



United
Women
in Faith
Minnesota

The *fresh*
Connection

Newsletter of the Minnesota Annual Conference United Women in Faith

Fall 2022

Volume 27, Number 2

Come! Let us gather together! Annual Meeting, Leadership Development

Join us on October 1st at First UMC in Waseca for our Fall Gathering as we learn from **Guest Speaker Nancy Beaulieu** why we are all treaty people and why protecting treaties and Indigenous ways is sacred and fundamental to protecting our environment.

We will also have our Annual Meeting to vote on the 2023 Officers, Budget, Standing Rules changes, and other business.

The Gathering begins at 9 am with lunch at noon and afternoon sessions from 1 pm until 2:30.

Register by September 15 for Annual Gathering at <https://forms.gle/piZeXazi0ozLonhr9>.

LDR

Leadership Development Retreat, for Conference and District officers and coordinators, starts at 3 pm to 8:30 pm and continues the following day 9:30-2 pm.

Register for LDR by September 21 at <https://forms.gle/hJDNHebq82r6JNoE9>



Lodging Facilities in Waseca

If you are traveling a long distance to attend the Annual Gathering or LDR, please make arrangements for overnight accommodations as soon as possible. The two motels listed below are located in Waseca

Grandstay Hotel & Suites
2201 N State St
Waseca, MN 56093
(507) 835-0022

American Motel
313 State Hwy 13
Waseca, MN 56093
(507) 835-4300

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Nancy Beaulieu

President's Letter: Accepting the Invitation

Have you ever felt like Jeremiah? (And I am not referring to the bullfrog in the Three Dog Night song from the 70's?!) Anyway, I think about Jeremiah most of the time -- the prophet, not the frog! Let me explain.

In the first chapter of Jeremiah, he responds to God's call saying, "I don't know how to speak because I am only a child" (Jeremiah 1:6). Jeremiah is focused on himself and his own shortcomings. It is like looking into a mirror for me. Maybe you can relate.

I have spent the last twenty years committed to United Methodist Women, now United Women in Faith. I have studied, learned and my faith has deepened as I never imagined. In May, I was consecrated as a Deaconess committing my life to Love, Justice and Service. Like most of us, Love and Service feels second nature, but Justice -- that is a frog of a different color!

Currently, United Women in Faith is focusing on Racial and Climate Justice. My experience is that I know what I believe yet, when placed in a room that

invariably contains very polarized views, my response is silence. Why? In a word--Fear. Fear of not getting it right. Fear of judgement. Fear of upsetting the peace.

Silence cries of white privilege and defies all that Jesus is calling me to do. I am to follow Jesus to the margins, to speak up in the places that do not feel like love. Does this seem familiar and does it bring up feelings of discomfort or even anger? I invite you to take time and explore the emotions that arise within you.

In the Jeramiah text, God says nothing about Jeramiah's gifts or lack thereof. God simply says, "Go. I will give you the words." and "I am with you" (verses 7 & 8). If we focus on the skills we are lacking and our own fear, we will miss the invitation to journey with God in creating God's kin-dom here on earth.

Joan Chittister asks of us in her book *The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage*, "Shall we do something to reshape the heart and the soul of the worlds we inhabit? Or shall we do nothing and claim that we were powerless in the world?"



As for me, I have committed my life to Love, Justice and Service. Join me in this journey God is inviting us to travel because we know that *Love in Action can change the world.*

Much Peace,
Cindy Saufferer

President
MN Conference UWFaith



Reading Program Spotlight > **Anxious To Talk About It:** **Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully About Racism** by Carolyn B. Helsel

Talking about race can make us anxious. Professor and pastor Carolyn Helsel draws on her experiences with white congregations to offer tools and practices to explore the anxious feelings that can come up when talking about racism. Learn how to join the hard conversations and move forward with less fear, more compassion and more knowledge of self, others and the important issues at stake.

More about the Reading Program on page 15.

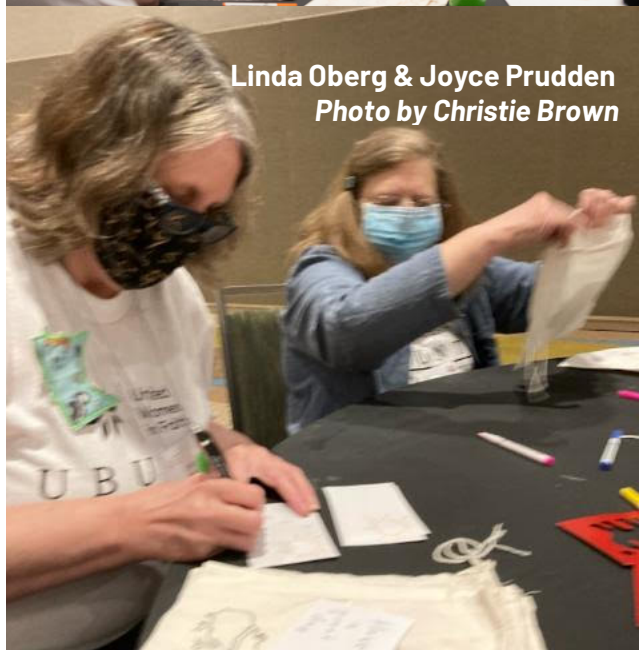
Turning It Up at Assembly 2022

Coming from 24 countries and all 50 states, more than 3,000 gathered in Orlando, Florida and online for United Women in Faith's Assembly 2022, held May 20-22 at the Orange County Convention Center. Among the thousands were about 50 from Minnesota.

