



United
Women
in Faith

The SOCO Journal

Together, love in action can change
the world

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today? Pg 2-6

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Unstoppable

Real Faith. Real Women. Real Community

Practical ways to open the door, build connections and grow our
unstoppable sisterhood.

It starts with your voice, your story, your invitation. Every time you
reach out to a woman to share what United Women in Faith has
meant to you, you open a door for her to find connection, purpose,
and a place where she belongs.

The women you welcome today will be the sisters that you are growing
our movement with tomorrow, helping us become even more unstoppable.

Many of you have asked, "How do we connect with more women
in meaningful ways?" The answer is both simple and bold:

1. Make a connection
2. Meet her where she is
3. Show her what we're about
4. Invite her in

*Let's be unstoppable Together
Who are you going to invite today?*

Love in action is
UNSTOPPABLE

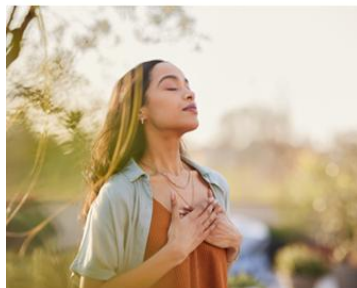


United
Women
in Faith

Make a connection

We know women live out their faith in many different ways. That's why we've created three core pathways for involvement—offered both in person and through UWFaith Digital.

As you seek new members, consider what she will find most engaging as a pathway. Then help connect her to activities within that pathway as a relevant point of entry to our organization.



INSPIRE

She can come as she is and let her spirit be renewed.

- Join our **Soul Care Community Space** on UWFaith Digital
- Receive **Thrive** e-newsletters with spiritual guidance and self-care tools
- Attend or host **Sister Circles**—small, intentional gatherings rooted in care, connection, and shared reflection
- Listen to **Faith Talks**, and hear inspiring stories of love in action



INFLUENCE

She can step up and lead with courage, compassion, and faith.

- Attend **Leadership Development experiences**
- Lead or join in **virtual or in-person groups** that explore your **personal or professional development**
- Facilitate **Mission u** justice-centered studies that inspire change and community
- Access **digital learning courses and workshops** to sharpen skills and grow your voice in faith-led spaces



IMPACT

She can show up for justice, putting faith into action to help change the world.

- Stand with us in racial and climate **justice and advocacy campaigns**
- Be inspired by **Voices From the Field**, hearing directly from women leading change
- Roll up your sleeves in **local service projects** or partner with national ministries to make a difference
- Participate in the **Reading Program** to explore justice topics

1. Meet her where she is

When you think about inviting someone to join us, it's natural to picture asking her to attend one of our activities. But real connection starts with relationships—meeting women where they are, listening to their needs and beliefs, and discovering what inspires them to make a difference.

Every woman is wonderfully unique—in her life stage, spiritual path, what she seeks, and how she wants to participate. Here are five examples of the kinds of woman you might meet. These profiles aren't real people, but they represent countless women who are searching for exactly what United Women in Faith can offer. Let's help them find it.

- Younger career women looking for meaning and connection outside conventional religious structures can find a place with us.

A few things she might enjoy:

- Soul Care Spaces + Host a Circle
- Thrive Newsletter
- Faith Talks Podcast

- Profile: She lives in downtown Wilmington, NC. Her life is filled with career, friends, and family.
- Church: She considers herself spiritual, but doesn't attend because it's not welcoming or relevant.
- She cares about: building community, personal growth, and finding balance with work, life, and faith.
- She seeks: energy, restoration, and real connections with caring women. She's a leader who wants to feel seen, heard, and valued.
- Her challenge: limited time and finances, and distrust in traditional churches. She needs a minimal commitment and to see immediate benefits.

- Mothers who are looking for opportunities to feel nurtured and connected are an important growth opportunity for us.

A few things she might enjoy:

- All-Access Membership on UWFaith Digital
- Soul Care Spaces + Mothering Circle
- Thrive Newsletter

- Profile: She's a single mom in Austin, TX, raising her 5-year-old daughter.
- Church: She's attended on and off, but she's skeptical of its history of exclusion. She wants spiritual grounding and authenticity.
- She cares about: being a good parent and making a difference, but she's overwhelmed and exhausted by work, helping aging parents, and life as a mom.
- She seeks: real, respectful connections with women who get her and offer meaningful support.
- Her challenge: limited time and resources. She avoids anything too "churchy." She needs easy, relevant, and low-pressure options to participate.

