



# New Beginnings

## 2022 Annual Report



United  
Women  
in Faith

## SCHOLARSHIPS

- **192** students in the United States and around the world, totaling over **\$410,000**.

## GRANTS

- **\$61,750** in grants supported five partner organizations that provided relief in Ukraine and to Ukrainian refugees in the Republic of Georgia.
- **61** grants were provided to international mission organizations, totaling over **\$700,000**.
- **151** grants were provided to NMIs and other organizations in the United States, totaling over **2.7 million**.

## NATIONAL MISSION INSTITUTIONS

- More than **480,000** meals were provided by our National Mission Institutions.
- More than **175,000** individuals received immigration services.
- More than **20,000** children and youth were served in after-school programs and more than **112,000** individuals were offered health services.

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT DAYS (LDD)

- **237** leaders from **51** conferences attended LDD, held at Assembly in Orlando, Florida.

## INTERRUPTING THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

- Assembly participants sent **767** postcards to **298** members of Congress in support of key bills: Ending PUSHOUT Act, Counseling Not Criminalization in Schools Act, and Protecting Our Students in Schools Act.
- About **200** people attended each online learning event on the school-to-prison pipeline and racial justice.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

- **21,890** women and their families in Africa, Asia, and Latin America received support through training, seed funding, and skills development programs.
- **718** children, youth, and women in the Philippines, Nepal, Indonesia, and Myanmar were served in 2022 through targeted programs.
- **50** women in Sierra Leone directly involved in soap-making participated in a training of trainers workshop and later trained **40** additional women.

## JUST ENERGY FOR ALL CAMPAIGN

- Together, we took **7,748** legislative actions for climate justice online.
- We held more than **50** different climate and environmental justice events.

## LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND

- United Women in Faith members and friends have made over **10,000** donations and pledges totaling more than \$15 million to the Legacy Endowment Fund since 2014.

## ASSEMBLY

- More than **3,000** gathered in Orlando, Florida, and online for United Women in Faith's Assembly 2022, held May 20-22 at the Orange County Convention Center.
- **24** countries and all **50** states were represented at the event.
- **60** deaconesses and home missionaries were consecrated during Assembly, the largest consecration in our history.

## VOICES FROM THE FIELD

- **Six** Voices From the Field events, featured leaders sharing their work and life stories. This quarterly conversation series highlights initiatives supported by Mission Giving that improve the lives of women, children, and youth in the world. Two additional events on Ukraine reported live from war zones.



## United Women in Faith • 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

*“We seek 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.”*

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# United Women in Faith

## A NEW BEGINNING



In 2022, we marked our new bold journey of sisterhood by taking on a new name, a new mission statement, and new pathways for membership. As we continue to live into the new realities of our increasingly polarized pandemic-changed church and world that have transformed how we express community and care for one another, we knew the time had come to redefine ourselves as an organization. Our new name, United Women in Faith, reflects our expanded vision, renewed sense of purpose, and commitment to exemplify God's love in action by acting boldly for justice and transforming communities.

Over the past two quadrennia, the United Methodist Women's Board of Directors d/b/a United Women in Faith, with input from the Program Advisory Group, has guided the organization's rebranding work, program innovations, and new initiatives.

A committee of these leaders created a **new mission statement** for our organization: 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.

"I'm confident our members will be excited about these changes, said Board President 'Ainise 'Isama'u. "Together, we are creating more opportunities for engagement with more women through new programs and updates of long-standing programs that embody our core values. Things change. People change. But God remains, and that continues to be the purpose behind everything that we do in this organization."

Read on to see how your Mission Giving, gifts of time, service, and resources are making an impact in the lives of women, children, and youth and how this is, indeed, changing our world.





## General Secretary's Report



### NEW BEGINNINGS

*“Now is our chance to live the vision to make an impact, to build the sisterhood, to be change-makers in a change-making organization”*

**Harriett Jane Olson**

**In 2022 was a remarkable year for United Methodist Women**, now United Women in Faith! It was a time for new beginnings as years of research, planning, and testing culminated in the launch of our new brand with a new “doing business as” name, a new look, and new and revised programming. We continue to take advantage of what we have learned about online programming and have expanded our presence through podcasts and webinars, and we are piloting interactive programming and support on the Mighty Networks platform.

After such a long time of isolation, seeing so many members and friends at our successful Assembly in Florida was wonderful. There, we learned together about how the new brand responds to what women told us in our research and how to be part of “living the brand” every day. United Women in Faith can be a place of sisterhood and spiritual growth for women and a place to learn and combine our energies to make a difference in the world. It’s a great time to connect to new women in United Methodist congregations and women in our communities who want to find a place to belong, grow, serve, and advocate.

2022 was also a year of transition for me, as I announced my intention to retire in 2023 and have a new beginning myself. It has been a privilege to be part of this organization in this seminal period as we moved into an independent position within The United Methodist Church, reconnected with some of our historic work, celebrated 150 years of service, and launched our new brand. In this time of change, we have cast a vision for who we are and how we want to engage with new people and with the issues of our time. For us, this is what it means to be Wesleyan and Methodist as we welcome all women who share these aspirations.

I’m grateful for all I’ve learned as my journey has taken me to United Women in Faith and I look forward to the ways that God will continue to call United Women in Faith forward toward being and helping to create beloved community in the world.

**Harriett Jane Olson**

General Secretary and CEO, United Women in Faith

## President's Reflection



### INNOVATION IN A POLARIZED WORLD

“United Women in Faith continues to be the kind of place where women around the world speak up, address challenges, and inspire others to join”

‘Anise ‘Isama’u

**What a year 2022 was!** As we continued along our transitional journey, I couldn’t help but think about our United Women in Faith history and our structural changes along the way. United Women in Faith has demonstrated innovation in every generation. The original members and societies that came together to form United Women in Faith are all part of an ongoing process that calls us to live as disciples, work alongside our God who dwells with us and responds to the needs of women, children, and youth. We are still innovating.

As a sisterhood of faith, we bring our perspective to the leadership of women and the needs of women. We continue to shape our structures to provide the framework that supports spiritual and leadership development, mission, education, service, and advocacy for justice. We continue to embark on our journey, responding to a changing landscape in church and society. Our sisterhood is inclusive of women of all ethnicities, social statuses, and walks of life who have chosen to be followers of Jesus.

When we consider the realities of today’s world—war, mass shootings, police brutality, hate crimes, racism, conflicts in church—we must ask ourselves: How different is this age of anxiety than it was for our foremothers? They, too, worked through pivotal cultural, religious, political, and economic moments and movements. They prayed. They studied. They listened. They took risks. They persisted. They innovated.