Ubuntu Day of Service



Sherry Scholljegerdes
Photo by Brenda Blair



Linda Oberg & Joyce Prudden
Photo by Christie Brown

Three hundred women, including several from Minnesota, came to Assembly a day early to participate in an Ubuntu Day of Service, volunteer work supporting outreach organizations in Florida, site of this year's Assembly event.



The day was sponsored by the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. Participants put together meal, hygiene, and community garden packets to benefit three organizations: Rise Against Hunger, My Neighbor's Children, and Cornerstone Family Ministries."

"Ubuntu is the *being* of mission," said United Women in Faith's Michelle Clemons, co-organizer of the event along with Zelda Jones.. "It focuses on relationships, shared experience, and mutuality. Having a positive impact on someone else's life reminds us of the value we bring and gives our lives purpose."

Assembly Keynote speakers

Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, spoke about the rampant racial discrimination and injustice toward Asian American women and girls and challenged attendees to show love for neighbors in ways that are bold and inconvenient in order to change the trajectory of racism.

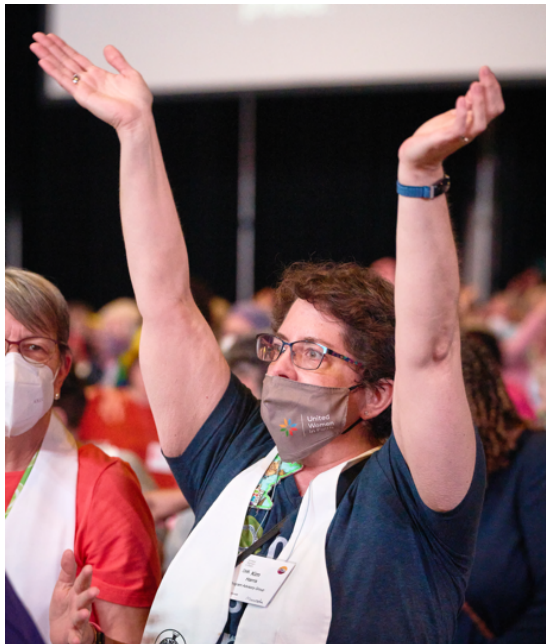
Heather McTeer Toney, lawyer and environmentalist, spoke about the urgency and joy of caring for creation. "When people tell us it's too big, that environmental justice is too hard, that climate crisis is just too massive, our response should be: 'But you don't know my faith because nothing is too hard for God,'" Toney said.

Continues on next page

Turning Up for Joy (continued from previous page)

Joyful Praise!

Worship was a sacred time for inspiring scripture and joyful praise. MN Deaconess and PAG member Kim Harris (below) caught the joyful Spirit.



Participants caught the joy & danced in the aisles.

Grace Hubbard (right) was music director for the gathering and with Maria Sottile (below left) and Makeda McCreary (below right) led the singing at Assembly.



Can you spot a bishop or two behind those masks?



More Assembly related stories and photos on the next page.

Turning It Up for Children

Children from the Rosa Valdez Early Learning Center at Cornerstone Family Center in Orlando, Florida, sang and danced, bringing their own youthful joy and energy into the Assembly gathering. *Photos (R) by Mike DuBose, UM News.*



Photo above by Brenda Blair

See more Assembly Photos on the UWFaith Flickr page:
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/umwomen/>



Brooklyn UWFaith at Virtual Assembly

Five women from Brooklyn United Women in Faith experienced Assembly 2022 together via Zoom at Koronis Ministries. Each signed up for different sessions then met together in a conference room, each with their own laptop. This allowed everyone to attend a greater number of sessions than they otherwise would have.

They discussed the sessions in real time and brainstormed ideas that were generated in the meetings. It made for a more meaningful and enriching experience.

It was a perfect combination of Zoom technology and having fellowship with UWFaith sisters, and at the same time relaxing in a beautiful location by the lake.



Pictured L-R: Diane Denkmann, Carol Foster, Nancy Kipp, Kathy Carter, and Sheila Weber

Sylvia Farrells contributed to this article.