- Many of the younger women we hope to reach are outside the church, yet they still need and value what we offer.

A few things she might enjoy:

- Social Justice Campaign Events/Alerts
- All-Access Membership on UWFaith Digital
- The Reading Program

- Profile: She lives in Birmingham, AL, with her husband and two kids under 6. Church: She stopped going in college and never went back.
- She cares about: social issues. She's ready to show up for advocacy and action around racial justice and economic equity.
- She seeks: to expand her faith and grow spiritually, but not through a traditional church. She needs a place where she belongs.
- Her challenge: feeling welcomed and part of something that makes the world more fair and just. She needs flexible options and child care to participate.

- Women from within The United Methodist Church who are not yet members, but could easily find a place with us, are an important target to help us grow.

A few things she might enjoy:

- Mission u
- All-Access Membership on UWFaith Digital
- Soul Care Spaces + Circles

- Profile: She's married with 3 children, 5 grandkids, and lives in Hopkins, MN. Church: She's been a member of her local UMC for 25 years and considers herself deeply spiritual.
- She cares about: her faith commitments, and connecting with her family, community, and church.
- She seeks: meaningful ways to connect faith and family, engage with other women, and expand and diversify her community.
- Her challenge: feeling welcome in new women's groups. She needs to feel comfortable and will participate when she meets someone she trusts

- To support our goals of growth and inclusivity, we need to invite women from outside of The United Methodist Church into our sisterhood.

A few things she might enjoy:

- Global Work + International Mission
- Voices From the Field Podcast
- Invitation to a Local Group

- Profile: She lives in a Houston, TX, suburban community that shares her traditional views.
- Church: She attends a non-denominational church and considers herself very religious.
- She cares about: living out her faith through service. She volunteers but wants to make a bigger global impact.
- She seeks: opportunities to volunteer and ways to make more friends who she connects with spiritually.
- Her challenge: feeling a little intimidated to join an existing group. She requires help meeting new people and reassurance her gifts will go to Christian causes she cares about.

2. Show her what we're about

As you grow engagement with her, show her who we are and more of what we have to offer. These experiences, events, and activities will help her to find her place in United Women in Faith.

Spiritual growth & connection

- Explore **Mission u**—A transformative justice-centered program that embodies Bible studies and engaging events to strengthen communities and personal growth
- Access three new curricula each year for children, youth, and adults focused on a biblical theme and with justice-oriented applications
- Listen to the **Faith Talks Podcast** for inspiration and insight
- Get the **Daily Prayer Guide** and be inspired to put love in action
- Use the **Soul Care Toolkit** to plan a nurturing, welcoming retreat for new women



Justice initiatives

- Join **Just Energy 4 All** webinars on equitable energy solutions
- Access readings, webinars, and films on racial justice
- Learn about the **School-to-Prison Pipeline** and how to respond
- Build relationships while deepening faith and advocacy skills
- Take action on today's most pressing justice issues
- Use our **advocacy toolkits** to take bold, effective action in the community
- Participate in the **Reading Program** to explore justice topics



Service projects

- Get hands-on with projects that transform communities
- Support nearly **90 National Mission Institutions**
- Engage in **local volunteer opportunities** that meet real needs
- Connect with women through shared **service experiences**
- Make a tangible difference locally and beyond



Soul Care

- Attend **Soul Care Retreats** with inspiring speakers and music
- Join our **online Soul Care community** for daily encouragement
- Use the **Soul Care Deck** for moments of reflection and renewal
- Participate in a **Soul Care Circle** for sisterly support
- Access training and tools to host customized Soul Care events



Digital connections

- Join as an **All-Access Member**, and participate virtually or in a local group, her choice
- Access **exclusive events, toolkits, and training** anytime
- Participate in **Sister Circles** online
- Explore all of our pathways—Inspire, Influence, Impact—at her pace
- Stay connected from any location with **UWFaith Digital**



Giving with intention

- Direct support to **where it is needed most**
- Fund **social action and justice work**
- Invest in **spiritual growth and nurturing opportunities**
- Strengthen **education and leadership development**
- Give to **Mission Giving, The Legacy Endowment Fund, or General Support**



From Hello to Sisterhood in 4 Simple Steps

1. **Make a connection—start with real conversation and see which pathway best fits her goals: Inspire, Influence, and/or Impact**
2. **Meet her where she is—listen well, build trust, and pay attention to her passions, challenges, and dreams**
3. **Show her what we're about—introduce her to the experiences, events, and stories that light you up**
4. **Invite her in—offer a clear, warm invitation to walk this journey with you**



Presidents message

Hello Southern Colorado District United Women in Faith!

