



United  
Women  
in Faith

# INSIGHT

Northern Illinois Conference

March 2024

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### March

01 --- World Day of Prayer - Church Women United  
01 --- PN District Leadership Team  
02 --- [NIC Leadership Team](#)  
07 --- PC District Leadership Team  
09 --- PS Spiritual Growth Event  
09 --- World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women  
11 --- LS District Leadership Team  
15 --- LN District Leadership Team  
23 --- Day of Giving - Legacy Fund - online

### April

06--- LN Day of Spiritual Renewal  
13 --- LS Day of Spiritual Renewal  
15 --- PS Leadership Team  
20 --- PN Day of Spiritual Renewal  
19-20 --- Church Women United Illinois State Assembly  
TBD --- PC Billy Graham Museum

### May

03 --- PN District Leadership Team  
04 --- [NIC Leadership Team](#)  
04 --- PS Spring Meeting  
13 --- LS District Leadership Team  
16 --- PS District Leadership Team  
17 --- LN District Leadership Team  
31 --- North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event begins

### June

02 --- North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event ends  
02 --- PS District Leadership Team  
16-18 --- [UMC NIC Annual Conference](#)  
19 --- PN District Salad Supper  
21 --- LN District Leadership Team  
22 --- PC District Volunteer Day  
19-22 --- Church Women United, Inc. Quadrennial Assembly

For More Detailed Information and Future Events:

[View the Google Calendar](#)

World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women

## Observance Day

Download registration form [HERE](#)

Register online [HERE](#)



**World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women**  
**OBSERVANCE DAY**

Poverty, Hunger and Education: Focusing on developing sustainable women empowerment programs

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Wesley United Methodist Church

201 E 95<sup>th</sup> St

Chicago, Illinois 60619

**8:30 a.m. – Registration/Light Breakfast**

**9:00 a.m. Program**

**\$15.00 per person (includes lunch and materials)**

**Deadline: March 1, 2024**

Make checks payable to: Chicago Wesley United Women in Faith

Mail to: Paulette Myrie-Hodge  
1516 S. Wabash Ave., #302  
Chicago, IL 60605

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL CHURCH: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one:      AME      AMEZ      CME      UMC      Other

Please indicate special food needs (circle):      Gluten-free      Vegetarian

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

## President's Report

By Barb Farley

March finds us in the midst of Lent and developing our programs for the remainder of this year and beyond!

I participated with 342 United Women in Faith officers in the first of a series of Conference Officer Briefings on January 23rd. Our General Secretary and CEO, Sally Vonner, introduced "Faith Future Strategies Plan". This is a strategic plan to develop new Spiritual Growth studies and enable all-access membership using online sign-up allowing for feasible participation in person or strictly online. This all-access digital resource platform, UWfaith/Digital/Member Portal, is developed to increase UWfaith visibility in the wider faith communities. I believe UWfaith is equipped to lead the Church ahead into this new transformational time before us! God has always made a way



for us to live out our Purpose even though it is not always a linear way! We are preparing for growth in and beyond the United Methodist Church by inviting others we have yet to meet to join us. Did you know that the first three weeks of "Faith Talks" on You Tube topped 147,000 views?

UW Faith is providing links to take action in real time with regards to ending mass incarceration, climate justice and racial justice. We are the fourth generation of women supporting and advocating for women, children and youth! Let's dream, pray, listen and discern to find new ways to grow this year. We are driven by our sacred stories which propel us in our primary purpose, know God. We have almost 155 years under our belt to lead us forward into the fantastic journey ahead as we are one in God with beautiful differences and unique abilities!

"Put one foot in front of the other and lead with Love!"

## Secretary's Report

By Lois Voss

The **United Women in Faith Northern Illinois Conference Annual 2024 Yearbook & Directory** is ready and waiting for your order. This is your resource of conference, district, and local leadership, plus church, jurisdiction, and national information! You'll find our calendar, budget, standing rules, internet resources, past presidents, mission personnel, and deaconesses. Our cover focus is on the Quadrennial Jurisdiction Gathering. New this year is colorful information on all sides of the covers.