Deaconesses, Home Missioners Consecrated, Commissioned

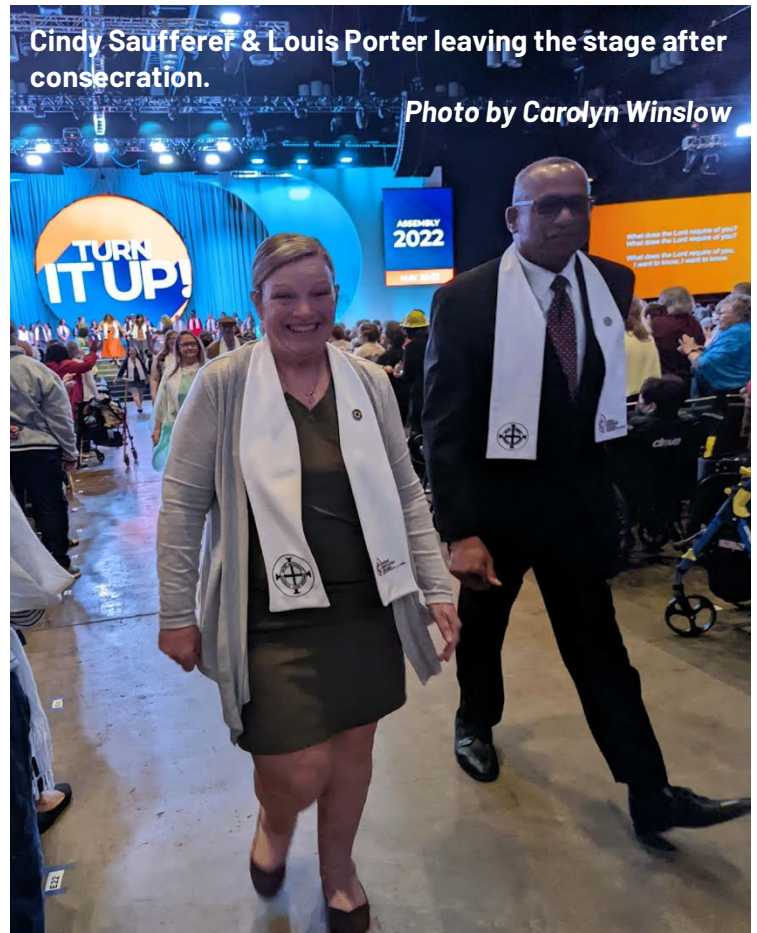
Sixty deaconesses and home missioners from 29 conferences were consecrated at the United Women in Faith Assembly 2022 in Orlando, Florida. The office of Deaconess and Home Missioner, a division of United Methodist Women, “enables laity to respond to a vocational call to be Christ in the world through consecration for lifetime servant ministries of love, justice, and service.”s

Among the 60, were three from Minnesota: Deaconesses Carolyn Winslow and Cindy Saufferer, and Home Missioner Louis Porter II.