SAVE THE DATE

2026 SoCo District UWFaith Annual Gathering

Saturday, September 19, 2026

Check-in time: 9:00 am

Fowler UMC 302 S Main Fowler, CO

N. Elaine Allison

N. Elaine Allison,
SoCo District UWFaith President
719-469-7394 (call or text)
neallison72@gmail.com

Theme : Mapping out our future.

Scripture: Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,
plans to give you hope and a future."

Guest Speaker: Linda Scholtz, director of Sarah's House
Sarah's House is a safe place for ladies who have
escaped drug &/ or sex trafficking

Mission Project: Supplies for Sarah's House

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Gift Cards for Lowes | Gift cards for Tractor supply |
| • Paint brushes | Paint roller covers |
| • Welding rod | Tractor Hydraulic fluid |
| • Gear Oil | White Athletic tape for trick riding students |
| • Sunscreen 50 for students | Horse Liniment |
| • Tempura paint for Sarah's Home horse activities | Chalk for hopscotch on porch |
| • Saddle soap | Scrub brushes |
| • Manure or bedding rakes | Office supplies/typing paper |
| • Dish soap for after events | Toilet paper |
| • Kleenex | Liquid IV powder packs |

**No one becomes unstoppable alone.
We rise because someone stood beside us.
We keep going because someone called our name.
This sisterhood is made of circles, prayer partners, truth-tellers, encouragers.**

Do you hear your name? Is someone calling you now?

**The SoCo district is a new district and it needs new leaders
The team works together and supports one another
– you are not alone**

What we need most on the SoCo District Leadership Team:

**Nominations committee members (2-5 positions) It's good place to
learn and grow**

We also need on the SoCo District Leadership Team

Chair for Committee on Nominations

Coordinator for Social Action

Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

**Mtn Sky Conference committee on nominations
(a representative from our district on the conference team)**

**And what is required for these SoCo District Leadership
Team members?**

From the United Women in Faith Bylaws (conference roles)

**However don't let this scare you –
you learn and grow with team support
contact anyone on the team with your questions**

The 2025-2028 United Women in Faith Handbook contains the Constitution & Bylaws of the organization including job descriptions for conference presidents, treasurers, secretaries, and chairpersons for the committee on nominations. Other job descriptions are shared below under Roles & Responsibilities.

Social Action Coordinator Leader works with the leadership team to engage members in and advocacy for justice as it is rooted in our biblical tradition. She encourages work on the current national issue priorities (climate justice and ending mass incarceration of communities of color) of United Women in Faith National Office for the greatest potential impact for change. Visit uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/ for these priorities.

Conference social action leaders shall promote and interpret the biblical basis for social action and the position of The United Methodist Church on social issues, using the Social Principles (The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, 2016) and The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church, 2016.

Essential Responsibilities The social action coordinator shall:

- A. Serve as a member (or members) of the leadership team.
- B. Work with the leadership team and United Women in Faith National Office to integrate national issue priorities into the work of the local United Women in Faith conference; set a goal for a concrete “win” on one or more of the national issues priorities and create a plan of action on one or more of the national issue priorities.
- C. Actively center the voices, leadership, and experiences of individuals – especially women, children, and youth – from communities most harmed around the national issue priorities.
- D. Train district social action counterparts for their role and skills required to advance United Women in Faith social action priority issues; support district social action leaders who plan ongoing district-level work on the issues and serve as a contact to catalyze local and district work on social action; to enable districts to learn from each other and help them to locate resources from United Women in Faith and other relevant organizations.
- E. Provide the conference communicator with social action content for conference communications and encourage district counterparts to do so at the district level (e.g. website, newsletters, or emails).
- F. Identify and connect with national, state, local level organizations that are aligned with United Women in Faith social action priority issues to build relationships and opportunities for support, solidarity and, as appropriate, collaboration.
- G. Identify and connect with other justice leaders within and across conferences. Seek to build alliances, share resources and events with other committees and caucuses, such as Religion and Race, Status and Role of Women, racial/ethnic caucuses, and others. Consider how such alliances can advance work around the issue priorities (e.g., collaboration on resolutions to one’s annual conference, education and strategy development on one or more issue priorities, etc.) and advance conference goals

