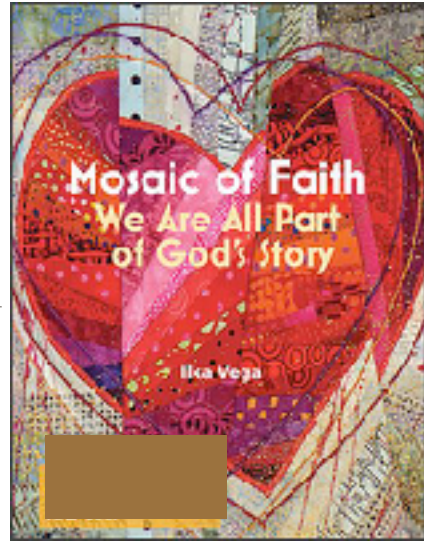


We Are All Part Of God's Story



MARY MARTHA LINK PEAKS PIKES PEAK DISTRICT AUGUST 2023

Calendar Dates

Peaks Pikes Peak District Events

September 23
Annual Gathering
Rinn UMC
"Creating Community"
"Renewing and Re-Energizing
Our FAITH Communities"

Mountain Sky Conference Events

mtnskyumw.org
October 13-14
Annual Gathering
Billings MT
Stir the Pot of Love for Justice

Western Jurisdiction Events

April 25-28, 2024
Western Jurisdiction Meeting
Anchorage, Alaska

National

Assembly, 2026

National Mailing Address

United Women in Faith
Church Center for the United
Nations
777 United Nations Plaza,
p11th Floor



Margaret Wiatrowski
President
719-531-5283
mwiatrowski@earthlink.net

Summer Greetings to All

I hope you've all had a good summer, spending time with family and perhaps some travel. Summer started cool and rainy here in Colorado, but now the hot weather is reminding us that it really is summer. I hope you were able to take advantage of the programs offered through United Women in Faith, such as our District Spiritual Day Together and Mission u. The flowers and vegetables in our gardens aren't the only things that grow in the summer. We can, and should, also!

Even as we enjoy these last weeks of summer, there are reminders that fall will be here soon. Students of all ages are heading back to the classroom. Church groups are planning more activities after taking a break during the summer. United Women in Faith is also ready to move forward, building on the foundation of the women who have gone before us. The 2024 Reading Program catalog is available on the national website. Your district and conference leadership teams are planning the fall meetings.

Our District Annual Gathering will be held Saturday, September 23. All of the details and registration information can be found in the newsletter. We will conduct the required business of the district to approve a budget and elect leaders. We will take time to worship together and remember our UW Faith sisters who have passed away in the last year. I'm really looking forward to our program on Creating Community. I know I appreciate our community of faithful women more each year. I'm looking forward to seeing many of you, either in person or virtually on September 23.

United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)

Has your local unit assembled kits for UMCOR or collected supplies for those kits? Are you wondering about the best way to get them to UMCOR Sager Brown in Louisiana? One of the church members from Calvary UMC in Colorado Springs will be traveling to UMCOR at the beginning of October. If you live in the Colorado Springs area, we would be happy to take any items you have. If you live in another part of our Peaks Pikes Peak District, I can load those supplies into my car at our District Gathering. It would help if I know before the meeting about how much I will be collecting. If you have items ready to go, please let me know. Thank you in advance for supporting one of our United Women in Faith National Mission Institutions.

Margaret Wiatrowski 719-531-5283 mwiatrowski@earthlink.net



Nancy Friday
Secretary
303-990-344
Nan.Friday@gmail.com

Nancy is happy to receive directory updates at any time!



Cheryl Runyon
Mtn Sky Conference Vice-President
cheryl.runyon@comcast.net
303-494-0434

Join with Frasier Residents to Warm up America

Residents at Frasier Meadows Retirement Community (350 Ponca Pl., Boulder, CO 80303) are seeking donations of 9"x7" knitted/crocheted 'squares' (any yarn) to make into blankets that will be donated to hospice programs, local hospitals, and homeless shelters. If you have a 'stash' of yarn to use up, this may be a project that your unit or other crafty friends would like to participate in this late summer and early fall. Don't live close to Frasier? Please bring you completed squares to the PPP District Annual Gathering on Sept. 23; Cheryl Runyon can collect and deliver them to Frasier.