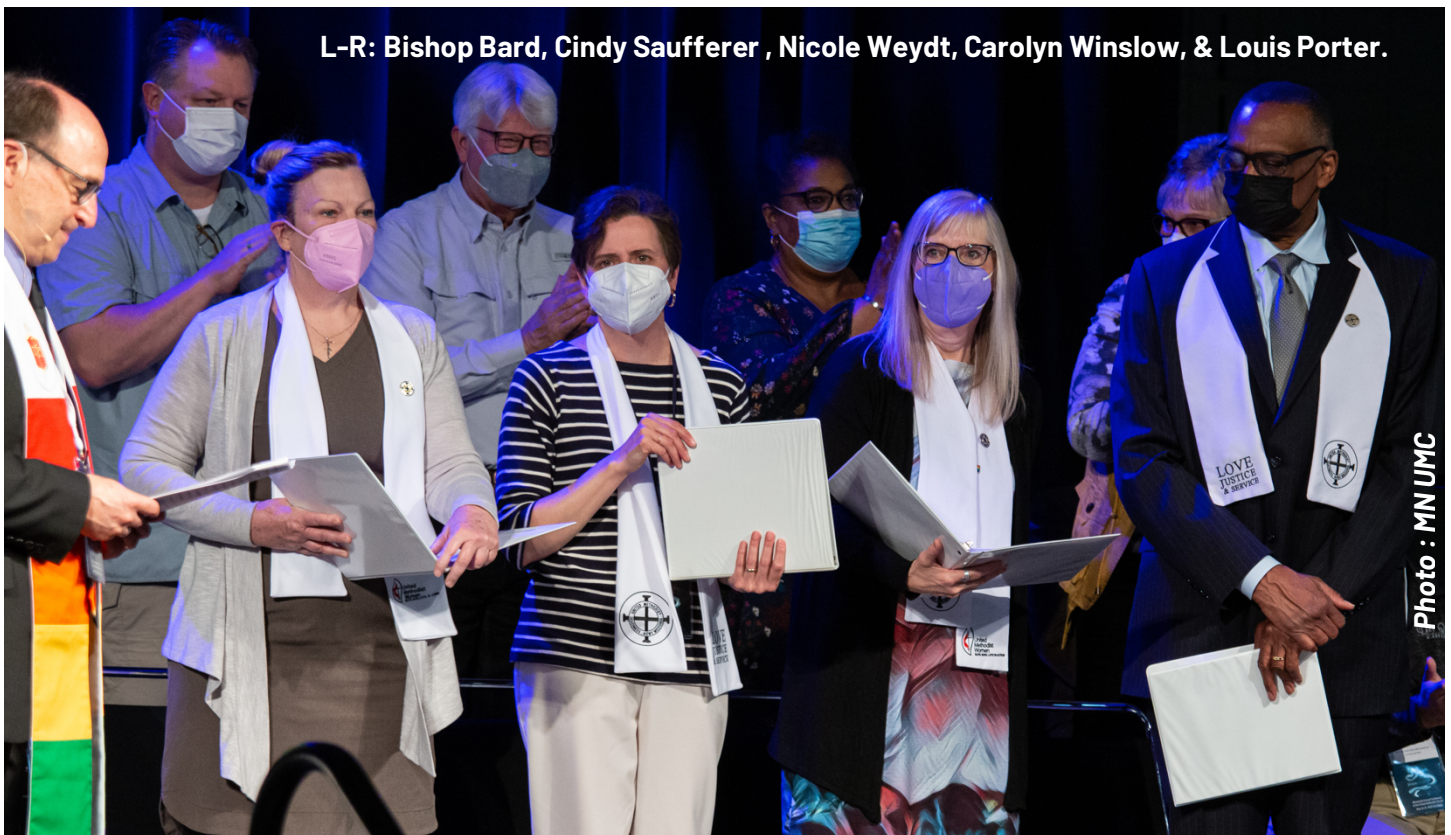
These three as well as Deaconess Nicole Weydt (who could not attend Assembly) were also commissioned at the 2022 Minnesota Annual Conference by Bishop David Bard and assisted with worship at the Conference.

The Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner invites those who are discerning a call to ministry to attend a virtual discernment event taking place on Thursday, October 6, 2022.

<https://uwfaith.org/event/deaconess-and-home-missioner-virtual-discernment-event-oct-2022/>



Cindy Saufferer & Louis Porter leaving the stage after consecration.
Photo by Carolyn Winslow



L-R: Bishop Bard, Cindy Saufferer, Nicole Weydt, Carolyn Winslow, & Louis Porter.

Photo : MN UMC

Because We Believe—the Charter for Racial Justice

by Jane Baker, River Valley District President

One Assembly Workshop brought together members of the North Central Jurisdiction to advance conversation on racial justice education. With about 60 participants in total, delegates from each conference sat together.

The workshop, “Because We Believe—the Charter for Racial Justice,” started with introductions during which each attendee shared the name of someone who had influenced their thoughts on racial justice. Rosa Parks, Ida B. Wells, Theresa Hoover, and Kamala Harris were among the well-known influencers. I named River Valley District officer Liz Weninger.

Liz worked and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the 1960’s. When I heard her speak at our district’s Spring Gathering (see photo), I learned how much experience and knowledge she has about racial justice.

After workshop introductions, participants were encouraged to discuss their respective conference’s member education efforts regarding the Charter for Racial Justice.

Using provided discussion prompts, each table captured their observations on poster paper. These were then presented to the group by



conference representatives.

The questions we were given to discuss included:

- Are you starting from scratch? What work has your conference done already? What changes have you implemented?
- Do you have a Charter committee? If so, is it functioning well?
- Have you held events related to the Charter commitments of 1.5+ hours? If so, do you feel those events helped your Conference grow, progress, transform? How often do those events happen?
- Is your leadership inclusive and reflective of your membership? And is your membership inclusive and reflective of your community? Is CON seeking diverse candidates for leadership?
- Are you honoring all cultures/languages represented in your gatherings? If so, how?

- How many people do you notice talking about racial justice? Is racial justice perceived to be the work of a “few of us” or “all of us”?
- What would you celebrate about your current work? Where are the roadblocks/barriers you’re experiencing?

The delegates from the Minnesota Conference discussed three of the discussion questions and summarized their observations:

1. *Not from scratch, Charter should be lifted up at every meeting; use land acknowledgement at meetings but need action on it, more work is needed*
2. *Yes, CARJ Committee is active virtually*
3. *Partnered with WNIPL March 2021 to protest Line 3 pipeline*

Energized by this exercise, conference teams will be able to continue the discussions and generate ideas about how to further their quest for implementing the Charter.

As United Women in Faith in Minnesota, we must continue to seek racial justice in all of our activities and in the world.

