United Women in Faith

Indiana Conference

18th Annual Celebration

October 2-3, 2026
Franklin, IN

Walking by Faith Together

"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." Jeremiah 29:11

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Saturday, October 3, 2026

Grace United Methodist Church, Franklin, Indiana

9:00 a.m. Check-in, Registration, Refreshments
9:45 a.m. Gathering songs — Bev Kennedy

OPENING	
Welcome	LaDonna Weber, President Conference Jane Hughey, President Grace UWFaith
Introductions	Jeanie Park Estep
UWFaith Purpose (English & Spanish; back cover)	Margaret Dennis & Ashley Flores
Land Acknowledgement	Jeanie Park Estep
Devotions	Alicia Mitchell
BUSINESS MEETING	
Call to Order	LaDonna Weber
Explanation of the Election Process	LaDonna Weber
Presentation of the Proposed Slate of Officers Submitted by the Committee on Nominations, see page 9	Rita Gaither-Gant
Nominations from the Floor Individuals being put forth must be consulted In advance and be present at meeting.	LaDonna Weber
Election of 2027 Officers	LaDonna Weber
Minutes of the 2025 Meeting (see page11)	LaDonna Weber
Treasurer's Report, Budget, Conference Pledge (see page 20-21)	Carla Gillespie
Presentation of Standing Rules (see page 23-38)	LaDonna Weber
Adjourn Business Meeting	LaDonna Weber
CELEBRATION	
Pledge Litany	LaDonna Weber
Thank You from National	Sally Vonner
Recognition of Retiring Officers (see page 10)	Rita Gaither-Gant
Legacy Fund Report (see page 37)	Rita Gaither-Gant

Reading Program (see page 38)	Sara Mayes
Mission Today (see page 39)	Rae Wallis
Youth and Young Adult Scholarship Report (see page 40)	Rae Wallis
Education & Interpretation Message	Rae Wallis
MNO Report – Unstoppable skit	Sue Bassett, Bev Kennedy, Mary Margaret Willbanks
Lucille Raines Residence Annual Report (see page 41)	Cheryl Wilson
Misson u Report (see page 42)	Maureen Mauzy
Offering (see page 20)	Carla Gillespie
Offertory Prayer	Carla Gillespie
Grace	Rev. Joe Sanford
LUNCH	
Gathering music	Bev Kennedy
CALL TO SOCIAL ACTION	
Introductions (see page 43)	Lori Chambers
Speaker Panel: Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline	Michelle Daniel Jones, Cecelia Whitfield, Maranda Williams
Q&A	
WORSHIP	
Liturgical dance	Perfect Praise
Installation of Officers	Felicia Stewart
Love Feast	Alicia Mitchell
Closing Litany (see page 44)	LaDonna Weber

TOGETHER, WE ARE

UNSTOPPABLE

United Women in Faith of Indiana President's Report

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH OF INDIANA

2025 President's Report

Who We Are and What We Do

Unstoppable Growth and Our Shared Responsibility

United Women in Faith is in a Season of Unstoppable Growth

United Women in Faith launched its growth campaign to increase giving and membership in August 2025. The Unstoppable Campaign is not simply about increasing membership numbers. It is about activation, leadership development, spiritual formation, and social justice engagement.

As "Influencers," we are boldly working toward growing beyond 500,000 members by 2029. That growth will happen through:

- Invitations to join our organization
- Flexible engagement pathways
- Intergenerational leadership
- Digital access through our All-Access Membership
- Stronger local units

Unstoppable Growth means expanding access, deepening commitment, and strengthening sustainability for the future of faithful women.

Engagement Pathways that Fuel Unstoppable Growth

Women can engage through:

- Soul Care
- Mission u
- Assembly
- Social justice campaigns
- UWFaith Digital
- All Access Membership



Local Units in Every United Methodist Church

While we celebrate digital and national engagement, the foundation of United Women in Faith remains the local unit!

According to the governing documents of The United Methodist Church:

- The Book of Discipline and organizational bylaws require every United Methodist congregation to organize a United Women in Faith unit.
- This expectation ensures that women in every congregation have structured access to mission education, leadership development, and social justice advocacy.
- Also, just a reminder that Pastors of United Methodist congregations are members of United Women in Faith by virtue of their appointment.

The presence of an active unit is part of how The United Methodist Church lives out its connectional structure.

Since 1869 we have organized and reorganized and organized again for mission and advocacy on behalf of women, children, and youth. Our purpose remains:

[To be] a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of Mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Ratification of Constitutional Amendments

United Women in Faith celebrates the ratification of the 2024 constitutional amendments by The United Methodist Church. These changes advance gender, racial, and structural equity across our global church. The Constitution now clearly states that no person may be denied membership or participation based on gender or ability. This reflects our ongoing commitment to social justice and full inclusion.

<u>Quadrennial Priorities</u> (2025-2028)

Climate Justice/Just Energy for All AND Ending Mass Incarceration

We continue to address situations of injustice: housing, poverty, racism, sexism, ageism, hunger, human trafficking, and homelessness in our individual settings.

Our National Office of United Women in Faith continues to offer resources for transformative education and spiritual enrichment: Monthly virtual **Community Gatherings**, **Faith Talks and Voices from the Field** podcast, print and podcast ***response magazine***, monthly email newsletter **Connect**, and the **Reading Program**.

The National Office of United Women in Faith is also the home for the **Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner**. Deaconesses and home missioners are laypeople who are called by God to be in a lifetime relationship in The United Methodist Church for engagement with a full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice, and service. In 2025, Hoosier Beth DeHoff was consecrated and commissioned as a deaconess.

<u>CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE</u>

The **Charter for Racial Justice** was born in Indiana!! In 1947 at the National Seminar held at DePauw University a call for a Charter of Racial Justice Policies was made. At the January 1952 annual meeting of Methodist women, a charter was unanimously adopted. In 1962 the organization readopted an updated version. Throughout the years, the women lobbied the Church to officially adopt the Charter, seeking to bring its commitments to the full body of the church. The Charter was first received by the General Conference in 1964 and first included in the Book of Resolutions in 1980. Since then, it has been updated and readopted regularly by delegates to General Conference. From the 1950s to the present, the Charter has been a core part of our identity.

INDIANA HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025

Legislative and Advocacy Day (February 13) -- this annual event is held jointly with Church Women United. In 2025 the theme was "Expand Your Knowledge of Current Indiana State Legislation and Climate Justice." Featured speakers include Crystal Zinkiewicz (United Methodist Justice Movement), Larry Kane (Creation Care Ministry, St. Luke's UMC), Andrew Bradley (Senior Director of Policy and Strategy, Prosperity Indiana), Meisha Wide (Executive Director, Children's Policy & Law Initiative of Indiana) and Bishop Tracy S. Malone (United Methodist Church Indiana Conference). The event was held virtually and a recording is available on our YouTube channel -- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37VrlYlxqn8

Each year we offer two different ***Soul Care*** opportunities. Our 2025 **Spiritual Growth Retreat** was held at McCormick's Creek State Park's Canyon Inn in January and at Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center in April. Rev Lore Blinn Gibson shared "Finding Courage When the World Ain't Right." We also offer a **Silent Retreat** each fall and in 2025 it was held at Sarto House in Evansville, Indiana.

Since 1901 UWFaith (and our predecessor organizations) have had a mission education event. Now called **Mission u** it is a transformative educational program that encompasses both Bible-based curricula and fellowship events. In June 2025 we met at Manchester University for three days of study and fellowship. We continued to include one day events (Mission u Express) in August and held in three different parts of the state to encourage attendance of those who can't travel or can't attend during the week. Mission u is open to the whole church – we include a program for youth and for children (and invite men to join us too!). The 2025 theme was *Practicing Hope Together*.

Our Seventeenth **Annual Celebration** was held at Christ United Methodist Church in Westfield in October. The theme was Women of Faith Moving Forward. The Friday Night Program was "A Courageous Sisterhood" presented by author and dramatic storyteller Sandra Hartlieb The annual business meeting was held with acceptance of the 2026 budget, pledge to mission, and updated standing rules. Breakout sessions were held to establish the five new districts with the adoption of standing rules, election of officers, and establishment of the 2026 budgets. After the district meetings, Bishop Malone assisted with the installation of all the officers (pictured at the end of this report!), addressed the gathering, and lead us in Communion together.

Our virtual **Leadership Development** event in November each year helps us learn leadership skills and learn about the leadership roles, the various responsibilities, skills needed, and how roles work together in United Women in Faith.

Each year we offer **Youth And Young Adult Scholarship** to help fund mission experiences for our conference's emerging leaders. In 2024 we helped four groups –

- North District – 22 youth from different United Methodist churches learned about the UMC General Board of Church and Society by travelling to Washington D,C.
- Christ UMC (Central District) – Two youth were awarded scholarships for a group trip to Guatemala where they worked on a kitchen and a middle school.
- St. Luke UMC (Central District) – one youth was awarded a scholarship for a group trip to Belize where they worked in community to plan events.
- Richmond First UMC and Central UMC (East District) – seven youth travelled to Augusta, Georgia to help with hurricane recovery.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A pledge to mission of $220,000 was made to the National office for 2025. The Pledge to Mission along with the other five channels of giving continue to improve the lives of women, children and youth at National Mission Institutions and international mission organizations. In addition to the Pledge, Indiana United Women in Faith are asked to contribute annual per member funds for conference programs – these "askings" include the Lucille Raines Residence, Mission u, Youth and Young Adult Scholarships, and the Assembly Offering.

Even though our 2025 pledge was not met because of a reporting error, we remain faithful and encouraged by the units that are continuing to fellowship together, raise funds and give during these challenging times. Our pledge for 2026 will be $200,000 and we will continue to educate our members about all the ways United Women in Faith remains a bright light and a guiding presence in the lives of women, children and youth.

