



From the Sierras to the Seas

Issue 4

Cal-Pac North District Newsletter
United Women in Faith



August 2025

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September 8:
*Annual Celebration Registration
and Quiet Disciple Forms Due
See p.3 and 5*

September 20:
*North District Annual
Celebration and Quiet Disciple
Recognition
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Camarillo UMC
See p. 3 and 5*

September 22
*USC Arcadia Auxiliary General
Meeting 10 a.m.
See p. 15*

October 1
*Candle of Commitment due
See p. 17*

October 18:
*53rd Cal-Pac Annual
Celebration
North Hollywood UMC*

November 10
*Newsletter Deadline for
December Issue*

President

Diane Garner



Greetings Sisters in Christ!
Mission u just concluded; it was a time to reconnect and recharge. We will carry with us through the months ahead, the hope revealed through the Christ in our lives.

As we look forward to our gathering as a district organization at our **North District Annual Celebration on September 20 at Camarillo UMC**, we hope you are making plans to attend. Be present as we celebrate the Quiet Disciples in our lives, elect new District leaders, affirm our District Pledge to Mission and share a vision, a new way forward, for our North District.

Continued on p.2

Continued from p.1

The United Women in Faith motto, Love in Action, exemplifies those we identify as Quiet Disciples. The beauty of our organization is that we are a force to be reckoned with when we lock arms with one another in our common effort to care for women, children and youth across the globe and here at home. Who among us would you lift up as an example for all to emulate? The nomination form is included in this newsletter on p.5.

The vision developed by your District Leadership Team for the year(s) ahead will hopefully move us in the direction of a

more vibrant organization where we can more fully serve those who call themselves United Women in Faith. I know I am being vague, but I really want to share the details with as many of you as possible IN PERSON!

See you in Camarillo!

Practicing hope,
Diane Garner
District President

Wear Your Legacy Pin Proudly

In 2014, the Legacy Endowment Fund Campaign was created and

set a bold goal of raising \$60 million for the endowment.

Through the generosity and efforts of women like you, we are confident this goal can be reached! As a permanently invested endowment, the Legacy Fund will be an ongoing source of income, providing the assurance that the important work of United Women in Faith can always continue.

Show your support by making a donation of \$5 or more during the Annual Celebration and receive a Legacy pin to wear proudly.



United
Women
in Faith

Mission

The Mission of United Women in Faith is to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Vision

The Vision of United Women in Faith is a world in which women, children, and youth can thrive and reach their fullest potential.

Purpose

The Purpose of United Women in Faith is to be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



United
Women
in Faith

North District United Women in Faith

Annual Celebration & Recognition of our Quiet Disciples

Saturday, September 20, 2025

at Camarillo United Methodist Church 291 Anacapa Dr. Camarillo, CA 93010

Dream It!

9:00am Registration and morning coffee | 10:00am - 2:00pm Program

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Joel Hortiales | AC Director of Hispanic/Latino Ministry and Border Concerns | Co-Chair of Cal-Pac Immigration Strategy Group

Opportunities to learn more about Sustainability and the United Women in Faith Legacy Fund

Registration is \$20 per person

Return this registration form and payment to: A.S. Hedges, Registrar/Treasurer, 607 Foothill Blvd. #1549, Flintridge, CA 91012 by September 8, 2025 *Registration must be postmarked by September 8th or there will be a \$5 late fee applied*

Make checks payable to: North District United Women in Faith

Name _____

Email: _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

UWF District _____ Local Church Name _____

(Registrar info: Date Received _____ Amount _____ Check # _____)

Indicate any food allergies: _____ Vegetarian? _____

UW Faith North District Annual Celebration September 20, 2025

Please bring a reusable water bottle to eliminate landfill waste. Did you know that if 10% of UW Faith members nationally used a reusable water bottle rather than buying water bottles, we would save at least enough energy to power an average household for 552 years? Yes, years!!!

Page left blank on purpose so you can send in the form on previous page.



Who Is Your Quiet Disciple?



At the **North District United Women in Faith's Annual Celebration on Saturday, September 20, 2025**, we honor the person(s) who are presented to the District as the Quiet Disciple from your United Women in Faith local unit. She is the person who can always be counted on to help no matter what. You will find her working faithfully and without fanfare in the local organization and church.



Local Organization: _____

Contact: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

In recognition of exemplary service to our local organization, we submit the following person to be honored at the North District UW Faith Annual Celebration.



Honoree's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Please accept the following information for our honoree (not to exceed 150 words):



(Please include 1-3 pictures of them in action.)

This is on the quiet side—their name should be a surprise until they are honored at the meeting. E-mail Diane Garner (rdgarner47@hotmail.com) with the requested information or send completed form with photos to Diane at 4817 Avedon Rd, Moorpark, CA 93021 by **September 8**.

Page left blank on purpose so you can send in the form on previous page.

Pledge to Mission: Financial Gifts Change Lives

United Women in Faith support programs in the United States and around the world that improve life for women, children and youth and their communities.

United Women in Faith assists nearly 90 organizations across the United States through grants, technical support, and member involvement. National Mission Institutions are community-based organizations and social service agencies that were almost exclusively founded by women in the 19th century to serve marginalized communities and populations across the United States. National Mission Institutions empower women, care for children, support seniors, educate youth, provide housing for domestic violence survivors, and offer residences for special needs children and youth.

