



THE PRESIDENT'S POST

Everything you ever wanted to know about our redistricting process

As you know, the Indiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church rearranged the districts effective July 1, 2025. The new districts are arranged so that each district has approximately 130 churches – regardless of membership size. As United Women in Faith we arrange ourselves administratively in the same manner as the United Methodist Church – jurisdictions, conferences, districts. However, fiscally we arrange ourselves differently. The United Methodist church operates on a conference year calendar – beginning in July. United Women in Faith operates on a calendar year. Had we changed to the new districts in July like the Annual Conference did, we would have had to close our books and have two audits in 2025 – one for the closing districts at mid-year, and one for the rising districts at the end of the year. We raise money for mission, not for auditing, so we delayed our switch to the new districts until January 1 – more money for mission and advocacy for women, children, and youth.

And here we are. At our annual gathering at the beginning of October we put in place the paperwork and structures that will allow us to keep on keeping on. Members present met together as new districts and accepted the 2026 district A&MD budgets and the district standing rules put together by the conference team – sort of cookie cutter documents to get us started. We then elected your district leadership teams and voted on your district pledge.

The conference committee on finance determines the district A&MD (administrative and membership development) budget. We simply took the 2025 number and divided it by five instead of ten. So, each district will have a starting A&MD budget of \$9,705. We need to understand that 2026 will be a year of grace and the budget is a guesstimate at best.

The district standing rules are in line with the conference standing rules and the portion of the national handbook outlining district responsibilities. These were approved by the conference leadership team and accepted at each district organizational meeting. Each year they will need to be looked at and improved and adjusted. Standing rules are a living, guiding document.

Over the past year ad hoc nominations committees were created for each of the new districts. These committees consist of the members of the committees on nominations of the current districts, the members of the conference committee on nominations, and the current district presidents – all rearranged into the new district boundaries according to either their local unit location or their residence. Their remit was to create a core leadership team for each of the new districts. They were instructed to find the five elected officers – president, treasurer, secretary, chair of nominations, and communications coordinator. The appointed positions will be left for the new district teams to create in 2026.

A note about tenure. One of our organizational goals is to always create and develop leaders. If you are seeing the same names year after year then we aren't attaining that goal. The nominations committees were told that tenure was not a deterrent to creating a slate for these new districts. HOWEVER, some of these women are way beyond tenure. They should serve no more than two years. They should spend the next year or two mentoring someone who steps up. We each need to discern what God is calling us to do for the kingdom and for United Women in Faith. And remember, the nominations committees do not have telepathic powers. Sometimes God nudges you to say "I could do that" ... the next step is for you to say out loud to someone on the committee "I could do that!"

The slates of officers were published via a Constant Contact email message and on our Facebook page. If you didn't see the slate in either of those ways you need to make sure we have your email address to add to the Constant Contact conference United Women in Faith mailings. In general, we no longer use post office mailing in order to focus our dollars on mission giving.

The district pledges are aspirational. Again, 2026 will be a year of grace. We have had to lower our conference pledge to mission – what we hand on to the national level to fund mission and

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



advocacy work – because we haven't hit our previous goal for several years. We are still trying to sort out where we are after the pandemic and the season of disaffiliations. The number we are suggesting to each district is based on prior year pledges in the current year districts with consideration for boundary changes, estimated number of members, changes that occurred following the pandemic and disaffiliations, and sheer guesswork!

As I said, 2026 will be a year of grace. We need to discover who we are as new districts and invite women to join in this important work. This is an opportunity to be UNSTOPPABLE!!

La Donna Weber

District Pledges for 2026:

EAST CENTRAL HEIGHTS

\$82,000

EASTERN RIVERS

\$47,500

NORTHERN LAKES

\$65,000

SOUTHERN RIVERS

\$23,500

WEST CENTRAL PLAINS

\$30,000

DON'T BE LEFT OUT

PLEASE NOTE: We use Constant Contact to send out notices from the conference and district United Women in Faith of Indiana. If you would like to be on the mailing list send a request to umwin@in-umc.org. And be warned -- If you unsubscribe to one message you will unsubscribe to ALL messages!

FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

Many of us remember The Carol Burnett Show in which Carol Burnett would sing at the end of her show "I'm so glad we had this time together, just to laugh, or sing a song..." and when she finished singing, Carol would tug on her ear as a special message to her grandmother.

Recently our 2025 Annual Celebration was held at Christ UMC, Westfield IN with the theme "Moving Forward with Hope and Grace". We began our celebration on Friday with the storyteller, Sandra Hartlieb who shared a dramatic story based on one of the Biblical woman in the bible.

The celebration continued on Saturday as we held our seventeenth annual business meeting with the call to order by our IN Conference President. Nominations were made, the election of our 2026 officers was conducted, minutes were read, decisions were made and voted on, and our 2026 budget was presented and approved.

