



United
Women
in Faith

Timely Reflections

November 2024

INLAND MISSIONAL DISTRICT

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

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WEBSITES: uwfaith.org

pnwumc.org/uwfaith



THE PURPOSE

United Women in Faith seeks 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

CALENDAR 2025

February 1 IMD Exec mtg Zoom

February 7 Newsletter deadline

May 3 IMD Exec Mtg location TBD

May 9 Newsletter deadline

July 24-26 Mission U in Yakima

August 2 IMD Exec mtg location TBD

August 8 Newsletter deadline

September 20 IMD Annual Gathering

October 17-18 PNW Annual Meeting

Bothell, WA

November 7 Newsletter deadline

November 8 IMD Exec Mtg Zoom

Mission U 2025 July 24-26 in Yakima

Theme is :

"Hope as Resurrection People"

UWF National Assembly in

Indianapolis, IN May 15-17, 2026

The Scoop

I love Fall! We get to spend time with one another at annual gatherings as we plan our upcoming year. Our new team of Inland Missional District leaders are so pleased to get started. Our district has already made a real impact in so many ways. Did you know that more than \$20,000 is CONTRIBUTED toward local, state/region and national programs through United Women in Faith- just from our district? In addition to our giving Pledge to Mission, we STUDIED about God's intention for us to help others in places like Mission U. We LEARNED through reading programs about racial justice, social equity, community building, spiritual growth and nurturing, and environmental justice topics among others. We PARTICIPATED in recycling and environmental projects, we FOSTERED CONNECTIONS in our local circles, and we CREATED and GIFTED tangible evidence of our love and prayers for others in the form of prayer shawls and blankets. We SERVED others through volunteering outside our church walls, and we PROVIDED food for those who are hungry in our community. We HELPED single mothers in their efforts to gain valuable life skills and PROMOTED community and connection with them. All these impacts *and more* are occurring *just within our own district*. Imagine what kind of exponential impact your pledge to mission is having in our conference, jurisdiction, nation, and world. We have much to celebrate and much still to do.

Thirty-three of us attended our first Soul Care Retreat in Clarkston, WA on August 17th. This was an amazing event, and we thank Tana Truscott and Kathy Johnson and several additional helpers who made it such a meaningful experience of serenity, self-care, introspection, gentle movement, and great food for all. Many thanks as well to our outgoing District leadership team and our volunteers from Audubon Park and Community who helped with our September Annual Gathering. Roughly 32 women attended as we learned about food insecurity in our District from our guest panel, celebrated accomplishments of our individual units, honored the lives of sisters who were lost in the past year, voted in our new leadership team, and said a special and well-earned "Thank you" to all our outgoing leadership team members. Kudos as well to all for a wonderful OCT Annual Gathering for our entire PNW conference in Spokane Valley with our guest speaker, author Sue Magrath. We are blessed with so many opportunities to connect in fellowship and purpose through United Women in Faith. I hope you all have a meaningful Thanksgiving and Advent/Christmas Season!

-Robin Gregory, President, Inland Missional District, United Women in Faith

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Program Resources to Build and Invite Fellowship

Tana Truscott, Program Resource Officer

First I want to thank all the units who sent in their book totals. We should be very proud of our district for a record number of books (343) completed in 2024. Congratulations again to Rockford and Clarkston units for earning a cash incentive of \$15 to hopefully inspire those units in their reading endeavors.

I hope your units have been using the Program Resource book, Food, Faith, and Fellowship by Joyce del Rosario. The program for **November** is “Favorite Dish Potluck and World Thank Offering”. The World Thank Offering was inspired by Mr. H.E. Taylor, Lansing District President of the Michigan Conference in 1881. Read about her experience of giving a \$5 gold piece from the sale of dried apples. This giving by one single woman was later spread from the Lansing District to become one of the five channels of undesignated Mission Giving of UWif. Also take a look at the **December** program called “Co-Creating”. Your units may have a special party or a musical program at Christmas time. Using this theme, you may want to share one item you have created, such as a simple bread recipe, a poem, a favorite scripture, etc.

Have your units ordered the 2025 Bundle “**Practicing Hope**”, (Adult Curriculum) by Tabatha Holley, which also includes the Prayer Guide, and the program resource guide for circles, “**Carrying our Faith Forward**”, by Faye Wilson and Nora Asodillo. There is an early bird special for the first 2,000 subscribers by November 30 and shipping begins in December. Go to uwfaith.org/resources/ to find all their information on podcasts, response magazine, the Reading Program titles for 2025, prayer guide, and mission u curricula. I am looking forward to inspired reading in 2025- join me!

Wrap up for District Annual Meeting!

I wish to give a huge thank you to all who had a hand in helping to make our 2024 Annual Meeting such a success. We had 32 attendees and four guests present. We also collected a total of \$738 which was divided evenly between The Audubon Park Food Bank and Pledge to Missions. One omission from the program was the total minutes and amount gathered from the Mission Magic Candle: the candle burned for 12.15 minutes and the units raised \$437.32 total. Thank you, ladies! Every penny counts! We had great positive feedback from the surveys as well. I appreciate all of you that took the time to fill them out and turn them in. I am already looking forward to working on next year’s meeting and starting to brainstorm ideas so I hope even more of you will set aside time for the District Annual Meeting in September 2025!!