Let’s continue innovating. Let’s continue inviting. Let’s continue empowering the next generation to participate with us. Let’s continue united in faith despite this polarized world and a divided denomination because this is what we are called to do. We are still inspiring, influencing, and impacting the world.

We stand with our current membership, supported by our foremothers. United Women in Faith continues to be the kind of place where women around the world speak up, address challenges, and inspire others to join.

So, I say to you my sisters in Christ, let’s stand together to continue to put love into action. Let’s continue to be innovators, visioning the future through a mission lens of justice by connecting with women around the world, over the internet, and in person.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anise'.

‘Anise ‘Isama’u, President  
Board of Directors, United Women in Faith



# INSPIRE

“United Women in Faith is at our heart and soul, a faith-driven organization. Our beliefs bring us together. Our spirituality pushes us to do more.”

## The Power of Inspiration

- **80–200** women participate in monthly community gatherings online.
- **4,819** people attended conference Mission u events with **280** leaders for adults, children, and youth to study what it means to be community, based on Luke 13.
- More than **2,000** people attended Assembly in person and more than **1,000** joined online.
- **7,000** print Program Resources sold with more than **1,000** downloaded for digital use.
- Nearly **47,000** *Faith Talks* podcast downloads since it began airing in late 2019.

# Inspire

*“Faith is our oxygen. This is how we tap into God’s abundant love, which gives us the power to do more”*

—Louise Niemann

United Women in Faith Board of Directors

## Community Gatherings

With United Women in Faith Digital, we have no boundaries! Monthly community gatherings on the platform have 80–200 women in regular attendance. Together, participants engage with the Program Resource by experiencing the following month’s program with the author. We experience soul care together, connect with sisters across the country, and use this online community to network with one another. Women gather from all over to experience and explore the Program Resource online.

*“The connection to so many others from all over the country. Yes, sisterhood, definitely. I don’t get it anywhere like I get it here.”*

—Bea Gilmore,

NCC Conference on how she feels connected through the monthly online community gatherings



Watch the Video

## Soul Care

The Soul Care program continues to grow. Nine Soul Care Advocates from all five jurisdiction were trained in 2022 on how to host and support Soul Care events. They will support members in hosting their own retreats. In all, 161 people have taken the Introduction to Soul Care Retreats online course available through Bridge. In 2023, we plan to produce a Soul Care Retreat Manual to make this resource even more accessible.



**176 units plan to host a Soul Care Retreat in 2023.**



## Soul Care in Florida

A full house of 100 women attended the first Soul Care Retreat of the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. The event was held on July 30, 2022, and hosted by the Gulf Central District of United Women in Faith. As participants arrived, they received a bingo card to encourage them to mingle and get to know each other.

The theme was Fill My Cup, Lord. Participants received a cup to fill with items that fit each activity. After dissolving their cares, participants wrote what they were grateful for on a paper in their prayer box.

The Rev. Vicki Harrison, senior pastor from New Hope UMC in Brandon, led the morning session. She asked the question: How is it with your soul? Using a teacup as an example, she asked participants if they dipped into their faith or steeped in it.

She reminded attendees to abide in Jesus and led in the exercise of P.R.A.Y.: P-pause, R-rejoice, A-ask, and Y-yield.

Medical Fitness Specialist/Athletic Trainer Tara Kaddoura led the group in some stretching and other exercises, and Lyn Sears led attendees in songs, "Fill My Cup Lord" and "Be Thou My Vision."

The afternoon session focused on senses and Scripture, such as touch: Jesus healed a woman who touched his garment. How has Jesus touched us? How can we touch others?

The day concluded with the song "Thrive" by Casting Crowns. It reminded everyone to dig deep into our faith and reach out to help others.

From [The Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church](#).



The Rev. Vicki Harrison

## Mission u

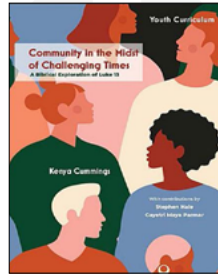
In 2022, we used new transformative biblical curricula that focused on Luke 13 and Jesus' teachings about what it means to be community. Some 4,819 people attended conference Mission u gatherings in 2022, led by 280 study leaders and 111 deans. Worship during the Mission u events was created and led by the Rev. Linda Furtado who designed the inspirational and transformative opening and closing worship plenaries and an intergenerational plenary "fishbowl" exercise where all present could participate in learning and applying the themes of Mission u together.





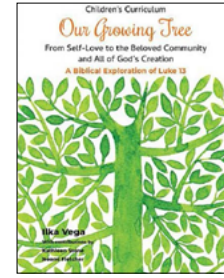
### **Who Can We Be Together?**

by Candace Simpson  
(Adult Curriculum)



### **Community in the Midst of Challenging Times**

by Kenya Cummings  
(Youth Curriculum)



### **Our Growing Tree**

by Ilka Vega  
(Children's Curriculum)

Mission u leaders were equipped with downloadable resources such as leader and participant scripts, PowerPoint presentations, and video recordings of all worship components to make each Mission u accessible for all.

The curricula were used in creative and inspiring ways such as at Shenandoah University, which adapted the curricula for a one-day event for high schoolers. The Pacific Northwest Christmas Institute, an ethnically relevant ministry supported by the conference, adapted the youth curriculum for the Bible studies that took place during the three-day youth retreat.

## **Arkansas Mission u Gives Back**

The 2022 Arkansas Mission u used their time together to not only learn about *community*, but also to *be community*. The Arkansas United Women in Faith collected necessities for the Arkansas children and families being cared for by Methodist Family Health, and then the children and teens in attendance helped sort, pack and load these items for their collections closet in Little Rock.

Methodist Family Health gives their thanks: "Every one of these gifts will help an Arkansan in our care realize their value in our community. Thank you all for your generosity, kindness, and assistance!"



Watch the Video



## Program Resource

The 2022 Program Resource, *Mosaic of Faith*, was made available online through Mighty Networks again this year. The programs are grounded in Mark 8:27–30 as an invitation to reclaim and explore our identity as children of God and as a community of women of faith. The resource was used for in-person as well as online community gatherings to preview the upcoming program with the Program Resource author. Women also find new ways to adapt and use Program Resource materials to further inspire faith and action.