But that was not the end of the day! We recognized those who participated in the reading program, mission today units, and retiring officers. The Lucille Raines annual report was presented, along with the Legacy Fund report, Mission u report, Youth & Young Adults scholarship information and our call to

action from Social Action. We had a full day which culminated with our Bishop, Tracy S. Malone installing our 2026 officers and serving communion. The celebration gave us the opportunity gather and be spiritually inspired.

Our other upcoming events are the Silent Retreat and Leadership Development. We will be in prayer for those ladies attending the Silent Retreat which will be held October 31 to November 2. The retreat provides a moment to disconnect from all those things which distract and tug at you. Be silent...be still...and be at peace with God and self. On Saturday, November 8, we will have a virtual Leadership Development training from 10am to 12pm. Be on the look-out for additional information coming soon.

The Indiana Conference of United Women in Faith will be doing a new thing in 2026 as we move from 10 Districts to 5 Districts, we are "Moving Forward with Hope and Grace"..... 1 Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that you labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Yes, "I'm so glad we had this time together, just to laugh, or sing a song..." but we are not at the end of the show or

program. We are starting 2026 with the continued purpose to know God, to be in mission, give back to our communities, setting the trend, making a difference, and blazing new paths as we continue to do the work of those United Women of Faith who came before us.

So, let's give a little tug on our ear as we recognize our new fantastic five districts of Indiana. The East Central Heights District, Eastern Rivers District, Northern Lakes District, Southern Rivers District and the West Central Plains District.

It has been a pleasure serving you as Co-VP's and we know Jeannie Estep will do a wonderful job as she assumes the office in 2026.

We wish everyone a wonderful rest of the year! While we close the end of our programs for the year, there are still opportunities to stay connected through our online platforms and programming, i.e. Faith Talks and our various online chat groups.

God's Blessings be with You,
Co-Vice Presidents
Sherrae Davis
Stacey Moore



FROM THE LANGUAGE COORDINATORS

Food. We all need it. We all love it. Food is a window to the soul and a door to our memories! It can be a required survival element, a sensory experience, and even a spiritual experience. There are so many foods that connect me (Margaret) to my Puerto Rican roots. Just the other day, I almost started crying over a bag of platanutres (plantain chips) I found at a store. When I got home (ok, to the car), I ripped that bag open and tasted home!

We love that Indiana's restaurant

scene is broadening its offerings. For years, we have had "tex-mex" style Mexican cuisine. We are thrilled that in many of our communities, we now find not only more authentic Mexican, but also a wide range of other Latin American dishes such as Salvadoran pupusas, Cuban arroz congri (black rice and beans), and Peruvian fries. (Fun fact: Peru is the birthplace of the potato and has more than 4,000 varieties!)

In our last column, we encouraged you to be open to differences within

broad ethnic groups. This month we are inviting you to try new flavors to engage with and get to know other cultures and peoples. So, try a new ethnic restaurant! Ask your server to teach you about their favorite foods and cultural traditions. Be humble and genuine. You may discover a whole new world of culinary delights!

Margaret Dennis & Ashley Flores
Language Coordinators

NEWS FROM EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Since our founding in 1869, United Women in Faith and our preceding organizations have been fueled by small gifts that make a big difference. Mission Giving turns faith into actions that can make a big difference in the lives of women, children and youth all over the world. We support 161 National Mission Institutions throughout the world with 90 of the National Mission Institutions in the United States.

The Mission Institutions close to Indiana include Redbird Mission and Henderson Settlement in the beautiful mountains of Eastern Kentucky. I have been on several mission trips to both of these facilities and United Women in Faith is truly making a difference. At Henderson Settlement in Frakes, Kentucky, UW in Faith funds a children's program entitled MIHOW – Maternal Infant Health Outreach Workers.

This is a parent to parent intervention for young mothers with babies. It is designed to improve health care and child development for mothers and babies living in areas with limited access to health care. Outreach workers from the neighborhood are hired and trained. They then educate young mothers about nutrition, child health and development and parenting practices. In 2024, through UW in Faith Youth and Young Adult Scholarships, Indiana Conference funded 7 youth from LaGrange UMC to go to Henderson Settlement for work projects in the community and on campus. Besides Mission

Giving, Units who would like to help MIHOW can send Walmart Gift Cards to the MIHOW Project, Henderson Settlement, 16714 State Highway 190, Frakes, Ky. 49040.

Mission Giving also funds Cunningham Children's Home in Urbana, Illinois. The residents are youth who suffer from serious emotional and behavioral challenges caused by abuse, neglect, mental illness and other factors. Expert care is provided for these youth to help them learn positive coping and behavioral skills.

North Rampart Community Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, provides holistic programs for children, youth and families through open gym, swim lessons, reading programs and technology labs.