United Women in Faith also supports and empowers local women in 39 countries around the globe to be leaders in the church, community, and the world. We provide academic scholarships and support Regional Missionaries—personnel serving in their home regions with church, ecumenical and grassroots partners in educational and empowerment programs for women and youth.

Thank you for your unit's participation in the Pledge to Mission next year!

Please send your form to the North District Treasurer,
Amber Hedges, 607 Foothill Blvd, #1549, Flintridge, CA 91012 by December 5
OR bring the form to the North District Annual Celebration on September 20.



United Women in Faith *2026 North District Pledge*



Church: _____

Pledge Amount: _____

President: _____

Treasurer _____

Local Organization Pledge to Mission

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Slate of Officers 2025-2026

North District United Women in Faith

Election will be held at the Annual Celebration on September 20, 2025

The following are being elected for their second 2-year term:

President:

Diane Garner

4817 Avedon Rd

Moorpark, CA 93021

Cell: (805) 795 – 0344

Email: rdgarner47@hotmail.com

Home Church: Pasadena First UMC



Program Resources Coordinator:

Marilynne K. Wilander

2018 El Sereno Ave

Arcadia, CA 90007

Cell: (626) 278 – 3314

Email: marilynnewilander@gmail.com

Home Church: Pasadena First UMC



The following are continuing their first 2-year term:

Vice President:

DeeAnna Duncans

14057 Valley Vista Blvd

Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

Cell: (214) 931- 9613

Email: deeannaduncans@gmail.com

Home Church: Sherman Oaks UMC.



Communications Coordinator:

Kim Smith

558 E. Magnolia Blvd, Apt H

Burbank, CA 91501

Cell: (218) 556-7516

Email: Rivermiss05@gmail.com

Home Church: Burbank First UMC



The following is continuing her first 3-year term:

Treasurer:

Amber Hedges

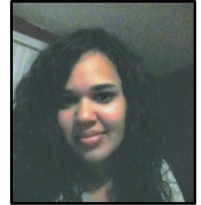
607 Foothill Blvd, #1549

Flintridge, CA 91012

Phone: (626) 310 – 0040

Email: Visionarychair@gmail.com

Home Church: Scott UMC



The following is being elected to a 2-year term:

Secretary:

Ruth Dempsey

1130 Wilson Dr.

Simi Valley, CA. 93065

Cell: (805) 501 – 5874

Email: sewinforfun@icloud.com

Home Church: Simi Valley UMC



The following are being elected for their first 2-year term:

Membership, Nurture & Outreach (MNO)

Co-Coordinators:

Debra Bates

24 Faculty Court

Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

Cell: (805) 718 – 8856

Email: debrabates1954@yahoo.com

Home Church: Camarillo UMC



Carolyn Harrington

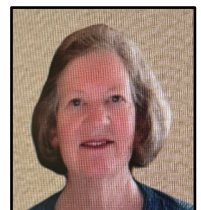
39011 Village, #39

Camarillo, CA 93012

Cell: (990) 5628049

roncarolynharrington@gmail.com

Home Church: Camarillo UMC



Committee on Nominations Member:

The Class of 2029 is being elected, while the others continue to serve according to their Class designation:

Class of 2029

Labarbara Madison

840 Neldome S

Altadena, CA 91001

Hm: (626) 296 – 3311

Cell: (626) 627 – 9788

labarbara.madison@gmail.com

Home Church: Scott UMC



Class of 2028

Rosalie Niemann

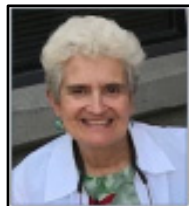
737 Earlham St

Pasadena, CA 91101

Cell: (818) 517 – 2788

Email: niemann007@sbcglobal.net

Home Church: Pasadena First UMC



Class of 2026

Lona Seymour (Chaplain)

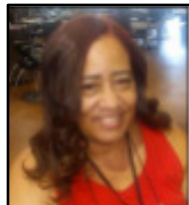
15878 Larkspur St, #D205

Sylmar, CA 91342

Cell: (818) 290 – 4771

Email: lonaseymour@gmail.com

Home Church: First UMC of Reseda



Vacant Positions:

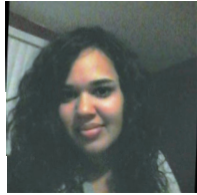
- ***Social Action Coordinator***
- ***Committee on Nominations - Chairperson***
- ***Committee on Nomination - Class of 2027***
- ***Mission Education and Interpretation Coordinator***
- ***Spiritual Growth Coordinator***
- ***Limitless Coordinator***
- ***Language Coordinators***
 - Spanish***
 - Korean***
 - Tongan***

Save the Date
53rd Cal-Pac
Annual Celebration
October 18
North Hollywood UMC

See Candle of Commitment on p. 17

Treasurer

A.S. Hedges



See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is who we are! 1 John 3:1 (NIV)

As Women in Faith and Children of God our purpose to be like-minded. My question to you is: How do we carry out the work God has given us?

I am asking each of us to earnestly pray, asking God to send us women to close the gap and show us how to become better stewards and move ahead.

As I know some have attended Mission u, we look forward to seeing more participation during our North District Annual Celebration, September 20 in Camarillo.

As we look toward the 2026 pledge commitment during this time, please remember Candle of Commitment. It's a wonderful way to honor a person or organization. The honoree(s)'

name(s) will be printed in the California-Pacific Conference Annual Celebration Booklet on October 18. (See p.17)

Remember: Our amazing creativity and talents give back a portion of what God has gifted us with the support work of United Women in Faith.