*“Our district is having a spiritual retreat in March, and I am going to use this month's session for the retreat because I really love it.”*

—Alicia Almanza Leyva

## Daily Prayer Guide



In 2022, what was traditionally known as the Daily Prayer Calendar was revised to become the Daily Prayer Guide to reflect its devotional features. Surveys indicated that there is less desire to use this annual resource as a calendar or appointment book and more to use it as a tool for reflection and connection.

This new devotional resource provides daily prayers and reflections that testify to the impact of United Women in Faith and Global Ministries' outreach in the world and how those who serve encounter God and find joy through their work and calling.

## Reading Program

In 2022 The Reading Program continued its tradition of offering books to challenge people of all ages in the areas of education for mission, leadership development,



nurturing for community, social action, and spiritual growth. By participating in the Reading Program, women can deepen their understanding of these important issues and connect with a community that shares their passion for social justice and spiritual growth.



Participation in the Reading Program is best done in community. You can share the program with others to join you and connect with local and district groups to discuss and process what you are learning together. Mostly, use what you are learning through the



program to inform your personal spiritual growth and your actions in the wider world, through advocacy and making changes both locally and globally.

► [Get the 2023 Reading Program Catalog.](#)

In 2022, the Reading Program offered three live virtual Zoom events, including an author talk with Sarah Augustine (*The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery*) and facilitated small group book discussions on both *The Time Is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage* by Joan Chittister and *She Came to Slay: The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar.

## Faith Talks

*Faith Talks* are monthly conversations with United Women in Faith exploring themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope, and love into action. In 2022, inspiring and spirit-filled conversationalist Jennifer Farmer led discussions on a variety of topics from ending gun violence in society to caring for the soul in solitude. Guests included authors and artists as well as United Women in Faith executives, deaconesses and home missionaries, and board members. We produced 21 episodes of our *Faith Talks* podcast in 2022, covering topics such as living with gratitude, restorative justice, and worship. The podcast, launched in the third quarter of 2019, has grown exponentially since its inception with more than 20,000 downloads in 2022 alone, with nearly 47,000 total downloads since it began.

### United Women in Faith Podcasts

Listen while you work, work out, walk, or in stillness.

 [Listen Now](#)



## Tending to the Heart: A Bible Study Series on Faith, Trauma, and COVID-19

Resources like the new *Tending to the Heart* three-part Bible study series help United Women in Faith members grow in their faith in a variety of settings. Produced in 2022, *Tending to the Heart* specifically addresses our collective trauma from the events of recent years. "It is my hope that your community finds it useful to reflect on the three most restrictive years of the virus's spread, the concurrent pandemics of COVID-19 and systemic racism, practices of resilience, and practices of spiritual renewal that honor what lingers in the aftermath of traumatic events," writes Bible study author Tabatha Holley.



Tabatha Holley

The three 60- to 90-minute sessions can be used in a variety of contexts including Sunday school, small groups, or monthly gatherings to start a conversation about walking alongside those who are wounded, overwhelmed, overextended, or exhausted as a result of trauma.

This special study is available for [download](#).



# Turn It Up!

## Assembly 2022

Adapted from a May 2022 **response article** by Tara Barnes, Jessica Brodie, and Mary Beth Coudal

Nearly 2,000 gathered in Orlando, Florida, and online for United Women in Faith's Assembly 2022, held May 20–22 at the Orange County Convention Center. Twenty-four countries and all 50 states were represented at the event with the theme "Turn It Up!"

Hundreds of women even came a day early for an **Ubuntu Day of Service on Thursday, May 19**, putting together seed, meal, and hygiene packets for local Florida outreach organizations, including Cornerstone Family Ministries, a United Women in Faith **National Mission Institution** supported by members' giving.

Keynote speakers were the Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow, Heather McTeer Toney, and General Secretary Harriett



Jane Olson. This Assembly also featured a theologian-in-residence, Janet Wolf, author of United Women in Faith's mission study *Practicing Resurrection: The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship*, who preached throughout the weekend.

"I often say that though it was divinity school that officially set me on the path to ordination, it was United Women in Faith that helped me believe that women are ordained by God to be full partners in ministry," Wolf said. "And it was United Women in Faith who propped me up on every leaning side when the going got hard."

For the first time in the history of the event, Assembly offered a virtual attendance option. More than 1,000 people participated in Virtual Assembly 2022, joining the Community Gatherings live and gathering together for their own **virtual workshops**, the slides from which were available for download after the workshops.

Attendees of the virtual event were encouraged to create their own sacred space and were given journal prompts, prayer and meditation resources, and a guide to gentle yoga. "Virtual Assembly left me feeling inspired, energized, and excited, and it connected me to United Women in Faith sisters," said Gail Nelson from Wisconsin. "Attending virtually provided a full Assembly experience; it was not a 'second-best' way of attending."



For the first time, Assembly was offered both as an in-person and online event.

"Virtual Assembly left me feeling inspired, energized, and excited, and it connected me to United Women in Faith sisters. Attending virtually provided a full Assembly experience; it was not a 'second-best' way of attending."

— Gail Nelson, Wisconsin



# IMPACT

United Women in Faith works to make a lasting difference in the world. Our actions have always spoken as loud as our words. For more than 150 years, we have been showing up and getting things done. Together, we're making the world a better place: locally, globally, fearlessly.

## The Power of Our Impact

- **\$61,750** in grants supported five partner organizations in Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees in the Republic of Georgia to train women to lead self-help groups, provide trauma-caused psychological assistance, and support activists and human rights defenders. Funds also provided food and nonfood aid and other necessities to displaced people.
- More than **100,000** individuals were reached with vital health services through our National Mission Institutions.
- Nearly **10,000** children and youth accessed quality educational programs through our National Mission Institutions.
- **21,890** women and their families in Africa, Asia, and Latin America received support through training, seed funding, and skills development programs.
- Internationally, more than **109,000** women, their children, and their families were served by our strategic partners through grants made available by United Women in Faith.
- We held more than **50** different climate and environmental justice events.
- An average of **200** people attended each of our online learning events on the school-to-prison pipeline and racial justice.
- Welcomed **19** new deaconesses and home missionaries and **7** transferring deaconesses to our order.
- Consecrated **60** deaconesses and home missionaries at Assembly.