These are only a few National Mission Institutions funded by United Women in Faith Mission Giving. A complete list can be found at the United Women in Faith web site and on the even years in the March/April Response Magazine. Our Mission through United Women in Faith is powered by women like you! Women who pray, show up, and give what they can to Mission Giving through local Units treasurers to District treasurers to our Conference Treasurer and then to National United Women in Faith. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of women, children and youth world wide through Mission Giving.

Rae Wallis, Conference Education and Interpretation Coordinator

ABOUT YOUR GIVING

The United Women in Faith Handbook 2021-2024 Local Organization section says in part that each Unit is to have their own bank account separate from church or personal funds (not one per circle), is to have one Treasurer (not one per circle), and is to have an audit or financial review every year. A full scope audit is not required for most small to average sized Units. The unit should use the conference United Women in Faith of Indiana EIN (Employee Identification Number) for banking – UWFaith funds should be entirely separate from church funds. Contact Carla Gillespie, conference treasurer, if you need the EIN form.

ADDITIONS TO 2024 MISSION TODAY UNITS

The 2024 Mission Today list that was presented at the October 4, 2025 Annual Celebration was missing a Unit from Northeast District that I overlooked in the list submitted. Congratulations to St. Joe United Women in Faith for being a Bronze Unit. There were also 2 other Northeast Units that I was not made aware – Congratulations to Cromwell United Women in Faith for being a Silver Unit and Huntington Trinity United Women in Faith for being an Honorable Mention Unit.

Rae Wallis, Conference Education and Interpretation Coordinator



United
Women
in Faith

2025 October Mission Messenger

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH LOVE IN ACTION <https://uwfaith.org/>

SOCIAL ACTION CONNECTION

We have many resources to learn from regarding Social Action concerns. The bolded words have links you can click on to take you to the resource to read more.

[Here is a podcast](#) from our General Board of Church and Society United Methodist Church. In this episode of Justice Takes Courage Podcast, host Bishop Julius C. Trimble and guest LaTrelle M. Easterling talk about the challenges of today's political landscape.

Immigration Concerns

There are great resources from our Indiana Conference Diversity, Missions and Justice Associate Director Chrissy Brack on the [inumc.org](#) website.

Group alarmed at effort targeting children

WASHINGTON — Church World Service, a United Methodist-supported partner in refugee resettlement, is raising alarms about the efforts of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to target unaccompanied children. The department has made plans to incentivize minors to waive legal rights guaranteed by U.S. law and self-deport in exchange for a one-time payment of \$2,500. The move puts children at further risk of trafficking and other forms of abuse, staff say, and they urge voters to call their lawmakers.

[Read statement](#)

Help Immigrants Be Able to Plan

Do you know someone who could benefit having a plan just in case they need it?

Help the person you know to write down on paper a listing of their family's names and addresses, ages, phone numbers.

Who should be contacted if they are taken away and their children are left alone?

Where should the children go?

What else do they need to know? Our wonderful Bishop Tracy Malone gave an amazing speech our last prayer vigil at the Miami Corrections Facility.

[READ SPEECH HERE](#)

Federal Government Shut Down

Hopefully by the time this is published our Federal Government Shut Down will be over. If not please contact your U.S. Representatives and Senators to urge them to pass funding with protections for children, families, health and equity. You can call, write a letter by email or USPS. [Find out here](#) who your representatives are.

Indiana Redistricting

Please share your thoughts about redistricting with the top decision makers at the State House who are:

Governor Mike Braun (317) 232-4567
Speaker Huston (317) 232-9677
Pro Tem Bray (317) 232-9400

Climate Justice

ASK OUR LEGISLATORS to advocate for clean, renewable and just energy infrastructure, the highest environmental standards by regulatory agencies, and ambitious climate addressing policies [click here to act!](#)

Indiana Duke Energy Duke owns and operates one of the dirtiest coal-burning plants in the US, right here in Indiana: the Gibson coal plant. For years, Duke's Gibson plant has been one of the biggest polluters in the nation and remains the highest-polluting coal plant in our state.

Gibson released 9,041,528.531 tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) into the atmosphere in 2023.[2] That's equivalent to the CO2 emissions from 1.95 million gas-powered passenger vehicles driven for one year.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE MOVE INDIANA BEYOND COAL FACTSHEET FROM SIERRA CLUB](#)

TAKE ACTION

Faith Community to Hold Prayer Vigil for Immigrant Community at Marion County Jail

Clergy, church leaders, and people of faith will gather outside the Marion County Jail on Monday, November 3rd at 2:00 p.m. for a public prayer vigil in support of the immigrant community and in lament for the immigrant detention system.

According to local news station, WTHR, over 800 immigrant detainees are being held at the Marion County Jail. We will gather to pray and urge our local leaders to pursue transparency, accountability, and policies rooted in compassion and justice.

