



United
Women
in Faith

The Connection

Mile High Metro District Newsletter
February - April 2026

Save The Date for Spiritual Day May 2

You and your friends, family and even acquaintances are invited to UWFaith's Spiritual Day coming soon. Our theme is What the World Needs Now Is Love — love for ourselves, our families, and even those we may not get along with. Join us on May 2 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Applewood Valley United Methodist Church (2035 Ellis Street Golden). More information and registration will be coming.

To Do List

- Complete your unit survey before March 31 <https://uwfaith.org/unit-survey/>.
- Please mail your 2026 pledges to Ann Horton. No need to wait til year end! You can pay monthly, quarterly, or in advance.
- Anyone is welcome to mail a check made to "Mile High Metro District UWFaith" directly to our District Treasurer: Ann Horton, 7342 S. Delaware St., Littleton, CO 80120. Checks from IRA RMDs are especially welcome. Call Ann for more info.
- Legacy Endowment Fund National Day of Giving, March 23, <https://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving/>.
- Send an update on your Unit activities to MileHiMetroUWFaith@gmail.com.
- Register for UWFaith Assembly, May 15-17, Indianapolis, IN. <https://assembly.uwfaith.org/website/82390/home/>

2025 Unit Survey

The 2025 unit survey is now available on the national website. Each unit is encouraged to complete the survey. The link is: <https://uwfaith.org/unit-survey/>. We are part of the Western Jurisdiction, the Mountain Sky conference, and the Mile High Metro district. The survey asks for your membership numbers and ways that you may have participated in the past year. Please complete this survey as soon as possible. If you have any questions please contact Donna Parisi, donnaparisi@comcast.net.

Let Marcia know when you have completed your unit survey bomaanka@yahoo.com to be entered into a drawing to win 1/2 dozen giant cinnamon rolls from The Butcher Block Cafe!

National is changing the way the Gift in Mission and Gift in Memory cards are distributed. We don't know how it will be done in the future, but if you would like to stock up, let Ann Horton know what you need. Here is a link to the flyer for the current selection of cards [CARDS](#)
annhortonuwf@gmail.com

Unit Events

Arvada United Women in Faith

Contact Marcia Canter for more details bomaanka@yahoo.com

Brewing up Good Trouble

a tea party fundraiser for Planned Parenthood Rocky Mountains

Saturday, March 14 at 2:30 p.m.

Register online by March 9:

arvadaumc.org/united-women-in-faith

Child care available for 4 years and under

Scott United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith at Scott UMC will be sponsoring a fundraiser in the month of April for Girls Inc. of Metro Denver. The mission of Girls Inc. is to inspire all girls to be strong, smart and bold. The organization provides programs for girls ages 6-24 and no girls are turned away. The fundraiser will be a "Stay At Home Tea Fundraiser". The tea gift bags will be available for a donation of \$10.00, each bag will consist of 10 varieties of individual wrap tea bags, a Girls Inc. ink pen and business card. The donations will support the programs that address the unique challenges girls face and are proven to help

girls succeed. Gift cards will also be accepted which will help buy food and hygiene products. Starting April 12th - 26, each Sunday we will have a table in our narthex with the Tea gift bags and gift cards box available.

If you need additional information on the Stay At Home Tea Fundraiser at Scott, please reach out to Monica Garlin at mongarlin@gmail.com

St. Andrew United Women in Faith

You and your friends are invited to join St. Andrew UWFaith's Book Group on the

4th Tuesday of each month at 7PM on zoom.

Tues. March 24th - the Spiritual Growth book, ***Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way and Presence*** by Diana Butler Bass.

Additional information is here <https://tinyurl.com/UWFaithBookClub>

Please email Mary Robinson mrobinconn@gmail.com for details and to get the zoom link.

During the warmer months, our Book Club is held both on zoom and in person at St.

