



United
Women
in Faith

INSIGHT

Northern Illinois Conference

May 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

May

03 --- PN District Leadership Team
04 --- [NIC Leadership Team](#)
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

July

12-14 --- Summer Mission u, Stronghold
Center, Oregon, Il.
19-21 --- Summer Mission u, Wesley
Woods, Williams Bay, Wi.
13 --- KUMC Summer Mission u,
Flossmoor, South Suburban Korean
15 --- PS District Leadership Team

August

02 --- PN District Leadership Team
07 --- PS District Leadership Team
08 --- PC District Leadership Team
11 --- KUMC Praise Night, Wheeling, First
Korean
12 --- LS District Leadership Team
16 --- LN District Leadership Team
16 --- PC Trip to Northcott Neighborhood
Center, Milwaukee, Wi.

For More Detailed Information and Future Events:

[View the Google Calendar](#)

President's Report

By Barb Farley

Greetings to you all. We are coming up on a very intense time as we watch the proceedings at UMC General Conference. There is good coverage so I am hoping we can all watch and learn as this may be new for some of us. I am excited to enter this next season of Annual Conference (June) and Mission u (July)! Details are already out for A.C. and the details for Mission u are being written as I write this.

Your district presidents have sent out requests to your individual units to send in to them pictures that represent your unit's activities.

So much good is being done by you all! We want to make sure everyone in our conference sees and knows of our work as United Women in Faith!



Let us continue to put one foot in front of the other and lead with Love. Amen!

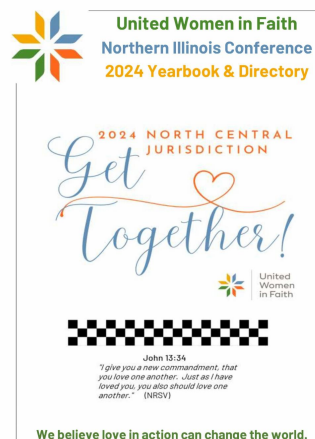
Secretary's Report

By Lois Voss

The United Women in Faith Northern Illinois Conference Annual 2024 Yearbook & Directory is ready 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 color on all sides of the covers. Order on the Cheddar Up site [HERE](#).

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

The online version is password protected on our website uwfaithnic.org. To receive the password, contact Lois Voss at: loiskvoss@gmail.com or Shelly Davenport at: sdavenportarch@gmail.com.



KIDS ABOVE ALL HEALTHY BABY BLANKET DRIVE

Kids Above All sponsored an event and a call for fleece no-sew blankets for their Healthy Baby Drive. We answered the call! The Cary craft ladies helped create 14 blanket kits and church members took them home to tie the edges together. You are welcome to create your own 36" x 36" baby blanket using two colors of fleece. Instructions can be found on line: no sew blanket or knotted blanket. Match the pieces with right sides facing out. Pin to hold in place. Use sharp scissors to cut 5x5 inch squares from each corner. Cut 1x5inch fringe along each edge. Gently tie double-knots along each side.

The drive ends May 15 but baby blankets will be welcomed beyond that time. Just contact Catherine Inserra.

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**

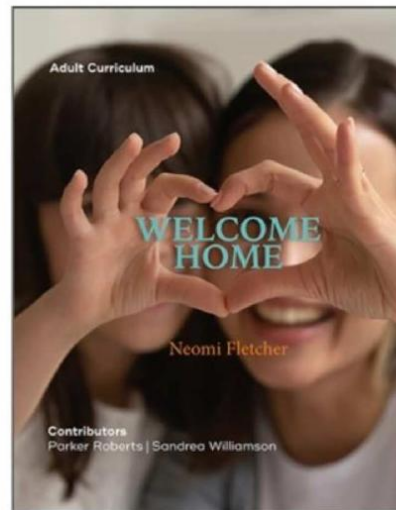
Our Study...

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***



United
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in Faith

Get Together

North Central Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event

STILL TIME TO REGISTER!

VISIT THE UMWNCJ

Get
Together!



United
Women
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.

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



Come to our June outing!

In June, United Women in Faith Prairie Central will be visiting SCARCE, 800 S. Rohlwing Rd., Addison on Saturday, June 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. What is SCARCE, you ask? SCARCE is an award-winning environmental education non - profit dedicated to creating sustainable communities. The organization accomplishes this through innovative and hands-on education programs for schools and organizations, demonstrating care for people and our natural resources through their Reuse Center, and engaging the broader public through community - wide events and programs.

For over 30 years SCARCE has been implementing change to foster a more sustainable future. SCARCE began when Executive Director, Kay McKeen, was teaching in DuPage County schools about recycling and other environmental issues and concerns. Kay was out teaching when she realized that many schools had countless textbooks just sitting in storage, taking up space. All the while, the information was becoming obsolete, it was costing the schools money for the books to sit in storage AND they were going to end up in the landfill! Therefore, in 1991 she started the Book Rescue with the idea of “rescuing” gently used books (text, reference and library) from going in the landfill, and instead putting them into the hands of those who need them. A visit to their website will give you an idea of how they have expanded into many other environmentally friendly projects!

One of them is the recycling of bread bag tags, so start collecting them and bring them along with you!

Let us know that you will join us by emailing Linda Osikowicz, Lmosikowicz@comcast.net, or, preferably, by completing this Google Form [HERE](#).

