



United
Women
in Faith

INSIGHT

Northern Illinois Conference

November 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

07 --- PC District Leadership Team
10 --- K General Assembly, Mt. Prospect:
Sam Mool Korean
11 --- PC Idea Exchange [zoom meeting](#)
14 --- [NIC Conference Leadership Team](#)
15 - LN District Leadership Team
21-23 --- [NIC Leadership Development
Days - 2025 NIC LT](#)

December

06 --- PN District Leadership Team
09 --- LS District Leadership Team

For More Detailed Information and Future Events:

[View the Google Calendar](#)

President's Report

By Barb Farley

Greetings and blessings to each of you as we wrap up another successful year for United Women in Faith, Northern Illinois Conference!

I have experienced so many new, inspiring events and the love and nurturing of my sisters in faith this last year! As my first year as president comes to a close, I must thank God and so many of you for your support and direction as I came into this new position! We are the fourth generation of a long list of amazing women, beginning in the early 1800's with our predecessor organizations!



Since 1869, we have been on the move facing all sorts of daunting challenges. Today, we, United Women in Faith, have voted in new leaders nationally, jurisdictionally, and now, conference and district-wise. As a conference, we have given generously to leadership development, fellowship, and education to inspire and impact locally and globally. As our foremothers, we realize the demands of sacrifice, the development of bold new fundraising and creatively extending the invitation to new women to join, discover, and add their talents.

We look to the future and dream big for our next generation of leaders as we look to increase our membership, increase our pledges, mission giving and Legacy Endowment Fund. We will lead with love as we put one foot in front of the other diligently relying on God as our inspiration, our help, and our anchor. We will continue to turn faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world. I pledge to you my

Treasurer's Report

By Janeen Hamack

Greetings from your conference treasurer, Janeen.

At this time all district pledges are a little behind in comparison to last year. By district they range from 27% paid to 55% paid.

As a conference we are 41% paid to National for our pledge of \$156,000 for 2024.

Last year, though, we did exceed our pledge to National by 50%.

So, if you are a local unit treasurer, please send your pledges, including your "end of the year cleaning the treasury money" to your district treasurer by Dec. 1, 2024 (or whatever deadline date she has given you), so that she may send it off to me for my Dec. 10, 2024 deadline to National. And be prayerfully thinking about your budgets and pledges for 2025.

Any questions, contact [ME](#) or your district treasurer.

Secretary's Report

By Lois Voss

End of year activities to help your conference secretary:

- Oct. -Submit District Leaders Report 2025 (Excel spreadsheet).
- Nov. 1-Submit Local Leaders Report 2025, at least president/contact (Excel spreadsheet).
- Nov. -Submit district team approved minutes of district Annual Celebration 2024 which should include your elected leadership team and approved amounts for Pledge to Mission and budget.
- Dec. 1-Submit district team meeting/event dates for conference calendar 2025.

A few United Women in Faith NIC 2024 Yearbook & Directory booklets are still available for sale. Order [HERE](#).

As the year winds down, organize your 2024 information that you need to keep for yourself. If your tenure is over, gather what you will be passing on to the new leader for your office. Questions? contact [Lois](#).

No changes shared for Nov/Dec. Not much for Jan. yet
January 4

- NIC Conference Leadership Team Meeting Zoom 9:00 AM
- NIC Winter Mission u Opening Worship Zoom
- NIC Winter Mission u Closing Worship Zoom

PC District Leadership Team Meeting Zoom
PN District Leadership Team Meeting Zoom
PS District Leadership Team Meeting Zoom
LN District Leadership Team Meeting Zoom
LS District Leadership Team Meeting Zoom

Reading Program

By Karen Messley

The 2025 Reading Program Catalog is now

available to download [HERE](#) —English, Korean, and Spanish included in one!

United Women in Faith's Reading Program is designed to help women of faith to achieve five key goals: lean into our spiritual growth, strengthen our leadership skills, equip ourselves for local and global mission, take faithful action for the common good, and build community in ways large and small. The books are current and cover a wide variety of topics. Participating in one of the Reading Program plans at any of the four levels, or even reading just one or two books in this catalog, can help you grow. And anyone, anywhere, can participate—whether you are a member of United Women in Faith already or just getting to know us.

This year's Bonus Books, along with the other offerings in our 2025 Reading Program, are a powerful launching point for both personal reflection and meaningful conversation.

View a virtual page [HERE](#) where you can browse and purchase most of the 2025 Reading Program books while earning 10% back to United Women in Faith to support our work.

Look for the catalog titles in the upcoming November/December issue of [response](#).

Eligible years: For 2025, books from the 2020, 2021-2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025 Reading Program lists are all eligible for Reading Program reporting credit, if you have not previously read them.