Andrew UMC, 9203 S University Blvd, Highlands Ranch, CO

Smoky Hill United Women in Faith

Smoky Hill UMC is having a Spring Craft Fair on Saturday, April 25. The show is open 9-

3. The spring show is a fundraiser for the church, while the fall show is a fundraiser for

United Women in Faith. There will be a bake sale at the craft fair to raise funds for UW

Faith and our Mission Crafters, Quilters, and Yarn on a Mission circles will have items for sale. We have booth space available: an 8 x 8 booth costs \$75. Follow this link to apply.

<https://forms.gle/DQWaHjufNnGxEuiT9>

Please send your events to MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com.

MHM Communications Coordinator

Nancy Friday

MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com

We want to share what is going on in the units so that we can support and inspire one another. **We now have a Facebook page, search for Mile High Metro United Women in Faith and follow our page. Please send emails and photos so that I can share what is happening!** MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com

Join Our United Women in Faith Digital Community

By Ann Horton

Over the last few years, our National Organization has been developing an online community called “**United Women in Faith Digital**”. The functionality and usage of this platform has reached the point that all United Women in Faith should join and take advantage of the capabilities of this platform. **The Mountain Sky Conference** now has its own “group” on this platform for networking and sharing. This online community opens up exciting possibilities for communicating and sharing across units and districts. For example, you all are invited to join our conference’s **online Book Discussion** group which meets via zoom the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7PM. This group is hosted by the Utah/Western Colorado District.

We also have a new **Mile High Metro Group on UWFaith Digital** to network and share events within our District. Several of our MHM units have already posted invitations on our Digital group inviting you all to attend their upcoming events. We hope to advertise your events and projects as well on our online community. You can advertise them yourself by creating a new post or let me know what to advertise.

All United Women in Faith members and friends are encouraged to join UWFaith Digital and to join our two local online groups:

- Mountain Sky Conference
- Mile High Metro District - CO

To join, go to UWFaith.org/digital and click Join. Once you get logged into UWFaith

Digital, look for “Mountain Sky Conference” and join it. For more information, please

email me at annhortonuwf@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you all online!

Co-President’s Message

Mile High Metro District Co-President

Marcia Canter

Email: bomaanka@yahoo.com

Co-President’s Letter

2.20.26

Is anyone else having trouble remembering to write 2026 instead of 2025? Here we are two months into the new year and I’m still putting down 2025. I was ready for a new year, but thus far, I’m feeling like things could be a little better.

My Arvada UWFaith reading group discussed Jane Goodall’s *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times* this week. Here’s one of the many quotes

that meant a lot to me.

“Hope does not deny the evil, but is a response to it.”

So, when I despair over the state of the nation or the world, I hear Jane’s voice and my mother’s. Another quote is:

“Hope is often misunderstood. People tend to think that it is simply passive wishful thinking: I hope something will happen but I’m not going to do anything about it. This is indeed the opposite of real hope, which requires action and engagement.”

We talked a bit at the Mission and Mentoring meeting what our hopes were. We told you about a grant of \$800 for a project that would be a new idea and that would pull women not already involved in UWFaith. Our Social Action Coordinator, Monica Garlin spoke about her interest in Girls Inc to promote action and leadership in younger women. Her unit has a fundraiser coming up involving the packages of tea so you can have a tea party at your house which will help support the cause.

My unit is having its own tea party called Brewing Good Trouble on March 14. This will be a fundraiser to support Planned Parenthood and will feature two speakers from the organization. You can contact me if you want more information or click [here](#).

The women that started this organization took on a big challenge. It was something that hadn’t been done before. It involved raising funds and going to a distant land. We can put our hopes into actions of love that will make our community, nation and world a better place. And you can tell us about what you want to do and maybe we can help.

Let’s put our hopes and love together and make things happen.

MHM Co-President / Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Sara Harris

Email: sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com

Sara has recently had a hip replacement! Keep her in your prayers as she recovers from this unexpected surgery.