Lake South District Message

We had an AMAZING in person Day of Spiritual Renewal on Saturday, April 13, 2024 at Wesley UMC in Chicago. Retired Elder, Rev. Greta Schumm McDonald was our speaker and gave a very uplifting message on "Living a Life Worthy of the Lord." Over 40 ladies graced the sanctuary

and shared with each other before and after the service.

Thank you to all who attended as well as to our wonderful hostesses at Wesley UMC for a lovely day which uplifted our souls. The numbers were double last year's attendance, and we hope to see even more ladies venture out for our in-person events in the future. Nothing is quite like seeing and conversing one on one with each other at these gatherings, as we share our friendships, build new relationships and strengthen current bonds of friendships we have made over the years.



God says that, wherever two or more are gathered in His name, there He will be also. We definitely felt His presence among us and pray you will consider joining us for our Annual Celebration on Saturday, September 28. Our location and speaker information will follow in the coming months.

Blessings and God's peace to you all,
Wendy Miller
UW Faith Lake South District President

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](#)





"Dakota's New Family"

By Brooke Buzard Watson, Cunningham Children's Home

Dakota has had multiple caregivers in his young life and exhibited disruptive behavioral challenges across all settings. Now, at just four years old, with the help of Cunningham's Intensive Placement Stabilization (IPS) program, he has found his forever family.

Read the full story [HERE](#).



KIDS **▲** **BOVE**
▲ **LL**

Photos submitted by Catherine Inserra



Catherine, Lois, and Wally



Above: Lois brought bags of pliable plastic for Kids Above All as they try to obtain another bench.

Right: Lois ties a fleece blanket at Kids Above All



HEALTHY BABIES DRIVE

April 1 - May 15



Kids Above All's Healthy Babies Drive is back! Donate childcare supplies so our parents, caregivers, babies, and toddlers have the essentials they need for a safe, happy and healthy start to their lives together.

We've created an Amazon Wish List with items that our families need to make the donation process easier. Click [here](#) to view the items.

To schedule a drop-off time for your donation, faith and community partners can contact our Manager of Faith and Community Relations , Catherine Inserra, at (847) 224-2870, or at cinserra@kidsaboveall.org.

DONATION DROP OFF INFO

BETTER LIFE DISTRIBUTION CENTER

1801 E Oakton Street
Des Plaines, IL 60018

TIME

Monday-Friday
9am-4pm

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.

Bishop's Appeal

by Lois Voss

United Voices for Children is honored to receive this year's Bishop's Appeal being recognized as a viable organization in relation with the NIC as it reaffirms its commitment to advocating for our children in need. UVC is grateful to Bishop Dan Schwerin who says, "Kids are in my heart."

Kids are at the heart of UVC! Join United Voices for Children in raising our voices for our child-serving agencies and our children



in the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church.

History

On the evening of Tuesday, June 4, 1979, **Resolution 741** was adopted creating United Voices for Children (UVC) on the floor at the Annual Conference. For 45 years, UVC has continued advocating on behalf of children, youth, and families for its three affiliated child-serving agencies, Rosecrance, Kids Above All (formerly ChildServ), and MYSI (formerly Methodist Youth Services Inc). The 5th Sunday Appeal started in 1981 with the special offerings that year totaling \$34,361.00, as stated by Rev. Margaret Ann Williams in a January 18, 2008, document called *UVC 'Looking Back'*.

Since its inception, established as a 501(c)(3), not a conference committee, UVC has been serving in the capacity of 1) a catalyst for generating support and engaging congregations in advocacy, and 2) a conduit through which information and resources are exchanged between congregations and the agencies. This history stresses that the role of UVC is different from many other organizations in that it provides no services for its own sake, yet serves to generate support in making vital connections for information and resources to build bridges from the UM local churches to the agencies and throughout the NIC for kids and families.

Your Support:

Please watch for your opportunity to contribute to the Bishop's Appeal 2024 which will be counted at our Annual Conference in June.

National



A New Day

Every petition submitted by United Women in Faith to the 2024 United Methodist General

Conference has moved forward: 18 have passed committee, and one has passed subcommittee and will be voted on by the full committee. We are thrilled the church supported women and children in this way, and we look forward to the same support by the full body.

The 18 petitions that passed committee all had fewer than 10 votes against them, so this allows those petitions to appear on a consent calendar, which is a collection of multiple pieces of legislation on which the General Conference can vote on all at once. The plenary will vote on them in the coming days.

The General Conference also voted to begin worldwide regionalization! Five petitions presented by the Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters passed the full body on Thursday. [United Women in Faith supports regionalization](#) as a faithful path forward for our church.

May the doors remain open for the Holy Spirit to ever and powerfully present.

Photo: United Women in Faith Program Advisory Group member Marilyn Reid, who is volunteering as a page at General Conference, receives an anointment by the Rev. Ron Bell during a noontime communion service. Photo by Paul Jeffrey for United Methodist News.

General Conference Update

Barbara Sutton of Maple Park UMC consecrated as deaconess

Northern Illinois's Barbara Sutton was consecrate a deaconess on April 29.

Deaconesses and home missionaries are laypeople who are called by God to be in a lifetime relationship in the UMC for engagement with a full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice, and service. They form a covenant community that is rooted in Scripture, informed by history, driven by mission, ecumenical in scope, and global in outreach. Their community dates back to the late 19th century. (Deacons are clergy who are ordained to word, service, compassion, and justice.) Congratulations, Barbara!



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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in Faith

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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