# Impact

*“I remember my first day at the Village. When I walked into my apartment for the first time, I felt like I had been given the keys to the Kingdom! I am excited for all the new residents that get to walk through their own door. To be able to have the same life-changing opportunity like I did is wonderful! If it weren’t for Sybil Smith, I don’t know where I would be today”*

—Betty Fain

Graduate of Dumas Wesley’s Sybil Smith Family Village,  
and member of Dumas Wesley Community Center’s Executive Committee

## National Mission Institutions

United Women in Faith assists nearly 90 National Mission Institutions across the United States. They are community centers, colleges, and residences that provide vital services to vulnerable communities. Through their work, tens of thousands of individuals have had access to care and education that would have been otherwise impossible. In 2022, United Women in Faith provided support to make the following successes possible:

- **Neighborhood Services Organization** in Oklahoma City served Oklahomans 247,000 times in 2022 by providing safe and healthy homes, dental care, and nutrition services, and skills training to transform lives.
- **Tacoma Community House Immigration Services Program** in Washington, made a difference in the lives of more than 1,200 individuals as they learned a new culture, transitioned out of poverty, and built a better future for themselves and their families.
- **Cornerstone Family Ministries**, Tampa, Florida, was able to continue its nutrition and education programs for economically disadvantaged children and their families, working to break the cycle of generational poverty one child and one family at a time.
- **Wesley House Community Services**, Louisville, Kentucky, graduated its first class of WesKids Head Start students in 2022.
- **Crossroads Urban Center** in Salt Lake City created a program to support low-income mothers as they develop into community organizers and leaders through a grant provided by United Women in Faith. Two of these mothers were part of a successful effort to secure \$70 million for low-income housing in the 2022 legislative session by testifying to a panel of lawmakers about the ongoing need for low-income housing.



### Overcoming addiction

Betty Fain, graduate of Dumas Wesley Community Center’s transitional housing program for women in Mobile, Alabama, received the 2022 “Remarkable Woman of the Year” award from WKRG in Alabama. With the support of Dumas Wesley, Fain overcame her addiction and chronic homelessness to become a Class A welder, homeowner, role model for other women in Mobile, and member of Dumas Wesley’s executive committee.

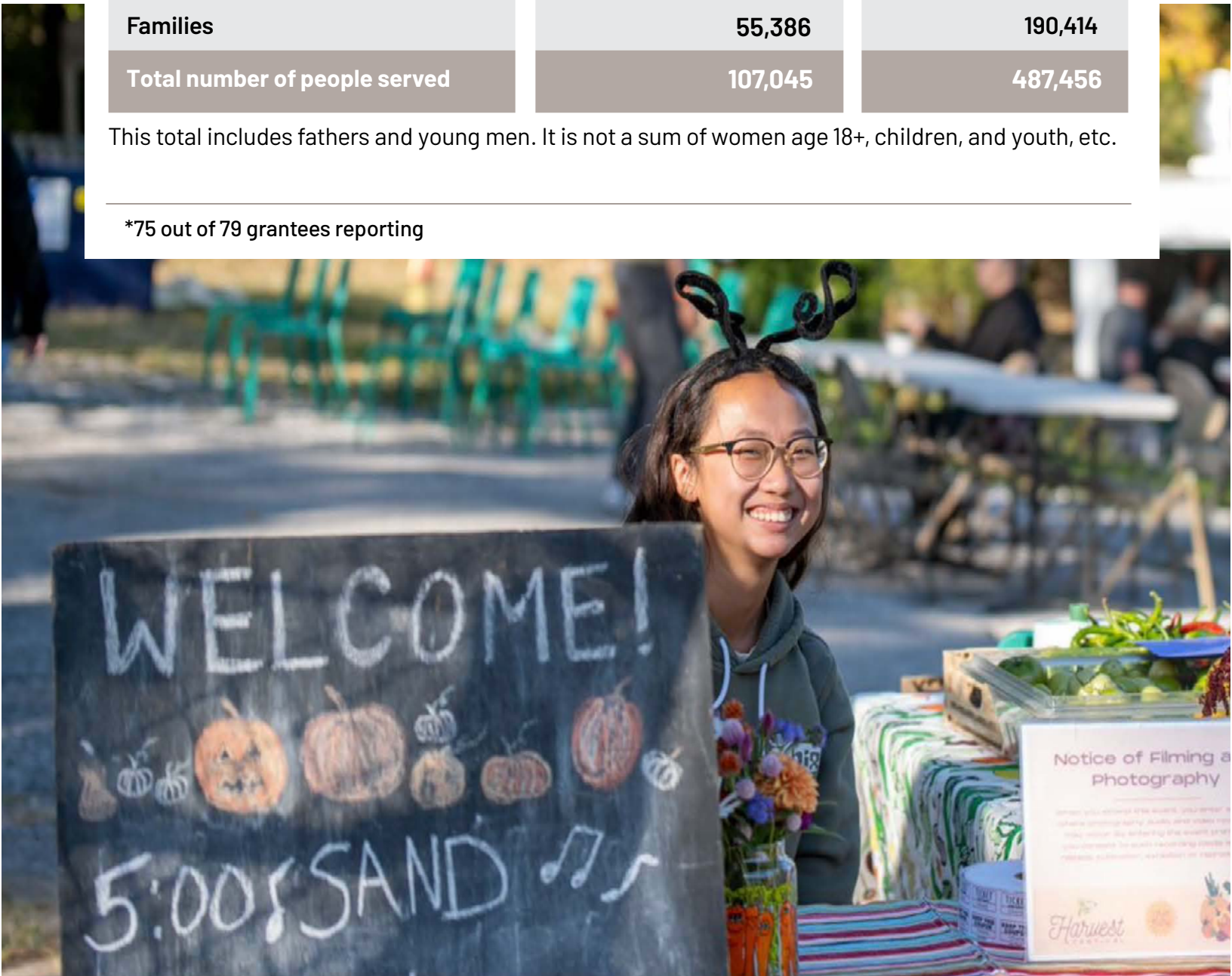


## National Mission Institutions Serving Others

People Served by	United Women in Faith Grants	NMIs in Total
Women age 18+	47,840	127,045
Children and youth	27,041	157,264
Mothers with children under 5 yrs	7,911	39,330
Families	55,386	190,414
<b>Total number of people served</b>	<b>107,045</b>	<b>487,456</b>

This total includes fathers and young men. It is not a sum of women age 18+, children, and youth, etc.

\*75 out of 79 grantees reporting







United Women in Faith is committed to empowering women and girls in Africa, Asia, and Latin America to gain competence and skills through leadership development, economic empowerment, and skills building. Our goal is to have young women make up 50 percent of the participation in these programs. Nearly 22,000 women and their families received support and training through the programs we support.