This work remains at the core of our identity as United Women in Faith. Why?



The Charter for Racial Justice symbol represents United Women in Faith’s commitment to work for racial justice. It symbolizes a world of racially and ethnically diverse peoples working together to create a world in which every person has a voice, rights, and opportunity for abundant life. Within the image are two hands joined together to work for justice for all God’s children.

Home & Healing: Campaign for Emma Norton's Restoring Waters

Restoring Waters is Emma Norton Service's new development at Highland Bridge. Their \$3M campaign to fund the development is an opportunity for you to act boldly for justice and equity to help ENS better serve women and families.


ENS, a UWFaith National Mission, has served women and families for more than 100 years, providing safe and affordable housing which is still sorely lacking in our community.

“
Every day I listen to the women at Emma Norton express deep longing for stability, opportunity, and healing...Restoring Waters will help answer that longing.
—Tonya Brownlow, Executive Director

Most of the women ENS serves are affected by mental illness, struggle with chemical health issues, or have a dual diagnosis or other disability.

Most have backgrounds of intergenerational poverty and homelessness, and many are dealing with the effects of systemic racism. They face

“
It's very difficult when you have led one type of life to {move to} how am I going to lead a different type of life with different types of people. Are they going to accept me? Will I be able to survive? What is life going to look like? I want to thank Emma Norton for this amazing opportunity.
Christine, SOAR Program Participant



numerous barriers to stability and independence.

Restoring Waters will provide safe and affordable housing with trauma-informed supportive services for healing, recovering, and truly transforming lives.

“
I have a place to basically heal, and actually reevaluate myself, my goals, my wants, my needs, and just put a different perspective on things. Being out there on the streets, I wasn't able to cook, and I actually missed it... a kitchen of my own... that's something that I've been looking forward to for a very, very long time.
—Dominique, Emma Norton resident

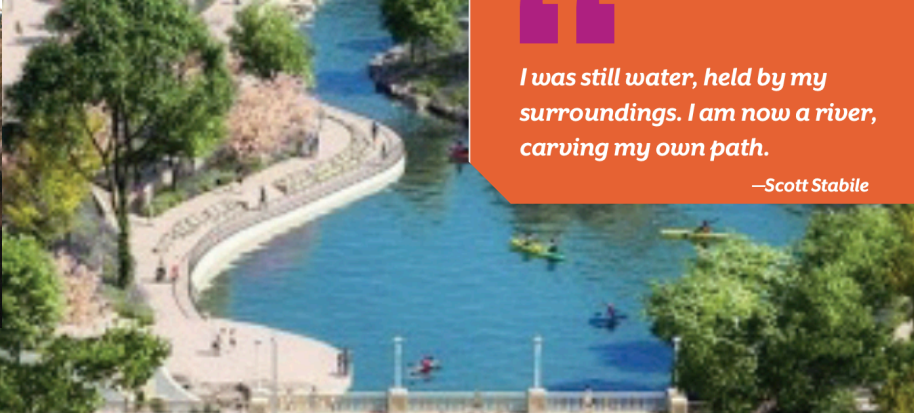


For more information about how you can invest in this bold vision of hope and healing, contact Melinda Khort, TC District UWFaith President at prestcumw@gmail.com or Shawna Nelsen-Wills, ENS Advancement Director, at snelsen@emmanorton.org or 651-251-2632.

“
I want my kids to be able to believe in themselves, reach for their dreams, and succeed. I don't want them to have to struggle like I have had to struggle.
—Emma's Place mom



“
I was still water, held by my surroundings. I am now a river, carving my own path.
—Scott Stabile



Scholarships Available for Women Seminary Students

Each year, Emma Norton scholarships are awarded to eligible women who are pursuing Christian vocations. Now is the time to apply if you or someone you know is interested. Scholarships range from \$500 - \$1100.

The scholarship money comes from Emma Norton herself. Concerned about the struggles of young women to obtain an education in the early 1900's, Emma Norton gave \$25,000 in stocks and bonds to the Women's Home Missionary Society.

Her stipulation with the generous gift in 1921 was that the money was to remain intact and that half of the interest is to be used for scholarships for women going into full-time Christian vocations. The other half of the interest is to be used for a national mission.

The stock account has grown since 1921 and hundreds of scholarships have been awarded. The fund is administered by the Designated Fund Committee of the MN Conference United Women in Faith.

Women with college degrees and United Methodist backgrounds who are currently enrolled in a course of



study for full-time Christian vocations are eligible to apply for Emma Norton Scholarships.

These scholarships are given annually and previous applicants are eligible to apply again. Applications should be returned with two letters of reference.

To receive a scholarship application, contact : Melinda Kohrt, Chair, Emma Norton Designated Fund Committee, at prestcumw@gmail.com



CWU Invites You

Church Women United of the St. Paul Area invites you to attend World Community Day, November 5, 10 am to 1 pm at Centennial UMC, 1524 County Rd. C2, in Roseville, MN. A light lunch will be served.