The gathering will include Scripture readings and prayer calling for compassion, dignity, and justice for immigrants and refugees. Those in attendance will stand in prayerful solidarity with the immigrant communities and call attention to the urgent need for humane treatment of all people.

Community members, people of all faiths, and the public are invited to attend. Clergy are invited to wear clergy collars and red stoles. **For more information contact Rev. Chris Lantz at chris.lantz@inumc.org or Rev. Matt Landry at matt.landry@inumc.org or Rev. Darren Cushman Wood at dcushmanwood@northchurchindy.org**

Event Details:

Date: Monday, November 3rd, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Location: Marion County Jail, 675 Justice Way, Indianapolis, IN 46203



SPIRITUAL GROWTH

I want to thank you for the privilege of being your Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the last four years. It is very true that the one who plans the retreats, searches for devotions, and leads in prayer is the one who receives the greatest blessing. When we spend time seeking, God faithfully leads. The silent retreat will probably just be finishing when you read this newsletter.

Our focus scripture was Isaiah 30:15 "...In quietness and trust is your strength..."

We are created with the need to commune with God, our source of peace and purpose. But we must deliberately set aside time for this, or else the rush and noise of life will quickly fill all our moments.

Because of Assembly, we will only

have one spiritual growth retreat in 2026. We will join together March 27-28 at Canyon Inn in McCormick's

Creek State Park, a beautiful, peaceful location. Plan now to join us in this time of spiritual renewal and sweet fellowship.

Cheryl Wilson, Spiritual Growth

SECRETARY NOTES

As I complete my term as Conference Secretary, my heart is full of gratitude for the opportunity to serve the Indiana Conference United Women in Faith. It has been an honor to continue to be a part of a sisterhood committed to putting love into action and making a difference in the lives of women, children and youth. I am reminded of the power of connection.

As we prepare for a new year of

ministry together, local unit and district secretaries need to

complete and submit your Directory Submission Form to both me and the Directory Coordinator.

Submitting your form ensures you are included in our updated directory—our essential tool for staying connected, sharing updates, and supporting one another. Without it, you may miss out on important communications, event invita-

tions, learning and leadership opportunities, and valuable resources throughout the year.

Let's make sure no one is left out. If you've already submitted—thank you! If not, we're looking forward to receiving your information soon.

Together, we stay informed, engaged, and empowered.

Cathy Burris

MEMBERSHIP, NURTURE & OUTREACH

Welcome New and Returning Members from Your Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator!

We are excited that UWFaith is growing again!

When submitting the names of your local officers to Barb McCoy and new district secretary by December 1, 2025, please include in the box the number of local members in your unit.

Women are able to join by joining online and are able to log in to UWFaith.org to learn about national events and workshops. This is called being an all access member. Please contact me so that I may add your contact info so you will be

able to receive information.

Women are also able to fellowship and participate in programs at the local level by joining a local unit. Some of these units are associated with a local UMC, but not always because anyone may join UWFaith even though not a member or attending a local UMC church. You are also an access member and able to receive national information.

Another category is being a cluster or district member. This category is for women who would like to receive IN Conference (State) and district news, and not be active in a particular local unit.

Please send me your contact info so

that I am able to add your name to the contact list. You, as well, are also considered an access member.

Please share with others the "FindUsOnline"!!!

An information packet including forms for women who would like to activate a local UWF unit will be sent to you personally if you send a request to:

Carol Tiller

MNO Coordinator for IN UWF

Conference

csa5305@gmail.com

Also, email me if your unit is planning to deactivate so a packet will personally be sent to you.



FROM THE RESOURCE COORDINATOR

Hello everyone! I hope everyone enjoyed the summer and hopefully cooling down some now. Hopefully we are going to have a bit of fall !

First, to get the business part out of the way! It was so good to see your familiar smiling faces at Annual Celebration. It was a powerful and wonderful meeting! I need each of you get your Reading Program participants with their church information and what plan they completed and remember to add your honorary mention readers also! Even if they haven't completed the plan, but they are trying and I want to recognize them also in the program book next year! I would like these either emailed or snailmailed by December 15th. Thank you in advance for that!

Now I've got to tell you about a book I just finished. It is about a man named Ray Hinton. The name of the book is "The Sun Does Shine". This is a book about a man that was arrested, charged and convicted for two counts of capital murder. It tells his story of his loss of faith in God because just about every one who testified about things that he did lied. The people just outright lied on the stand about him. The District Attorney even lied about the proof he had about Ray. He was on death row for 30 years and continually trying to find someone to help him right this terrible wrong. He finally got a good lawyer named Bryan Stevenson. Bryan gave Ray hope and he had his Bible back reading it and got his faith back as they worked on his case. Bryan was determined to free Ray. Bryan Stevenson is the author of "Just Mercy." It is also a good read' Ray helped the other men on death row change their attitudes and lives were made better by God and Ray. You will have to read the book to see if Ray gets his freedom and proven innocent on all counts. It's definitely worth the reading. Happy Reading!!!!