2025

Reading Program
Programa De Lectura
독서 프로그램



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Winter Mission u

Online registration [HERE](#) (available after November 6th)
Registration form [HERE](#)



Save the Dates

Winter Learning Event

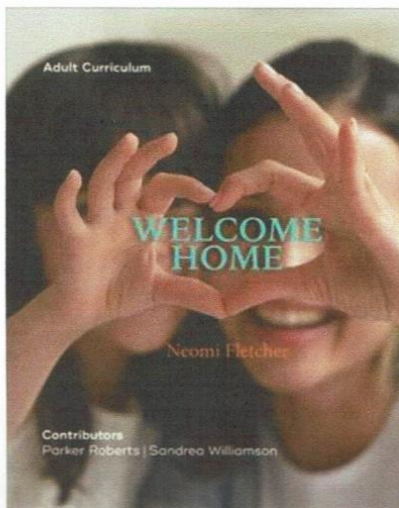
January 5-19, 2025

virtual only

- **Sunday, Jan. 5 (3:00-4:00 pm): Opening Service**
- **Weeks of Jan. 5 and 12: Classes will meet twice each week**
- **Sunday, Jan. 19 (3:00-4:00 pm): Closing Service**

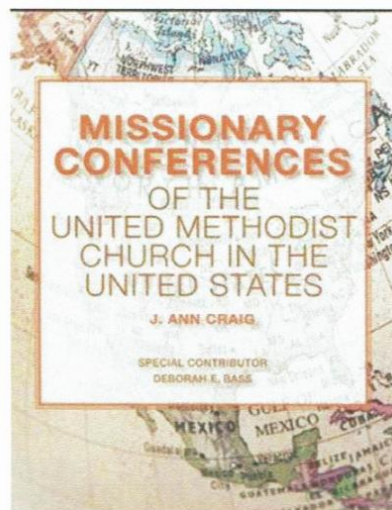
Our studies...

New in 2024....



Tuesday & Thursday
Class 1 (3:00-5:00 pm)
Class 2 (7:00-9:00 pm)

A favorite from 2017...



Monday & Wednesday
Class 3 (1:30-3:30 pm)

You may take one or both studies.

Presented by

United Women in Faith
Northern Illinois Conference



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District News

Lake South District

Our Annual Celebration was on September 28, hosted by the UWFaith of Lockport First UMC. The Rev. Dr. Barbara J. Morgan from Waukegan First UMC gave a wonderful message with our theme "Rejoice in Hope". We had enough walk-ins, that the morning was much more full than initially expected. I have mailed a few booklets for the event to those who requested them, because even though I planned to print enough to cover expected walk-ins, we still ran out of booklets! This was a tremendous blessing to us! We had around 35 in attendance and the brunch which was served was amazing – with ladies asking for the recipes to some of the dishes served!

While we were unable to fill all of our open offices, we were able to vote in a new Vice-President – Felicia Gaines, with our current acting Vice-President Paulette Myrie-Hodge moving to the Committee on Nominations Class of 2028. One of our members on the Committee on Nominations this year – Bonnie Cannon – has agreed to move over to the Membership Secretary. Our current Chair on Nominations has graciously moved over to the position of Secretary of Program Resources for 2025.

Our vacant positions for 2025 which remain are

- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Nominations - Class of 2026 and Class of 2027
- Communications Coordinator
- Social Action
- Education and Interpretation Coordinator

Although these remain open offices, we are praying that someone's heart will be touched to fill in these gaps in our Leadership Team. As it has been this year alone, we had three individuals carrying on in their past roles for 2024, even though they had maxed out their tenure in those positions, just so I wouldn't be stuck trying to carry the load alone! These amazing women continue to help me where and when they can, and I thank God for their willingness to serve and assist me in keeping our District going. These ladies were our Acting Vice-President Paulette Myrie-Hodge, Acting Treasurer Lillye Hart, and our Spiritual Growth person Alison Jenkins did her role as well as her former role as Communications Coordinator.

I have had few responses to the request for current officers for the Conference Yearbook. After having snail mailed every unit in July and receiving zero responses, I have followed this request up with a mass email. I have heard back from a few units which have either discontinued due to church merger or one group in particular continuing on as a circle within the district on their own, despite their church's closure in June.

Our Leadership Team met on Monday, October 14 to recap our Annual Celebration and plan for our schedule for 2025.

On September 22, I gave the Thank Offering Message at Wesley UMC in Naperville, where a few of our ladies from the United Methodist Church kitty corner from Wesley also chose to attend.