LUCILLE RAINES RESIDENCE

United Women in Faith of Indiana continues to be proud of our commitment to the Lucille Raines Residence which is owned and operated by our organization. Our members are asked to commit to support this ministry and residents pay rent, but we also need the support of the wider community. This transitional housing or three-quarter house ministry, serves individuals from all over the state who are recovering from substance use disorder.

The most significant event in 2025 was the June retirement of long-time executive director, Carolyn Marshall. Carolyn shepherded the residence through many changes over the years, and her years of ministry were celebrated with an annual conference luncheon and a Raines Open House to follow. What a day!

In July, Jodie Little became the new executive director. She brings leadership experience, a heart for mission, and a vision for moving the Raines ministry forward.

The UWFaith of Indiana pledge to Lucille Raines Residence is $102,000 which is obtained through an asking of $15 per member (increased to $17 for 2026) and additional donations. Gifts to Raines are always appreciated and can be sent to your district or conference UWFaith treasurer, directly to the board treasurer, or as a Conference Advance Special through the conference office.

Our building is now 100 years old and is feeling her age. There is always something to be repaired or replaced in a 100-year-old building –we've seen to the roof, the windows, the elevator and the boiler and most recently improved safety infrastructure starting with replacing fire doors. Our grand old hotel needs a lot of TLC. We initiated a "Facelift for Lucille" campaign to help renovate the individual rooms. The building's plumbing and electrical systems have been patched and repaired and now need to be replaced. As any homeowner knows there is always something!

LOOKING FORWARD!

What's next? We are listening to needs throughout the world. We are finding new ways for Hoosier women to continue their connection to UWFaith in Indiana and the Lucille Raines Residence. We are meeting in person and virtually. We are advocating for better lives for women, children, and youth. We are in mission with the marginalized and vulnerable -- locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. And we look forward to 2026 when we will host the United Women in Faith Assembly. There is a lot going on!!

We're a sisterhood acting in faith to tackle the hard work of the world without hesitation.
Driven by God's love and united in sisterhood, we work to improve the lives of women, children and youth. Every day, we show up. We take action. We get it done.

And we invite you to join us.

All God's blessings, please!

La Donna Weber
2025 President, United Women in Faith of Indiana



United Women in Faith of Indiana Proposed Slate of Officers

Nominated for a first, elected, 2-year term

Chair of Nominations	Sara Mayes	NEW (2027-2028), Class of 2030
Secretary	Barb McCoy	NEW (2027-2028)
Mission u Dean	Mary Margaret Willbanks	NEW (2027-2028)
Mission u Registrar	Bonnie Elam	NEW (2027-2028)

Nominated for a second, elected, 2-year term

Mission u Assistant Dean	Trisha Staneart	2025-2026; (2027-2028)

Nominated for a second, non-consecutive, elected, 2-year term

Treasurer	Jacki Moore	2023-2024; (2027-2028)

Nominated for a first, appointed, 2-year term

Resources Coord.	Jerrianne Bonenberger	NEW (2027-2028)

Nominated for a second, appointed, 2-year term

Education & Interpretation	Rae Wallis	2025- 2026; (2027-2028)
Technology Specialist	Jacki Moore	2025-2026; (2027-2028)

Vacant

Mission u Business Manager	VACANT 2-year term	Elected
Language Coordinator	VACANT 2-year term	Appointed
Young Women's Coordinator	VACANT 2-year term	Appointed
CON members (ER, NL, WCP)	VACANT 4-year term	Elected

Tenure (from United Women in Faith Handbook 2025-2028)

No elected officer will hold the same office for more than four years, except the treasurer, who can hold the same office for six years. Tenure on leadership team for the elected leadership of the conference organization will be limited to a total of eight years. When a leader has completed her tenure of eight years and after a period of two years has elapsed, she may be elected for one additional term, not to exceed two years, where needed. The period of two years also applies to persons who, after completing their tenure in the conference, served on the conference leadership team in any appointed or ex officio position (including ex officio positions as a member of the jurisdiction leadership team, a member of the program advisory group and/or a director of United Women in Faith).

United Women in Faith of Indiana Officers

Continuing term

Elected Position	**Officer/Candidate**	**Term**
President	LaDonna Weber	2024-2027
Communications Coord.	Margaret Dennis	2026-2027
Appointed Position	**Officer/Candidate**	**Term**
Vice-President	Jeanie Park Estep	2026- 2027
Social Action Coord.	Lori Chambers	2024- 2027
Spiritual Growth Coord.	Alicia Mitchell	2026- 2027
Membership, Nurture & Outreach	Susan Bassett	2026-2027
Music Coordinator	Bev Kennedy	2024-2027

Committee on Nominations

CON member (Northern Lakes)	Renee Graf	NEW (Class of 2030)
CON member (East Central Heights)	Edna May	Class of 2028
CON member (East Central Heights)	Rita Gaither-Gant	Class of 2029
CON member (West Central Plains)	Barbie Schmenner	Class of 2027
CON member (Eastern Rivers)	Mary Ann Pollard	Class of 2028
CON member (Southern Rivers)	Heather Lewis	Class of 2029

Retiring Officers

Carla Gillespie, Treasurer, 2-year term

Sara Mayes, Resource Coordinator, two 2-year terms

Margaret Dennis, Language Coordinator, 2-year term

Ashley Flores, Language Coordinator, 2-year term

Maureen Mauzy, Mission u Dean, 1-year term

Barb McCoy, Mission u Business Manager, 1-year term

Mary Margaret Willbanks, Mission u Registrar, 1-year term

L. Janenne Stuber, Committee on Nominations, 4-year term

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH INDIANA CONFERENCE

Seventeenth Annual Meeting and Celebration

MOVING FORWARD WITH HOPE AND GRACE

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 your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV

OCTOBER 4, 2025

Christ United Methodist Church, Westfield

9:15 a.m. 9:45 a.m. Registration, Resources and Refreshments

Gathering in Song. Music led by Beverly Kennedy**,** Sandy Wood and

Welcome LaDonna Weber, Conference President and Kara Jones, President Christ UMC

Introductions Stacey Moore, Co- Vice President, recognized and acknowledged guests and present and past leadership including: Conference Superintendents, Clergy and spouses, Young Women, Limitless, 1st time attendees, Former and current Women's Division Presidents, Members of Women's Division, Deaconesses and Home Missioners, North Central Jurisdiction, National Directors, PAG members, Conference Presidents, District Presidents, Current Conference Leadership Team, Past Conference Officers, Dean and Assistant Deans of Mission u.

Announcements Silent Auction bids close at 1:00. Proceeds benefit Lucille Raines Residence and Mission giving. The Program Book is available using the QR code on Facebook.

Opening Prayer was led by Cheryl Wilson.

The **United Women in Faith Purpose** (Back Cover of Program Book) led in English and Spanish by Margaret Dennis and Ashley Flores. They ask to be notified of any non-English speaking congregations.

Land acknowledgement statement by La Donna Weber acknowledging that we gather on the traditional and ancestral land of indigenous people. She led us in a litany of repentance.

Business Meeting

La Donna Weber called the business meeting to order at 10:22am ET.

Explanation of voting process - The standing rules of our conference state that any member of a local unit of UWF of Indiana conference attending the annual meeting shall be a voting member. District members are also voting members. Voting members have the right to exercise their vote virtually or in person. It is conditional to the ability of the equipment and technology. Voting will be by a voice vote when it's time to vote. This year, because of the limitations of the technology, only members attending in person will be able to vote.
The Committee on Nominations presented the slate of nominees to the Leadership Team, then to the membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations, however, may still be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting with written permission from the nominee. The nominee must meet tenure and other eligibility qualifications. The person being nominated must be readily available to meet with the committee on nominations during the meeting prior to the election taking place. The committee on nominations will communicate nominations from the floor to the President when asked if there are any. If there are any nominations from the floor the committee on nominations will meet with the nominee for vetting and that office's election will occur later in the meeting, after the program's speaker. If there are no nominations from the floor, the President will ask that the slate be supported as presented. Someone will need to make a motion. Since the slate comes from a committee, there is no need for anyone to second the motion. Then, we will vote by voice. During the treasurer's report and review of the 2026 proposed budget and pledge, you'll be voting again by voice vote. 15 positions are up for election.

Presentation of Proposed Slate of Officers

Rita Gaither-Gant, Chair Committee on Nominations presented the 2026 Proposed Leadership Team Slate (Program Book page16).

INDIANA CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
OFFICERS FOR 2026

Nominated for a second 2-year term
President
La Donna Weber
Social Action
Lori Chambers
Membership Nurture and Outreach
Carol Tiller
Music Coordinator
Bev Kennedy

Nominated for first 2-year term
Spiritual Growth Coordinator
Alicia Mitchell
Communications Coordinator
Margaret Dennis

Nominated to Committee on Nominations -Class of 2029
Jerianne Bonenberger
Heather Lewis

Continuing first 2-year term
Treasurer
Carla Gillespie
Education and Interpretation
Rae Wallis
Chair, Committee on Nominations
Rita Gaither-Gant
Language Coordinator
Margaret Dennis, Ashley Flores
Technology Coordinator
Jacki Moore

Continuing second 2-year term
Resource Coordinator
Sara Mayes

Continuing 2- year term
Assistant Dean, Mission u
Trisha Staneart

Vacant
Vice President
Secretary
Young Women's Coordinator
Mission u Dean, Registrar, Business Manager

In addition to the proposed slate of officers listed above and printed in the program book, Jeanie Estep was added as nominee for Vice President.

Election of Officers La Donna Weber called for nominations from the floor for each position. The following nomination from the floor was made: Felica Stewart, Secretary. She declared nominations closed. Pat Meyer moved acceptance of the slate.