Sara Mayes
7766 Brosend Rd Apt. O
Newburgh, IN 47630





Find United Women in Faith Online

United Women in Faith Website: uwfaith.org

This is our primary website. Here you will find the latest news and information about United Women in Faith programs, initiatives, and events. It's where you connect with other members and get involved. You'll also find links to our many resources and the e-store.

Downloads: umwmissionresources.org

Find new brand elements, member materials, programs, and catalogs here.

Online Community: uwfaith.mn.co

Connect with United Women in Faith members on Mighty Networks, a safe and secure online space to deepen our community and engage digital resources for local programming and transformative education. The platform features the digital Program Resource, Prayer Guide, Mission u curricula, online groups around specific interests, and more.

Facebook: facebook.com/uwomenfaith

If you're on Facebook, be sure to "like" United Women in Faith. Follow the link and sign up so that our regular posts will appear on your home page.

Twitter: twitter.com/uwomenfaith

Do you tweet? So does United Women in Faith! Use the link to find our Twitter account @uwomenfaith. Follow us, tweet with us, and become a part of the continuing conversation around faith, hope, and love in action.

YouTube: youtube.com/uwomenfaith

Need a video for a presentation? You'll find it on YouTube. Check out the video resources available by following the link. New videos are posted often!

Flicker uwfaith.org/flickr

Need a photo for your newsletter or PowerPoint? Follow this link and you'll find terrific images illustrating the work of United Women in Faith members.



INDIANA CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH OFFICERS 2026

President

La Donna Weber (24-27)

8300 Sawyer Brown Road, S303
Nashville, TN 37221-7687
260-444-8036
ladonnarw@aol.com

Vice President

Jeanie Estep
1827 S 455 E
LaGrange, IN 46761-9794
260-463-1197
jparkestep@gmail.com

Secretary

VACANT

Treasurer

Carla Gillespie (25-26)

3245 Glenn Hills Drive
Richmond, IN 47374
937-414-8173
Ct25.cgillespie@gmail.com

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Alicia Mitchell (26-27)

4728 Aerie Lane
Indianapolis 46254
317-313-5175
Alicia.mitchell@garrett.edu

Social Action Coordinator

Lori Chambers (24-27)

16529 Owen Drive
Westfield, IN 46074-0460
317-696-5965
Lochambers1122@gmail.com

Education and Interpretation Coordinator

Rae Wallis (25-26)

9431 English Oak Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46235-1147
317-625-2523
raewallis@comcast.net

Membership Nurture and Outreach

Carol Tiller (24-27)

5305 Alameda Road
Indianapolis, IN 46228-2402
317-313-9376
Csa5305@gmail.com

Resources Coordinator

Sara Mayes (23-26)

7766 Camp Brosend Drive #0
Newburgh, IN 47360-1336
270-577-9003
Skma092362@aol.com

Communications Coordinator

Margaret Dennis (26-27)

6500 Blue Spruce Drive
Newburgh, IN 47630-1969
812-604-5995
margdenn@att.net

Chairperson Committee on Nominations

Rita Gaither-Gant (25-26)

4102 N. Dequincy Street
Indianapolis, IN 46226-4563
317-549-3574
gaitrgantm@aol.com

Committee on Nominations

L. Janenne Stuber (class of 2026)

761 South Park Drive
Chesterton, IN 46304-2941
(H) 219-929-1935
(C) 219-477-8748
stuberj@pnw.edu



Barbie Schmenner
5265 Longstone Roundabout
Carmel IN 46033-9372
317-850-1227
barbie.schmenner@gmail.com

Edna May (class of 2028)
6926 Bluffridge Place
Indianapolis, IN 46268-1898
317-291-6926
emjmay42@gmail.com

Mary Ann Pollard (class of 2028)
585 East Main Street
Hagerstown, IN 47346-1421
765-994-1614
m.a.pollard@comcast.net

Robin Hatton (class of 2028)
2709 North Virginia Avenue
Muncie, IN 47303-1796
765-212-7253
rhatton@bsu.edu

Jerrienne Bonenberger (class of 2029)
5610 Picadilly Lane
Evansville 47711-1876
812-431-8060
jabones59@gmail.com

Heather Lewis (class of 2029)
931 E Highway 150
Hardinsburg, IN 47125-8539
812-786-0332
heatherdawnlewis@gmail.com

Appointed Officers
Co-Language Coordinators
Margaret Dennis (25-26)
6500 Blue Spruce Drive
Newburgh, IN 47630-1969
812-604-5995
margdenn@att.net