Education and Interpretation Coordinator Leader holds primary responsibility for interpreting the impact and importance of Mission Giving as an act of faith and commitment. Leader empowers women to understand, interpret, and participate in United Women in Faith's mission with women, children, and youth, and outreach of the church, as well as engage in raising funds for mission and outreach.

She will:

- A. Understand and interpret United Women in Faith mission projects and concepts of mission, working closely with the finance and program committees to ensure that members are well-informed about what happens to their gifts, and what ministries are made possible through their Mission Giving.
- B. Promote and interpret the need for Mission Giving to fund the total mission program of United Women in Faith, including ministries with women, children, and youth, leadership development, spiritual growth, service and advocacy, and transformative education.
- C. Develop and promote strategies for engaging in and growing Mission Giving at all levels of United Women in Faith, including promotion of the Five Channels of Mission Giving.
- D. Inform United Women in Faith members of transformative education and leadership development opportunities such as Mission u and Leadership Development Days.
- E. Promote mission studies, local mission opportunities, Mission u, leadership development events, spiritual growth retreats, Assembly, Ubuntu Days of Service, annual meetings, and other events underwritten by Mission Giving.
- F. Promote and utilize United Women in Faith print, online, and audiovisual resources to tell the mission story, and ensure these resources are available for mission programs and projects.
- G. Work with district/local mission coordinators for education and interpretation, provide resources, and conduct training at least annually.
- H. Serve on the conference Board of Global Ministries, or equivalent body, and work with the conference secretary of Global Ministries on mission education and interpretation (The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016, ¶633.2).
- I. Serve on the following committees: leadership team, Program, Finance, Membership, and Mission u

Committee on Nominations

a. Membership The committee will be composed of five (5) persons, including the chairperson.

b. Functions The committee will:

1. Keep an up-to-date record of women with special skills and interests who may be needed in the work of the jurisdiction leadership team and are representative of the organization.
2. Ensure that the leadership of the jurisdiction organization reflects the diversity of the membership of United Women in Faith within the jurisdiction. Elements of this diversity include but are not limited to age, race, marital status, ethnic and cultural backgrounds, sexual identity, gender expression, disabilities, and employment in and outside the home.
3. Prepare the slate of nominees for election to the jurisdiction leadership team and to the jurisdiction committee on nominations and make the slate available to the jurisdiction leadership team and then to the membership of the jurisdiction by June 1 of the year prior to the quadrennial meeting. There will be an opportunity for nominations from the floor during the quadrennial meeting.
4. Be responsible for planning and implementing election procedures at the quadrennial meeting.
5. Make nominations to fill vacancies that occur ad interim.
6. Be responsible for providing biographical information on all nominees to the United Women in Faith National Office 30 days prior to the quadrennial meeting.
7. Prepare nominations for the president, treasurer, secretary, chairperson of the committee on nominations, and the members of the jurisdiction committee on nominations and present them to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization for election.
8. Present for election by the jurisdiction leadership team a replacement for any person on either the jurisdiction leadership team or the committee on nominations who resigns or is removed from office during the quadrennium. 52 | BYLAWS: JURISDICTION

