



United
Women
in Faith

INSIGHT

Northern Illinois Conference

April 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

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
25 --- 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
19-22 --- Church Women United, Inc.
Quadrennial Assembly
21 --- LN District Leadership Team
22 --- PC District Volunteer Day

For More Detailed Information and
Future Events:

[View the Google Calendar](#)

President's Report

By Barb Farley

Happy Easter to everyone! What a time of year! So many happenings and I know that as United Women in Faith, you are all extremely busy – all in a good way! We started February with the Korean NIC UMW celebrating their very productive year and welcoming of new leadership celebration. I love meeting everyone in person as it just adds that extra bit of excitement and of course, fellowship!

I am delighted to share with you that we, UWFaith NIC, received, from UWFaith National, a “Mission Giving Award 2023” certificate stating 170% Mission Giving for 2023! Wow, fantastic! In sisterhood, together, we definitely lift each other up!

The World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women’s annual meeting was March 9th. We were this year’s host at Wesley UMC in Chicago. It was an informative, festive and fun event. Fellowship and networking are so very important as we share ideas and different perspectives.

I would like to draw your attention to the UM Newsletter this week - (03/25) as there is an interview with Sally Vonner, our CEO. This might be interesting to new and regular members in your individual units. It is short but very good. We, UWFaith are celebrating 155 years together. As Sally Vonner said, “We may bend but will never be broken!” We show up and



bring a different perspective believing love in action will change the world. Please be in prayer as we approach the beginning of General Conference, our Jurisdictional Conference and our own Annual Conference. Remember to send pictures of happenings in your districts and units to your district presidents so we can present them as a video loop at our booth at Annual Conference this year. Let's put one foot in front of the other and lead with Love always!

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.

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](#).

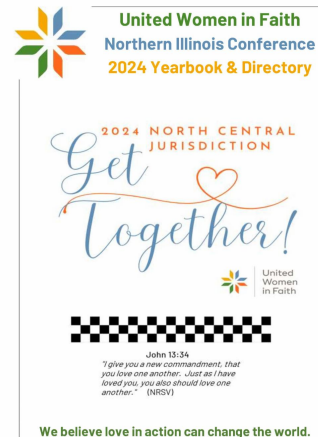
Payment may be made by credit card through Cheddar Up or by a check (payable to **UW FaithNIC**) and sent to our conference treasurer:
Janeen Hamack, % Barrington UMC, 98 Algonquin Rd., Barrington, IL 60010.

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 or Shelly Davenport at: 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 or 847-409-6013

Lois Voss
loiskvoss@gmail.com
847-409-6013
UW Faith NIC Secretary



Save the Date for Summer Mission u

First time attendee scholarship application form [HERE](#)



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**

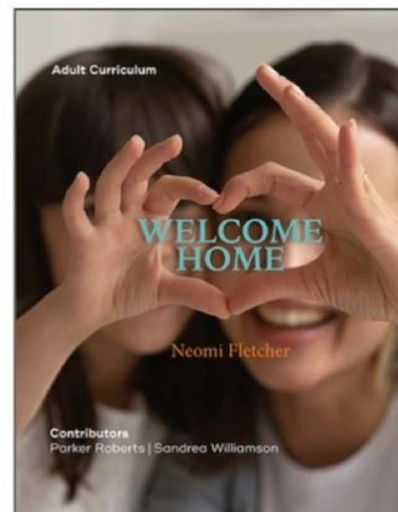
Our Study...

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



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Program Advisory Group

By Rita L. Smith

The Program Advisory Group held its final quadrennial meeting March 8 & 9, 2024 via zoom. This a brief report, as I will give a full report at our Leadership Team meeting.

Sally Vonner, CEO and General Secretary, opened us with a message that inspired, influenced, and impacted us. She uplifted ways UWFaith did, is doing, and must continue to do, to grow our sisterhood. Her closing remarks encouraged us to Dream, Believe and Do!

President 'Ainise 'Isama'u sent regrets. Keep her and her family in prayer on the loss of her husband.

Many reports were given. One I will uplift at this time is Mission Giving through pledges. We did it again! Not only did we meet our pledge, we exceeded our pledge by 170%. We will be receiving a certificate indicating this achievement. This is evidence that we should increase our pledge.

Another I will uplift is our conference videos. They were viewed and enjoyed by all. I feel safe in saying everyone was impressed with our Impact video. We are the only one whose program actually featured “children” on their Impact video. Our “Becoming GREAT” program was indeed GREAT!