This password protected document is on our conference website [uwfaithnic.org](http://uwfaithnic.org).

Paper copies are available for a fee: **\$5.25** if picked up, or **\$7.84** if mailed. To order a paper copy, follow the directions on the Cheddar Up site [HERE](#).

Payment may be made by credit card through Cheddar Up or by a check (payable to **UW FaithNIC**) and sent to our conference treasurer:

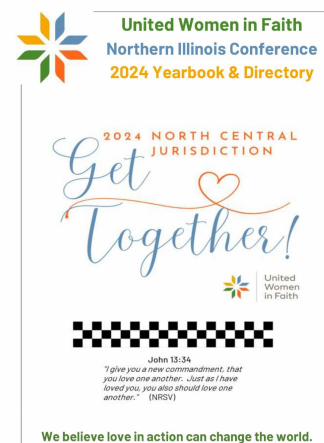
**Janeen Hamack, % Barrington UMC, 98 Algonquin Rd., Barrington, IL 60010.**

Contact Lois Voss to pick up the paper copy from her at **401 Crest Dr., Cary, IL 60013.**

The *online* version is password protected on our website. To receive the password, contact Lois Voss at: [loiskvoss@gmail.com](mailto:loiskvoss@gmail.com) or Shelly Davenport at: [sdavenportarch@gmail.com](mailto:sdavenportarch@gmail.com). You will be able to download the document and print any pages you like.

Please help us by checking your personal information and your unit's entries. If you find errors or have additions during the year, please send corrections to our conference secretary, Lois Voss. Questions? Updates? Contact: [loiskvoss@gmail.com](mailto:loiskvoss@gmail.com) or 847-409-6013

Lois Voss  
[loiskvoss@gmail.com](mailto:loiskvoss@gmail.com)  
847-409-6013  
UW Faith NIC Secretary



## Midwest Mission Lay Speaker of the Year!

**Linda Priest was named Midwest Mission Lay Speaker of the year 2023!**

Congratulations, Linda, on earning this award! This is a new recognition. It is being awarded to Linda in recognition of her diligence in attending multiple conferences and churches and setting up the Midwest Mission display to share the opportunities and good news of the ministry with others. She joined Lisa Rigoni, of Midwest Mission, at a few conferences and interacted with folks at their display beautifully. She also represented Midwest Mission at other events and churches. When Midwest Mission received a letter from Friendship Church singing Linda's praises for her willingness to share, they were so excited. **CONGRATULATIONS** Linda!

[Read more about Midwest Mission here](#)



Save the Date for Summer Mission u



# Save the Dates

## *Summer Learning Events*

**July 12-14: Stronghold Camp and Retreat Center,  
Oregon, IL**

**July 19-21: Wesley Woods Retreat Center,  
Williams Bay, WI**

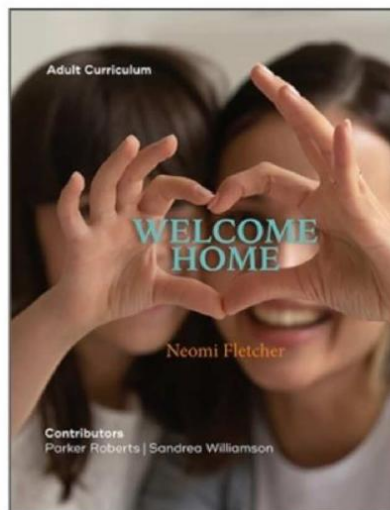
### **Our Study...**

*Welcome Home* is an adult curriculum that explores how we can know God as an intimate friend who welcomes us.

The sessions include Scripture explorations, discussions, and activities to apply what is being learned.

### **Our Theme...**

*The Kin-dom Is Among You: Drawing Closer to God and One Another*



Presented by

***United Women in Faith  
Northern Illinois Conference***



**United  
Women  
in Faith**

***Get Together***

**North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event**

**SEE MORE INFORMATION [HERE](#)**

**[Visit the UWFaithNCJ Website](#)**

Get Together!