- National Mission Institutions such as David and Margaret Youth and Family Services, Neighborhood House of Calexico, Susannah Wesley Community Center and Toberman Neighborhood Center.
- Regional Missions focused on health, eliminating violence against women and training workshops.
- Scholarships to cultivate social justice.
- Advocacy for Children's rights, farm workers, and miners.
- Consecration of Deaconesses to a lifetime of service.

For more highlights, please read **response** magazine or visit uwfaith.org.

Also, review North District "From the Sierras to the Seas"

and the Cal-Pac United Women in Faith newsletter, "Pacific Waves."

Reminder: **Remittances are due by the 17th of the month.**

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Lord's Love

A.S. Hedges

visionarychair@gmail.com

Make your checks payable to: North District United Women in Faith.

Mail to: A.S. Hedges,
607 Foothill Blvd,
#1549, Flintridge,
California 91012

**~MISSION
GIVING MAKES
MISSION
POSSIBLE~**

**We serve.
We advocate.
We make a difference.**

Social Action

Labarbara J.
Madison



Greetings to all of my United Women in Faith Sisters:

There is a saying or rather a song that ends like this: “Now it's time to say goodbye to all our company.” That is not quite my feeling but it is what came to mind as I thought of ending my tenure as North District Social Action Coordinator. I am leaving my role as Social Action Coordinator, but never my dedication to eradicating injustices found around the world. So I will end this by saying, “See you real soon.”

First, I'd like to say that the fight against immigrants and deportation is real and does not make us any better. How we are presently going about it is ugly and not of God. Our country was built on a Constitution that guaranteed equal rights and due process. Many of our leaders have ignored this rule (law) and are committing all kinds of illegal actions. I'm not taking time on this subject this month, but would like to say Jesus was an immigrant and a refugee during

His early years. His story has become a powerful symbol for many people of faith, advocating for justice, compassion, and hospitality for immigrants and refugees in today's world. (Matthew 2:13-15)

Last month I spoke of the dangers of climate change. They are numerous, far-reaching, and affecting our ecosystems and endangering our health. I previously named examples of climate change, for example: global warmth, extreme weather events, rising sea levels, ecosystem destruction, threats to water and food supply and human health, and the list can go on. But let's stop and look at solutions. There are many small, everyday changes we can make as individuals. These changes can help to reduce the impact on climate change. They may seem small but collectively they can contribute to our gain against climate change impacts.

Some practical and great beginning steps:

1. **Unplug appliances** and electronics when not in use.
2. **Use smaller powered light bulbs.**
3. **Try to switch to green energy.** Try to switch to solar.

4. **Park that car.** Walk or take the bus. Try a bike (great for your health).

5. **Reduce Water Usage.** Fix leaks and take shorter showers. When rinsing fruits or vegetables do it in a container and use the water to water small plants.

6. **Minimize waste products.** Take your own bags to the store. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

7. **Take control, show up!** Get a green thumb, grow your own food. If you don't have a yard or growing space, ask your local Home Depot person how to get started.

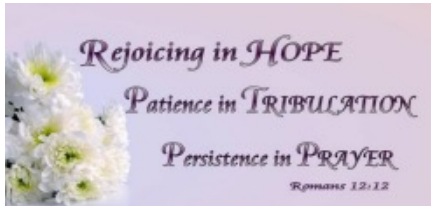
8. **Buy Less.** Stop using shopping as therapy. Try to repair or repurpose; if not, donate items to a charity.

See you soon,
Labarbara Madison
Social Action Coordinator
Labarbara.madison@gmail.com
(626) 627-9788

Through every challenge
and joy in life, God
intends to mold our
hearts to His.

Nominations

Megan Pinnock



*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.
Romans 8:28 (NIV)*

What a wonderful and faithful God we serve! His blessings continue to pour out on the North District United Women in Faith Leadership Team, equipping us to stand boldly and proclaim our shared Purpose.

As we each step out in faith to connect with our communities and share the Word of God, we are already seeing, and will continue to see, amazing things unfold. God is at work among us!

We are excitedly preparing for upcoming events such as **Mission u** and our **Annual Celebration**. God is sending women with

hearts ready to serve, lead, and carry forward the mission and purpose of United Women in Faith.

We also want to let you know about a few current opportunities to serve on the district leadership team. We are seeking women to fill the following roles:

- Committee on Nominations (CON)
- Social Action Coordinator
- Spiritual Growth Coordinator
- Mission Education and Interpretation Coordinator
- Limitless Coordinator
- Language Coordinators:
 - Korean
 - Spanish
 - Tongan

Sisters, we invite you to prayerfully consider whether God may be calling *you* to one of these important positions. If you feel led, please complete the **Gifts & Grace Form** on p. 31 of this newsletter, and submit it to the contact listed there.

May God continue to bless and guide each of you as we serve together in faith, love and purpose.

Megan Pinnock,
CON Chairperson
Cell: (626) 861-5429
megpinn@sbcglobal.net

Communications

Kim Smith



This year's Mission u was an inspiring adventure! The theme of "Practicing Hope" was explored in study sessions and the big response was to DO something. Don't just sit and become depressed!

"How does Christ teach us to embody hope when our backs are against the wall?" We explored scripture - how hope is defined, how it unites us to build and gather together more creatively. Hope asks, what is possible in these troubling times?