Minutes

It is customary that the minutes of the annual meeting be approved as soon as possible following the annual meeting. Last year's (2024) minutes were reviewed and approved by members of the Leadership team.

Treasurers Report Budget and Conference Pledge (Program Book Page 17-18) Carla Gillespie, Treasurer reported that the 2024 pledge was $220,000 and we paid $182,018 (82%). The treasurer presented the proposed pledge as recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Leadership Team. The proposed Pledge for 2026 is $200,000.

The treasurer presented the budget as recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Leadership Team.

Carla presented the Conference Askings as follows:

- Lucille Raines Residence $17.00
- Mission u $2.00
- Youth and Young Adult Scholarships $1.00
- Total $20.00

The budget and pledge were approved as presented.

Standing Rules

Our standing rules provides that the standing rules shall be reviewed annually, revised as necessary, and presented at a Leadership Team meeting. The Standing Rules shall be approved by the Leadership Team, to become effective at the beginning of the ensuing year. The Standing rules committee reviewed the 2025 Standing Rules and the proposed 2026 revised standing rules were presented to the Leadership Team meeting and approved at the August LT meeting. They are presented here in the Program Book (pages 19-34) for information. Cathy Burris, Chair of the Standing Rules Committee highlighted the changes.

Trisha Staneart moved made a motion that the Indiana Conference of United Women in Faith reduce the number of districts from ten to five effective January 1, 2026. Mary Margaret Willbanks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Before the close of the business meeting, the Committee on Nominations reported that it has vetted the nomination from the floor of Felicia Stewart for Secretary. Maureen Muzy volunteered her services as Dean, Mission u (1 Year term). Both were voted in.

Adjournment of business meeting

Pledge Service La Donna led the pledge litany.

Recognition of Reading Program Sara Mayes (See page 36 Program Book)

Recognition of Mission Today Units Rae Wallis (See page 37 Program Book)

Recognition of Retiring Officers (See page 15 Program Book)

Rita Gaither- Gant thanked the following members of the Leadership Team for their service:

Sherre Davis, Co-Vice President

Stacey Moore, Co- Vice President

Cathy Burris, Secretary

Cheryl Wilson, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Lori St Pierre, Dean Mission u

Barbara King, Registrar Mission u

Lora Ward, Business Manager, Mission u

Joan Lawrence, District Representative Mission u

Lucille Raines Residence Cheryl Wilson. The report is on page 38-39 of the Program Book. A video was shown.

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Lunch

Following lunch there were reports from Youth and Young Adult Scholarship (Program Book page 42) Legacy (Program Book pages 43-45) and Social Action (Program Book page 35).

The offering was taken which will support Mission Giving and Lucille Raines Residence.

Introduction of Breakout Sessions

La Donna Weber offered the following instruction regarding the breakout sessions for the organizational meetings for the new districts:

The Indiana Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church rearranged the districts effective July 1 of 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. Today we put in place the paperwork and structures

that will allow us to keep on keeping on. We need to acknowledge the district A&MD budget and the district standing rules that the conference team has put together – sort of cookie cutter documents to get us started. Then we need to elect your district leadership teams and vote 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. All we need to do today is accept it understanding 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 have been approved by the conference leadership team and simply need to be accepted. 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 consisted 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 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 kin-dom 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 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! So, our primary task today is to accept the standing rules and A&MD budget, and then to elect the officers

and set the district pledge. And if you get through all those hoops quickly there will be some time for visioning your district's future. Let's hear a quick prayer and then get to work .

The district breakout meetings were held and the participants reconvened following the sessions.

A video on mission giving was viewed.

Silent Auction results were announced.

Program Advisory Group Felicia Stewart reported that she is reading books for possible inclusion in the 2027 reading book list. She promoted contribution to the Legacy endowment and passed around a bag of pins. She encouraged attendees to register for Assembly and take advantage of the early bird discount (deadline 11/30). Felicia is the organizer for the Assembly silent auction. There will be up to 3 items for each conference. She also promoted United Women in Faith digital as a great resource

The installation of Officers Ceremony was led by Bishop Tracy Malone. Bishop Malone also officiated communion.

Closing Litany/ Sending Forth La Donna Weber

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Burris



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith of Indiana Financials

2025 FINANCIAL REPORT

2025 Pledge to Mission	$200,000	Lucille Raines Residence	$45,582.50
Paid to Pledge	$132,987.60	Lucille Raines Special	$28,524.83
Percentage	66.49%	Mission U	$5,705
Supplemental Giving	$10,191.39	Youth & Young Adult Fund	$2,844
Total Mission Giving	$143,178.99	2025 A&MD Budget	$103,275
		2025 A&MD Actual Spent	$25,936.06

2027 PROPOSED PLEDGES

2027 Pledge $150,000

2027 LRR Pledge $102,000

2027 PROPOSED ASKINGS

Lucille Raines Residence	$22
Mission u	$2
Youth & YA Scholarship	$1
Total Conference Askings	$25

2027 CONFERENCE A&MD BUDGET

	2026 Budget	2027 Budget
DISTRICTS A&MD		
East Central Heights	$ 9,705.00	$ 6,810.00
Eastern Rivers	$ 9,705.00	$ 5,595.00
Northern Lakes	$ 9,705.00	$ 5,720.00
Southern Rivers	$ 9,705.00	$ 4,000.00
West Central Plains	$ 9,705.00	$ 8,300.00
TOTAL	$ 48,525.00	$ 30,425.00

TRANSFERS TO RESERVES	**2026 Budget**	**2027 Budget**
Assembly / Jurisdiction	$ 12,000.00	$ 12,000.00
Assembly Offering	zero'd out	$ 800.00
TOTAL	$ 12,000.00	$ 12,800.00

2027 CONFERENCE A&MD BUDGET

	2026 Budget	2027 Budget
LEADERSHIP ADVOCACY		
Annual Conf, Pres.	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
Dependent Care	$ 200.00	$ 350.00
Equipment / AV	$ 250.00	$ 250.00
Meals / Lodging	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
Misc	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
Prayer Guide Bundles	$ 1,100.00	$ 1,100.00
Postage	$ 150.00	$ 150.00
Supplies / Printing	$ 300.00	$ 300.00
Travel	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,200.00
TOTAL	**$ 6,300.00**	**$ 6,450.00**
PROGRAMMING		
Annual Meeting/Celebration	$ 3,500.00	$ 3,500.00
District Leadership Training virtual	$ 500.00	$ 500.00
Lit. / Resources (SPR)	$ 300.00	$ 300.00
Retreats	$ 3,700.00	$ 3,700.00
Social Action-Legislation Day	$ 300.00	$ 300.00
Young Women's Support	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
Misc Programming	$ 100.00	$ 100.00
TOTAL	**$ 10,400.00**	**$10,400.00**
OTHER		
National Events (virtual)	$ 500.00	$ 700.00
Conference Mission U	$ 10,000.00	$ 10,000.00
Church Women United	$ 400.00	$ 400.00
Financial Reviews	$ 1,000.00	$ 1,000.00
e-Communications	$ 1,300.00	$ 4,300.00
Directory	$ 3,000.00	$ 3,000.00
NC Jurisdiction	$ 4,000.00	$ 4,000.00
[Newsletter]	$ 3,000.00	$ -
Officer Recognition	$ 2,000.00	$ 2,000.00
TOTAL	**$ 25,200.00**	**$ 25,400.00**

Pledge Service for 2027 Pledges

Leader: This is the time when United Women in Faith consider the ministry and mission of our organization as women organized for mission and advocacy. Since the mid-1800s, women like you and me have used their insights and their skills and abilities to respond to the hungry, the poor, those in need of education and work. We have been endowed with aptitudes and abilities and experiences which are needed today.

All: We pledge to think big!

Leader: Pledge to mission is a pledge to undesignated mission giving – there are no strings attached. It is mission money used for any part of our mission work, and is for the total program of United Women in Faith. Medical clinics, nutrition sites, community centers, housing for women, children, and youth – all over the world, right next door.

All: We pledge to think big!

Leader: United Women in Faith of Indiana asks each of us to pledge to the mission of the Lucille Raines Residence. This is OUR mission closer to home. The Raines Residence exists because the United Methodist Women in Indiana have said yes since the 1970s. This place serves Indiana and is funded in Indiana.

All: We pledge to think big!

Leader: We make these pledges and we will pay our share. We put money in the basket when it goes by, but we know we aren't done. We see the world as our parish and watch what United Women in Faith does with our pledge to mission and what the Board of Directors does with our pledge to Lucille Raines. But we also need to see that for us the parish starts with us. We are all children of God and we have a pledge to God to fulfill. So let us commit to be in mission with each other, our community, and God's children all over the world. In Christ's name we make these promises. **Amen**.

Offering Information

The offering received during the 2026 Annual Celebration will be shared equally between Mission Giving – Gift to Mission and Lucille Raines Residence.

Two ways to give:

Check, payable to "UWFaith of Indiana", write "Annual Celebration: in the memo line.

Use the QR code below to give online (via Vanco by Debit/Credit Card or Bank Account)

2027 STANDING RULES

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (dba UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH) OF THE INDIANA CONFERENCE

Approved August 15, 2026, by the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of Indiana Leadership Team and presented to the conference membership at the Annual Meeting on October ~~3~~, 2026. These will become effective January 1, 2027.

The United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of the Indiana Conference shall function in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws for the conference organization for the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) as adopted by United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national organization. These Standing Rules are supplementary thereto.

I. ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICERS

A. ELECTED OFFICERS

1. The term of office for elected leadership is two (2) years.
2. The officers shall be elected during the Annual Business Meeting, be installed with the appointed leaders, and assume duties on January 1 of the following year.
3. The officers elected are:
   President
   Secretary
   Treasurer
   Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations
   Communications Coordinator
4. Any elected position within United Women in Faith of the Indiana Conference may be held jointly by two individuals. Co-leaders shall be elected in the same manner as individual officers.