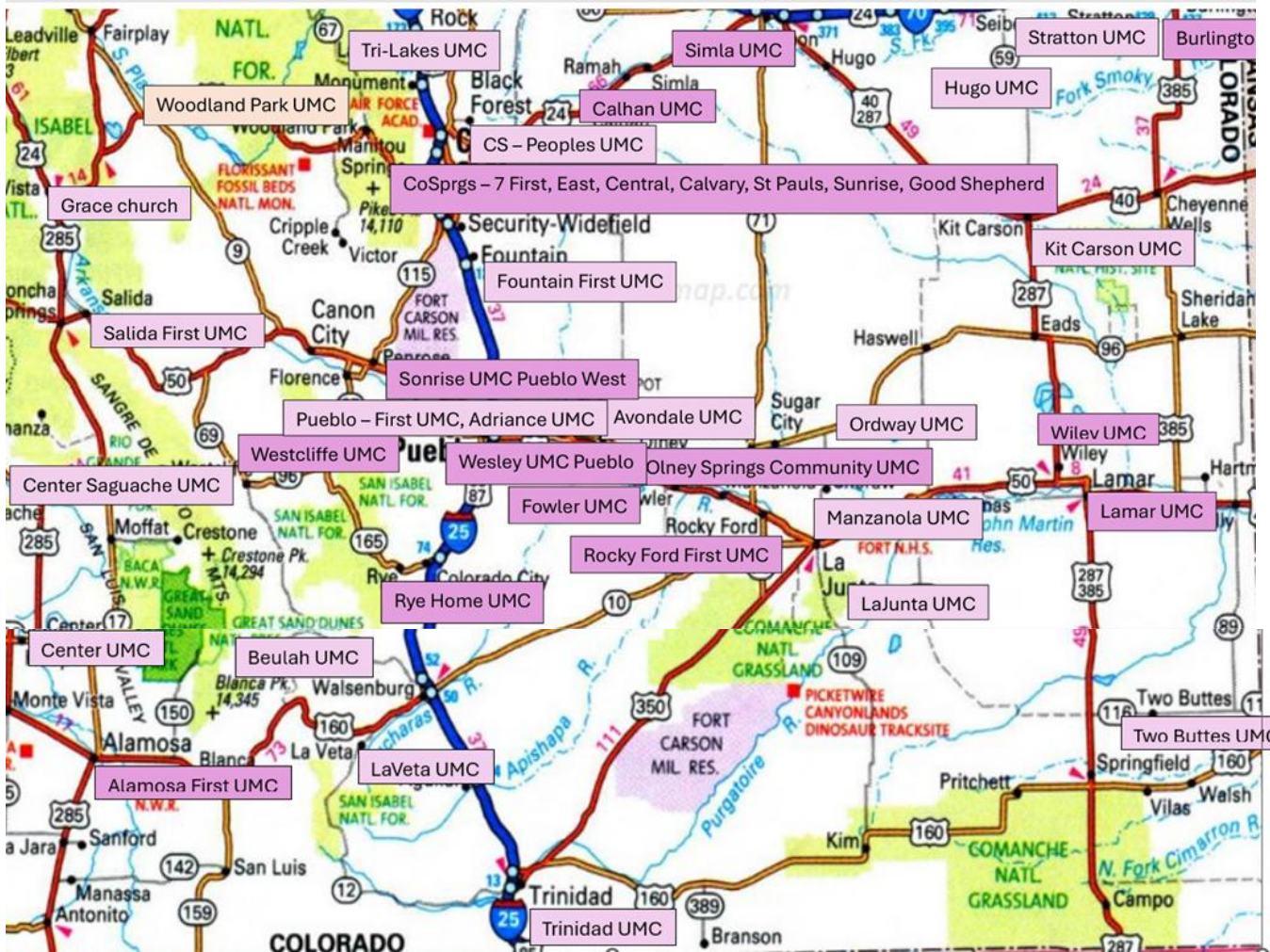
c. Meetings

The committee will meet:

- i. At least two times a year.
- ii. With the jurisdiction leadership team a minimum of two times during the quadrennium to observe how the jurisdiction leadership team functions as a team.

Members of the committee as assigned will attend, at jurisdiction leadership team expense, conference annual meetings and/or conference Mission u events for the purpose of observing potential leadership.

What United Methodist churches are in SOCO?



Active UWFaith units

UMC without active UWFaith units

Reach out to other women in a church near you. What interests do you have in common ?

Who is in your circle?

👤 The women who pray you through

💬 The ones who remind you who you are

💪 The ones who make together feel powerful

Let's celebrate the sisterhood that keeps us moving.

2026 Southern Colorado District Leadership Team

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Event Planning Committee

All members of the Leadership Team
Ima Lindstrom, Chair

"Start with Hello" by Shannan Martin will be the book discussed at the Mtn Sky Conference Annual Gathering in Helena, MT in October 2026.