Other news included the closing of three mission institutions and the retirement of three Regional Missionaries. They were Elmira Sellu, Emma Cantor, and Heasun Kim. We thank them for their global service.

We received reports on the Strategies Goals, Mission Giving, Legacy Endowment Fund, Eliminating Institutional Racism, Justice Campaigns, Assembly 2026, National Mission Institutions, United Women in Faith Digital, Reading Programs, and Working Teams.

March 23rd was our annual Day of Giving. There is still time to support this endeavor and encourage others to do the same.

Jurisdiction “Get Together” is May 31 – June 2 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

On another note, on our web-site under General Conference Delegates, I am one of the featured delegates with a video testimony at a Community Hearing on Transit Equality.

We will be bringing four New Legislation Pieces before the body. They are:

1. Children’s Sabbath
2. The Girl Child
3. The Status of Women
4. Voting Rights Protection in the United States

We will also be requesting readoption of eleven Resolutions set to expire in 2024.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve one more time, representing this conference on the PAG this quadrennial. Love you all!!!

Get Together

North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event

VISIT THE UMWNCJ
WEBSITE

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
HERE

Get
Together!



United
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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.

May 31 - June 2, 2024

United Women in Faith North Central Jurisdiction

“Get Together”

“**Get Together**” Quadrennial Event (*called by some a mini Assembly*): We gather as a Jurisdiction to interact and learn with others from our Jurisdiction (NCJ); while a few attendees work on electing Directors for the next quadrennium. Check it out on our website and consider joining us (about 20 are registered from N. IL). The registration deadline is April 30 (it is a firm deadline).

The NCJ has offered each Conference the opportunity for two “early registration fee (\$225)” scholarships for people in our Conference. There will still be hotel and travel costs for these individuals. We are looking for first-time attendees and/or our indigenous or non-English speaking sisters (or clergy brothers). See attached scholarship form (deadline April 15). You will be informed no later than April 20, giving you ten days to register. Moneys will be sent to the Conference treasurer, after your attendance is confirmed. Questions, contact Beth Jayapalan, NCJ CON member, purplemountainlaurel@gmail.com.

Here is the **United Women in Faith North Central Jurisdiction** website address:

The **Home** page (*circled*) has a "button" for registration and also one for donations.



Program page has a lot of details

(sub-page) **Sessions** - has some details about *Soul Care Retreat* (optional; instead of the previous events, pre-event *Ubuntu Day*); *Workshops* (choose two), *Breakouts* (also choose two, these are only available for those who are non-voters)

Headliners page has most of our special guests

Location page has hotel details, phone number and link for room registration (use either contact way)

Other details, such as, our NCJ team, etc. and newsletters:

Contact Us - sub-page, entitled **About Us** - and - **Conference Info**

What's Happening in Our Districts

Prairie Central Message



United Women in Faith Prairie Central District is going on a field trip! You are invited to join us at the Billy Graham Museum, 500 College Ave., Wheaton, IL on Thursday, April 25. The museum opens at 10:00 and that's when we'll gather there. We will have a short introduction and then the self-guided tour is estimated to take 60-90 minutes. Those who desire may have lunch at a nearby restaurant. We would love to have you register via a Google form: [HERE](#) . (you do not need to have a Google account or log in to complete this form).

There is no fee for this event, but donations are accepted (suggested adult donation is \$7, senior citizen, \$4) on site. Your registration will help us know who to expect and we are especially appreciative if you can register via the form. (Be sure your email is entered correctly so you can receive confirmation. You should get an immediate confirmation and final details will be emailed shortly before the event.) You may also register by emailing Betty Erickson, N9yfc@aol.com, with the following information:

- your first and last name
- your phone number and email address
- your church
- your emergency contact name, relationship, and contact phone number
- if you would like to carpool, include your location and we will attempt to connect you with someone in your vicinity

Please register by April 22.

More information and registration can be found [HERE](#).

Lake South District Message

Do you remember the song by Mac Davis, "Stop and Smell the Roses?" The refrain "You're gonna find your way to Heaven is a rough and rocky road, if you don't stop and smell the roses along the way," came to mind one morning as I stepped out of the house and locked my door. Not five yards from me were two beautiful fawns, which of course, I startled. They immediately sprinted to the back of my yard and found that they had their escape blocked by a fence and my shed.