The cost is only \$15. You can pay at the door with cash or check payable to St. Paul CWU.

If you're unable to attend in person but wish to make a donation please, mail your check to: Sue Rengstorf, 590 Suzanne Avenue, Shoreview, MN 55126.

Church Women United is an inclusive ecumenical Christian women's movement celebrating unity in diversity and empowering women to work towards a world of peace and justice.

Donations for "Nickels for National" and "Fellowship of the

Least Coin" will be collected. Offering will go to National Office CWU to further the work of the movement.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE is October 28, 2022 at this link: <https://forms.gle/rtkhyr7xWhz23KH59>. You should receive a confirmation email from "google forms." Check your spam or junk mail if not received. For questions regarding registration contact: Sandy at 952-270-1157 cwu.sandy@gmail.com.



Your Vote Matters at Annual Gathering

At MN UWFaith's Fall Meeting, members can vote on three important items. Please read the information carefully as you decide how to cast your vote on

1. 2023 Budget
2. 2023 Slate of Elected Officers
3. 2023 Changes to the Standing Rules

Slate of Candidates for 2023

Officers to be elected

Treasurer: Linda Oberg (2nd Term, 1st Year)

Officer continuing in elected office

President: Cindy Saufferer (2nd Term, 2nd Year)

Secretary: Linda Brinster (2nd Term, 2nd Year)

Chair, Committee on Nominations: Mary Jane Reetz (1st Term, 2nd Year)

Appointed Officers to be affirmed

Program Coordinator: Linda Kotschevar (Year 2)

Spiritual Growth: Christina Brown (Year 3)

Membership Nurture and Outreach: Catherine Williams (Year 3)

Education & Interpretation: Pam Johnson (Year 4)

Social Action: Shirley Durr (Year 2)

Directory Project Leader: Teresa Riecke (Year 3)

Committee on Nominations:

- Class of 2023 Janet Ewing
- Class of 2024 Mary Jane Reetz

Open Appointed Offices

Committee on Nominations

- Class of 2025
- Class of 2026

Communications Coordinator

Technology Coordinator

Label Order Processor

Officer Update Processor

Legacy Liaison

If you are interested in any of these opened appointed positions, please contact Mary Jane Reetz, Committee on Nominations Chair at mjrnature@yahoo.com.



Standing Rules Proposed Changes

Standing Rules submitted the following changes to the Executive Team on August 14 to present to the Annual Gathering on October 1 for vote.

BOLD UNDERSCORED letters = add

ARTICLE 3 – Funds

- *Section 9.* Speakers for the Conference Annual Gathering shall be allowed expenses and given an honorarium **in an amount to be determined by the Executive Team.**
- *Section 11C.* Additional Conference officers or appointees who wish to attend **Assembly** and request reimbursement may apply for scholarship based on funds available and determined by the Executive Team. **The Executive Team also has discretion to invite District officers and appointees to apply for scholarship to Assembly.**
- **Section 11D. Members who are not Conference or District officers or appointees but wish to attend Assembly may also apply for scholarship; however, priority will be given to Conference and District officers and appointees.**

Your Standing Rules Committee for 2022 are Chair Shirley Durr, Conference President Cindy Saufferer, Committee on Nominations Chair Mary Reetz, Secretary Linda Brinster, Treasurer Linda Oberg, Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator Catherine Williams, and River Valley District President Jane Baker.

Proposed Budget is on the next page.

2023 A & MD Budget Proposal						
		2019 Actual	2020 Actual COVID	2021 Actual COVID	2022 Budget	2023 Budget Proposed
Description						
1	District A&MD	\$ 58,807.48	\$ 58,006.56	\$ 42,508.70	\$ 49,777.50	\$ 45,055.00
2	Jurisdiction A&MD	1,755.00	1,947.00	1,933.00	1,707.00	1,424.00
3	Mission u	-	-	-	15,300.00	15,300.00
4	Mission u Scholarships	-	-	-	850.00	850.00
5	Communications	5,781.08	5,554.34	5,604.72	5,950.00	5,950.00
6	Officer's Expenses	4,249.64	667.63	293.42	8,500.00	8,500.00
7	Officer Recognition	470.00		570.00	850.00	850.00
8	Audit/Bank Charges	-	31.40	-	2,500.00	2,500.00
Workshops / Seminars						
9	Assembly / Jurisdiction (Actual)	-	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
10	Assembly / District Funds (Actual)	-	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
11	CWU / WFMUCW set aside	-	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
12	Annual Meeting	3,792.07		-	4,250.00	4,250.00
13	Visioning Retreat			1,155.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
14	Leadership Development Retreat	9,944.47		-	7,000.00	7,000.00
15	Officer Planning Meetings					
16	WFMUCW	300.00		-	150.00	150.00
17	JRLC	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
18	CWU	290.00	235.00	150.00	150.00	150.00
19	Spiritual Growth Retreat	235.76		-	500.00	500.00
20	Opportunity Fund	-		-	500.00	500.00
21	Regis, Dues, Legis, Mission Poss	25.00	35.00	-	500.00	500.00
22	Legacy Fund	2,591.35		350.00	350.00	350.00
23	Miscellaneous	735.34		90.00	15.50	
24	Total	\$ 89,277.19	\$ 76,276.93	\$ 62,454.84	\$ 113,650.00	\$ 108,629.00
25	MN Conference Pledge	\$ 193,284.11	\$ 170,721.65	\$ 142,631.55	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 120,271.00
26	Total Expenses and Conference Pledge	\$ 282,561.30	\$ 246,998.58	\$ 205,086.39	\$ 233,650.00	\$ 228,900.00
27	MN Conference Emma Norton Services	\$ 44,043.50	\$ 43,752.37	\$ 39,555.51	\$ 43,300.00	\$ 44,300.00