B. ELECTION

1. No more than three (3) elected officers from the same church shall serve on the Leadership Team at the same time (excluding District Presidents and members of the Committee on Nominations). Nominees to the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national organization and the Program Advisory Group will be elected at the annual meeting of the

conference organization prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction organization.

2. Nominees for conference offices who are not already members of the leadership team shall be invited to attend the Annual Celebration at conference expense, if requested. The chair on the committee on nominations shall so inform the nominees and shall make reservations for them through the Vice President.

C. APPOINTED OFFICERS AND PROCEDURES

1. The following officers shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Team:
Vice President/ Program Coordinator
Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth
Mission Coordinator for Social Action
Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation
Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach
Resource Coordinator

2. At the discretion of the President, and in consultation with the Committee on Nominations and Leadership Team, the following additional leadership positions may be appointed to fulfill the Purpose:
Historian
Language Coordinator(s)
Young Women's Coordinator
Music Coordinator
Legacy Fund Coordinator

3. These appointments shall be confirmed by the Leadership Team, and affirmed and installed at the annual meeting (when possible.)
4. The term of office for appointed leadership is to be two (2) years, not to exceed four (4) years.
5. Additional designated roles may be added as needed, to enable the group to fulfill the Purpose of United Women in Faith
6. Other leaders may be appointed for specific jobs or projects or services at the discretion of the Leadership Team. These appointments will be made by the President in consultation with the Committee on Nominations. A task group may be created as needed for the purpose of carrying out the mission.
7. All appointed leaders shall have voice and vote at meetings of the Leadership Team and other Conference meetings.

II. COMMITTEES

A. LEADERSHIP TEAM

1. The membership of the Leadership Team shall be composed of the President (who serves as chairperson), Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth, Mission Coordinator for Social Action, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation, Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach, Resource Coordinator, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, Communications Coordinator, Dean of Mission u, the resident Bishop, the president of each district organization of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith), and other appointed conference leaders. The Leadership Team shall also include members of the Jurisdiction Leadership team and any Directors and/or members of the Program Advisory Board of the United Methodist Women(dba United Women in Faith) national organization residing within the conference.
2. The Leadership Team shall meet at least four (4) times each year or as needed.
3. The elected and appointed officers shall be expected to attend the full session of Mission u at conference expense.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

1. The Administrative Team shall be composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one to three other persons to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Leadership Team.
2. The president may call a meeting of the Administrative Committee to transact emergency business in the interim between meetings of the Leadership Team.
   The committee cannot change declared policy, the budget, or incur indebtedness.

C. COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

1. Membership

a. The Committee on Nominations shall be composed of five to eleven members (not district specific but with the intent to get representation from the entire conference), including the chairperson. The membership shall be staggered with no one serving more than a four (4) year term. (See II, C (2) (a)b.) The members of the committee elected at the Annual Meeting shall assume duties January 1 of the following year.

b. The entire Committee on Nominations shall be invited to attend all Leadership Team meetings with voice but without vote. They shall attend at conference expense.

c. Each committee member shall be a member of her respective District Leadership Team with voice but without vote.

2. Elections

a. The Committee on Nominations shall have a rotating membership divided into four (4) classes. Each member shall be elected for a four (4) year term, unless elected to fulfill an interim vacancy.

~~b. The chairperson shall be elected for a two (2) year term during her four (4) year term on the committee.~~

b. The Committee on Nominations shall present the slate of nominees to the Leadership Team, then to the membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting at which the election is held.

c. Nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting with written permission from the nominee. The nominee must meet tenure and other eligibility qualifications.

3. Responsibilities

a. Members of the Committee on Nominations shall attend the Conference Mission u.

b. Nominate the Dean, Assistant Dean(s), Business Manager, and Registrar, as needed, for Mission u for election by the leadership team in August.

1. No person will serve in any office more than two (2) successive years, except the Registrar and Business Manager. Their term will be no more than four (4) years.

c. In consultation with the Conference President, nominate four (4) members to serve on the Committee on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies to be presented by the Committee on Nominations at the time of elections. There shall be one (1) district president, one (1) member of the Leadership Team, and two (2) members selected to ensure inclusiveness and/or special expertise in the skills necessary to accomplish the task.

d. Nominate two (2) nominees and one (1) alternate for Director of the United Methodist Women(dba United Women in Faith) national organization to be elected at the Annual Meeting prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction.

e. Nominate three (3) nominees to be considered to serve on the program advisory group of the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) National organization to be elected at the Annual Meeting prior to the quadrennial meeting of the jurisdiction.

f. Nominate three (3) voting delegates, all of whom shall be elected conference officers, to the Jurisdiction quadrennial meeting to be elected at the Annual Meeting prior to the quadrennial meeting of the Jurisdiction.

D. COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM

1. The Program Committee shall consist of the Vice President as Chairperson, President, Secretary, Treasurer, the four Mission Coordinators, Resource Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, Chair

of the Committee on Nominations, the Dean of Mission u, Language Coordinators and others as determined by the Leadership Team.

2. The Program Committee shall meet as necessary to assist in the planning details of Programs to be presented by the Conference.

E. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

1. The committee on finance shall be composed of the conference treasurer (as chairperson); conference president, vice-president, and secretary; conference spiritual growth, education & interpretation, membership nurture & outreach, and communications coordinators; and the district treasurers.
2. The conference treasurer receives funds of local units from the district treasurers monthly.
3. The conference Finance Committee shall determine the distribution of the district Administration and Membership Development Funds.
4. The conference treasurer shall remit funds to the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national organization monthly.
5. Agreed-upon procedures for conference audits: At the end of the year, the conference treasurer presents her accounting records to a person with an accounting, audit, or finance-related background. This person will perform the agreed-upon procedures on the accounting records of the conference and complete a Cash Activities form indicating that the procedures were satisfactorily performed. The person completing the agreed-upon procedures must send a copy of the Cash Activities form and any other report they prepare to the conference treasurer, conference executive committee, and National Treasurer/CFO of United Women in Faith. The same procedures are required for the district review.
6. The treasurer shall submit the records to the CPA or accountant for previous year review to be completed by June 30.
7. A copy of the review shall be retained with the president, secretary and treasurer.
8. The president and treasurer shall be authorized to sign checks.

F. COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP NURTURE AND OUTREACH

1. The Committee on Membership Nurture and Outreach shall be composed of the Conference Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach as Chairperson, the President, Secretary, the Communications Coordinator, Chairperson of Nominations, Education and Interpretation Coordinator, Young Women's Coordinator, and the five (5) district Mission Coordinators of Membership Nurture and Outreach. Others may be added to the committee as determined by the Conference Leadership Team.
2. The Committee shall meet as needed.

G. COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE POLICIES

1. The committee shall meet at least two (2) times annually.

2. The committee shall consist of the Conference President as convener, chairperson of the Committee on Nominations, Language Coordinator, a district president, one person from the Leadership Team, and two (2) others to ensure inclusiveness. (Refer to II,C,3, c)

H. COMMITTEE ON STANDING RULES

1. The President shall appoint a Standing Rules Committee of five (5) persons, including the Secretary who serves as chairperson.
2. All Leadership Team officers shall implement these rules.
3. The Standing Rules shall be reviewed annually, revised as necessary, and presented at a Leadership Team meeting.
4. The Standing Rules shall be approved by the Leadership Team, to become effective at the beginning of the ensuing year.
5. The district Standing Rules shall be in harmony with the Conference Standing Rules in regard to administrative procedures. They do not need to be identical.

III. COMMITTEE ON MISSION u

A. MEMBERSHIP

1. The Mission u Committee shall be composed of the elected Mission u officers, district representatives and the conference Leadership Team.
2. The Mission u officers are nominated annually by the nominations committee, confirmed by the Conference Leadership Team, and assume their duties following the evaluation of the current Mission u.
3. Each district of the conference will have representation on the Mission u Committee on a rotating basis.
   The district representative will be appointed by their respective district Leadership Teams prior to June 1 to assure responsibility following the current year's Mission u evaluation meeting. They need not be a district officer.
   District representation shall be as follows:

   2027 will be the responsibility of the Southern Rivers and Northern Lakes Districts
   2028 will be the responsibility of the Northern Lakes and East Central Heights Districts
   2029 will be the responsibility of the East Central Heights and West Central Plains Districts
   2030 will be the responsibility of the West Central Plains and Eastern Rivers Districts
   2031 will be the responsibility of the Eastern Rivers and Southern Rivers Districts
   2032 will be the responsibility of the Southern Rivers and Northern

Lakes Districts
2033 will be the responsibility of the Northern Lakes and East Central Heights Districts
2034 will be the responsibility of the East Central Heights and West Central Plains Districts
2035 will be the responsibility of the West Central Plains and Eastern Rivers Districts
2036 will be the responsibility of Eastern Rivers and Southern Rivers Districts

4. The Standing Rules of the Mission u Committee shall be in addition to the Standing Rules of the Conference .
5. The Dean's Handbook shall guide the actions of Mission u.

B. ATTENDANCE

1. The ~~5~~ elected and appointed conference officers, members of the conference Committee on Nominations, and the elected and appointed district officers of each district shall attend the full session of the Conference Mission u with registration paid at conference expense.
2. If a district elected or appointed officer is unable to attend Mission u, the vacancy shall be filled by a district member of Committee on Nominations ~~or an appointed district officer~~ for the full session at the discretion of the district Leadership Team.
3. If attending the full session of the Conference Mission u creates an undue hardship, the Conference will pay for the one-day Mission u event.

C. UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NATIONAL OFFICE MEMBERS /JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP TEAM

1. Members of the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national organization and of the North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team from the Indiana Conference shall be invited by the Conference Secretary to attend the Conference Mission u at conference expense unless reimbursed from other sources.

IV. MEETINGS

A. MEETINGS BY REMOTE COMMUNICATIONS

1. ~~Meetings by Remote Communications~~

Members of the conference organization or any committee of the conference organization may participate in or conduct a meeting by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment or technologies, or by electronic video screen communication, provided that all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear and communicate with each other at the same time. Each person must be able to participate in all matters before the

conference organization or committee, including without limitation, the ability to propose, object to, and vote upon a specific action to be taken by the conference organization or committee, to the extent such person would be entitled to vote at a physical meeting. Participation by such means shall constitute presence in person at a meeting.

B. ANNUAL MEETING

1. Purpose: There shall be an annual meeting of the conference organization of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) with a program designed to meet the needs of the women in the conference and in harmony with the PURPOSE, plans and responsibilities of the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national organization. Officers and the Committee on Nominations shall be elected, business transacted, and the Pledge to Mission Giving made for the ensuing year.
2. Agenda: Business items to be included on the agenda of the Annual Meeting must be presented in writing to the Leadership Team thirty (30) days before the Annual Meeting.
3. Voting Body: Any member of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of the Indiana Conference attending the annual meeting of the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) shall be a voting member and have the right to exercise their vote virtually or in person.
4. The speaker for Annual Meeting or other one-day event will have their registration fee waived.
5. Outside speakers will have their mileage or airfare, registration fees and overnight expenses (if needed) paid. They will also receive an honorarium to be approved by the Leadership Team.
6. Musicians for Annual Meeting (piano/organist/vocal) will have their registration fees waived for that event.

C. SPIRITUAL RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

1. The Conference elected officers, appointed officers, Dean of Mission u, and the Nominating Committee may attend either a spiritual retreat or silent retreat with their registration fee waived.
2. Leader of an overnight retreat will receive mileage; the amount of registration will be waived; and the honorarium of $150 will be given per retreat.
3. The pastor for a worship service and Communion on Sunday at a Silent Retreat will receive $25.
4. If the pastor for Communion is a woman who is attending the retreat, her registration would be waived.
5. Registrars and musicians (piano/organists/vocal/song leader) for retreats will have their registration fee waived and receive mileage for that event.
6. Spiritual Growth Coordinator shall have her registration fees waived.

D. ASSEMBLY

1. The elected officers, appointed leaders, district presidents and the Dean of Mission u shall attend the Assembly at conference expense.
2. A member of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of the Indiana Conference, who has not previously attended the Assembly, may apply for a scholarship by submitting their reasons for wanting to attend in writing. The selections from the candidates' applications will be made by the Conference Leadership Team with the desire to include diversity in age, ethnicity, and district location. The conference shall provide funds for ten (10) scholarships.
3. The scholarship award will be no more than $1,000.00 to help cover registration, travel, hotel, and meals.
4. The Conference will reserve $800 per year for the Assembly offering.
5. The Conference budget is to set aside $6,000.00 annually for Assembly through our reserve account.

E. JURISDICTION QUADRENNIAL MEETING

1. The elected officers, appointed leaders, district presidents and the Dean of Mission u shall attend the Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting at conference expense.
2. Nominees and an alternate for Director of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national office shall be paid at conference expense unless expenses are paid by another source.
3. Nominees for membership on the program advisory board of the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national office shall be paid at conference expense unless expenses are paid by another source.
4. The Conference budget is to set aside $6,000.00 annually for Jurisdiction Quadrennial Meeting through our reserve account.

F. GENERAL CONFERENCE /JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE

The Conference President or an alternate selected by the Leadership Team will be sent to the North Central Jurisdictional Conference and General Conference at conference expense unless expenses are covered by other sources.

G. CHURCH AGENCIES/BOARDS

When elected or appointed officers are asked by the President, or by virtue of office, to attend United Methodist Church meetings of boards, agencies, or committees, the expenses shall be paid by the United Methodist Women(dba United Women in Faith) Conference Treasurer, unless covered by other

sources.

V. FUNDS

A. MEMBER ASKINGS

1. Lucille Raines Residence is $ 22.00 per member.
2. Mission u is $2.00 per member.
3. Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund is $1.00 per member.
4. Assembly offering askings will be made the year prior to Assembly and added to a special section of the remittance form. The askings are $1 per member.

B. SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION

1. A Special Mission Recognition gift to mission of two hundred dollars ($200) shall be presented by the conference organization to all conference elected and appointed officers, including the Dean of Mission u. This is presented at the end of their service in that office (a minimum of two (2) years).
2. A Special Mission Recognition gift to mission of two hundred dollars ($200) shall be presented by the conference organization to a United Methodist Women(dba United Women in Faith) national office Staff, Director, member of the Program Advisory Group, and North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team members residing in the conference at the end of their service in that office (a minimum of two (2) years).

C. GIFT IN MEMORY

1. A Gift in Memory card of fifty dollars ($50) shall be sent at the death of a current conference officer, or a past conference president, by the conference treasurer.
2. A Gift in Memory card of twenty-five dollars ($25) shall be sent at the death of an immediate family member of a conference officer by the conference treasurer.
3. A Gift in Memory card of five dollars ($5) shall be sent at the death of a former conference officer by the conference treasurer.

D. GIFTS TO NEW/RE-ACTIVATED UNITS

1. Upon the organization of a new or re-activated local unit of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of the Indiana Conference, the unit shall be provided a Program Resource Book, Daily Prayer Guide, and PURPOSE poster at conference expense.
2. These items will be ordered by the Conference Resource Coordinator. It is the responsibility of the District President, when she has a new or re-activated local unit, to contact the Conference Resource Coordinator.

3. The President of the new or re-activated local unit shall be invited by the Conference President to attend the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) Conference Annual Meeting with registration and meal costs paid by the conference.

E. RESOURCES FOR CONFERENCE OFFICERS

The elected and appointed officers of the Leadership Team and the Mission u Dean shall receive the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) Program Resource Book and Daily Prayer Guide ~~from the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) Mission Resources~~. The books must be ordered by the treasurer. ~~who sends a list of names and addresses of those eligible with a check to Mission Resources.~~

F. EXPENSES FOR CONFERENCE OFFICERS

1. In the Line of Duty
    a. Conference officers shall be reimbursed for expenses to attend all conference meetings.
    b. Expenses for an officer traveling to Indiana Conference meetings by virtue of her office shall be paid mileage at thirty-three ($.33) per mile.
    c. The meal allowance shall be $10 for breakfast, $15 for lunch, and $25 for dinner, for a maximum of fifty dollars ($50) per day or actual amounts, whichever is less. Meals for dependents traveling with the officer may be vouchered under dependent care. Receipts must be provided for the dependent and the officer.
    d. Expenses for dependent care shall be allowed up to forty dollars ($40) per day or the actual amount, whichever is less.
    e. It is recommended that a conference officer not accept an honorarium when speaking at local, district or conference events, but may be reimbursed for mileage or other expenses by the host group.
    f. Expenses of conference officers, which are necessary in fulfilling the duties of their office, shall be reimbursed. A voucher with attached receipts shall be submitted to the Conference Treasurer.
2. Outreach
    a. An outreach, approved by the Conference Leadership Team, is an event presented outside the District or Conference United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) which is considered an opportunity for instruction, inspiration or spiritual enrichment of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith).
    b. Persons who represent the Conference organization at an outreach event shall have their expenses paid by the Conference. An advance may be arranged with United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) Conference Treasurer.
    c. The Conference President shall be reimbursed for expenses to attend the church Annual Conference to include a reasonable lodging rate,

meals and mileage according to the Standing Rules, less funding received from other sources. A voucher, with attached receipts, shall be submitted to the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) Conference Treasurer.

G. YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

1. There shall be a Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund supported by financial asking from members. The fund shall be administered by a committee composed of the Conference Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation, as chair, Conference President, Conference Treasurer, two (2) District Presidents appointed by the Conference President, and the Young Women's Coordinator.
2. The fund shall provide scholarships for persons between ages 13 and 25 who desire to participate in any project supported by the General Board of Global Ministries Conference Advance Specials or other projects at the discretion of the committee.
3. The fund shall provide scholarships for youth and young adults to participate in work, study or travel experiences which provide educational experiences and develop leadership in the Youth and Young Adult Ministries of the Indiana Conference.
4. The amount of the scholarship approved for each applicant will be determined by the Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Fund Committee.
5. The Communications Coordinator, in cooperation with the committee, shall produce a brochure with guidelines for applying for the scholarship. Specific application deadlines will be listed in the brochure. This brochure will be available for publication and on the United Methodist Women(dba United Women in Faith) of Indiana Conference website.

VI. GENERAL PROCEDURES, RESTRICTIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES

A. FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

1. The conference and district presidents and treasurers, as well as the Mission u Business Manager, shall be bonded through the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) national organization.
2. One bonded person shall participate in the counting of all monies.
3. All bank statements shall be first reviewed by the President, then the Treasurer completes the reconciliation for the President's review.

B. CONFERENCE MAILINGS

1. Recommend that conference mailings, including newsletter, meeting notices, etc. be sent via bulk mailing and/or electronic mail.

2. Recommend that the conference mailing list include: conference officers, district officers, local unit presidents, district members, pastor/church, District Superintendents, Mission u Committee; United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) National Office President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer; North Central Jurisdiction Leadership Team, Conference Communications Coordinators within the North Central Jurisdiction, former Conference Presidents and the Indiana Conference Bishop, Bishop's spouse, Communications Director of the Indiana Area United Methodist Church, and the Lucille Raines Residence house leader, board of directors president, and Friends of Lucille Raines Residence convenor.