Your 2026 MHM District Leadership Team

Back row: Brenda Bronson, Nancy Friday, Monica Garlin, Linda Lloyd, Hamu Chigwada, Jana Jones, Kim Myers
Front row: Carla Schwartzkopf, Ann Horton, Marcia Canter, Donna Parisi, Sara Harris
Missing from the photo: Karen Bueno

MHM Treasurer

Ann Horton

annahortonuwf@gmail.com, mobile 303-885-2066

Thanks to all our Mile High Metro District Units for their amazing generosity in 2025. In 2025 our District Pledge to Mission Giving was \$35,000 and our District actually contributed \$48,009 to Mission Giving in 2025! A very special thanks to Smoky Hill for their amazing contribution of \$10,700 to Mission Giving in 2025.

The Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith also exceeded their pledge to

Mission Giving by contributing \$181,790 against a pledge of \$170,000. National United Women in Faith also managed to make their 2025 pledge.

Our District Pledge for 2026 is \$35,000 again. I hope you will all again aim to make and exceed that pledge.

The **National Day of Giving for the Legacy Endowment Fund** is March 23rd. There will be a virtual live event running that day which you can livestream or host a “watch party”. Individuals and units are encouraged to donate directly to the Legacy Endowment Fund through the online giving at <https://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving/>.

During Lent, we will be collecting donations for **A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial 2026**. This year’s donations will support vulnerable children through the work of National Mission Institutions. NMIs help children through low-cost early childhood education, after-school programs, enrichment programs, mental health support, guidance for the transition to adulthood, reunification with family, and more. With the Federal government cuts, the NMIs are quite short on the funds for this important work. I encourage you all to view the video at <https://uwfaith.org/blog/2025/a-call-to-prayer/> and donate either online or through your Unit Treasurer.

Vice President

Kim Myers

Email: kimuwfaith@gmail.com

Shalom Sisters in Faith,

Our 150-year legacy began with a few bold women determined to change the world for the better. In 1869, Clementina Butler and Lois Parker, wives of missionaries to India, made a plea to a group of eight women in Boston about the spiritual and physical needs of poor women in India. They could not be treated by male doctors. Schooling for girls was almost non-existent. Help was desperately needed. In what would become a lasting legacy of “showing up and getting things done,” the attendees were moved to action. They quickly called another meeting of more women. They wrote a constitution. And in short order, they organized the Methodist Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society (WFMS). By November 1869, the newly formed organization raised funds and sent educator Isabella Thoburn and Dr. Clara Swain to India. Ms. Thoburn began a school with just six young girls that went on to become Isabella Thoburn College, Asia’s first women’s college. Dr. Swain’s medical work resulted in the first women’s hospital in Asia. Both institutions continue to serve the people of India today. (www.uwfaith.org/who-we-are/our-history/)

A lot has changed in the world since our organization started. Women are working outside the home and many like my self are raising children and taking care of aging parents with out a partner. When I was young child in 70's my mother gave up a good career she fought hard to get in a male dominated world. When she started to show that she was pregnant she was forced to quit her job even though my father supported whatever career decisions she wanted to make. I don't know that today's women has more to juggle just a different load. I don't iron the bed sheets; I often cheat and get takeout for dinner despite the fact I am told I am a great cook.

As vice president of Green Mountain and the district part of my job is programming. I have always loved planning events whether it's dinner with friends or big community, or church events. I planned my first one as a senior in high school. Jumping with both feet doing something we had never done at church, that I had read about in a magazine. A "Mystery Dinner" fundraiser for our Youth Group. I was so excited when asked to join the UWFaith leadership team to be able help plan events and get other women excited about something I was passionate about. I will admit it has been challenging and I have planned a couple of activities that attendance was not that great. Not because of lack of planning or interest but today's women have crazy schedules.