Submitted by Cheryl Runyon, Mountain Sky Conference Vice President:

One Nation Walking Together Christmas Shoeboxes for Native American Elders

As you are preparing for the Peaks Pikes Peak District's Annual Gathering on September 23, please consider adding a few items to your meeting carry-all for Christmas shoeboxes for Native American elders who live on reservations in South Dakota. One Nation Walking Together, a nonprofit located in Colorado Springs, will take the shoeboxes to the reservations prior to Christmas for distribution; for many elders, this may be their only Christmas present.

First—what do we need? Shoeboxes! If you have a new pair of shoes, do not throw the box away. Please bring it to the meeting. What do we include in the shoeboxes? Just about anything that you think someone might need in the coming year that will fit in a shoebox. Many of these folks live 40 to 50 miles from the nearest store. Needed items include pens, notepads, soap, small toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body lotion), toothbrushes and small toothpaste tubes, socks (for men or women), hats, gloves, dishcloths, and towels, as well as tea bags, hot chocolate mixes, hard candies, and non-perishable snacks.

We will pack the boxes and mark whether the recipient is male or female. The Calvary United Women in Faith unit has 'volunteered' to finish filling the shoeboxes, and will wrap them in Christmas paper and deliver them to One Nation Walking Together in time for shipping before the holidays.

A HUGE Thank You! for your service to others.

Mountain Sky United Women in Faith Conference Holds Its Annual Gathering in Billings, MT

Please mark October 13-14 on your calendar for the Mountain Sky Conference's Annual Gathering. We will be holding a hybrid meeting (in person and via Zoom) at Billings 1st UMC on Friday, Oct. 13 and Saturday, Oct. 14. Our theme for the meeting is: *Stir the Pot of Love for Justice*, and our guiding Bible verse is: "And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24).

In addition to the business meeting during the gathering where we will focus on our 2024 team and budget, we will honor our recently departed sisters with a memorial service, share a bedtime story with our conference president Linda Cockett, and participate in workshops about Sisterhood and United Women in Faith 101. We also will discuss the crisis affecting Native Americans across our country—Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. We will view documentaries about this issue, have a panel discussion with UWFaith members and members of the local tribal communities, and discuss books related both to MMIW and the Doctrine of Discovery.

Please watch the Mountain Sky UWFaith website for more information about registration and hotel reservations in Billings. The registration fee (in person) is \$68 and includes Friday lunch and dinner and Saturday lunch meals. The Zoom-only registration fee is \$25 to cover our expenses for our panelists and IT professionals.



AnnToll
2023 Vice-President
720-498-1484
[anntoll.com](mailto:ann@anntoll.com)

Renewing and Re-Energizing Our FAITH Communities

A wonderful day is in store for us on September 23, 2023 at Rinn United Methodist Church just off I-25 near the town of Frederick! YOU ARE INVITED! We hope that several of you from each one of our Units will plan to participate, either in-person or on-line!

The Event? Our District United Women in Faith Annual Gathering! (See Registration Form on Page 15 .) We ask that you POST the Registration form AND this article on your church's main bulletin board and promote the event in your church's e-news, weekly announcements and on your websites.

That morning our keynote presenter will be United Methodist Rev. Rebekah Simon-Peter, author of "Forging a New Path - Moving the Church Forward in a Post-Pandemic World". This little book is positive, insightful and inspiring while being focused and realistic. Rev. Rebekah will speak on 'the 3 S's' – the essential elements necessary to build a vibrant, lasting, 4-generation faith community - connecting people, building trust, accomplishing good and enhancing lives. Far more than being just about building membership or attendance on Sunday mornings, Rev. Rebekah's book is about how our churches can both "come alive" (remember the Dry Bones story in Ezekiel 37?) and "forge ahead" – responding to what people really need and providing what so many are searching for – connection with others to purposefully share spiritual life, social life and service life.