C. LOGO USAGE.

All correspondence of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of the Indiana Conference shall use the official United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) brand guidelines from the National website.

D. SALE OF LITERATURE AND OTHER ITEMS

The sole right of display and sale of literature is vested in the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) resources. This pertains to all Meetings sponsored in whole or in part by the United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) National Office or the organization of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) including district and conference meetings, seminars, retreats, officer training sessions and Mission u. No other groups may display or sell items without approval of the Leadership Team. Exceptions would be the sale of items by Lucille Raines Residence to support their operations.

E. OFFICER/MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Lists of officers or members shall not be given to individuals or agencies outside the organization unless authorized by the Leadership Team.

F. STATUS OF LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Before the status of a local organization or unit of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) changes, the District President shall be consulted. The District President shall notify the Conference President and the Conference Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach.

G. RELATIONSHIP TO INSTITUTIONS

1. The Lucille Raines Residence, Inc. is a ministry of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church. The purpose of the residence is to provide a

place and way of life that will enable the residents to achieve an independent state of life. The residents are persons recovering from substance use disorder. Service shall be available to persons regardless of race, creed, or gender.

2. The conference shall help support Lucille Raines Residence with an asking from each member of $22.00 per member. These funds shall be forwarded from the local unit to the district treasurer who will forward them to the conference treasurer. The conference treasurer shall provide each district treasurer with reporting forms at the beginning of each calendar year.
3. This rule applies to all districts within the conference. To ensure that each resident of the Lucille Raines Residence receives a Christmas gift, fostering a sense of community and goodwill during the holiday season, an annual Christmas gift shall be provided to each resident. The value of the gift shall be $50 per resident. The total amount allocated for gifts shall be based on 49 residents, totaling $2450. Each district shall contribute an equal share to the total amount. The contribution per district shall be $490. The District Treasurer will forward the gift to the treasurer of the Lucille Raines Residence no later than October 31 of each year.

4. The Conference leadership team will have representation on the Lucille Raines Residence Board of Directors.

5. The Lucille Raines Residence Board of Directors will appoint district representatives for their board. These district representatives are to be part of the district leadership teams.

H. UNITED METHODIST WOMEN (dba United Women in Faith) OF THE INDIANA CONFERENCE'S POLICY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Conference United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) adopts the INDIANA ANNUAL CONFERENCE THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ABUSE PROTECTION POLICY - FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND VULNERABLE ADULTS. This policy is designed to ensure the safety and protection of children, youth, and vulnerable adults within all programs and activities conducted by the organization. All members and volunteers are required to comply with the guidelines and procedures outlined in the Indiana Annual Conference Child Protection Policy.

Whenever we use a church for a meeting and offer child care, the church/United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) president will need to have a copy of the Policy for the Protection of Children and Youth and abide by it. If the host church has a policy and we use their sitters, they may use their policies.

I. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

1. Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12th Edition, shall be accepted as the parliamentary authority in any situation not covered by the Constitution

and Bylaws for the conference organization for the United Methodist Women (dba as United Women in Faith) as adopted by the United Women in Faith national organization or the Standing Rules of the Conference organization.

2. Electronic (e-mail) and Conference Call Procedures
    a. These Standing Rules authorize electronic and teleconference meetings.
    b. A quorum must be present. This is to be 51% of the voting members of the specific committee/team.
    c. The subject line must indicate the topic of the discussion and/or the need for electronic vote.
    d. Motions do not require a second unless otherwise specified.
    e. Always “reply to all” so that we are all ‘on the same page’ during discussions.
    f. In the case of an electronic (e-mail), the chair will close the discussion after the allotted time of three (3) days by asking “Are you ready for the question?”
    g. The chair shall put the question to a vote by restating the pending question and request the members to vote now. The word “vote” shall be in the subject line.
    h. The chair shall include the time frame/deadline for the vote.
    i. Members shall state, “I vote yes,” or “I vote no” in the first line of the response and use “Reply All”.
    j. The chair shall tally the votes and report the result of the vote to the participants, including the number of votes cast for and against the motion.
    k. The chair shall announce the results of the vote to the committee.
    l. The chair shall compile a summary of the discussion and vote. This will then be presented at the next Leadership Team and a copy of this information given to the Secretary for our records, with the exception of the Committee on Nominations.

J. PROPERTY OWNED LISTING AND LOCATION

The Resource Coordinator will maintain an inventory listing of all conference owned equipment and its location.

K. NON-PROFIT STATUS

Non-Profit Status shall be reviewed annually by the Conference Treasurer and Conference President. The Districts will operate under the umbrella of United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of Indiana.

L. RECORD RETENTION

The following conference and district United Methodist Women (dba United Women in Faith) of Indiana items need to be collected for historical purposes.

The officer originating the finished document should forward the items to the Archives of Indiana Methodism at Depauw University at the end of each calendar year.

1. The Secretary will:

a. Keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the conference organization and its leadership team.

b. Serve as custodian of all records and official documents.

c. Sign all official, legal, and financial documents, making certain they are properly dated.

d. Maintain minutes and local documents/records for 2 quadrennia (the preceding and the current). Archive older minutes and records with the conference United Methodist archives per the General Commission on Archives and History recommendations. Electronic or physical records may be archived as is the preference of the archival site. Items mailed to DePauw University Archives can be sent to:

DePauw Archives
405 S. Indiana St.
Greencastle, IN 46135.
Digital items can be sent via a flash (thumb) drive by mail or to the following email address: archives@depauw.edu

e. Keep an accurate roll of the elected and appointed leaders of the districts.

f. Send a list of names of conference elected leaders, including addresses, ZIP codes, telephone numbers, and emails, within ten (10) days following elections and interim changes to the United Women in Faith National as directed or through the conference secretary portal and to the jurisdiction leadership team, as requested. Provide the district leadership team and local president names and emails to the United Women in Faith National Office through the conference secretary portal or staff liaison.

2. Storage of financial records shall follow generally accepted fiscal guidelines. The District treasurers shall keep and store District financial records for seven (7) years.

3. NEWSLETTERS – [Communications Coordinator]
Be sure all items are identified with conference and/or district names. Items may be paper copies or digital files (.pdf is preferred).

Standing Rules Committee members: La Donna Weber (interim Convenor), Lora Ward, Pamela Rhodes, Alicia Mitchell, Sara Mayes

United Women in Faith of Indiana Legacy



Indiana continues to lead!

Leadership Award

$264,828.99

(from inception to 6/30/2026)

Gifts to The Legacy Fund Endowment Fund build a financial resource that ensure United Women in Faith can carry out its vital programs and activities for many years to come.

United Women in Faith
Church Center for the United Nations
777 United Nations Plaza, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10017
800-278-7771
legacy150@uwfaith.org

Give online:
https://uwfaith.org/give/legacy-fund/

Together, we are building legacy!

i150 next
THE LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

United Women in Faith of Indiana 2025 Reading Program Participants

CONGRATULATIONS to all UWFaith members who participated in the Reading Program

EAST CENTRAL HEIGHTS:
CASTLETON:
Plan 1: Rosemary Draga
FRANKLIN GRACE:
Plan 1: Linda Jacobsen
Plan 2: Barbara Angotti
Plan 4: Joella Patterson
Beverly Bonsett

EASTERN RIVERS:
ALDERSGATE:
Plan 2: Carol Domininque
Plan 3: Emile Krone
Janet Wirick
CHURUBUSCO:
Plan 1: Denise Geller
DeVona Krause
Marna Morris
Gloria Parish
COMMUNITY OF HOPE:
Plan 1: Crystal Lorch
Plan 2: Becki Clock
Plan 3: Nancy Parkison
COVENANT:
Plan 1: Barb McCoy
Judy Moore
Plan 2: Melissa Christeson
Plan 3: Jackie Landrie
CROMWELL:
Plan 1: Sandra Moore
DESOTO:
Plan 1: Pat Adams
Alice Crouse
HAGERSTOWN:
Plan 1: Jean Dilley
Linda Ford
Tammy Geise
Lisa Warner
Plan 2: Susie Lewis
Plan 3: Mary Ann Pollard
RICHARD CENTRAL:
Plan 1: Joyce Egger
Plan2: Elizabeth Holmes
WAYNEDALE UMC:
Plan 3: Margaret Schimmel

NORTHERN LAKES:
Plan 1: Lori St.Pierre

SOUTHERN RIVERS:
METHODIST TEMPLE:
Plan 2: Mary Lockett
NEWBURGH UMC:
Plan 1: Lisa Newton
Plan 2: Judy Cash
Chris Hurless
Sara Mayes
Plan 3: Margaret Dennis
Plan 4: Sherry Ralston
Honorable Mention:
Mary Bargeloh
Lynda Ferguson
Ruth Hahn
Letty Haynes
Karen Rupp
Kay Stoops
OLD NORTH UMC
Plan 1: Jerrianne Bonenberger
Kim Salmon
OWENSVILLE UMC:
Plan 1: Pamela Rhodes
SALEM UMC:
Plan 1: Omaloy Damm
Barbara Brown
Dixie Heredeen
Kim Anderson
Angela Lindsey
Honna Schloss
Plan 2: Mary Beth Midle
Deneen Cave
HARDINSBURG :
Plan 2: Beth Brown

WEST CENTRAL PLAINS:
AVON UMC:
Plan 1: Donna Mahler
Patsy Flener
Peggy McCoy
Ruth Eggleton
Norma Little
Kathy Haviza
Plan4: Kyle DeWeese
GRACE KOKOMO:
Plan 1: Arlene Buell
Plan 4: Ann Moore

United Women in Faith of Indiana 2025 Mission Today Units

East Central Heights

Gold

Barnes

Bloomington First

Castleton

Southport

St. Luke's

University

Silver

Cumberland

Franklin Grace

Eastern Rivers

Gold

Fowlerton

Silver

DeSoto

Ft. Wayne Bethany

Losantville

Southern Rivers

Gold

Corydon

Newburgh

Silver

Hardinsburg

Sellersburg

Bronze

Bicknell

Boonville Main

Honorable Mention

Canton

Methodist Temple

New Albany Trinity

Northern Lakes

Gold

Claypool

Silver

Plymouth Trinity

Raub

Warsaw Trinity

Honorable Mention

Griffin First

West Central Plains

Gold

Carmel St. Marks

Kokomo Grace

Silver

Crawfordsville First

Fishers

Bronze

Fillmore

Gobin

United Women in Faith of Indiana 2026 Youth & Young Adult Scholarship Report

In 2026, the United Women in Faith Youth and Young Adults Service Scholarship Fund was used to assist 56 youth to learn and give back to communities. This scholarship fund is funded as part of Indiana UWFaith askings of $1.00 per member. This summer three Districts with 5 churches plus one other District-wide group participated.