United  
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in Faith

NORTH CENTRAL JURISDICTION  
QUADRENNIAL EVENT  
[HTTPS://WWW.UMWNCJ.ORG/](https://www.umwncj.org/)

Come to Indianapolis, IN on May 31 - June 2, 2024

- GET TOGETHER to feel the joy of faith-filled women, uniting.
- GET TOGETHER to nurture your soul.
- GET TOGETHER to deepen your relationship with God.
- GET TOGETHER to explore the power of love to make a difference.

#### WHY YOU SHOULD REGISTER

What does it mean to answer the call to "love one another" (John 13:34) in 2024? Come GET TOGETHER to explore the possibilities through

#### FULL WEEKEND EXPERIENCE

- Inspiring worships
- Engaging workshops
- Riveting and motivating speakers
- Renewing soul care

#### PRICE

The North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event is a great value at the early registration fee of \$225. Few other faith-based conferences offer so much for such a low fee.

#### FEATURING

M. Garlinda Burton, Keynote Speaker  
Amanda Powell, Music Director  
Optional May 30th Experience:  
Pre-Conference Soul Care Retreat

**TOGETHER we can do more. TOGETHER we can be more  
TOGETHER the power of love in action can change the world.**

**REGISTER  
HERE**

## What's Happening in Our Districts

### Lake South District Message

I was blessed with an invitation from Rev. Cerna Rand to come speak to her congregation on Sunday, February 11th in reference to the United Women in Faith Thank Offering. This was something totally out of my wheelhouse, however, I felt God had put it on my heart to move

out of my comfort zone and present the message as requested.

WHAT A BLESSING this opportunity was! God held me through it all, and I only stumbled slightly when speaking – when my mind would race ahead of my tongue, yet, when I looked back at the recording, it wasn't as noticeable as I was afraid it had been. Most people probably wouldn't have noticed my slight "halt" in speech as much as I since I knew where it was and what I had meant to say at that moment.

Just as God has placed me in several situations that have been out of my comfort zone, He is looking to use you somewhere, even it is "outside of your comfort zone." Just as He provided all Moses needed to go before the Pharaoh, we need to remember that God can give you all you need to do whatever He is calling you to do on His behalf. He will never send you into a situation and set you up for failure, but will show you that, through all things, He is faithful to see you through whatever He wants you to do in His name.

We must remember that Moses was no spring chicken when he was called to bring God's people out of Egypt. Abraham also was a man "seasoned" with age when he was called to travel to the promised land with his wife to become a nation of peoples numbered greater than the stars. God can even use YOU – no matter your age – to further His work and His kingdom on this earth. Just remember to keep an open mind to what God is calling you to do – whether it is to serve in an office of United Women in Faith or to be present for someone who needs your love and support during a difficult time in their lives. Whatever God calls you to do, He will provide you with all you need to meet the needs of what He wants you to do in His name, so never use the excuse that you are getting "too old for this." God does have quite the sense of humor – especially when we try to play the age card!

In Christian Love and Service,  
Wendy Miller  
UW Faith LSD President

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## Korean - American UMW Newsletter

Read the March newsletter [HERE](#).

National Network of Korean-American United Methodist Women  
**NNKUMW** 한인여선교회전국연합회 March, 2024

같은마음, 같은열정, 같은비전  
선교를 위하여!

**MARCH  
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

1. 전국연합회 임원수련회 Attending the NNKUMW Executive Training Retreat
2. 제15회 학당을 마치고 Attending the 15th Virtual School
3. 전국연합회 사역 계획 2024 NNKUMW Missions Plans
4. 평신도와 함께하는 UMC 미래 컨퍼런스 안내 The 2nd Symposium for Lay Members of Korean United Methodist Church
5. 책소개 Book Recommendation
6. 선교유산 헌금 Mission Legacy of NNKUMW

**General Conference 2024**



United  
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in Faith

## at General Conference 2024

### What General Conference is this again?

Did you know that the General Conference scheduled for April 23 to May 3, 2024, is actually the 2020 General Conference? Dan Hurlbert and Paul Gomez of the Desert Southwest Conference explain in this [VIDEO](#) from their 2023 annual conference.