Rev. Rebekah's presentation will be followed by small group discussions and then a Communion service. During our time together we will conduct the business of the District (ie. hear Officer Reports, Nominations, Budget). In addition, we will honor members who have passed away, recognize and thank outgoing District officers, elect and then install our new officers for 2024. Lunch and a short service project (ie. remember to bring empty shoe boxes) are in the middle.

Our thanks, in anticipation, to the women of the Rinn-Frederick UMC UWF Unit for hosting this event.

Join together with your UWFaith sisters! Gather together and carpool! Remember shoe boxes! Arrange to have a table and on-line connection in your Fellowship Hall! Invite women to come to your home or take your computer to theirs! You'll be glad you did!

(more from Ann)

Spiritual Day Together

In Japanese culture, one thousand paper cranes carry on their wings the folder's prayer for healing, good fortune and wishes come true

Thirty five women enjoyed re-uniting for our first in-person event in more than 3 years on Saturday June 10, 2023 at Smoky Hill UMC in Centennial. The theme for our 2023 Peaks Pikes Peak District Spiritual Day Together was COLORADO STORIES - EMERGING AS UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH.

The Program included "I Am Denver A Thousand Paper Cranes: How Denver's Japanese American Community Emerged From Internment". This was a moving and thought-provoking documentary film and talk produced and presented by Rowena Alegria, documentary film maker and Chief Storyteller from the Denver Office of Storytelling. The film begins with a black and white picture of a sprawling military-style barracks encampment set against a backdrop of Colorado's Eastern plains near the town of Granada. Camp Amache eventually was 'home' to more than 10,000 people, mostly U.S. citizens of Japanese descent, their children and other relatives, who were forcibly displaced from their homes and businesses in other parts of the United States by order of President Roosevelt and were interned for more than 3 years during World War II.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/02/18/day-of-remembrance-of-japanese-american-incarceration-during-world-war-ii/>

Thanks are due to Loeda Westphal for her presentation, "From Ashes", to Margaret Hotze who played the piano, to Ruth Wills who led us in singing, to Crystal Duncan and the women of the Smoky Hill unit for providing a wonderful space to gather, listen, pray and share a delicious taco bar lunch. Jana Jones provided an update on United Women in Faith at the National level.

We learned how to make our own paper cranes and women rose to present short traditional Japanese poetry readings. Rev. Natalie Marionneaux shared Communion with us. Our other special guest was Conference UW Faith President Linda Cockett, who joined us in person, driving all the way from Torrington, Wyoming that morning!

If your unit would like to see the film, please go to the following link:

<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/i-am-denver/documentaries/denver-japanese-americans-internment.html>

And, we find that there is MORE to the story of Camp Amache! - Read about 'The rose that once bore witness is blooming'

<https://www.thefencepost.com/news/amache-rose-that-once-bore-witness-is-blooming/>

See you on September 23 for Annual Meeting!

Memories!
Pictures from the June 10th Spiritual Day Apart
Folding Paper Cranes



Speaker Rowena Alegria



A teacher is helpful!



Concentration!



Beautifully completed!



Myrna Prentice
Communications
303-469-1633
myrnaprentice@mac.com

:”United Women in Faith...Seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.”

May we live out this vision..



Laurel Kubin
Treasurer
970-686-0544
909 Palomino Way
Windsor CO 80550

Gifts Given: Gifts Used

Part of the District's Annual Gathering is to recognize the Pledges to Mission planned for 2024. As each unit considers its pledge, I hope you read the *response* and considered stories about what these mission funds are accomplishing.