Ashley Flores (25-26)
3245 Glenn Hills Drive

Richmond, IN 47374
937-689-9744
ashley@richmondcumc.com

Music Coordinator
Beverly Kennedy
4713 North Camelot Drive
Muncie, IN 47304-6212
812-767-1611
auntbev@gmail.com

Young Women's Coordinator
Vacant

Legacy Coordinator
Rita Gaither-Gant
4102 N. Dequincy Street
Indianapolis, IN 46226-4563
317-549-3574
gaitrgantm@aol.com

Technology Specialist
Jacki Moore
5134 Pike Creek Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46254-5784
317-413-3927
Jacqueh6@yahoo.com

Mission u Officers
Dean
Maureen Mauzy
800 E Center St, Unit 111
Warsaw, In 46580-3396
574-551-0909
maureenmauzy@gmail.com

Assistant Dean
Trisha Staneart (25-26)
2802 Cross Creek Circle
Westfield, IN 46074-9728
317-430-4490
tstaneart@frontier.com

Business Manager
Vacant

Registrar
Vacant





Volunteer Form

Name _____

USPS Address _____

City/Zip+ _____

Local Church &
District _____

Cell Phone _____ Landline
Phone _____

Email _____

Please consider me for: (please indicate if interested in district or conference)

- President (Elected position)
- Treasurer (Elected position)
- Secretary (Elected position)
- Communications Coordinator (Elected position)
- Chair, Committee on Nominations (Elected position)
- Vice President/Event Planner (appointed position)
- Mission Coordinator: Spiritual Growth – Social Action – Membership
Nurture and Outreach – Education and Interpretation –Resources
(Appointed positions – circle to indicate interest)
- Mission u Team: _____
- Committee on Nominations member: _____
- Language Coordinator: _____
- Music leaders (pianist/song leader): _____
- Younger Women’s Coordinator: _____
- Technology Coordinator: _____

Age Under 40 40-60 Over 60 _____

Tell us about your interests and
experience on the reverse side. Thanks!! _____

United Women in Faith of Indiana



**United Women in Faith
Conference Directory Information Form**

(To be completed by District and Local Unit Secretaries)

Submission Instructions

Please return this completed form by December 1, 2025 to:

Conference Secretary

Cathy Burris, 8923 Branch View Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46234-2901, (317) 502-1067,
cburris799@aol.com

Conference Directory Coordinator

Barbara McCoy, 1025 Brandon Way, Fort Wayne, IN 46845-2390 (260) 615-6807.
barb.mccoy@frontier.com

For questions or assistance, contact: Barbara McCoy

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

District/Local Unit Name: _____

Type: District Local Unit

District unit

District member (complete Section 1 only)

Number of members _____

For each position below, please furnish:

- Full Name
- Mailing Address • Street • City, State, **ZIP+4**
- Phone
- Email Address

Submitted By (Name): _____

Role (e.g., Secretary): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



SECTION 2: OFFICER INFORMATION

***Required positions**

President*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Secretary*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Treasurer*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Communications Coordinator*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Nominations Chair*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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Additional Leadership Positions

Vice President/Program Coordinator

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Spiritual Growth Coordinator

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Social Action Coordinator

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Education & Interpretation Coordinator

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Program Resources Coordinator

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



Additional Officers (Specify)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

United Women in Faith Honors Indigenous Peoples' Day, Continues Work for Racial Justice

NEW YORK – United Women in Faith today observed Indigenous Peoples' Day and honored the history, resilience, and ongoing contributions of Indigenous communities. It issued the following statement, which may be attributed to Ragghi Rain, chairperson of the Native American International Caucus of The United Methodist Church ():

"As we recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day, we are called to deepen our commitment to justice, respect, and remembrance

— not only in words, but through meaningful action.

"At our most basic level, we are called to love our neighbors as ourselves. Hateful comments towards Indigenous communities reflect a heart that is neither yielded to Christ nor in pursuit of values of hope, faith, and love.

"In addition to raising our voices, we pray for the healing and well-being of our Indigenous brothers and

sisters, healing of the land, and healing of our country.

"In a moment when hate speech and discrimination continue to surface, we commit to amplifying the voices of Indigenous communities, pursuing justice, and embodying Christ's call to love our neighbors fully."

We invite you to learn more about Indigenous history, culture, and ways to support Indigenous-led initiatives [HERE](#).

Dream it! Believe it! Do it!

Get ready for Assembly 2026, happening May 15-17 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Keynote Speakers Announced: Stacey Abrams and Rev. Carolyn Abrams

Registration is now open at uwfaith.org/assembly/



Legacy Builders monthly giving. Friends of Legacy major gift pledges 1869 Society planned gifts.



The 1869 Society Frequently Asked Questions

What exactly is the 1869 Society?