The Mission u book, **Practicing Hope**, by Tabitha Holley is an excellent resource to use for programs in your local unit. Explore Bible stories to find answers to all these questions and be open to the Holy Spirit's leading!

I attended a heart-wrenching breakout session on immigration issues led by Monalisa Tu'itahi, an attorney who is the Cal-Pac Conference Immigration Coordinator. She talked about what congregations can do and
Continued on p. 14

Continued from p.13

what we can personally do to promote hope - everything from writing to Congress to taking cold drinks to day laborers at Home Depot, and more. We can have hope in community with others!

View Monalisa's slide deck at calpacumc.org/immigration and talk about it in your UWFaith meeting. We CAN grow hope in these troubled times!

Kim Smith
(218)556-7516
riversmiss05@gmail.com

Program Resources

Marilynne Wilander



All of us are blessed because United Women in Faith provides so many resources to help us grow our faith and our knowledge!

response Inspires, Influences and Impacts each of us so much more when we share and discuss with other **Women in Faith**.... How do YOU use **response**? Our gals enjoy hearing a special story from **response** each meeting. As I try to inspire EACH OF YOU, I realize that a short discussion

about the story would provide additional meaning and inspire others, and perhaps even provide the inspiration for future action. At one of our next fall meetings, Pasadena FUMC United Women in Faith will share AND discuss this article from **response**:

In the July/August 2025 **response**, Deaconess Garlinda Burton's reminds us, "**The time is now, family, and I am asking: What will we do about racism right now?**" As Methodists we have a history of activism. In 1774, John Wesley's paper, "Thoughts Upon Slavery," denounced the enslavement of Africans in Europe and in the United States. Here is a list of antiracism actions to consider:

- Teach White children about Black, Indigenous, & People of Color/BIPOC including their history, culture, and experiences.
- Tell a racially bigoted person aloud that you disagree with them and tell them why. Pray with them, too.
- Vote against racism. ALWAYS!
- Join or organize a public ecumenical prayer vigil against racism.
- Challenge yourself by doing the Crossword Puzzle, "Ending Racism," based on the article.

Women in Faith Reading Program: A special shout out to

Emily Jones, our UWFaith Executive for Racial Justice who leads the Reading Program, and her fantastic team of readers who select new books each year from all five categories: **Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth**. One of our favorite Spiritual Growth books this year is Michelle Obama's book *The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times*. After reading it, I immediately suggested to my daughter-in-law that she and my two granddaughters (ages 21 and 23) read and discuss each chapter. Michelle shared how important it was when she and Barack Obama had some rough times in their marriage and they went to counseling. Michelle also shared how important her special group of friends she calls her "Kitchen Table" are to her mental and social health.

What do you think the biggest, most long-lasting problem was with her parents' marriage? Who cleaned up the dinner dishes? Which way the toilet paper would hang? Who got the final say on naming the children? The answer will be in the next newsletter, or you can enjoy reading the book and find out for yourself.

PS: Great fun to listen to Michelle read aloud on Audible!



Rosalie Niemann,
Women's
Auxiliary
Vice President



Dear women who support the
Women's Auxiliary,

I continue to marvel at the happy gathering we had on May 3 - the second annual Membership Tea. It was held in the spacious Lewis Hall of the hospital, and once again we were well fed thanks to the catering service of the hospital. Four districts were represented as we honored our local heroes who go above and beyond.

This tea also gave us the opportunity to hear from Rev. Matthew Heyn, the director of the Spiritual Care Department. Because we recognize that spiritual and mental health are as important as physical health, we support the Spiritual Care program, in a large part by the gift shop, the *Present Place*.

We encourage women, friends and family to visit the gift shop when in the area. It will be

helpful to phone ahead to make sure that the gift shop is open. More volunteers make it possible to extend the hours and the profit, so please consider contacting the volunteer department at 626-574-3646 about how to offer your time three or four times a month. Our annual membership dues (individual or group) also help us raise funds.

Finally, in the past we had more representatives on our board from each of the five districts. (We also offer long distance Zoom opportunity to join meetings.) Who from your local area might serve to represent you and help publicize the good work of USC Arcadia Hospital and the Auxiliary?

Our next General Meeting is at 10 a.m., Monday, September 22, at the hospital. We hope that you save the date for this biannual meeting that includes lunch. A virtual meeting option will be offered.

Look for more information, including Zoom information, in the next months.

Sincerely,
Rosalie Niemann,
Auxiliary Vice President
niemann007@sbcglobal.net

Mission u was Great!

By Kim Smith

A big shout out to the co-deans who ran Mission u, Barbara Miller and Theresa Ellis. Almost 100 women enjoyed Mission u this year on July 11-12 at Cal State, Long Beach. Barbara and Theresa and a small volunteer group are taking Mission u to Hawaii on July 18-19 where another 100 women are registered! The theme this year was Practicing Hope.

Through study sessions and worship services, interest groups and morning praise, women were encouraged to find hope and take action. The cafeteria provided great food and relaxed time for fellowship and meeting new sisters. Interest groups provided a choice of activities, from playing games, to making leis with candy, a short documentary film and a session on cultivating inner calm. Twenty-eight women attended the Immigration Response session with a guest speaker from Cal-Pac UMC's Immigration Task Force.

Friday night was topped off with an ice cream social on the roof garden of the dorm. All in all, the two days were packed with discovery of new hope. Looking forward to next year...