Learn more about General Conference and United Women in Faith, learn about member delegates, and sign up to receive more information [HERE](#).

## Community

### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED INC.

*Agreed to Differ, Resolved to Love, United to Serve*  
2024 QUADRENNIAL ASSEMBLY

Since 1941, the Women of the Church Women United movement have held a vision of Christian unity and prayerful action. CWU was founded as a racially, culturally, theologically, inclusive Christian women's movement to celebrate unity and diversity and work for peace in the world.

The Quadrennial Assembly, June 19 - 22, 2024 in Chicago, gathers ecumenical denominations, partners, women of faith organizations, activists, advocates, and people of good faith from our global community.

Learn More [HERE](#)

Flyer and registration [HERE](#)



## The Illini Quilt

*By Brooke Buzard Watson, Cunningham Children's Home*

In Ms. Deb Heater's class at Cunningham's Gerber School, a group of junior high students embarked on an exciting project—to create a quilt for the annual Festival of Quilts, a fundraiser benefiting programs at Cunningham. The boys, enthusiastic about sports and particularly fans of the Fighting Illini, chose to craft an orange and blue Illini-themed quilt.

The project offered not just a creative outlet but also valuable learning experiences. However, one student, Jamison, initially struggled with self-doubt regarding his drawing abilities. Ms. Deb, recognizing his concerns, worked with him to find a solution. Together, they decided on



drawing Coach Lou Henson Court at the State Farm Center. Although Jamison faced challenges and moments of frustration, he persevered. Taking a break and with encouragement from his classmates, he successfully completed the drawing and felt a sense of accomplishment.

Read more [HERE](#) plus view a video on the history of Festival of Quilts.

# KIDS ABOVE ALL

Deaconess Catherine Inserra invites UWFaith units to consider supporting the Healthy Baby Drive March and April 2024 through this special event. Either attend the event on April 13th or make fleece blankets with your unit and donate them to Kids Above All. Contact Deaconess Catherine Inserra for more information.



**KIDS ABOVE ALL HEALTHY BABIES DRIVE** SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

**KIDS ABOVE ALL** Faith & Community Partners  
Fleece Blanket Making Service Event

**WHEN:**  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
(Doors open at 12:30 p.m.)

**WHERE:**  
KAA's Better Life Distribution Center,  
1801 E. Oakton Street, Des Plaines, IL

**WHERE:**  
Contact our Manager of Faith & Community Relations,  
Catherine Inserra, to RSVP at (847) 224-2870, or at  
cinserra@kidsaboveall.org, by Sunday, April 7.



United Women in Faith

# Faithfully Forward

Day of Giving

Save the Date: Saturday, March 23, 2024



United  
Women  
in Faith

Happy Birthday United Women in Faith!! March 23rd is our birthday, and we are celebrating 155 years of faith, hope, and love in action.

Celebrate the 2024 Day of Giving with a gift to the UWFaith Legacy Endowment Fund. Step faithfully forward to create a brighter, more compassionate tomorrow for women, children, and youth.

**GIVE  
TODAY**

The Legacy Endowment Fund is a permanent investment that supports the work and the future of United Women in Faith.



## Brand / Logo Guidelines

Just a reminder to keep United Women in Faith first in writing our names:

United Women in Faith Northern Illinois Conference or



United Women in Faith NIC or  
United Women in Faith Lake South District or  
United Women in Faith Annual Celebration

UW Faith may be used in publication after United Women in Faith has been written.

**NEVER** use UWF in public writing. Save it for your personal notes.



United  
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Connect with United Women in Faith  
NIConference:



Connect with United Women in Faith  
Globally:



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**Submission deadline: 15th of the month**

Send to: Shelly Davenport, Communications Coordinator  
[sdavenportarch@gmail.com](mailto:sdavenportarch@gmail.com)

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