2023 Proposed Income by District

District	Pledge	ENS Goal	A & MD Request
Big Waters	\$ 45,900.00	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 10,080.00
North Star	20,000.00	6,500.00	2,350.00
River Valley	58,000.00	12,000.00	9,950.00
Southern Prairie	50,000.00	10,000.00	13,050.00
Twin Cities	55,000.00	9,000.00	9,625.00
Total	\$ 228,900.00	\$ 44,300.00	\$ 45,055.00



Membership



Nurture



Outreach

Local Unit Survey, Staying Active, National Membership, Going Inactive

By Catherine Williams
Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator

The 2021 Unit Survey, located at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TZSYN2B>, is open until **August 30**. It takes about 10 minutes to complete. **Be sure to submit it by August 30**. You will get a thank you page to show it has been received.

Local Units: Backbone of United Women in Faith!

DISTRICT	# OF UNITS	# OF CHURCHES
Big Waters	46	56
North Star	67	75
River Valley	47	75
Southern Prairie	66	70
Twin Cities	47	56
ACTIVE IN MN	273	334

With all the changes, many of you may feel “out in left field” having very little contact with leadership in your District or Minnesota Conference of United Women in Faith.

How can District, Conference, National leadership help you?

Units can stay active with one contact person (usually the President) and a treasurer. You can choose where your UWFaith money is given, designating it to a UWFaith mission such as Emma Norton Services or to local community missions you give to under United Women in Faith.

To revitalize your unit, start building relationships with others in your church and/or neighboring churches. Discover SOUL Care retreats at <https://uwfaith.org/events/soul-care-retreats/> to create a transformative event for the women of all ages around you. Invite youth to a “happening” you plan for them to create interest in mission. On the District level, we have to revitalize our liaison (former Shepherding) programs.

What can we (District/Conference) do for you?

If your local is thinking of going inactive, members can sign up with other neighboring locals. They can also become part of National’s “**All Access Membership**” on the UWFaith website at: <https://uwfaith.org/all-access-existing-members/>. If you are a new member you can go to <https://uwfaith.org/all-access-membership> to sign up.

Local units going inactive

In the United Methodist *Book of Discipline*, United Women in Faith (United Methodist Women) is listed as a part of each United Methodist church. The unit cannot disband; it only goes **inactive**. If you are considering going inactive, your leader of the local needs to:

- Contact the pastor, District President, and Membership Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator to report the decision and request assistance.
- Schedule a meeting with the District President and/or Membership Nurture, and Outreach Coordinator to see what can be done to help. The local unit president completes the Final Unit Membership Report.
- The Unit Treasurer contacts the District Treasurer and completes the Financial Reports.

The UWFaith funds are distributed as designated by the donors. Remaining funds are sent to the District Treasurer with a remittance form reviewing the giving for the last four years and telling the District Treasurer how to use the funds. An audit is performed and report given to the District Treasurer.

Contact Catherine Williams (Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator) at cwilliamsteacher303@gmail.com or call 507-301-5865 to leave a message for assistance.

Leadership Team Retreats for Visioning, Business

MN Conference UWFaith officers and coordinators, with representation from all five districts, gathered at Koronis August 13 for a Retreat to vision how we will move forward into the future.

Members of the leadership team brainstormed their dreams of transformational experiences that could energize, reconnect, and revitalize our members, districts, and local units. How does remembering our legacy move us forward instead of just doing it the way we've always done it?

Prior to the Retreat, Christie Brown, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, asked each on the team to bring one or more items from home that could be used to decorate an altar. At the Retreat, all items were placed in baskets. In random pairs, each pair created an altar using those materials and was asked to explain the symbolism of the items they chose.



On the altar: candles, crosses, sweet grass, rocks, birds, and other nature items symbolizing themes of grief & remembrance, celebration & joy, past & future -- as well as diverse expressions of faith & grace.