In the Spring of 2018, United Methodist Women, now United Women in Faith established the 1869 Society to thank and honor individuals who have named United Methodist Women's or United Women in Faith's Legacy Endowment Fund as a beneficiary of their will, trust, retirement plan or life insurance policy. We decided upon the name "1869 Society" since it was the year of our founding. Those individuals who remember The Legacy Endowment Fund through a planned gift demonstrate a particularly thoughtful and generous way to connect their personal legacy with our organization's future.

Why did you establish the 1869 Society ?

For many years, United Methodist Women has been remembered in people's wills and estate plans. And we have benefitted from this generous support. As awareness grows of the variety of ways to contribute philanthropically to United Women in Faith, we believe that this type of giving will increase in the years ahead and we want to recognize these donors.

What do I say to other people who ask me about the 1869 Society?

If you are a member of the 1869 Society yourself, ask others to join you. If they want to learn how they can become a member, they may contact the Development staff in the national office at 212-870-3705 or by emailing legacy150@uwfaith.org for further details.

Can I be anonymous?

Absolutely! Consider though that your membership could encourage others. In this way, you are supporting the mission, programs and future of United Women in Faith by witnessing to additional creative ways of making a gift. Remember that some people may ONLY be able to contribute through a bequest, for example, and you are helping to bring this possibility to mind for them.

What if I change my mind?

When a gift is revocable (e.g. a bequest), you can change your mind. If there are new circumstances in your life that you would like reflected in your will in a different way, just let us know of the change. Also, if you are unsure, please feel free to call us for a confidential conversation.

How will my gift embrace the future?

At its heart, the 1869 Society is a way to say, "thank you" and to let you know how grateful we are for your thoughtful support. We extend our gratitude to you on behalf of all the women and children we serve. Your planned gift will grow as part of The Legacy Endowment Fund. Proceeds from the invested funds will endow future core expenses, so that even more money can be directed to support and grow vital mission work throughout our country and the world. The Legacy Endowment Fund is a permanently invested Endowment Fund, that will forever be a source of income for United Women in Faith. You will leave a Legacy.

Do I need to update my Estate Planning with the new name?

No, you do not. United Methodist Women is now doing business as United Women in Faith and will continue to accept gifts to United Methodist Women, as well as United Women in Faith.

The Legacy Endowment Fund Total is \$50,080,788.00 and UP



*Making Disciples of Jesus
Christ through Mission
Opportunities for Youth
and Young Adults.*

Youth and young adults receiving funds from the Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund will be asked to submit a summary of their experiences to the conference organization of United Women in Faith within 45 days of trip completion. Send report to the Conference E&I Coordinator.

Scholarship recipients' contact information may be obtained by contacting the Youth & Young Adult Scholarship Committee.

The Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund is funded by the giving of each local organization (unit) of United Women in Faith of Indiana.



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
OF INDIANA CONFERENCE



2026 Youth and Young Adult

Service Scholarship Fund

Mission Scholarships for

Youth and Young Adults

A Project of United Women in
Faith of Indiana conference

2026 Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund

Direct questions to Rae Wallis,

Conference Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation

317-625-2523, raewallis@comcast.net.

Mail applications to 9431 English Oak Dr., Indianapolis IN 46235



- Criteria for applying:**
1. Youth and young adults ages 13-25.
 2. Must attend a United Methodist Church.
 3. Qualifying persons must participate in work, study, or travel experiences that develop leadership in the Youth and Young Adults Ministries of the Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church.
 4. Preference will be given to work with UWFaith national mission institutions, UMC mission sites or advance specials of the Indiana Conference UMC. Preference will also be given to those churches/youth who have not recently received a scholarship.
 5. Amount of scholarship shall be determined by the Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Committee. As a general guideline, 15% of the individual's cost will be given for work with UMC missions and 12% for work with non-UMC missions.
 6. Scholarships will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis, as funds are available.
 7. Applications are due at least 6 weeks prior to trip.
 8. Funds will be available January 1, 2026.

For use by Scholarship Team
 Date Application Received _____
 Date Application Processed _____
 Date Application Approved _____
 Amount Approved _____
 Notes: _____

2026 Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Application Form		Please type or print plainly one form per group
Individual/Group Name: (circle one please)	# Eligible Youth & Young Adults in group: _____	
Parent/Youth Leader name: (circle one please)	Email Address: _____	
Home Address:	City:	Zip:
Applicant's UM Church Name	District:	
Church Address:	Phone:	
City:	Zip:	
Mission Project:		
Indicate whether it is a United Methodist-Related Project and include Project Number (if Applicable):		
Project Location:		
Cost per youth/young adult: \$		
Dates:		
Project Objective/Work goal:		
A letter of reference from Youth Leader or local church pastor must accompany the application.		
Mail completed form to the Youth & Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund Committee at the address on the reverse side of this form.		
Form may be duplicated as needed. Download at https://www.inumc.org/united-women-in-faith/		

2025 MISSION TODAY REPORT
LOCAL ORGANIZATION
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith demonstrate their commitment to the **PURPOSE** through their **Prayers, Presence, Participation, Gifts and Service.**

PRAYERS

Used the Prayer Guide at each meeting to pray for mission personnel and projects. *

Communicated with at least 5 persons listed in the Prayer Guide during the year.