- In **Liberia** and **Zimbabwe**, our Training for Transformation program was attended by 50 women who are now empowered with skills and tools to train other women and advocate for their priorities and rights in their churches and communities.
- The **Sierra Leone** country team held a three-day leadership training workshop that was attended by 70 women from 11 districts of the Sierra Leone Annual Conference.
- United Women in Faith supports small business development training in **Mozambique**, **Zimbabwe**, **Sierra Leone**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, and **Zambia**. The training sessions were coupled with small economic development grants, providing women with the know-how, skills, and seed funds to gain a measure of financial independence and allow them the opportunity to move out of poverty.
- Our support of the Women's Peace Dialog Platform, a regional network that unites women in peace and gender activists across Eastern Europe, allowed us to support **Ukrainian** women to advocate for peace.

## Voices on Ukraine



Through Voices on Ukraine, we were able to share with our members the desperate needs of women in the time of crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries and raised funds to support emergency efforts on the ground.



Watch the March 2022 Voices from the Field event

**“Each day in Ukraine is struggle for millions, particularly for women, children, and the elderly, who are killed, displaced, live under daily missile attacks, and lack water, electricity, and food. The needs are enormous, and timely emergency funds from United Women in Faith provided essential aid to those in need. We will continue working with partners to support them through the war and beyond.”**

**—Tatiana Dwyer, Executive for Global Justice**

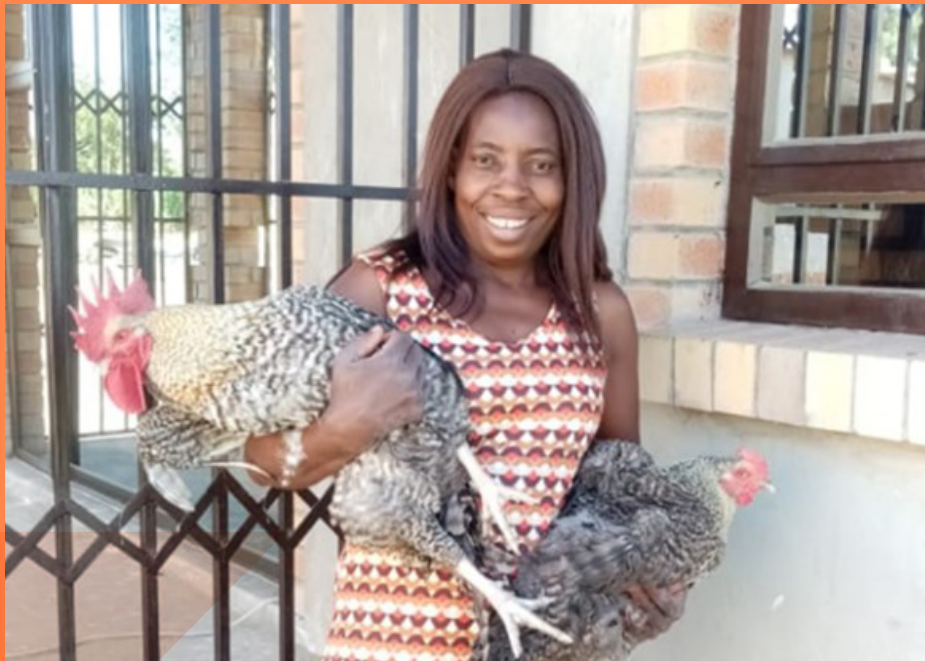
### Economic Development Grants by the numbers:

- **40** women in Sierra Leone joined the Revolving Loan Circle to receive loans to grow their businesses.
- **50** women in Sierra Leone directly involved in soap making participated in a training of trainers workshop and later trained **40** additional women.
- **59** women in Sierra Leone received assistance for their small businesses that included animal husbandry, poultry project, gardening, beauty salons, and the planning and construction of a bakery.
- **88** women in Zimbabwe benefited through the poultry project that increased their household incomes allowing for improved food security and the ability to send their children to school.
- **718** children, youth, and women in the Philippines, Nepal, Indonesia, and Myanmar were served in 2022 through targeted programs.



Watch the Video

The bakery we helped fund opened in Bo, Sierra Leone, in February 2023. See the grand opening celebration and learn how our grants are changing lives with the help of your Mission Giving.



## **My Life Will Never Be the Same**

Annah Maria is a married 44-year-old mother of two children and a member of St. Peters Seke East United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe. She was among a group of United Methodist women who participated in the poultry project. The group received 25-day-old chicks, feed for the chicks, and training on their care.

Annah Maria recalls, "when I became part of the group. . .and subsequently received the 25-day-olds . . . providing food on the table was not easy. Things were very difficult for us. I was always thinking that the source of income should be from formal employment, little did I know that you can also live from projects."

As a participant in the chicken project, Annah Maria was able to collect the eggs from her chickens and sell them to increase her family's income. The chickens have now given her a measure of economic independence.

"This project has been an eye-opener," she said, "I can pay the school fees for my children. . . buy the basics for my household and I no longer ask for money from my husband for small items . . . and I even manage to pay something to my church. If I continue to work very hard, my life will never be the same. I want to thank United Methodist Women for funding this project, Mrs. Rebecca Tendai Gurupira, and her team continue to do good work."



# Campaigns

## Just Energy for All | Climate Justice

*“Every community deserves clean air and water. Your advocacy turns up the volume on the moral responsibility we have to each other and to our earth.”*

—U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland in her address at Assembly 2022



In 2022, we held more than 20 different climate and environmental justice events and took 7,748 legislative actions toward climate justice online. Our voice will be heard as we speak boldly about the need for change in the face of the current climate crisis and air pollution. We continue to advocate for clean and renewable energy where equity and justice are centered.

United Women in Faith was also represented during COP27 in Egypt where we joined Global South communities, interfaith partners, and other allies in working to establish a loss and damage fund to support climate-vulnerable countries that are disproportionately impacted by climate change.

### COP27 Perspectives with Ilka Vega

United Women in Faith's Executive for Economic and Environmental Justice Ilka Vega attended the COP27 climate negotiations and shared her insights and recommendations during this live recording of Faith Talks.

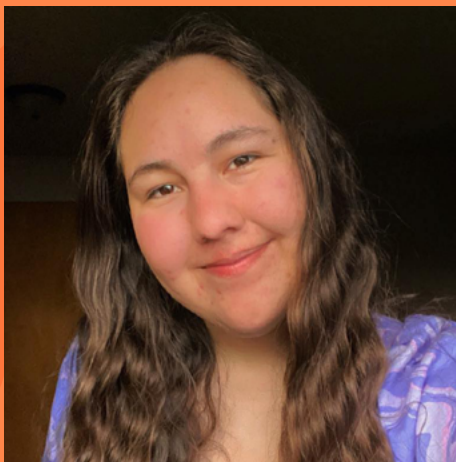
 [Listen Now](#)





## Bizzy Feekes brings her whole self to the work of climate justice.

Adapted from an [article](#) by Maryann Verghese in the Jan/Feb 2023 issue of *response*.