So, the challenge we all face in our units today is how do we get more women involved in United Women in Faith. The new Unstoppable campaign challenges us to get 3 or more new members. While I don't have the magic answer I do have a few suggestions. Our group has increased this past year. We surveyed the women of the church. We listed numerous possible events they might be interested in and asked for their suggestions along with when they would like to meet. As you can imagine we did not have a consensus, but it was a starting point. We also brought back some activities that were previously a big hit – our Christmas Candlelight Dinner. We had to think outside the box too. We have organized some nights out, going to the Rocky Mountain Ukulele Orchestra which we invited the entire church to join us not just the women. We are taking on the church Easter breakfast this year that previously our Volunteers in Missions did, because they are no longer active. In addition, to the core group of women who always help with whatever we do, we are personally ask women in church who don't regularly participate in UWFaith events to help us. Inviting women who don't usually participate to join us for an activity has been a great way to get them involved and joining us for more events.

I encourage you all to take a leap of faith, try something new, revitalize an activity and personally invite someone to join you. Visit another group's activities, for inspiration and fellowship, plan events with other UWFaith group. Our website www.uwfaith.org has a lot of great resources and ideas. The possibilities are endless.

We would all love to hear what you are doing in your church and community. You can share our social media what you are doing. If you need help with program, or would like a district officer to attend an event or just like to chat feel free to reach out to me.

kimuwfaith@gmail.com or 720-810-2157
Blessings,
Kim Myers (District Vice-President)

MHM Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

Donna Parisi

Email: donnaparisi@comcast.net

Can I be a member of UWFaith? We have had some questions about being a member of UWFaith. Many of our units are shrinking and some are disbanding. However, there are women who are long-time members who want to continue as members. And fortunately, it's easy!

A woman doesn't have to be a member of a certain church to be a member of UWFaith. If your unit shrinks or disbands, you are welcome to join a unit at another local church. Or you can be an All Access Member. This is the same membership, and you will have access to all of our resources, programs and events. Each member, no matter the size of her unit, is strongly encouraged to register as a member on the national website, www.uwfaith.org. On the home page, click on Member Login. Then click on Activate your Member Portal account. You will be asked to establish a login and password. Once you are on the site you will have access to staff contacts, the Reading Program, Unstoppable campaign, program resources, Prayer Guide, mission maps, officer resource pages, and much more. You are also strongly encouraged to join UWFaith Digital. This site will have information, contacts, resources, training opportunities, and access to online groups. Going forward, the national office will be using UWFaith Digital to count members. Be sure you are counted!

Please contact me with any questions. Donna Parisi, donnaparisi@comcast.net.

MHM Secretary

Linda Lloyd

Email linda.umw@gmail.com

Happy New Year. I know it is February and we are all well into planning our events for 2026 and filling our calendars for a successful year of Fellowship, Outreach, Fundraising and Being Connected with each other.

I want to thank the unit officers for helping me update the District Directory. I really enjoyed hearing from each of the units and seeing lots of familiar names that continue to be in leadership. I also was inspired by those of you who have shared what you have accomplished in 2025.

I was saddened to see that many of our units have had to down-size their officers due to lack of membership and churches losing members. I wish I could wave my magic wand and find an answer to the reduction in membership. That being said, you are all a mighty, Unstoppable force and get it done. Let's hold each other in prayer and perhaps reach out to our neighboring UWFAith groups and plan events together that might inspire others to join and share what a wonderful organization we belong to. Dream IT! Believe IT! Do IT!

Who **We** Are:

We're a **sisterhood** acting in **faith** to tackle
the **hard work** of the **world**
without hesitation.

Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children and youth. Every day, we show up. We take action. We get it done.

Have a blessed year.
Linda Lloyd

**MHM Social Action Coordinator Monica
Garlin** mongarlin@gmail.com

MHM Education & Interpretation Coordinator Karen Bueno
email: karenbueno@aol.com

MHM Historian Carla Schwartzkopf Email carlasch@me.com

UWFAITH National President Jana Jones jl.jones@outlook.com

**UWFAITH National Board of Directors Hamu
Chigwada** hamu.umw@gmail.com

MHM District Nominations Coordinator Brenda Bronson
brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com