”, is coming soon on Saturday, September 16th. It will be held at Phillips United Methodist Church in Lakewood. We are thrilled to have Bishop Karen Oliveto as our morning speaker! She has always been a great supporter of UWFaith. Rumor has it that she may be retiring next summer so this may be one of the last chances you have to see & hear her. Please bring your friends as she is always inspiring.

The meeting will have more than Bishop Karen. Our breakout sessions will include topics on the direction of UWFaith, membership, racial justice, and climate justice. There is more information in this newsletter.

As I reflect back on my two years as Vice President, I thank you. There seems to have been such upheaval, and yet, UWFaith members continue to show up & get the job done. We are growing with the changes to keep moving forward. Thank you for your support of me, our district leadership team, and UWFaith.

Because we believe that Love in Action can change the World.....!



Save the Date!
Mountain Sky Conference
United Women in Faith,
Annual Gathering

Billings, MT Oct 13-14, 2023
“Stir the Pot of Love for Justice”

In-person or Virtual. Registration form coming soon, www.mtnskyumw.org
We will have carpools available for those that want to attend in person.



2022-2023 Memorial Report

By Sandra Barton
Spiritual Growth Coordinator
Mile High Metro District

Please send me the names of your members who have passed away since last year's Annual Meeting.

Please print.

Your name: _____

Your phone number: _____

Your church's name: _____

Name of women who have passed away since September 1, 2022:

Mail to: Sandy Barton
6495 E. Happy Canyon Road, #171
Denver, CO 80237

Or call/email me at 941-962-2303; sandbar369@gmail.com

To Do List

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



Mark your calendars for Sat, Sept 16, for Annual Meeting

Send a list of those members who have died Sept 1, 2022 – Aug 31, 2023, to Sandy Barton, sandbar369@gmail.com, by Sept 1, for our memorial service

Be sure your 2022 Unit Survey is completed by Aug. 30
<https://www.survey-monkey.com/r/Mountain Sky>

Send your 2024 Pledge to Mission amount to Jill Tharpe, um-wmhmtreas.jill@gmail.com



United
Women
in Faith

Mile High Metro District Annual Meeting *“Telling our Story – Hearing Yours”*

We are so excited to have Bishop Karen Oliveto join us and speak about “Where Do We Go From Here?” Bishop Karen will be here in person. If you’ve never heard her speak, you are in for an exciting and moving talk. All are welcome!

Saturday, September 16, 2023

Doors open 8:15 am
Welcome 9:00 am
Finish by 1:30 pm

Phillips United Methodist Church
1450 S. Pierce St.
Lakewood, CO 80232

The morning session with Bishop Oliveto will be live streamed so you can watch it from home! The Link is [Bishop Karen Oliveto](#). This will take viewers to Phillips UMC YouTube home page, then chose “live”.

4 Breakout Sessions

- Flower Power - Seeds for Growth
- Moving Forward in UW Faith
- Charter for Racial Justice in Today’s World
- Zero Waste - The Best Kept Secret to Fighting Climate Change

Registration is not required.

Child Care will be provided if needed. Please let Donna Parisi know by Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023 at Donnaparisi@comcast.net

Mission Project -The Action Center in Lakewood, CO

Please bring baby and children’s socks and underwear, diapers & wipes



- Mile High Metro District Annual Meeting Saturday, September 16, 2023 Phillips United Methodist Church, Lakewood
- Mountain Sky Conference Annual Gathering, Friday-Saturday, October 13-14, 2023 Billings, MT
- Mile High Metro District Mission & Mentoring Day, Saturday, January 27, 2024, Littleton United Methodist Church
- Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial, May 9-11, 2024, Anchorage, AK

The Connection

UWFAITH MILE HIGH METRO DISTRICT NEWSLETTER –

June, July, August 2023



From: Terri Sergeant
UWFaith Mile High Metro District Communications
2531 S. Ivy St.
Denver CO 80222