2024-2025 North District Leadership Team Members

President

Diane Garner
(805) 795-0344
rdgarner47@hotmail.com
4817 Avedon Road
Moorpark, CA 93021
Pasadena First UMC

Vice-President

DeeAnna Duncans
(214) 931-9613
deeannaduncans@gmail.com
14057 Valley Vista Blvd
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
Sherman Oaks UMC

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

Amber Hedges
607 Foothill Blvd, #1549
Flintridge, CA 91012
visionarychair@gmail.com
Scott UMC (Pasadena)

Communications

Coordinator

Kim Smith
(218) 556-7516
rivermiss05@gmail.com
558 E Magnolia Blvd, Apt H
Burbank CA 91501
Burbank First UMC

Social Action

Coordinator

Labarbara Madison
(626) 296-3311 Home
(626) 627-9788 Cell
labarbara.madison@gmail.com
840 Neldome St
Altadena, CA 91001
Scott UMC (Pasadena)

Committee on Nominations

Megan Pinnock, Chair
Cell: (626) 861-5429
megpinn@sbcglobal.net
872 E Sacramento St
Altadena, CA 91001
Scott UMC (Pasadena)

Members of Committee on

Nominations:

Rosalie Niemann
(818) 517-2788
niemann007@sbcglobal.net

Lona Seymour
(818) 290-4771
lseymour1@gmail.com

Program Resources Coordinator

Marilynne Wilander
(626) 278-3314
marilynnewilander@gmail.com
2018 El Sereno Ave
Arcadia, CA 91007
Pasadena First UMC

Candle of Commitment

The Cal-Pac United Women in Faith Candle of Commitment represents the cost of our mission work to women, children, and youth in the United States and countries around the world. The candle will burn at the Cal-Pac United Women in Faith Annual Celebration on October 18 as a way of honoring the mission-minded men and women in our life. The candle will burn for one minute for a minimum gift of \$16.56 per honoree. Gifts can be given by a local organization or an individual.

Names must be submitted by October 1.

Honoree: _____ () In Memory () In Honor

Honoree: _____ () In Memory () In Honor

Honoree: _____ () In Memory () In Honor

Person/Local Organization submitting the name:

Amount: _____

Please send this form and a check to North District Treasurer Amber Hedges, 607 Foothill Blvd, #1549, Flintridge, CA 91012. *Make check payable to North District United Women in Faith.*

*Next Newsletter
December 2025*



***Yellow: Life of Christ
Green: Sisterhood
Orange: Action
Blue: Faith***

Assembly 2026 is Coming – Will You be Ready?

Assembly will take place May 15–17, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana bringing together thousands of United Women in Faith members, leaders, and change agents for a powerful, spirit-filled gathering. Picture a weekend that uplifts your soul, strengthens your faith, and brings you together with an unstoppable sisterhood.

Assembly 2026 is our time to dream it, our time to believe it, and our time to do it. Come to this must attend event to feel closer to God, bond in sisterhood, and care for yourself. Come be inspired and equip yourself to change the world.

We're getting ready to "Dream it! Believe it! Do it!" — and we want YOU with us. Whether you've joined us before or this will be your first Assembly — now's the time to "Be Ready."
Continued on p.18

Assembly 2026 is Coming – Will You be Ready?

Assembly will take place May 15–17, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana bringing together thousands of United Women in Faith members, leaders, and change agents for a powerful, spirit-filled gathering. Picture a weekend that uplifts your soul, strengthens your faith, and brings you together with an unstoppable sisterhood.

Did You Know?

Question: What is the correct abbreviation for United Women in Faith?

The correct abbreviation is **no** abbreviation: United Women in Faith encourages the use of our **full** name in all instances. However, *if space truly is an issue*, the preferred abbreviation is **UW Faith** (as used for our website and even for our new Bluesky profile).

Thanks for your help in sharing our name and telling the world who we are: United Women in Faith!

Assembly 2026 is our time to dream it, our time to believe it, and our time to do it. Come to this must attend event to feel closer to God, bond in sisterhood, and care for yourself. Come be inspired and equip yourself to change the world.

We're getting ready to "Dream it! Believe it! Do it!" — and we want YOU with us. Whether you've joined us before or this will be your first Assembly — now's the time to "Be Ready."

Sign up now for:

- * Early event announcements.
- * First access to news leading up to registration.
- * Exciting speaker and program reveals.

https://assembly.uwfaith.org/website/82390/be-ready?utm_source=United+Women+in+Faith&utm_campaign=e7b5fe5352-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2025_03_12_03_26_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_8b2d8f0300-564013446&mc_cid=e7b5fe5352&mc_eid=d092687032

Send in Your Mission Giving

By donating to the United Women in Faith, you are not just giving money; you are investing in a legacy of compassion, justice and empowerment. Your

generosity helps build a better world for women, children and youth, reflecting the core values of faith in action. Join us in supporting this vital mission.

Our pledge to National is \$125,000. As of April 30, 2025, we have sent \$7,100 Mission money to National. We haven't reached 10% of our pledge. Let's all work as one to achieve our goal.

Freda Low, Cal-Pac United Women in Faith Treasurer

We Want to Hear

The purpose of this newsletter is to promote local unit health. Write a short article for the next issue that answers one or more of these questions:

- How have you recruited new members? (Mission today #4)
- What did you do for a program recently?
- How do you use Program Resources and the Daily Prayer Guide?
- Have you given a Gift to Mission or In Memory?
- Do you invite other United Women in Faith units to your events?
- What books do you recommend from the Reading Program?
- What is a successful fundraising idea?