Bizzy Feekes

Bizzy Feekes uses many words to describe herself: artist, seminarian, writer. Feekes is Indigenous from the Winnebago tribe and the Ho-Chunk People—People of the Big Voice, multiracial, and Christian. She does not feel that any of these descriptions is isolated, but that all are gifts bestowed by God. In her work, whether with children at church or with undergraduates at Seattle Pacific University where she is a seminarian, she brings all these connected elements of herself to the work of climate justice.

“For most of my life I have tried to compartmentalize the different sections of my identity,” she says, crediting time and teachings from other Indigenous people to help shift that narrative. “I began to challenge that notion of seeing everything as separate, and instead I try to see my life as everything deeply interconnected, inseparable, and intrinsic to my being,” she adds.

She says, her whole being, work, and passions are “an act of reverence and worship to Creator.”

Feekes brought all these passions and experiences together to create a Bible study with original artwork titled “*Mqqnegi Hirera*—Belong to Earth,” connecting her identities as an Indigenous Christian artist, seminarian, and writer.

“My attentiveness to climate justice comes from the teachings of my Indigenous culture and the deeply held convictions of my Christian faith, and my response to all of it is almost always through art,” she says. As Feekes does in her work, her Bible study integrates all these aspects of herself. Her goal in this study was to create a readable introductory text that shared both Indigenous and Christian teaching and included art as part of the practice of thinking about loving creation and acting for climate justice.

By sharing her interconnected gifts for climate justice, Feekes invites others to explore their personal relationship to creation so they, too, can bring their whole selves to the work for climate justice.

You can see Bizzy Feekes’ art, writings, and other work [here](#).

## Interrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline | Ending Mass Incarceration and the Criminalization of Communities of Color

*“I challenge you to go deeper in your care and love for your neighbors. Show care in a way that is inconvenient for you. Help change a trajectory of our history on racism.”*

—The Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow

Director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum in her 2022 Assembly address



The Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow

United Women in Faith members continued their commitment to the school-to-prison pipeline, working towards racial justice, and supporting children and youth throughout 2022. We continued in this work, compelled by our core values that are grounded in The Charter for Racial Justice by continuing our campaigns of advocacy and education throughout our organization, churches, and communities.

**Advocacy:** At the national level, United Women in Faith members participated in virtual advocacy on behalf of important legislation to end the school-to-prison pipeline, including the Ending PUSHOUT Act (H.R.2248), Counseling Not Criminalization in Schools Act (S.2125), and the Protecting Our Students in Schools Act (S.2029), while also working at state and local levels to advocate for legislative changes.

**Education:** During the year, we offered six unique general invitation Zoom virtual learning events on the school-to-prison pipeline and racial justice, with an attendance average of well over 200 people per event. In addition, we offered a six-session Lenten series, using the General Commission on Religion and Race's *Roll Down, Justice!* curriculum by Faye Wilson with music by Mark Miller, facilitated by Janelle Gayle and Faye Wilson. We also offered a special virtual workshop for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May.



Members of United Women in Faith  
Speak on Racial Justice

## Learning about the school-to-prison pipeline—Methodist style!

by Emily Jones

When we engage in education about the school-to-prison pipeline with members and friends of United Women in Faith, we can draw on a wonderful tool of our Methodist heritage, the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, tweaked to provide a structure and framework for learning. The Wesleyan Quadrilateral, a term credited to Methodist scholar Albert Outler, speaks of the four sources of theological understanding in the Wesleyan tradition: tradition, experience, reason and Scripture.

If we use these same categories to explore the pipeline, we ask:

- **Tradition:** What is our racial (in)justice history, and how does it inform our understanding of the present?

- **Experience:** What do people directly impacted by the pipeline say?

- **Reason:** What do we learn from the data and facts, locally and nationally?

- **Scripture:** What inspiration and direction does the Bible provide to inform our understanding and action?

This originally appeared in an [article](#) written by Jones, “Do Not Stop Them,” in the May/June 2022 issue of **response**.

## Holston Conference United Women in Faith leads the way in Tennessee

United Women in Faith from the Holston Conference are one group helping to lead the way in Tennessee. After organizing a successful “Do No Harm” educational workshop in January 2022, members had a chance to turn their learning into local action a few weeks later when the Knox County Board of Education met to discuss educational equity policies.

“The flash call to social action went out five days before the Knox County School Board work session,” wrote President Donna Mosby, “and 21 United Methodist women from across the Holston Conference showed up and showed out in their red outfits in support of the proposed Equity Policy!” [Read more here.](#)



## Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner

*“One of the things I really like about everything I do as a deaconess is it is a joyful time. It’s a celebration of God’s love with your community.”*

—Jamie LeJeune, Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner, Mississippi Conference

Deaconesses and home missioners are laypeople who are called by God to be in a lifetime relationship in The United Methodist Church for engagement with a full-time vocation in ministries of love, justice, and service.

2022 has been a year of growth and breaking new ground:

- We held the largest consecration in our history with 60 deaconesses and home missioners being consecrated for service at Assembly in Orlando.
- We hosted six virtual discernment sessions and gained 40 new deaconess and home missioner candidates—16 more than in 2021.
- We held our first-ever deaconess and home missioner Racial Justice Summit.
- We held our first-ever joint U.S.-Africa Theology of Mission class and launched hybrid deaconess and home missioner courses.





## First African Deaconesses

The consecration at Assembly included for the first time two deaconesses from the Kenya-Ethiopia Conference of The United Methodist Church, Beatrice Asyago and Leah Nanyanga Wandera, both from the Kenya-Ethiopia Conference.

"There could not have been a better time than now to be consecrated a deaconess—a time to Turn It Up for the deaconess and home missionary movement in the African region," said Deaconess Leah Wandera of Kenya. "When I learned that we've never had a deaconess in Africa, I almost gave up. But the deaconess movement spoke to my heart, and I could not think of a better way to continue to be in ministry, being the feet of Jesus in the world. I am happy today to be affirmed and confirmed, to be part of sharing God's universal and eternal love, dismantling injustices, and being in service with communities."



