Prairie North District United Women in Faith

Minutes of the District Fall District Celebration

Saturday, September 23, 2023

The meeting was started at 9:43 am by our District President, Karen Andrus, with a welcome to all. Joella Warner, President of the United Women in Faith at Brooke Road was introduced and told a few “housekeeping” items.

Opening Hymn was “Here I Am Lord” from the United Methodist Hymnal #593.

Devotions were given by Darla Van Buskirk, District Spiritual Growth Coordinator. We were reminded that our mission has never changed, even if our name has changed over the years. Radical Discipleship is another way to say Call to Mission. How do we hear the call?

UWF Purpose was ready by everyone in attendance, as printed in the bulletin.

Response Moment and Prayer Calendar were presented by Shary Stelter, our District Vice President. She spoke of an article in a recent Response Magazine about Sally Vonner, our new CEO, which explains her spiritual growth and living in faith. Shary reminded us that we need balance in our lives. She gave examples of how we become the vessel that God is able to pour his love and blessings into us, and we need to find the balance to allow God to fill us up and how much we pour out. This can be a tricky balance sometimes, but it is so important. Shary also reminded us to use the Prayer Calendar daily as it gives us ways that we can give to others.

Linda Truckenmiller-Krum awarded the 5-Star giving certificate to Brooke Road United Women in Faith, since they were not at the Salad Supper, and Laura Werner, District Communications Coordinator, was presented with a Gift to Mission for her completing her 2nd year, 1st term in her current position.

The new Prairie North District Superintendent was introduced, Rev. Dr. Hwa-Young Chong and gave a brief greeting from her and the Bishop. She said that United Women in Faith is admirable for leadership and programs that we offer. She was born a Methodist and grew up in the faith.

Our Guest Speaker was Lisa Rigoni, Development Manager at Midwest Mission. She had a wonderful display of the kits they provide to those in need, and started with Matthew 25:31-40. She is able to serve our loving Jesus every day by serving others. What an inspiration she is and a true servant of Jesus. She invited us to come to the campus and see what they do. They do not receive any state or federal aid and have no debt. Their work is all done by donations and they are able to help those affected by natural disasters, health needs with dignity kits, education with school kits and micro business, where they refurbish items to help people make a living to support their families. Everything is sealed in prayer, and there are prayer cards that go with the donations. Mission is about serving God’s People!

Linda Truckenmiller-Krum presented Lisa with our donations and offering from those in attendance.

We sang a Hymn “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” from the United Methodist Hymnal #479.

We had a short break before starting the Business Meeting portion of our morning.

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Laura Werner, our District Communications Coordinator, called the Business Meeting to order at 11:22 am.

Karen Andrus provided the President’s Report. A year in review, with slideshow, was provided, with a plea to join our group.

The Minutes from our 2022 meeting were provided to everyone in their handbook, and Shary Stelter made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, second by Julie Platt, everyone was in favor of approving the minutes as presented.

Linda Truckenmiller-Krum presented the Proposed Budget for 2024, with the 2024 Prairie North District Pledge to Mission. Kim Fahlbeck made a motion to approve the Budget, second by Karen Messley, everyone was in favor of approving the budget with the 2024 Prairie North District Pledge to Mission, as presented.

Laura Werner presented the 2024 Proposed Slate of Officers for the Prairie North District, which was in the handbook with Karen Andrus as President, Shary Stelter as Vice President, Linda Truckenmiller-Krum as Treasurer, Darla Van Buskirk as Spiritual Growth Coordinator and Laura Werner as Communications Coordinator. There were no nominations from the floor, so the Secretary, Mission Resource Coordinator, Social Action Coordinator and all positions on Nominations remain open. Everyone was reminded that we need more members on the leadership team so please consider joining the team. Karen Messley made a motion to approve the Slate of Officers as presented, second by Shary Stelter, all approved the motion.

Linda Truckenmiller-Krum led the 2024 Pledge to Missions, starting with “Litany: Hear Anew the Call to Mission”. Linda invited those with Pledge to Mission Forms to bring them forward and place them on the alter as everyone sang “We Give Thee but Thine Own from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

We then took an offering for our District Pledge to Mission, sang the Doxolgy from the United Methodist Hymnal #71 and Linda gave a prayer for our offering.

Announcements were made regarding the United Women in Faith, Northern Illinois Conference Annual Celebration at Cary United Methodist Church on October 28th. We also mentioned Mission U in January and due dates. This information was also provided in the handbook.

We closed with a hymn “If I Had a Hammer”, words were provided on the screen, a closing prayer from Darla Van Buskirk, and Benediction “A Women of Strength” by Karen Andrus.

Closing hymn was “Go Now In Peace” from the United Methodist Hymnal #665.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm for lunch.