In Northern Lakes District, Chesterton UMC and Valparaiso UMC sent 8 youth to the Appalachia Service Project in Kentucky where they did home repairs and met others with dignity, compassion and Christ-centered love. Northern Lakes District also sponsored a Better Way Civil Rights Tour of Alabama for 28 youth. They learned the history of Civil Rights by visiting historic sights and learning about the UMC Charter for Racial Justice which as we know began with United Women in Faith. Our very own Bishop Tracy Malone attended this Mission Trip. The Facebook picture of Bishop Malone with several youth visiting Buc-ee's on their trip and walking with youth across the Edmund Pettis Bridge in Selma to commemorate Bloody Sunday was wonderful. We received a heart-felt thank you note from the youth after they returned.

In West Central Plains District, we were able to honor requests from Calvary UMC of Brownsburg and Carmel UMC. We funded one youth's request from Calvary UMC for a trip to Lithuania for service at a UMC children's ministry. We funded 15 youth from Carmel UMC to Puerto Rico where they worked alongside local congregations to address community needs.

From East Central Heights District 4 young ladies from St Luke's UMC attended the UMC Global Young People's Convocation in Ireland. This is a worldwide event that takes place every 4 years and is required by the United Methodist Book of Discipline. Youth learned leadership skills and advocating for others.

According to the Youth and Young Adult Scholarship Committee Guidelines, we pay 15% of the cost per individual for United Methodist Church Missions and 12% of the cost per individual for non-United Methodist Church Missions. We are proud to be able to help these youth and young adults in their mission journeys. 2027 Youth and Young Adult Service Scholarship Forms will be available at the end of the year. Look at the Youth and Young Adult display at United Women in Faith Annual Meeting in October for pictures and thoughts that some of the youth shared after they returned.

Our mission is powered by women like you. Women who pray, show up, and give what they can of their time, resources and finances. Please reach out to Rae Wallis at raewallis@comcast.net for more information.

United Women in Faith of Indiana Lucille Raines Residence Report

Lucille Raines Residence, a ministry and mission of the United Women in Faith of Indiana, is on solid ground. 2027 will mark 50 years of providing a place of hope and security for those on the recovery journey from substance use disorders. God has certainly been faithful and continues to lead the work of changed lives.

2026 has been a year of clarifying our mission and purpose and planning the reorganization of the Board to be more effective in its leadership role. The designation of a ¾ house that has been used to describe LRR is no longer the correct terminology. True to our original mission purpose, LRR is now known as a level II facility as designated by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences. It provides transitional housing for those seeking peer support as they continue to develop skills of independent living. Therefore, services are limited, and the House leader supervises and oversees daily operations. Mariea Strader, long time Program director, has stepped into this role and is doing a great job. Since an executive director was not required, and finances were tight, that position was eliminated. The Board thanks Jodie Little for her year-long leadership in that role.

The proposed 2027 Board will be reduced to 11 directors with emphasis on needed skill sets to handle the governing and fiduciary responsibilities. A new auxiliary volunteer group, known as the **Friends of Raines**, will provide the residents and staff support activities, organize events at Raines, gather financial support, and promote the Raines ministry throughout the state. This group will be led by a 7-member steering committee. The Friends group will be large and include all those who love and support the ministry of Raines.

Forty rooms are occupied thanks to your renovation donations, and residents' spirits are good. A $5,000 grant was received from the Indianapolis foundation, and the application for a Lilly grant is in the works. In the last year, Raines has been the recipient of two bequests which is a wonderful way to make sure part of your assets will go to this ministry of changed lives.

Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry.

Cheryl Wilson, President

Lucille Raines RESIDENCE

United Women in Faith of Indiana 2026 Mission u



We had a wonderful FIVE Mission u Express events this year. This amazing celebration would never have been possible without the power of our sisterhood working together. Faced with many of the "5 W's" (Where, What, When, Who, Why?), our first-time leadership team was initiated into a fast-paced and rewarding way to Experience Emmanuel. We rejoiced in each other's gifts, guided by our past Dean and the Conference team. Our Mission u team included Dean Maureen Mauzy, Assistant Dean Trisha Staneart, Business Manager Barb McCoy, and Registrar Mary Margaret Willbanks.

Our first event on June 20 was held at Paoli UMC, a church currently without a UWFaith unit. The pastor was so impressed by our commitment to service that he has opened the door for a new unit to form. Study Leader Margaret Dennis reported that the curriculum, A Deep Knowing: Experiencing Emmanuel Through Every Part of Our Lives, was one of the most interesting she has ever led. Twenty-four participants, including Pastor Jellison, enjoyed a wonderful day of digging deep into scripture to find God's presence in our daily journeys.

On July 18, Northern Lakes District held their session at Hebron UMC with Pauline Neal as Study Leader. Twenty-seven participants discussed their spiritual genealogy through the stories of Shiphrah, Puah, Rahab, and the woman at the well. We appreciated the warm hospitality of the Hebron ladies and their ability to help us overcome technical issues. A generous offering was also collected for the Lucille Raines Residence and our Missions Pledge.

A week later, 35 ladies attended the session at Waynedale UMC in Fort Wayne. This was the first time Rev. Dr. Cindy Reynolds, retired Conference clergy, led a Mission u event, and participants unanimously reported experiencing Emmanuel through a more personal approach to Bible study.

On August 22, we moved to East Central Heights at Castleton UMC. Cindy Reynolds served again as Study Leader for 67 participants, including 15 who arrived as walk-ins. The Castleton ladies were wonderfully prepared with delicious meals and extreme hospitality. The afternoon concluded with a powerful re-enactment of the woman at the well, illustrating how God is always making all things new.

We welcomed 33 participants at our final session for West Central Plains on Saturday, September 12, at Congress Street UMC in Lafayette. We were blessed to be led again by Pauline Neal, a retired educator and commissioned minister from Celebration Church with a true shepherd's heart.

In closing, it has been my pleasure to serve as your 2026 Mission u Dean. To this special, inaugural leadership team: thank you for your heartfelt dedication. As the new team begins in 2027, let us continue in our Purpose "to know God and experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ." Just as we did in Experiencing Emmanuel. May you always go with God in supportive fellowship for our global mission.

Maureen Mauzy, Dean

Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline



Dr. Michelle Daniel Jones, completed her doctorate in the American Studies New York University. Michelle's dissertation focuses on creative liberation strategies of incarcerated people. As a scholar, artist, organizer, executive, and archivist she creates opportunities to speak truth to power and serves in the development and operation of taskforces and initiatives to reduce harm, serve the community and end mass incarceration.

She is Director of Archives at the Correctional Association of New York and Executive Director of Constructing Our Future, a housing organization created by incarcerated women in Indiana. Michelle is the author and co-editor of the award-winning *Who Would Believe a Prisoner: Indiana Women's Carceral Institutions, 1848-1920*, published by the New Press.



Cecelia Whitfield founded *Use What you've Got Ministry Keeping Families Connected* 38 years ago. For nearly four decades, Cecilia has been a steady voice and helping hand for families across our communities. Through her ministry she has empowered countless families to stay strong, stay together and build lasting connections.

She has been married for 56 years and has two adult children. Her daughter has 5 children and has been married for 29 years. A graduate from Indiana Christian University, Cecelia retired from Indiana Bell telephone company.



Maranda Williams is the Indiana State Organizer for REFORM. Maranda is responsible for building grassroots support across Indiana by mobilizing community members, advocating for policies focused on supervision reform, cultivating relationships with local stakeholders, and organizing grassroots campaigns to influence state legislation with the goal of creating pathways to stability and well-being for individuals impacted by the justice system.

United Women in Faith of Indiana Litany for a New Year

One: Our God, we have been blessed in 2026!

Many: Thank you for those many blessings!

One: We thank you for the opportunity to host the 2026 United Women in Faith Assembly. So many conversations, so many new ideas and faces, and so many hugs!! A chance to dream it, believe it, and do it.

Many: What abundant blessings! Thanks!

One: We thank you for all the blessings of this past year – the soul care and retreats, the reading program and response, Mission u Express, the Daily Prayer Guide and the program resource book, the mission giving and the advocacy moments, meetings and fellowship, and the continuing ministry of the Lucille Raines Residence.

Many: We move forward in faith and hope for 2027!

One: We thank you for the blessings we have found in our new districts, new ways to be in mission and ministry with a new group of dedicated women.

Many: Thanks for this year of grace. We needed that to find our feet!!

One: We thank the retiring officers who are going on to new roles, and we bless the new officers as they take on new leadership tasks.

Many: Thanks, and blessings!

One: And remind us in this year to come to listen for Your still, small voice when we are asked to consider our own leadership. Help us to learn to say yes! Push us to where You are calling us! Invite us to find new ways of doing your will.

Many: God's voice may be calling me? I'm listening!