I paused and spoke softly to them to not to be afraid and that I wasn't going to hurt them as I walked away from them toward my van to leave for work. They stopped and watched me not try to approach them further. One boldly moved closer to the house, yet still away from me and "hid" in the shadow of my lilac bushes. The other soon joined him and they both watched me get into my van and pull away – as I was not trying to harm them. I hope they realize that my back yard is a safe haven for them. This is not the first time I have seen deer in my yard – even though I live on the edge of a suburban town near a busy road. I have seen a mother deer laying under my oak tree with her fawn a year or so ago. I have even seen a doe walk down the middle of my street in late afternoon.

God has created amazing beauty all around us, but our busy lives often cause us to miss this beauty as we hurry from one place to another. We need to slow down and look at all of the wonders God has placed before us for our enjoyment. The beauty of the seasons and nature itself are here for us to take in and just meditate on how wonderful God is to have provided all

of this for us. Even God stepped back after He created everything and saw that it was “very good.” If God can take the time out of His schedule to just step back and say “Ahhh, this is good,” shouldn’t we also take that same time to appreciate all of creation around us? Look for an “Ahhh” moment today and thank God for that special time in your day.

We have an opportunity to step back together and renew our spirits and have another “AHHH” moment at our Annual Day of Spiritual Renewal. Be sure to join us on Saturday, April 13, 2024 at Wesley United Methodist Church, 201 East 95th Street, Chicago, IL 60619 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Retired Elder Rev. Greta Schumm McDonald will be our guest speaker. I worked at the church for six years with this amazing pastor. Greta is known for her calm, peaceful presentations that put everyone who hears her at ease as she presents her topics with a sense of grace and calmness that leaves everyone feeling refreshed and renewed in spirit. Be sure to look for more registration information in this newsletter.

We hope to see you at Wesley UMC on April 13 as we take a day to renew our own spirits within so that we can go out into the world and do the work God is calling us to do on His behalf!

God’s blessings and peace to you all,

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

United Women in Faith Lake South District invites you to join us for our **2024 Day of Spiritual Renewal**. Reverend Greta Schumm McDonald, Retired Elder - United Methodist Church - will be our guest speaker.

[REGISTER ONLINE VIA CHEDDAR UP](#) BY APRIL 9, 2024

In person registration, continental breakfast and program resources will be available beginning at 8 AM

Download the mail in registration form [HERE](#).

DAY OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

Northern Illinois Conference



United
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in Faith

Lake South District



LEADING A LIFE WORTHY OF THE LORD

GUEST SPEAKER | REV. GRETA SCHUMM MCDONALD

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

201 EAST 95TH STREET | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

9 AM - 12 PM

REGISTRATION DETAILS VISIT

WWW.UWFAITHLAKESOUTH.ORG

Lake North District Message



United
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Lake
North
District

Day of Spiritual Renewal

Caring for Body & Soul Through Gratitude, Safety & Security

Saturday, 6. April 2024

8:15 a.m. Registration with light breakfast
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Program with lunch

**Euclid Avenue United Methodist Church
405 South Euclid Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60402**



\$10.00 Per person (under 12 years old free)

Deadline: 29. March 2024

Questions contact: Susan Greenberg
sqg55@yahoo.com
708-256-1819

Registration form for event on website: United Women in Faith Northern Illinois Conference: uwfaithnic.org

United Women in Faith Lake North District is looking forward to seeing you and your UWFaith women at our Day of Spiritual Renewal, April 6, 2024, held at Euclid Avenue United Methodist Church in Oak Park. We will open the day at 8:15 AM with registration and a light breakfast and end at 1 PM following an amazing lunch.

We want to share some safety and security tips that will provide guidelines for freeing us up to grow in our souls and some opportunities to reflect on and appreciate gratitude and living in the present.

We would like you to post them at church, share them with your unit and others via email and put them on your UWFaith social media network page as soon as possible. Our time is

short. Please help us get the word out about this event so that we have a good turnout for our speakers. Thank you.

The filled out registration form, for the event, can be mailed or emailed to Susan Greenberg. Please note that we do not have the ability to accept credit cards. The payment of \$10.00 per person must be by check or cash. A check may be mailed to Susan along with the registration form, or email the registration information and bring a check or cash on the day of the event.

Please RSVP soon so we know how many to set up for and have enough food prepared.

Registration flyer [HERE](#).