May the approaching holidays be filled with love of family, for each other, and most of all, for our God Who faithfully continue to serve through the many avenues of United Women in Faith.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Miller
UW Faith Lake South District President

Lake North District



Recycled Christmas

**Gently-Used Holiday Décor, Trees, Wreaths,
Ornaments, Cards and Wrapping Paper**

**Holiday Housewares, Dishes, Glasses, Linens,
Serving Ware, Cookie Tins and More**

Holiday Clothing, Jewelry and Accessories

Coffee Shop and Delicious Home-Baked Goods

Saturday, November 16 - 9 am – 4 pm

First United Methodist Church

1903 East Euclid, Arlington Hts IL 60004



**United
Women
in Faith**



**First United
Methodist
Church**

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Proceeds benefit the missions and ministries of United Women in Faith

Prairie Central District

Thanks to the members of United Women in Faith, Roselle UMC, for their gracious hospitality for the United Women in Faith Prairie Central Annual Celebration on October 12. A small, but active, group shared breakfast treats before our business meeting. The program was a sharing of our trips to the Billy Graham Museum, the SCARCE facility in Addison, and Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee (a National Mission institution). Members of local units shared some of their activities as well. (And, yes, our accompanist played the ukulele!)

At the present time, we will be without a president, vice president, secretary, chair of nominations and nomination committee members for 2025.

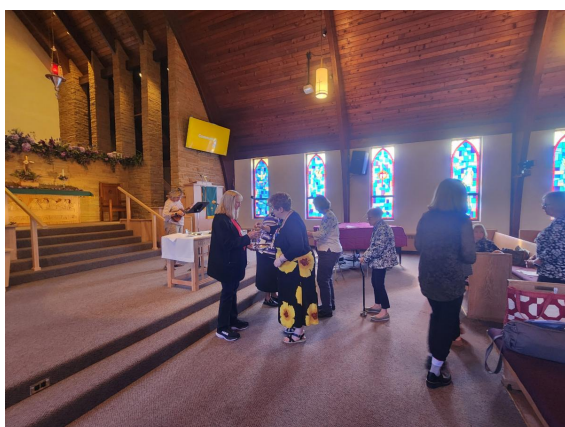
The current members of the leadership team, elected and volunteer, ask you to consider stepping up for one of these positions, perhaps working with a friend to share a position. The team is also planning a Zoom meeting in the near future for any interested persons to join us in brainstorming ways to move forward. Please consider how you might help United Women in Faith Prairie Central.



Group in sanctuary



Kim and Kathy



Communion



Rev. Darneather

**Pictures submitted by Linda Osikowicz

Community



Joe's Mountain Dew Christmas Tree

By Brooke Buzard Watson

Joe became a youth in care due to neglect and abuse, both mentally and physically, by members of his biological family and other adults in

positions of trust. The abuse only got worse around the holidays.

When Joe came to Cunningham Children's Home's Transitional Living (TL) program, he was introverted and self-harming. Over time, through engagement and building relationships with staff and other young people in the house, he began to trust others. Still, because of the trauma he had suffered around the holidays, Joe wanted to isolate in his room from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day. So, Patty, a TL staff member for more than 20 years, had an idea.

Read Joe's heartwarming story [HERE](#).



KIDS ABOVE ALL

Kids Above All is marking its 130th year of building better lives for kids!! Our faith partners like you help to brighten the holidays for more than 1,400 young people in our care who have experienced trauma in their lives. Our Holiday Gift Drive is a bright light for our kids. This year, between December 2-18, step up for our youth by sponsoring a child, donating a toy, volunteering in our toy room, or making a monetary gift to ensure our kids receive a gift. Contact Deaconess Catherine with questions, or to set up a donation or volunteer event, at (847) 224-2870 or cinserra@kidsaboveall.org. Volunteer opportunities begin December 5 at our Better Life Distribution Center, located at 1801 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL 60018.

KIDS ABOVE ALL HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE DECEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 18

CONTACT: CINSERRA@KIDSABOVEALL.ORG OR (847) 224-2870



Sponsor a Child

Purchase a gift for a child in our programs and help make their holiday wish come true. Contact Catherine at cinserra@kidsaboveall.org or (847) 224-2870 to receive more info and to set up a donation time.

Donate Toys via Amazon Registry

The drive needs new, unwrapped toys, games, or books for children and youth ages 0-24. Our 2024 Holiday Gift Drive Amazon Registry will be available before the drive begins to help guide the gift selection process for our children and youth.

Volunteer in our Toy Room

Our 2024 Toy Room will be at Kids Above All's Better Life Distribution Center, located at 1801 E. Oakton St. Des Plaines, IL 60018.

Contact Catherine at cinserra@kidsaboveall.org or (847) 224-2870 to reserve your time to volunteer.



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.



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.



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Connect with United Women in Faith
NIConference:



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Submission deadline: 15th of the month

Send to: [Shelly Davenport](#), Communications Coordinator

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