The Time to Act Is Now

by **Garlinda Burton**

June 18, 2025 For Immediate
Release

<https://uwfaith.org/latest-news/2025/what-will-we-do-about-racism-garlinda-burton/>

Editor's Note: Deaconess Garlinda Burton's speech on ending institutionalized racism had a profound impact on members of the program advisory group, who heard it in person on March 8, 2025, during their meeting at Scarritt Bennett Center in Nashville, Tennessee. At the request of several United Women in Faith members and staff, we have transcribed Burton's talk with the hope that all our readers can share in the same educational opportunity it provided our program advisory group. Portions of this speech have been edited for length and for clarity in a print format.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbNj2-6lmZk>

**Also see May/June response, p.30-35.*

Another resource: see Charter for Racial Justice, p.29 in this newsletter.

UW Faith Against Ice Raids

June 23, 2025 For Immediate
Release

<https://uwfaith.org/press/2025/united-women-in-faith-speaks-against-ice-raids-militarized-federal-response-la-protests/>

NEW YORK – United Women in Faith today expressed alarm over the recent ICE raids and the current administration's response to pro-immigrant protests in Los Angeles. It released the following statement, which can be attributed to Sally Vonner, General Secretary and CEO:

“United Women in Faith is firmly opposed to the recent deployment of National Guard troops and Marines against pro-immigrant protestors in California. The federal government is taking extreme, militarized action against civilian protestors on its own soil, rather than addressing the underlying issue: the inhumane cruelty of our immigration system.

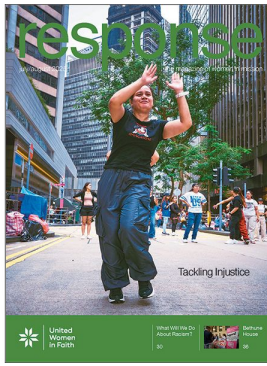
“Protestors in Los Angeles are expressing understandable outrage at recent ICE raids and the resulting suffering in their communities. Families are being separated. Children are being deported to countries that they have no memory of. Rightly,

people are raising their voices and protesting these harms. Immigrant communities and their allies, in Los Angeles and across this nation, are crying out for justice. They are being met with pepper spray, tear gas, and rubber bullets – but no justice.

“Immigrants are a vital part of our communities, in Los Angeles, and all across the United States of America. As women of faith, we know that the love of the Lord does not stop at any border; God's justice is not limited to those with a certain legal status, and we are all neighbors in the eyes of God. As it says in Exodus 23:9, “Don't oppress an immigrant. You know what it's like to be an immigrant, because you were immigrants in the land of Egypt.”

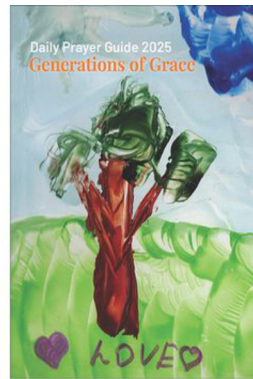
“As such, we must treat each other with dignity and respect. We must stop escalating violence and stop criminalizing communities of color. Instead, with God's help, we must seek the peace that comes with true justice.

“May the voices speaking out for immigrants be heard and heeded, in Los Angeles and around the nation, this week and always.”



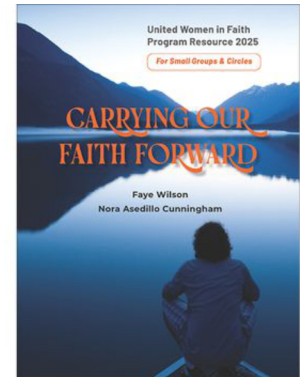
response is the award-winning, official magazine of United Women in Faith. We explore spiritual growth and living our faith, and report on our local, national and international work.

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine/>



Order your 2025 Daily Prayer Guide now: GC2025

<https://uwfaithresources.org/prodDetail.cfm?productID=11779&catid=2186>



Order your 2025 Program Resource book now: M3386

<https://uwfaithresources.org/prodDetail.cfm?productID=11780&catid=2175>



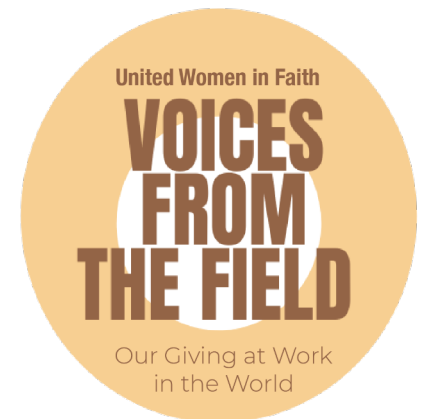
Join us for conversations with United Women in Faith, hosted by Jennifer R. Farmer. “Each month, the podcast explores timely themes and resources, from expert insights on ways to live your faith to inspiring interviews with spiritual leaders.”

Visit our [Calendar of Events](#), p. 29, response, May /June 2025



Tune in to audio versions of some of the top articles from each issue of **response** magazine, the award-winning official magazine of United Women in Faith. Topics cover everything from spiritual growth and living our faith to reports on local, national and international work. Visit:

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>



“Come learn about the national and international initiatives that benefit from Mission Giving, directly through the voices from the field. In this interactive format, you’ll hear first-hand from program leaders about their work, daily challenges, hopes and dreams.”