Deaconess Beatrice Asyago



**Watch Leah Wandera's Story**





# INFLUENCE

“Connecting together as community leaders, justice champions, and brave changes makers, we are women with more than a cause. We are on a mission to boldly act and transform communities and ourselves.”

## The Power of Inspiration

- The first-ever Legacy Banquet held at Assembly raised **\$60,800**.
- **237** leaders from **51** annual conferences attended Leadership Development Days at Assembly 2022, and up to five officers per conference were supported through Mission Giving.
- The new All Access Membership launched March 2022, giving potential and current members a more flexible way to join the work of the organization.
- All Access Members joined one of three interest tracks: Inspire, Influence, and Impact. As of January 2023, we have **4,000** Influence subscribers, **10,000** Inspire subscribers, and **11,000** Impact subscribers.
- More than **4,000** members joined United Women in Faith Digital—a growing space for online learning and community.

# Influence

*“Together, we are creating more opportunities for engagement with more women through new programs and updates of long-standing programs that embody our core values. Things change. People change. But God remains, and that continues to be the purpose behind everything that we do in this organization.”*

—'Anise 'Isama'u

United Women in Faith Board President

## Membership

United Women in Faith members are bold, spiritual women who work together to transform communities by fostering spiritual growth, developing leaders, and advocating for justice. In 2022, we broke new ground in our name and how women can be members and active in our organization.

In March 2022, the new **All Access National Membership** launched, which expands our options for current members and new women to join. This option allows new members to join at the level they choose. They can participate in-person or online and give to what they are passionate about through our online giving tools. With All Access, you can be involved through online community events or with a local unit or group. You can choose to engage when, where, and how best fits your life. All Access Membership provides:

- Invitations to spiritual nurturing and fellowship events (Inspire)
- Opportunities to act for justice through advocacy and action alerts (Impact)
- Access to valuable resources to strengthen your leadership and live your faith (Influence)

You can enjoy one or all of these resource areas with your membership.



### All Access Membership



#### As of January 2023:

- **4,000** people have subscribed to Influence resources
- **10,000** people have subscribed to Inspire resources
- **11,000** people have subscribed to Impact resources



## New Membership Resources

New resources make it easier than ever to join and get connected to this bold sisterhood called United Women in Faith.

- [The Excite and Invite Booklet](#) released at Assembly 2022 makes it easy to share about United Women in Faith and what it means to be a member.
- [The New Membership Welcome Kit](#) provides the newest members a guide for United Women in Faith and all we have to offer.



## Scholarship

In 2022, United Women in Faith provided approximately 137 scholarships to students in the United States and around the world, totaling close to \$400,000.



Geovania Goncalves

Geovania Goncalves is one scholarship recipient at Africa University where she plans to use her education to become one of “tomorrow’s leaders of Angola.”

“As a little girl, some movies and speeches showed that a woman should only be prepared to be a good wife and mother, but thank God, my family has always made a point of teaching us that besides being a good wife and mother, women have the right to dreams and to fulfill their dreams, whether they be academic, professional, social or even familiar,” says Goncalves. “All of this has taught me that whatever I want to be, if there is strength and will, I will be able to achieve this goal, so long as I put God first.”

[\*\*Read more about Goncalves’ story.\*\*](#)

## 2022 Annual Unit Survey

The Unit Survey is released annually to unit presidents and new All Access group conveners to learn how members are thriving in sisterhood, faith, and action. These learnings inform national staff and conference officers in many areas including:

- Planning and scaling programs
- Resource development
- Engagement insights based on region
- Celebrating all that work that is being done on behalf of women, children, and youth



## 2021 Unit Survey Highlights

- **96%** of reporting units are active with less than 8% considering going inactive
- **85%** of reporting units are excited about the new brand and name change with 94% already transitioning to the name United Women in Faith
- **80%** of reporting units are actively recruiting new women in and outside of The United Methodist Church
- **45%** of reporting units are working on climate and/or racial justice campaigns
- **30%** of reporting units are either interested or are hosting a Soul Care Retreat in 2023



## Leadership Development Days

The annual Leadership Development Days (LDD) program equips and strengthens United Women in Faith leaders with spirit-filled worship, officer training, workshops, networking, and more. In May 2022, 237 leaders from 51 annual conferences attended the program held in conjunction with Assembly in Orlando, Florida. Your Mission Giving made it possible for up to five officers per conference to receive financial support for this training, covering the registration fee and travel expenses, making this essential training accessible.

LDD attendees also participated in workshops on the Charter for Racial Justice that were facilitated by jurisdiction presidents and Charter for Racial Justice team members.

### Online Experiences with Bridge

United Women in Faith uses Bridge as our online platform for our growing collection of videos and presentations for events such as Leadership Development Days, Leadership Toolkit, and other resources. Our survey showed:

- **97.56%** of Bridge users identified our online courses as interesting and engaging.
- **95.53%** of Bridge users felt better prepared to fulfill their roles or complete tasks as a result of Bridge courses.
- **98.38%** of Bridge users identified alignment between past and future learning opportunities with the Bridge courses.

Are you ready to start taking advantage of the resources available through Bridge? It's easy to do [online!](#)

## The Legacy Endowment Fund

The Legacy Endowment Fund of United Women in Faith is a permanently invested endowment that supports the work of improving the lives of women, children, and youth at home and abroad. Gifts to the Legacy Endowment Fund build financial resources that ensure United Women in Faith can carry out our vital programs and activities for many years to come.



Legacy Fund donors Sue and Terry Raymond

You can give to The Legacy Endowment Fund in three primary categories. In 2022, we recognized several generous donors who now give in all three of the following ways, becoming “Trifecta” givers:

- **Legacy Builders** – monthly gifts of \$18.69 or more
- **Friends of Legacy** – major gifts or pledges of \$5,000 or more
- **1869 Society** – planned estate gifts

[Learn more](#)

## A Spirit of Service

*Adapted from an article by Christi Campos in the May/June 2022 issue of **response**.*



In 1916, Bebe Spofford donated her mansion in Kansas City, Missouri, to the Methodist Church. It became the Spofford Home for Children. The original mission of the home was to take in children who had been neglected or orphaned after the death of a parent. By 1928, the Spofford Home had begun studying the behavioral problems and psychiatric care of children, which continued into the 1930s and 1940s, when it began focusing on individualized treatment and care. Recognized as one of the earliest specialized study and treatment homes in Kansas City for emotionally disturbed children, Spofford Home was a leader in its approach to contemporary welfare practices and treatment of children.