A simple path to a more deeply connected life

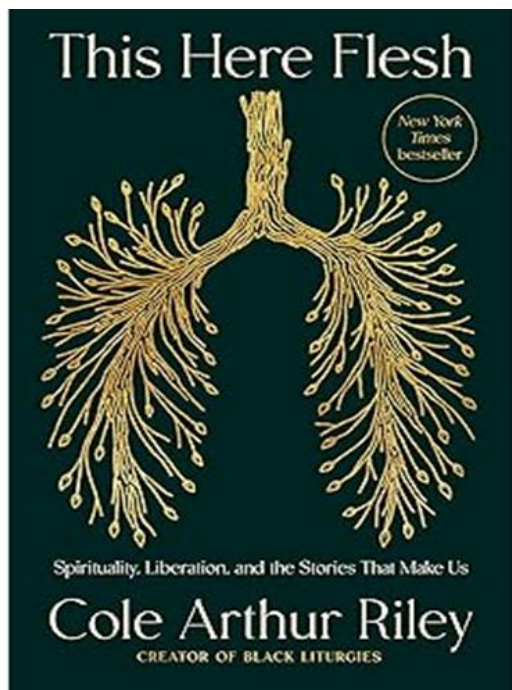
You want more. You want to belong to a community that looks out for each other. You believe in your bones we don't have to live detached, distracted, and divided. The question is, *How?* Shannan Martin invites you into deeper connection through simple resets, such as

- **Open Door > Perfect Décor.** *We invite others in, seeking to connect, not impress.*
- **Familiar > Fussy.** *We serve tacos and pizza like the feasts they are, because fancy is overrated.*
- **Tender > Tough.** *We greet the world with our hearts exposed and our guards down.*

Packed with street-level practices and real-talk storytelling, *Start with Hello* is your field guide for a life of security, camaraderie, and joy. There is no step too small.



SOCO District Reading Program **July 23rd at 7 pm via Zoom**



ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: *The Root*, *Library Journal*

This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories That Make Us February 22, 2022

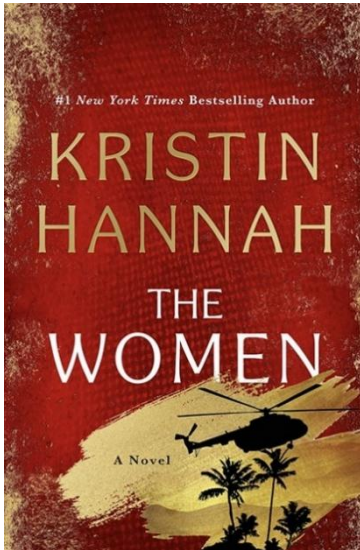
by [Cole Arthur Riley](#) (Author)

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • In her stunning debut, the creator of *Black Liturgies* weaves stories from three generations of her family alongside contemplative reflections to discover the “necessary rituals” that connect us with our belonging, dignity, and liberation.

“This is the kind of book that makes you different when you’re done.”—Ashley C. Ford, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Somebody’s Daughter*

“Reaches deep beneath the surface of words unspoken, wounds unhealed, and secrets untempered to break them open in order for fresh light to break through.”—Morgan Jerkins, *New York Times* bestselling author of *This Will Be My Undoing* and *Caul Baby*

August 27th



From master storyteller Kristin Hannah, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Nightingale* and *The Four Winds*, comes the story of a turbulent, transformative era in America: the 1960s. *The Women* is that rarest of novels—at once an intimate portrait of a woman coming of age in a dangerous time and an epic tale of a nation divided by war and broken by politics, of a generation both fueled by dreams and lost on the battlefield.

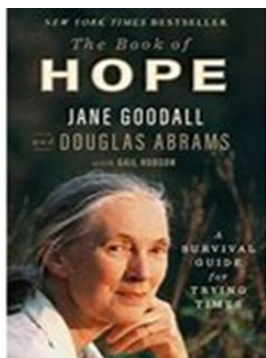
“Women can be heroes, too.”

When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath hears these unexpected words, it is a revelation. Raised on idyllic Coronado Island and sheltered by her conservative parents, she has always prided herself on doing the right thing, being a good girl.