Visit [Calendar of Events](#).

p. 29, response, May /June 2025

Forms Section for your unit's use: pages 23-32

How to use fillable forms:

If you have the free Adobe Acrobat Reader, use the tools to add your information.

Email the form to the address given or print out the completed page and photograph/scan to send it by email.

For print versions, fill out the form, then mail it to the address given.

FORMS Table of Contents

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Mission u, July 12, 2025

California Sstate University, Long Beach

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READING PROGRAM

Reporting Form

Formulario de Información del Programa de Lectura

독서 프로그램독서 프로그램



PLAN I

- 5 books each year.
- 1 book from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN II

- 10 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN III

- 15 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 5 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

PLAN IV

- 20 books each year.
- 2 books from each category.
- PLUS 10 additional books from any category.
- Selections from the current reading lists if not included in previous reports.
- Regular reading of **response** magazine.

Books can be purchased directly from the retailer of your choice or borrowed from your local public library.

For books on previous reading lists, go to:
unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram

REPORT OF COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

NAME:

PLAN CHOSEN: I II III IV

CURRENT YEAR:

MISSION EMPHASES	Education for Mission
	Leadership Development
	Nurturing for Community
	Social Action
	Spiritual Growth

I have completed the required reading for PLAN _____. The books I have read are listed on this form.

LOCAL UNIT

DISTRICT

CONFERENCE

PRINT NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

I have also read response regularly.

response	Checkoff	the	issues	you	have	read!



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH
COMBINED ATTACHMENTS
 FOR LOCAL TREASURERS

Local Unit: _____ Remittance: _____
 District: North Date: _____
 Conference: California- Pacific Period From: _____ To: _____

Local: Submit with Remittance & OR Methodistrict treasurer. May use individual forms instead.

SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION (SMR) ORDERS			
PIN TYPE OR DONATION	HONOREE NAME (IF KNOWN)	GIVEN BY (IF NOT YOUR UNIT)	\$ SMR
Total Special Mission Recognition (enter on Remittance & ORM)			\$

PIN TYPES: \$40 Gold pin, \$60 Sapphire, \$100 Pearl, \$200 Emerald, \$500 Ruby, \$1,000 Diamond, \$2,000 2 Diamonds.
 Please note whether you are purchasing the Cross Pin or Logo pin.
 Pins will be sent to Treasurer listed at bottom.

GIFT TO MISSION (GTM) ORDERS			Donate \$5 or more per card on Remittance Form when ordered.		
TYPE OF CARD	# CARDS	or # PACKS	TYPE OF CARD	# CARDS	or # PACKS
Peace M7078 (10)			Thank You M7079 (10)		
In the Service of Christ M7077 (10)			Encouragement M7071 (10)		
Thinking of You M7080 (10)			Happy Birthday M7076 (10)		
			Christmas M7070 (10)		

Will pick up from district treasurer? YES NO - Please email. If mailed, cards will be sent to treasurer listed at bottom.

GIFT IN MEMORY (GIM) ORDERS			Donate \$5 or more per card on Remittance Form when ordered.		
TYPE OF CARD	# CARDS	or # PACKS	TYPE OF CARD	# CARDS	or # PACKS
GIM - In Loving Memory M7068 (5/10)			GIM - Thoughts and Prayers M7069 (5/10)		

Will pick up from district treasurer? YES NO - Please email. If mailed, cards will be sent to treasurer listed at bottom.

DESIGNATED GIFTS DETAILS	\$ Donation
United Women in Faith Project Names Codes (list below):	
Total Additional Designated Gifts (enter on Remittance Form)	\$

Prepared by: _____, Treasurer
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Email: _____

Submit to: _____
 A.S Hedges
 607 Foothill Boulevard, #1549, Flintridge, California 91012

(Keep a copy of submitted forms for your financial records.)



To become a Mission Today Local Organization, the Local Organization (LO) must meet EIGHT (8) of the following criteria, including a minimum of FOUR (4) of those marked with an Asterisk (*). Return To: Diane Garner, : rdgarner47@hotmail.com, 4817 Avedon Road, Moorpark, CA 93021

District Mission Education and Interpretation Coordinator's Name _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Local Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

E-mail / Phone: _____

C R I T E R I A

- ___ 1. * Use the Prayer Guide at EACH general meeting of the LO to pray for persons in mission & for our mission work with women, children, & youth.
- ___ 2. * The LO will lead their members in the United Women in Faith Purpose EACH meeting.
- ___ 3. * The LO will make and meet its pledge to mission.
- ___ 4. * The LO will add at least TWO members to its roll.
- ___ 5. * The LO will have at least TWO members subscribing to response magazine. (Order from the Mission Resource Center)
- ___ 6. * The LO will use TWO programs from the Program Book each year.
- ___ 7. * At least ONE member of the LO other than a Conf. or Dist. officer took Mission u Study in person or virtual class.
- ___ 8. The LO will ADD or ENCOURAGE their LO's Young Women's or Youth Circle.
- ___ 9. The LO will ADD or ENCOURAGE their LO's Language Group Circle.
- ___ 10. At least TWO members of the LO other than a Conf. or Dist. Officer attended the District or Conference Annual Celebration, in-person or virtually.
- ___ 11. At least TWO members of the LO attended any Young Women's Event in the Cal-Pac Conference, in person or virtually.