After an evening of sisterly sharing of stories and music, the group met August 14 for the business of leadership -- hearing reports, discussing and voting on motions, planning the Fall Gathering, drafting a 2023 calendar, and more.

Deaf Hard of Hearing Ministry at Assembly

United Methodist Deaf Hard of Hearing Ministry, <https://www.umdeaf.org/>, had a booth at the United Women of Faith Assembly in May. It was the first time DHM hosted a booth and it was busy nonstop!

People at the booth shared information with people from across the country and world on Deaf ministry, interpreters, and the youth event at Daytona Beach, July 25-28, 2023. One woman from Africa who visited the booth shared about 500 Deaf children for whom she cares.

They also discussed Deaf prison ministries and went to classes such as Restoring Just Relationships, Climate Justice, and Ending Poverty.

They explored Deaconesses and Home Missioners for Deaf Ministry as well. Bishop Peggy Johnson, retired Bishop from the Eastern Pennsylvania and Peninsula-Delaware Conferences, shared that only one other person has done this and offered her support.



Adapted from an article by Billy and Mary Ann Deters in the United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries newsletter.



ASL Interpreters @ Assembly , photo by Paul Jeffrey



Celebrate International Deaf Awareness Week September 19-25!

On September 24, 2022, the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf (UMCD) will host a worship service at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time. Register with Zoom at <https://rb.gy/zg06xk> for this service, which will have ASL, captions, and voice interpretation. International Deaf Awareness Week, and International Day of Sign Languages, are celebrated during the last full week of September. Learn more about Deaf Awareness Week at <https://rb.gy/Oa3mob>.

LETTERS/NOTES/MESSAGES

Dear Women in Faith Folks,

Thank you so much for the reimbursement for the Virtual Conference. We at Recovery Church are excited to learn new ways we can participate.

Blessings,
Deb Mauer, Manette Olson, Renee Dixon



Be aware that some dates are subject to change.

- Sep 10 NS Annual Gathering _____ Motley UMC
- Sep 15 Faith Talks _____ Virtual
- Sep 17 BW Annual Gathering _____ Coon Rapids UMC
- Sep 17 SP Annual Gathering _____ Blue Earth
- Sep 24 RV Annual Gathering _____ Trinity UMC, Prior Lake
- Sep 24 TC Annual Gathering _____ Centennial UMC
- Oct 1 Conference Annual Gathering _____ Faith UMC, Waseca
- Oct. 1-2 Leadership Development Retreat _____ Faith UMC, Waseca
- Oct 6 DHM Discernment Event _____ Virtual
- Oct. 19 TC Exec Team Meeting & Program Planning _____ Virtual
- Nov 5 CWU World Community Day _____ Centennial UMC, Roseville
- Nov 19 TC Exec Team _____ Virtual
- Jan 14 Conf Exec Team _____ Virtual
- Jan 21 TC Winter Gathering _____ Virtual

UW Faith Resources



The Reading Program is a cherished UMW tradition that brings together members in mission as they explore, share and discuss the written word. From captivating

mysteries and heartfelt biographies to urgent messages about issues like immigration, racism and mental healthcare; there's something for everyone.

- UW Faith continues that tradition with a two-year Reading Program.
- For more info go to <https://uwfaith.org/resources/2022-reading-program/> where you can download a brochure with the Reporting Form and the list of books.



response is the award-winning, official magazine of United Women in Faith. We explore spiritual growth and living our faith, and report on our local, national and international work. Each issue will touch your heart, stir your soul, and challenge your mind! Go to

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine/> to subscribe to the digital and/or print version.



Faith Talks are monthly conversations with United Women in Faith hosted by Jennifer R. Farmer, Spotlight PR. Each conversation explores themes and resources that empower us to put faith,

hope, and love into action.

<https://uwfaith.org/event/faith-talks-2022-952/>



is published three times a year by the Minnesota Conference of United Women in Faith.

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For changes of address contact:
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Printed by: Rapit Printing, New Brighton MN

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 26920

Collecting Paper Products for Emma Norton at Annual Gathering



Bring toilet paper and paper towels to donate to Emma Norton Service when you come to Annual Gathering October 1-2. Linda Oberg will take them to ENS after the Gathering.

MN Conference UW Faith
Fall Gathering
Saturday, October 1, 2022



United Women in Faith
Minnesota

Faith UMC • 801 4th Ave NE • Waseca, MN



GUEST SPEAKER: NANCY BEAULIEU

- enrolled member of the Leech Lake reservation
- organizer with RISE Coalition (Resilient Indigenous Sisters Engaging)
- northern organizer for MN350
- national leader in Treaty awareness

We Are All Treaty People:
Protecting Treaties & Indigenous Ways

➤ See page 1 for registration and hotel information.