Held a mini-Spiritual Growth Retreat.

PRESENCE

At least two members were added to the membership roll.

At least one member (not a conference or district officer) attended Mission U.*

At least two members (not a conference or district officer) attended a district or conference annual meeting. This could include attendance to districts/conference events such as: district spiritual enrichment day, district Mini Mission u, district officer training, or conference annual spiritual growth retreat., etc. *

PARTICIPATION

At least two members subscribed to and/or read *response* magazine (including online articles). *

Used at least two programs from a UWF Program Book during the year. *

Conducted at least one Mission u study during the year. *

At least one member is a member of the UWF's Action Network to receive Action Alerts and share with members.

Told a mission story at meetings through sharing "member support" articles (identified by the Mission Giving logo—see other side) from *Response*.

Included a book review/report on a Reading Program book during a meeting.

At least two members completed one of the Reading Program Plans. *

Initiated a new or expanded an already-existing Local Ministry Program which benefits women, children and/or youth. *

At least two members watch or listen to at least 2 "Faith Talks" or "Voices from the Field", live or recorded on UWF website.

Attended a "Tour-Talk-Lunch" ("TTL") at Lucille Raines Residence or gave in-kind or monetary support beyond the conference asking.*

GIFTS

Made and met its Pledge to Mission. *

Remitted the Conference Asking of \$15 per member. *

Received Five Star recognition by contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving by unit and/or member(s). *

Legacy Fund donation made by unit and/or member(s).

SERVICE

Implemented the Charter for Racial Justice in at least one way during the year. *

Invited a district or conference officer (not a member) to one meeting during the year.

Pledged to care for God's creation by becoming a "Green" local organization.

Participated in at least two events/activities during the year which focused on Current Justice issues.



WHY? The purpose of Mission Today is to fulfill the PURPOSE of United Women in Faith by:

- Energizing United Women in Faith to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action;
- Increasing contacts between local organizations and mission personnel and projects enabling a better understanding of where Mission Giving dollars go;
- Encouraging the use of a variety of mission resources;
- Expanding concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

WHO? Every local organization is encouraged to strive for Mission Today status by completing 8 or more suggested criteria as noted to the right.
Find suggestions and ideas for activities below.

CATEGORY	NUMBER OF ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED
Bronze	8 (including 4 asterisked items)
Silver	12 (including 6 asterisked items)
Gold	16 (including 6 asterisked items)



Mission Giving Logo

Read *response*, the magazine for Women in Mission, through a subscription or online: [response Magazine | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](https://www.uwfaith.org/response) The Mission Giving logo found in *response* identifies a program and/or person supported by United Methodist Women's Mission Giving.

Find the Charter for Racial Justice online: [Racial Justice | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](https://www.uwfaith.org/racial-justice)



Racial Justice Logo



Current Justice Issues may be found online: [Serve & Advocate | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](https://www.uwfaith.org/serve-advocate)

Go to [Climate Justice | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](https://www.uwfaith.org/climate-justice) for 13 Steps to Sustainability; ideas for Be Just. Be Green.; and other ways to get involved in UMW's environmental work.



WHEN? Receive recognition for 2025, by returning your completed checklist by January 15, 2026 to:

Your District's Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation or District President

Return completed form (front & back) to:

Deadline for reporting: January 15, 2026

Local Organization

District:

Reporting Officer Name & Position:

Email or postal address:

Phone:



Be Inspired, Be Empowered
Be Aware, Be the Change!

**Legislative/Advocacy Day
Zoom Event
Thursday, January 15, 2026
9:30am-Noon**



United
Women
in Faith

 Diversity, Missions, and Justice Ministries
of the United Methodist Churches of Indiana





Many of the rooms at the Lucille Raines Residence need some TLC. Our 100-year-old building is showing her age! **Here is your chance to sponsor the renovation of a room!** Some rooms need a makeover and some just a nip and tuck. The average cost for renovation is \$3500 per room.

FACELIFT FOR LUCILLE

Comprehensive facelift: \$3500
Mini-facelift: \$2500
Just a tuck here and there: \$1500
A dab of retinol: \$500
Or a concierge facelift \$_____

Send check (payable to LRR Board) to:
Patricia Boardman, Treasurer
1364 Kingsway Dr
Avon, IN 46123-9798

Sponsored by
United Women in Faith of Indiana and the Board of Directors of
the Lucille Raines Residence
lucillerrainesresidence.org A transitional housing ministry