12. Members shall write to FIVE persons listed in the Prayer Guide at least once a year.
13. The LO will BE a Five Star LO, contributing to ALL FIVE channels of Mission Giving.
14. Each LO, circle, or subgroup will INCLUDE a mission moment where an article from Response magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
15. Have at least TWO persons from the LO, circle, or subgroup complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on at least ONE of the books read.
16. The LO invited a District or Conference officer, other than a member of the LO, to ONE of the LO meetings during the year.

Other Mission Work:

**Cal-Pac Conference United Women in Faith
CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE CRITERIA**



In order for a local organization (LO) to become a member of the Charter for Racial Justice Club, the local organization must:

1. Meet the required activity marked with an Asterisk (*)
2. Complete at least one activity from each of the three sections
3. Return completed criteria form to your District Social Action Coordinator no later than December 15.

District Social Action Coordinator's Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Local Organization Name: _____

Contact Person's Name: _____

E-mail/Phone: _____

- ___ * Devote a meeting to studying and discussing the Charter for Racial Justice.
Supply each member with a copy of the Charter for Racial Justice.

UNIT PROGRAM (complete at least one)

- ___ 1. Hold a group study or present a program on "The History of UWFaith on Racial Issues"
- ___ 2. Establish a workshop to study, understand and appreciate the historical and cultural contribution of each race to the church and community
- ___ 3. Share and discuss an article from *response* magazine relating to racism
- ___ 4. Be creative and develop a Racial Justice learning experience for your Local Organization

ENRICHMENT (complete at least one)

- ___ 1. Hold a small group study of a book on racial justice from the Reading Resource Program and discuss using these three questions: Who is being exploited? Who benefits from the exploitation? What are we going to do about it ?
- ___ 2. Have at least one member attend a webinar or event on Racial Justice and report back to the Local Organization
- ___ 3. Study a particular issue relating to the Charter for Racial Justice i.e.: racism, immigration rights, voting rights, racial/ethnic profiling
- ___ 4. Develop an enrichment activity of your own related to Racial Justice

ACTION (complete at least one)

- ___ 1. Gather and share with Local Organization (or Sunday school class or church members) information on local school system regarding ethnic makeup, suspension rate by ethnicity, graduation rate by ethnicity.
- ___ 2. Research current legislation on racial issues and present information as a program or in a church newsletter.
- ___ 3. Research what organizations in your community are working to uncover, challenge and transform racism in local systems and institutions. Discuss how you might be a partner and/or support this work.
- ___ 4. Develop a Racial Justice action of your own choosing for your local organization or church.

RESOURCES The following resources may be obtained at UWFaith.org,

- Books from UWFaith Reading Program
- Reading *response* magazine
- Racial Justice Timeline
- History of Racial Justice

Local Organization Roster for United Women of Faith Year: _____ District: North

Church Name and Address: _____

	Name	Address	Phone (C/H)	Email
President				
Vice President				
Secretary				
Treasurer				
Chair Committee on Nominations				
Spiritual Growth Coord.				
Mission Education & Interp. Coord.				
Social Action Coordinator				
Membership, Nurture, Outreach Coordinator				
Program Resources Coordinator				
Communication Coordinator				

Send completed form to Diane Garner, 4817 Avedon Road, Moorpark, CA 93021 by January 15, 2026



United Women in Faith

Gifts & Graces Inventory Potential Leaders Information Form (to be completed by potential leader)

Type or Print: (Add additional sheets as necessary)

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (hm/cell) _____ (wk) _____ Email: _____

Member of Local Church: _____ District: _____

Age: 20's ___ 30's ___ 40's ___ 50's ___ 60's ___ 70's ___ 80's ___

Languages Spoken: _____ Racial/Ethnic Group: _____

Employed: No ___ Part Time ___ Full Time ___

Professional skills, job experience _____

Office(s) held in United Women in Faith:

	<u>Office</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>
Local	_____	_____
	_____	_____
District	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Conference	_____	_____
	_____	_____
Jurisdiction	_____	_____

Additional experience on the local, district, conference or general church level (other than United Women in Faith), or in the community:

How will your spiritual journey strengthen your commitment to serve on the North District Leadership Team?

September 2025

*Return to: Megan Pinnock - District Committee on Nominations
Email: Megpinn@sbeglobal.net
872 E. Sacramento Street, Altadena, CA 91001*

Subscriptions



United
Women
in Faith

North District Newsletter

From the Sierras to the Seas newsletter is for the North District United Women in Faith and is free with an email subscription. Email your name, telephone number, church and district to calpacnorthdistrictumw@gmail.com

Cost for a mailed subscription is \$15.00 **yearly** (4 issues). Make your check payable to North District UWFaith and send it to the District Treasurer, A. J. Hedges, 607 Foothill Blvd, #1549, Flintridge, CA 91012. Also, send in the form below. Please print clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Pacific Waves Newsletter

Pacific Waves is the newsletter for Cal-Pac United Women in Faith and is **free** with an **email subscription**. Email your name, telephone number, church and district to calpacuwfcommunications@gmail.com

Cost for a mailed subscription is \$15.00 **yearly** (4 issues). Make your check payable to Cal-Pac UWFaith and send it to the Conference Treasurer, Freda Low, 8437 Village Ln, Rosemead, CA 91770. Also, send in the form below. Please print clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____