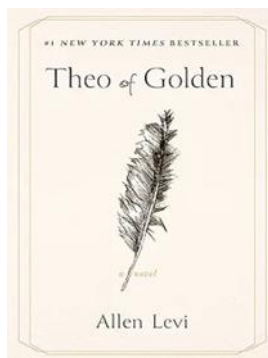
But in 1965 the world is changing, and she suddenly imagines a different choice for her life. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she impulsively joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path.

As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war, as well as the unexpected trauma of coming home to a changed and politically divided America.

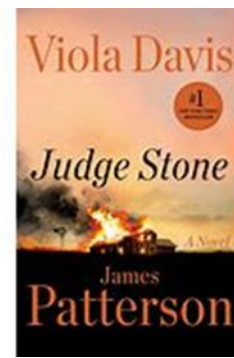
The Women is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on the story of all women who put themselves in harm’s way to help others. Women whose sacrifice and commitment to their country has all too often been forgotten. A novel of searing insight and lyric beauty, *The Women* is a profoundly emotional, richly drawn story with a memorable heroine whose extraordinary idealism and courage under fire define a generation.



September 24, 2026



October 22, 2026



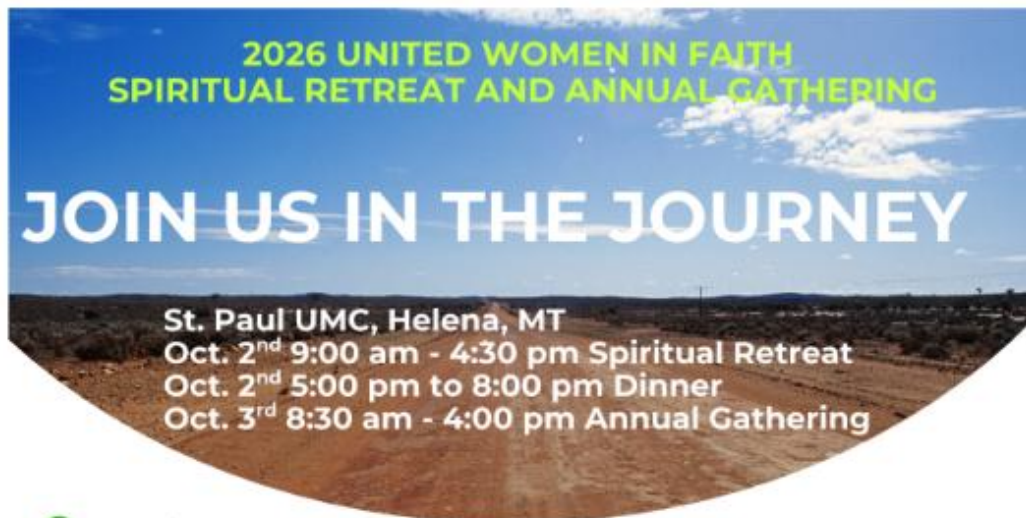
January 28, 2027

The SoCo District Book Club does not meet in November or December.

From the conference

SAVE THE DATE

2026 Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith Spiritual Life Retreat & Annual Gathering October 2 & 3, 2026 Helena, MT



Hotel

Comfort Suites, 406-495-0505, 3180 Washington St.
\$159 plus tax two double beds.
Free shuttle to and from airport. 3 miles to St. Paul UMC.



Registration

Friday & Saturday - \$80 (Includes 2 lunches & Friday dinner)
Friday night Only - \$25
Zoom - \$30



Camping, Room Share & Host Home

- There are numerous campgrounds to choose from, we will let you choose.
- If you need someone to share a room with email beth.e.mccorkle@gmail.com
- If you would like a host home contact Judy Nielsen at nielsenhca@hotmail.com

WORKSHOPS



Registration: <https://forms.gle/WKiUxrsGt8gmyB8R7>

**ALSO, it is SOCO district's turn to sponsor the
Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith
Annual Gathering and Spiritual Retreat
October of 2027
in Colorado Springs**

**If anyone would like to assist in that project, regardless
of your previous tenure or position(s), your assistance
would be greatly appreciated.
All planning meetings will be on Zoom**

Southern Colorado District
United Women in Faith Newsletter
June 2026
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