Consider the story of Rudo Mundondo, 33, a mother of three in Zimbabwe who received training on the upkeep of chicks. "I am grateful to UWF for this empowerment project that has improved my livelihood and my skills. The upkeep of chicks needs someone who is smart, as the environment/fowl run has to be tended to regularly. I'm checking on the chicks, water and feed supply and also the ventilation. I also use natural remedies as medicine for the chicks to boost their immunity. For example, I use donkey dung and mutiti plants, a natural and traditional herb. I am happy my 25 chicks are healthy. So far, I have been able to impart knowledge and skills to 40 people (including my church and community members.)"

Mundondo's aim and prayer is to expose the Great Dyke community to other ways of making money so they can move away from selling kachasu, an unhealthy home-made beer. Mundondo says, "As a long-term vision, I am thinking of selling eggs, having an incubator for hatching chicks and also building a bigger fowl run. I have looked for a bigger plot where I want to run the project at a larger scale. I also balance the project with my duties as a mother and wife." (Information taken from UWF website at <https://uwfaith.org/latest-news/2022/women-chicken-farmers-in-zimbabwe/>)

Remember those two numbers I asked you to remember in the last Mary Martha Link newsletter? 100 and 50. We support nearly 100 projects and community institutions across the United States. United Women in Faith also support and empower local women in more than 50 countries around the globe to be leaders in the church, community, and the world.

Thank you and blessings for your personal and unit Pledges to Mission.

**Peaks Pikes Peak District United Women in Faith
Proposed 2024 Budget**

Expense

Directory \$400
Program Resources Shipping 0
Newsletter \$25
Audit \$100
Zoom Subscription \$165

District Events

(Net of registrations)

Leadership Training \$850
Day Together \$300
Annual Gathering \$500

District Officer Expenses

Subscriptions (response, etc.) \$750
Travel Expense \$800
General Supplies \$175
Print / Postage \$250
Shepherdess Program \$100
Special Projects (MN&O, etc) \$500
Total Budget/AMD Requested \$4915

Mission Giving Budget \$65000



The Legacy 150 Campaign
is now in a Sustaining Phase.

Go to
uwfaith.org
to Legacy Fund
For details on giving or
becoming a
150 Legacy Builder



Lorrie Toni
2022 Membership
Nurture and Outreach
970-578-9300
lorrietoni@gmail.com

We are looking forward to seeing you as September arrives with all its glory and color of the early fall season. This is the time plants transfer to quiet, resting stages. I am pretty sure all who are reading this would gladly welcome a resting stage. We are United Women in Faith who are members in action, serving our church community and many others beyond the church. Bless you and May God keep you safe, healthy, and full of the love you all, so lovingly share. Let's add all our units to our prayers. Prayers for health and wellness; and prayers of thanks.

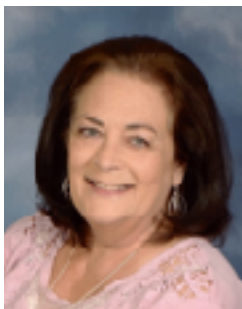
IMPORTANT NOTICE: My phone number is both correctly and incorrectly printed in the 2023 Peaks Pikes Peak Directory! On page 7, where the District Officers are listed, under Membership, Nurture and Outreach, all my contact information is correct! But on page 24, where I am listed as a local officer under Johnstown, CO, my phone number is not correct. A common local mistake! Johnstown, CO natives have the 587 prefix but I am a Johnstown newcomer, establishing my Johnstown home in 2013. By then the town had grown so that they had to give the newer residents the 578 prefix. So, you can imagine how easy it is to get mixed up! The best ways to contact me are by e-mail: lorrietoni@gmail.com or **leave a message on my landline phone: 970-578-9300.**

Betty Milner and I had an enlightening visit with The Estes Park UMC United Women in Faith this summer. What a great event! I went to nurture and what happened? I **received** nurturing and knowledge from a very active unit! I cannot thank those members enough for the insights, lessons, kindnesses, thoughtfulness, expertise and joy they shared. They made my role as the district Membership Nurture and Outreach officer easy! I left them with a few cookies, and they taught me how much an active chapter can accomplish! Wow, thank you, Estes Park UWFaith!