Prairie North District Message

Informational flyer [HERE](#)

Registration form [HERE](#)

Service of Remembrance form [HERE](#)



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Prairie North District Spiritual Growth Event

Date: Saturday, April 20th

Registration: 9:00 – 9:30 am

Meeting starts at: 9:30 am

**Location: Orangeville United Methodist Church, 111 S. East St.,
Orangeville**

Fee: \$12.00, includes lunch

Have you heard of CROP walk? Or Blanket Ministry? These are part of Church World Service, and we will hear all about the organization from Nick Gliha, Community Engagement Associate. We are excited about this because they match our missions so closely. In fact, a new goal that they have is Climate Justice. We hope you can join us to learn more about the work of Church World Service.

We will also have a Service of Remembrance, so please complete the Service of Remembrance form so we can include the ladies from your unit who have died during the past year. Please return the form to Linda Truckenmiller-Krum with your registration form.

We will also celebrate Earth Day and have Communion together. Then the ladies of Orangeville United Women in Faith will provide lunch, and there will be vegan and gluten-free choices.

Mail your Registration form, Service of Remembrance form, and check (payable to UWFaith Prairie North) to Linda Truckenmiller-Krum, Prairie North District Treasurer, 1502 W. Lincoln Blvd., Freeport, IL 61032.

Please return the Registration form by April 12

General Conference 2024



United
Women
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.

Church Women UNited's quadrennial priorities are:

1. Health and Wellness
2. Climate Stewardship
3. Social Justice

Learn More [HERE](#)

Flyer and registration [HERE](#)



What a Journey! Desiray's Story

By Brooke Buzard Watson, Cunningham Children's Home

Desiray and her daughter Layla have been through an incredible journey over the last year. From being homeless, to being placed in Cunningham's Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Services emergency shelter, to moving into their first home – they have overcome so much. RHY was an integral part in facilitating and assisting Desiray with numerous community resources and advocacy to help her with childcare and secure housing. The program provides emergency shelter services for non-DCFS youth, between the ages of 14 and 21. While providing safe and stable temporary housing for these individuals and potentially their children, Cunningham staff also provide case management services, life skills instruction, education advocacy, and recreational opportunities.

Read Desiray's full story [HERE](#).

KIDS ABOVE ALL



HEALTHY BABIES DRIVE

SATURDAY,
APRIL 13, 2024

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

Kids Above All's Healthy Babies Drive collects childcare supplies such as baby clothes, diapers, baby wipes, and more so that our parents, caregivers, babies, and toddlers have the essentials they need for a happy and healthy start to their lives together.

Join us at our Fleece Blanket Making Event in support of our drive! There are two ways you can get involved:

1. Bring your own fleece (2 sheets, each 36in x 36in) to our Distribution Center on April 13 to make No Sew Blankets for our kids.
2. Make your No Sew Blankets at home and drop off the blankets at our Distribution Center.

We will also be accepting donations of childcare items during the event.

We can't wait to see everyone in April step up for our kids and families!



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



View the Healthy Babies Drive Wish List [HERE](#).

RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



FROM THE STORE



- ✓ Produce bags
- ✓ Store bags
- ✓ Ice bags



FROM YOUR PANTRY



- ✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags
- ✓ Cereal box liners
- ✓ Case overwrap
- ✓ Bread bags



FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR



- ✓ Newspaper sleeves
- ✓ Dry cleaning bags
- ✓ Bubble wrap
- ✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue



NexTrex
NexTrex.com 540-542-6930



Pliable Plastic Donations Continue in 2024

Kids Above All is still collecting Pliable Plastic for another bench for their new Distribution Center. Please donate clean plastic you can stretch or push your finger through: newspaper wrap, grocery bags, wrapping for paper goods, bubble wrap, etc. Please remove paper receipts and cut off paper shipping labels/urls. Donations may be brought to Catherine Inserra at anytime.

National



Thank you, United Women in Faith, for moving faithfully forward for women, children, and youth on Day of Giving 2024.

[Click on the photo](#) for a special message of thanks, moving faithfully forward!

There's still time! Give today!

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



United
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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

UWFAith 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.

Connect with United Women in Faith
NIConference:



Connect with United Women in Faith
Globally:



Submission deadline: 15th of the month
Send to: Shelly Davenport, Communications Coordinator
sdavenportarch@gmail.com

United Women in Faith NIC [email](#) | United Women in Faith NIC [website](#) |
United Women in Faith [website](#)

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