In addition, if there are any unit Vice Presidents that are new to their office for 2025, please let me know how I can help with your programming concerns. Please reach out and I’ll help you make a plan for the upcoming year.

Melissa Jaquette,
Inland Missional District
UWF Vice President

SECRETARY

Attention Unit Presidents and Secretaries:

It's that time of year again! Please send your new officer list for the 2025 Inland Missional District Directory to me by DECEMBER 1st. In addition, we need to know the number of members in your unit, the day and time of your meetings, plus the name of your pastor with his/her contact information. This information is vital to maintain contact with your unit. I truly appreciate your speedy help in this endeavor!

Susan Henderson

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Nomination Committee

This year starts with an all new team. Linda Hansen is chair of nominations with Gerrie Van Voorhis from Community UWF and Andrea Henderson from Spokane Valley UWF. We are also fortunate to have a full slate of officers, except we need two more members on the Nomination Committee. Ideally these two member will come from the southern regions and the northern regions of our district. I have talked with members from both areas to get suggestions. I am awaiting for answers.

Linda Hansen

tweetiword@yahoo.com

The Micah 6:8 Pledge

We invite you to join in our [Micah 6:8 pledge](#). Through each election cycle the call of our faith endures. We anchor ourselves in the call to remember what the Lord requires of us: "to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with the Lord your God."

United Women in Faith will stand with its members, offering strategies for how women of faith can continue to advocate to achieve our shared goals and build a safe and whole world in which all can know God's freedom and love. Visit <https://uwfaith.org/press/2024/united-women-in-faith-statement-2024-presidential-election/> to view this statement on the UWIF website.

Presidential administrations, Congress and elected officials, come and go, but the call of our faith endures. We can't know what the next four years will bring, but we can be intentional about our own commitments.

As a member/friend of United Women in Faith, I make a public commitment today:

1. **To do justice**, working together towards a long-term vision of racial justice, climate justice and gender justice, putting one foot in front of the other even when it's an uphill climb.
2. **To love kindness**, remembering that all people are beloved by God, created with inherent dignity, and worthy of respect and kindness, even if they do not share my same thoughts or beliefs.

To walk humbly with our God, in prayer and action, trusting that while I may not know the path ahead, God has promised us a future with hope, and God does not disappoint.



2024 Inland District President, Judy Dirks, led at Annual Meeting held at Audubon United Church in Spokane. We thank Judy and those who served as officers this year. They have inspired and faithfully served in their positions. For this we are all grateful and say thank you. May God bless each and everyone of you.

INLAND DISTRICT OFFICERS 2024-2025 NEWLY INSTALLED



Tana Truscott, Charlene Mullis, Linda Hansen, Patsy Charlton, Andrea Henderson, Roberta Headley, Kathy Johnson, **Back row** Susan Henderson, Gerrie Van Voorhis, Robin Gregory, Suzanne Zabriskie, Melissa Jacquette

Guest Panel for Annual Meeting

Kathy Hedgcock—Second Harvest

David Stone—Partners INW

Karen Peacock—Audubon Park Food Bank

Karen Peacock Tour Guide



Audubon Park UMC

Food Bank Tour

This church has been distributing food to the neighborhood for the past 40 years. That outreach continues today



Inspire
Influence
Impact
Inform
Achieve



Cast Your Nets on the Other Side

Kathy Johnson

In two scripture accounts – one in Luke, one in John – Jesus told the disciples, after they had not caught any fish, to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. In each account there was an abundant catch. Was this just good advice from a friend, or an invitation to take a different approach and change their way of thinking?

Is it time for taking a different approach with United Women in Faith activities/participation? Have you found your nets coming up empty? Your creativity and efforts stymied? Sisters in faith, there is a treasure trove of information at our fingertips in the UWIF digital space. It is a different approach.

You may have heard conference officers speaking about the “mighty network” that serves to support our digital space. I invite all to get started gaining/sharing within the digital UWIF community. The following link <https://uwfaith.mn.co/posts/how-to-use-united-women-in-faith-digital> goes to a descriptive, getting started section. There are many more helpful sections, as well as facilitators to assist. This space is an easy access point for podcasts and webinars – **Faith Talks, Voices from the Field, Just Energy for All**. You may also choose to join groups of interest such as *Reading Enthusiasts* or *Soul Care*.

Personally I am excited about the newest **Learning@UWFaith** section that includes online courses categorized by Inspire, Influence, Impact, Inform and Achieve. God always has a way for us though it may involve casting our nets on the other side.

PNW CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH OFFICERS 2024-2025



Roberta Headley, Estella Wallace, Janet Crouse, Marsha Aufenkamp, Gail Simpson,
Deb Avery, Chidi Okoros, Jenny Bygland, Marilyn Reid

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