We hope all units completed the data submittal as requested by the National UWFaith office. After you mark "no" to the first question, the rest is fast and easy. Contact me if you need help. Please let me know, ASAP, of names for memorials from 2022 – to current. I will be on a 2-week road trip. **HOWEVER**, my laptop is joining me so I can still be contacted via e-mail: lorrietoni@gmail.com.

Our experienced district officers are all working diligently to provide excellence for our September conference. You won't want to miss it! It is going to be magnificent! Many thanks to all who joined us at Smoky Hill UMC for the summer Peaks Pikes Peak gathering. We had an inspiring program and so much delicious food provided by the Smoky Hill UMC United Women in Faith. A big salute to the women from Smoky Hill UMC – I know I gained 10 pounds because the food was scrumptious! Now I am doing more morning walks – and you know why!! I loved the sermon from the guest pastor. I also love the Wesley Covenant Prayer. Thanks to all who brought this together. It was a cherished day.

I am so excited to be the person who visits other UWFaith units. As a beginner district officer, I have not yet been too helpful but because of the love that pours out across our district from so many churches, units, members, and fellow officers, I will learn! Thank you all! I am looking forward to another unit visit! I really do want to be helpful – could I do a program? Could I bring cookies? What would help you most? I am used to a full calendar! Does this sound familiar? I'm sure your lives do the same – become full! Bless you dear members! Think about all the action the UWFaith members are doing to improve our world! Give yourselves a big hug! You are as wondrous as the universe. And God is with you. Thanks be to you and Thanks Be To God!



Jan Spitler
Spiritual Growth
720-204-6583
janaspitler@gmail.com

How can we accomplish spiritual growth? Is it through good deeds or just being nice to people? Even atheists do that. My Monday night bible study group has recently started reading a book called "The Ragamuffin Gospel" by Brennan Manning. Part of spiritual growth is faith and trust, but also prayer and reading the Word. The following is a quote from this book.

"The Word we study has to be the Word we pray. My personal experience of the relentless tenderness of God came not from exegetes, theologians, and spiritual writers, but from sitting still in the presence of the living Word and beseeching Him to help me understand with my head and heart His written Word. Sheer scholarship alone cannot reveal to us the gospel of grace. We must never allow the authority of books, institutions, or leaders to replace the authority of knowing Jesus Christ personally and directly. When the religious views of others interpose between us and the primary experience of Jesus as the Christ, we become unconvicted and unpersuasive travel agents handing out brochures to places we have never visited."

I urge everyone to read this book. It has helped me with my walk with Him and I think it will help all of you. You can get it on Amazon or used on Second Sale or Thriftbooks.

I hope to see many of you at the Annual Meeting. It will be good to be meeting in person again.

Meet these other 2023 District Officers on September 23:



Betty Edney-Milner
Program Resources
970-381-0230
betty_milner@msn.com



Megan Wieck
Education & Interpretation
970-308-15234
wieckmmegan@gmail.com



Mary Ann Kerttula
Social Action
970-219-6747
makerttula@comcast.net

Committee on Nominations



Karen Waldron
Co-Chair
970-282-7183
970-219-0898
keakw@comcast.net



Loeda Westphal
Co-Chair
719-632-5965
loeda.w341@centurylink.com



Pat Chase
Member
303-356-0017
patchase99@yahoo.com



Margaret Hotze
Member
970-223-8539
margarethotze.umw@gmail.com

Nominations Committee Report

Karen Waldron

The Mountain Sky Annual Conference voted in June to change the boundaries of the districts, moving from 7 to 6 districts due to budget constraints. United Women in Faith decided to remain with the existing districts for 2024, but will probably be deciding on new districts for 2025 and forward. Since the Peaks Pikes Peak District was most changed in the Conference redistricting, it is very likely that our district will face major changes for 2025. Therefore, the Nominations Committee determined that it would be best to keep our current Leadership Team together for 2024, as much as possible. All members of the current Leadership Team have tenure to allow them to continue in their positions, except Loeda Westphal and Pat Chase, who were to cycle off the Committee on Nominations this year. Due to the expected redistricting for 2025, the Leadership Team determined that Loeda and Pat should continue for an additional year on the Committee on Nominations. We welcome **Connie Takamine** to the Committee on Nominations, replacing Karen Waldron, who has accepted nomination to the Mountain Sky Conference position of Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach.