One: Lead us in turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth, in the way we pray, the way we vote, the way we invest, and the way we interact with Your world.

Many: We're all about that! We're United Women in Faith!

One: Remind us that our purpose is to …

ALL: To be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. Amen! Go in peace!

Save the Date

United Women in Faith

UNITED IN VOICE • UNITED IN ACTION

Legislative and Advocacy Day

Thursday, March 18, 2027
Zoom Event

Discussion topics

UMC Social Principles
Expand your Knowledge of Current Indiana State Legislation
UWFaith Social Priorities
Housing Crisis
Immigration

CWU Church Women United

Save the date · Join the conversation · Make an impact

Annual Meeting Talking Points: 2026

United Women in Faith

BE PART OF SOMETHING UNSTOPPABLE

Unstoppable Influence: Amplify our justice story.

We are celebrating our first year of Unstoppable growth! How are each of us influencing growth? Are we inviting others to Soul Care Retreats and Mission u? How many of you attended Assembly in Indianapolis in May and took a loved one or friend with you? Wonderful! We love that more women are being invited into *Real Faith. Real Women. Real Community.*

The 2029 vision for United Women in Faith can be summed up in one word: **GROWTH!** Growing beyond 500,000 women, $10 million in annual giving, and reaching the goal of $60 million for The Legacy Endowment Fund.

This year, we are wearing our Influencer hat. This means this is the year where we are leading by amplifying the work of the Climate Justice, Ending Mass Incarceration, and the Criminalization of Communities of Color campaigns.

This is what Unstoppable Influence looks like.

United Women in Faith members, you are influencers, using your voices in your communities, which include your online communities. We also encourage you to engage in public platforms like opinion editorials (newspaper op-eds) to help shape culture and amplify justice.

Unstoppable Influence means using one's voice with intention:

• Own the why • Speak to the justice work that moves you • Show up in every space

What justice issue moved you? Share it. Post it. Tag United Women in Faith.

This is our annual meeting, which inspires each of us, but the real work is the commitment beyond this gathering.

Make the invitation plain:

- Become an All-Access Member
- Start, strengthen, or reactivate a group
- Plug into Soul Care, Mission u, Assembly, and justice campaigns
- Access the Unstoppable Growth Toolkit

All-Access Member **Start a Group** **Plug into Soul Care** **Unstoppable Campaign Toolkit**

Let's amplify our voices. Let's grow our impact. Let's be Unstoppable.

Put justice into action year-round.

Build Strategic Partnerships

Identify and partner with a local organization doing strong work in climate justice or ending mass incarceration and criminalization of communities of color. Let this be the start of a sustained relationship, not a one-time connection.

Take Collective Action

Create moments throughout the year where members can take action together:

- Organize virtual advocacy efforts like coordinated emails or calls
- Host letter-writing campaigns or postcard actions
- Build advocacy into gatherings, so participation becomes part of the culture

As social justice priorities continue to draw people in, there is a powerful opportunity to expand reach, deepen impact, and grow the movement.

Serve & Advocate

National Mission Institutions remain steadfast in their commitment to serve and advocate for marginalized women and children in this tumultuous time.

Consider the challenges NMIs are currently facing, including reduced federal funding, new regulations, and increased community needs. Reach out to see how United Women in Faith members can help.

Enhance your leadership journey. Connect with NMIs near you by serving on their boards, volunteering, or rallying local United Women in Faith members to visit.

Let's work together! Contact National Ministries staff at NMI@uwfaith.org.

NMI Video

Mission u

- Looking ahead, the 2027 Mission u theme, **Showing Hospitality: An Exploration of Christian Welcome**, shifts the focus from recognizing God's presence (2026) to how we embody that presence by welcoming others into our communities and lives.
- To learn more about Mission u events happening near you, check out our new **Mission u map**.

Mission u Map

Are you called to be a General Conference or Jurisdictional Conference delegate?

- Now is the time to consider running as a delegate for the next United Methodist Church General Conference in May 2028. Annual conferences will elect delegates in spring 2027.
- United Women in Faith members are needed on the ballot. Our voices, wisdom, and leadership must be represented in decisions that impact women, children, and youth.
- Learn more about serving as a delegate by scanning the QR code below.
- Stay connected and equipped by joining the **Influence: UMC** space and newsletter.

Become a General Conference Delegate

Influence UMC Newsletter

Development

- The Legacy Endowment Fund is a permanent investment ensuring long-term support for programs serving women, children, and youth globally.
- To date, over $55.2 million has been raised, with strong participation across the 1869 Society, Friends of Legacy, and Legacy Builders.
- Members are invited to deepen their impact through planned giving, including wills, estates, insurance, retirement funds, or donor-advised gifts, and join the 1869 Society.
- Every gift fuels this unstoppable sisterhood, strengthening communities, advancing justice, and turning love into action.

The Legacy Endowment Fund

We have merch!

- **Do you have your United Women in Faith Water Bottle or new T-shirts?** See where to get all UWFaith Merchandise!

Merchandise

- **Don't forget about your Soul Care Deck.** The deck is filled with spiritually grounding practices, affirmations, and inspiration.

Soul Care Deck

A word from the General Secretary



Thank you for your dedication, your prayers, and your commitment to this movement. United Women in Faith has always led change. From our foremothers to today, we continue to show up where it matters most, especially in this critical moment.

As we enter the second year of the Unstoppable campaign, we are called to be influencers, using our voices to amplify social justice priorities: Climate Justice and Ending Mass Incarceration and the Criminalization of Communities of Color. This is how we grow our impact and reach more than 500,000 women with *Real Faith. Real Women. Real Community*.

We are living in a time when the rights of women, children, and families are under threat, and funding for National Mission Institutions is being cut. Yet, we remain steadfast. Your continued support is essential to sustaining this work. Every gift ensures that vital services continue for those who need them most.

Now is the moment to act.

This movement is expansive. It reaches beyond walls, beyond denominations, bringing together women who are passionate about the same issues, the same impact, the same future. Through partnerships, through community, through shared purpose, we grow stronger together.

You can start a group, anytime, anywhere, any place.
You can build community.
You can lead.

Because this is not just an organization, this is a sisterhood with purpose, and every one of us has a role to play.

Let's amplify our voices, grow our impact, and welcome others into our Unstoppable movement.



Sally Vonner
General Secretary/CEO
United Women in Faith

Watch Sally Vonner's address at Assembly:
youtu.be/UsKDUyoOCZk

Thank you!

We express thanks and sincere appreciation to all who have helped make the Eighteenth Annual Meeting and Celebration special…

Otterbein Franklin SeniorLife Community for their hospitality and hosting our Friday night gathering and providing our meal.

Jane Hughey and the host unit at Franklin Grace UMC for their hospitality and providing morning snacks and lunch.

Martha Milhouse, former conference officer and resident at Otterbein Franklin SeniorLife Community, for all the help she provided.

Roger Smith, pianist

Rev. Joe Sanford, Pastor Franklin Grace UMC, for technical help and blessing our meal.

Felicia Stewart, Program Advisory Group, for installing the 2027 officers.

Perfect Praise, liturgical dance group

Lori Chambers, Conference Social Action Coordinator, for organizing and moderating Saturday's panel.

Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline Panelists, Michelle Daniel Jones (Constructing Our Future), Cecelia Whitfield (Use What You've Got Ministry), and Maranda Williams (REFORM).

Jacki Moore, Tech extraordinaire

Margaret Dennis, Conference Communications Coordinator, for pulling all the loose ends together for the program book

Jeanie Estep Park, Indiana Conference UWFaith Leadership Team, and Annual Celebration Planning subcommittee for all their efforts to make this a special event.

..,and ALL OF YOU, for taking the time to participate and share in our celebration

Indiana Conference United Women In Faith Calendar

2026 Remaining Calendar of Events

Silent Retreat, October 16-18 (Friday 8pm-Sunday Noon)

St Joseph Retreat and Conference, 1440 W. Division Rd. Tipton, IN 46072

Conference Leadership Development, November 7

Virtual

2027 Calendar of Events

World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 5

Legislative Day, Thursday, March 18

March Spiritual Growth Retreat— Mar 19th- Mar 20th (Fri 7pm – Sat 3pm)

Canyon Inn, 451 McCormick's Creek Park Rd. Spencer, IN

April Spiritual Growth Retreat- April 23rd & 24th (Fri 7pm- Sat 3pm)

Lindenwood Retreat and Conference Center, 9601 Union Rd. Donaldson, IN 46513

Mission u Express Events will be set up by the individual districts

Annual Celebration Friday, October 1 and Saturday, October 2

Leadership Development November 7

2028 Event

North Central Jurisdiction June 8-12, 2028

Sioux Falls, South Dakota https://www.umwncj.org

Find United Women in Faith Online

United Women in Faith Website:

uwfaith.org

Online Community:

uwfaith.mn.co

Facebook:

facebook.com/uwomenfaith

Twitter:

twitter.com/uwomenfaith

YouTube:

youtube.com/uwomenfaith

Flickr

uwfaith.org/flickr

Indiana Conference Website:

inumc.org/united-women-in-faith/

Indiana Facebook:

facebook.com/groups/336399294020 (or search for United Women in Faith of Indiana)

United Women in Faith

Purpose

To be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

목적문

여성의 공동체로써, 그 목적은 하나님을 알고, 예수 그리스도를 통하여 온전한 인간으로서 자유를 체험하며, 창의적으로 상호 협력하는 친교를 도모하며, 교회의 세계 선교에 동참함으로써 선교에 대한 이해를 넓히는데 있다.

Propósito

Ser una comunidad de mujeres cuyo propósito es conocer a Dios y experimentar la libertad como personas integrales por medio de Jesucristo; desarrollar un compañerismo creativo y de apoyo; y extender los conceptos de misión a través de la participación en los ministerios globales de la iglesia.