Connie Takamine has been involved with United Women in Faith and its predecessors since childhood. She accompanied her mother to WSCS meetings. This has led to leadership as Western Jurisdiction United Methodist Women President and also serving on the Women's Division. She was also Treasurer of the Women's Division for 14 years. She currently is active in the unit of United Women in Faith at First United Methodist Church in Boulder where she is serving as co-Treasurer and Communications Coordinator. She is an avid gardener and is the personal care taker of her cat Sneaky Pie.

Leadership Team Slate for 2024

President – Margaret Wiatrowski

Vice-President – Ann Toll

Secretary – Nancy Friday

Treasurer – Laurel Kubin

Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth – Jan Spitler

Mission Coordinator for Social Justice and Action – Mary Ann Kerttula

Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach – Lorrie Toni

Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation – Megan Wieck

Secretary for Program Resources – Betty Edney Milner

Coordinator for Communications – Myrna Prentice

Co-Chair of Committee on Nominations – Margaret Hotze

Co-Chair of Committee on Nominations – Loeda Westphal

Committee on Nominations – Connie Takamine

Committee on Nominations – Pat Chase



Registration for District Annual Gathering
Renewing & Re-Energizing our FAITH Communities

Saturday, September 23

9:00-2:00

Rinn UMC (west of I-25 on Bella Rosa Parkway)

Register by Monday, September 18

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Local church/unit _____

Address _____

Amount enclosed (or pay at registration table on the 23rd), \$15 per person _____

“Forging a New Path—Moving the Church Forward
in a Post-Pandemic World” book(s)
(\$19 each) _____

TOTAL _____

Registration may be made to Laurel Kubin by phone, 970-686-0544,

by e-mail, laurelkubin@gmail.com

or by mail:

Laurel Kubin, 909 Palomino Way, Windsor CO 80550

2023 Peaks Pikes Peak District Officers Contact Information

President	Margaret Wiatrowski	719-531-5283	mwiatrowski@earthlink.net
Vice President	Ann Toll	720-498-1484	ann@anntoll.com
Secretary	Nancy Friday	303-990-3944	Nan.Friday@gmail.com
Treasurer	Laurel Kubin	970-686-0544	laurelkubin@gmail.com
Spiritual Growth	Jan Spitler	720=204-6583	janaspitler@gmail.com
Social Action	Mary Ann Kertulla	303-335-0923	makerttula@comcast.net
Membership (MNO)	Lorrie Toni	970-578-9300	lorrietoni@gmail.com
E&I (Education & Interpretation)	MeganWieck	970-308-1523	wieckmegan@gmail.com
Program Resources	Betty Edney Milner	970-381-0230	betty_milner@msn.com
Communications	Myrna Prentice	303-469-1633	myrnaprentice@mac.com



2023 Peaks Pikes Peak District Annual Gathering
United Women in Faith
Renewing and Re-energizing our FAITH Communities



Saturday, September 23

8:40 Check-in & Fellowship Time

9:15 - 2:00 Program, lunch included

Rinn United Methodist Church

(to the west of I-25)

3783 Bella Rosa Parkway, Longmont CO 80504

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Rebekah Simon-Peter
Author of *Forging a New Path -
Moving the Church Forward in a Post-Pandemic World*

Please register by Monday, September 18

with Laurel Kubin, 970-686-0544

laurelkubin@gmail.com

\$15 Registration, includes lunch

"Forging a New Path books" available, \$19

BRING A FRIEND!