In 2017, Spofford and four other residential homes merged to become Cornerstones of Care. Since that time, Cornerstones of Care has reduced the number of youth in residential care in favor of other effective ways to provide trauma-informed care. Cornerstones of Care serves 15,000 children and families in Missouri, Kansas, and beyond through youth and family support, foster care and adoption services, and education and training.

With a history grounded in faith and mission, Cornerstones of Care has been blessed with the prayers, personal involvement, and support of United Women in Faith, as a National Mission Institution. Members in the Missouri and Great Plains conferences have provided countless volunteer hours, financial support, and much-needed items for many years.

You too are linked to this historical partnership through your Mission Giving, and your gifts to the Legacy Endowment Fund will grow to provide core support so that even more funds can be directed to organizations such as Cornerstones of Care. Please consider making a monthly gift, major gift pledge, or planned gift to the Legacy Endowment Fund today. Together we are building our Legacy.

## Legacy Banquet

The first-ever Legacy Banquet, held at Assembly in Orlando was successful, raising over \$60,800 for The Legacy Endowment Fund at the banquet and interactive Legacy booth. More than 700 people enjoyed motivating speakers, entertainment, and acceptance speeches for Legacy Awards given to members whose efforts have grown and positively impacted The Legacy Endowment Fund.



## Day of Giving

The Day of Giving 2022, "Embracing the Future," was held online as a six-hour Facebook Live event. Thousands gathered online to watch the event, which highlighted all of our program areas. Conference Legacy Team members also held in-person and virtual events. Together, we embraced the future by raising \$194,892 to make positive changes in the lives of women, children, and youth.



Watch the video: Day of Giving: How are you embracing the future?





**United Women in Faith 2022**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
FINANCIALS**





## Treasurer's Report



**“One thing that United Women in Faith will always do is find a way to serve—with little means or with plenty. We are a sisterhood of faith called to action!”**

**Tamara Clark, CPA**

Treasurer/CFO Finance & Asset Management

### Called to Action

Our national office truly turns financial gifts into miracles. During these last few years, we have sustained our core programming, provided grants to our partners, awarded scholarships to students, and adapted to the financial realities that we have faced. We have had to adjust our spending plan each year after receiving final figures for the conference pledges. Our original plans for 2022 were changed, yet we managed to finish the year with a powerful impact on the world around us. One thing that United Women in Faith will always do is find a way to serve—with little means or with plenty. We are a sisterhood of faith called to action!

### Operating Revenue

#### Conference Giving

We continued to experience a decline in giving in 2022. Mission Giving (unrestricted giving) declined by \$903,000. However, there happened to be a slight increase in supplementary and designated giving, which are restricted forms of giving. We are thankful to all our members for their giving, especially for those conferences that managed to increase their Mission Giving and pledge for the year! Out of 53 conferences, 23 conferences met their pledge, and 9 conferences not only met their pledge but increased their giving!

#### Interest and Publications Income

Interest Income increased by \$354,000 due to the rise in interest on our fixed-income securities. Publications Income increased by \$111,000 due to pricing increases.



## **Rental, Service Fee, and Other Income**

Rental and Service Fee Income includes the operations of the Brooks-Howell Home (BHH) and the Church Center for the United Nations. There was a decrease of \$829,000, which is primarily due to BHH closing its home health care department and one floor of its nursing department. Other Income decreased by \$698,000 compared to the prior year. This was due to the recognition of PPP loan forgiveness in 2021.

In total, Operating Revenue decreased by \$1.89 million or 8.40%.

## **Operating Expenses**

### **Programs Rendered by United Women in Faith**

Our Transformation expenses declined by \$92,000 due to not filling a staff position during the year. National Mission Institutions Property Insurance decreased by \$541,000 due to changes in our insurance program. The Mission Resource Center experienced an increase compared to 2021 from increased shipping costs. Other Programs increased by \$705,000 due to Assembly.

### **Programs Rendered by Other Organizations**

Our funding to other organizations for programs, operations, and scholarships totaled \$6.17 million, which was an increase of \$1.38 million compared to 2021. We gave more to international mission work and obtained board approval to provide grants to other partners from designated funds.

### **Program Support**

Program Support includes expenses for the Church Center for the United Nations and Brooks-Howell Home Retirement Center. There was a decline of \$166,000 as we sought to reduce operational expenses in these areas.

### **Supporting Services**

Supporting Services include management, general, and fundraising expenses. Although this section includes what we typically think of as non-programmatic staff (finance, property management, grants administration, development, etc.), these staff persons work directly with members and support some of our programmatic functions. Supporting Services totaled \$5.34 million, an increase of \$148,000 compared to the prior year.

In total, Operating Expenses increased by \$1.70 million or 6.18%.



## Non-Operating Activity

Our Non-Operating Activity includes the appreciation (or depreciation) in our investments, the change in postretirement costs, gains on the sale of property, and contributions to our endowments, such as the Legacy Fund. The value of our investments declined by \$22.04 million due to the market. The liability for our postretirement and pension benefits for retired staff increased by \$1.07 million. Our recognized gains on the sale of property decreased by \$2.62 million as we had a large property sale in 2021. Endowment contributions declined by \$2.55 million because we were entrusted with a large endowment in 2021.

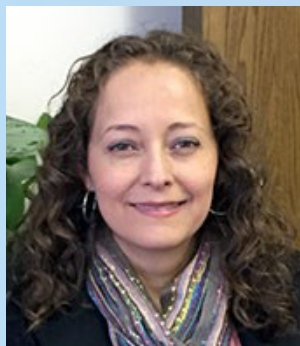
In total, Non-Operating Activity totaled –\$21.89 million, primarily due to the depreciation in the fair value of our investments.

## Summary

Our Operating Revenue totaled \$20.54 million, Operating Expenses totaled \$29.27 million, and our Non-Operating Activities totaled –\$21.89 million. We experienced an overall decrease in Net Assets of –\$30.62 million.

“The idea of #Move4Mission came about when I saw social media ads for other causes, such as running, walking, cycling, and even doing so many squats a day. I thought, why not do a fundraising campaign for mission?”

It doesn't matter how you move; you just move! It is healthy for your mind and body and can also be healthy for our organization. We can use the idea of moving as we move forward toward new beginnings. I am inspired by Philippians 3:12–16 when I think about #Move4Mission. It says: “I have not yet reached my goal, and I am not perfect. But Christ has taken hold of me. So I keep on running and struggling to take hold of the prize. . . . I run toward the goal, so I can win the prize of being called to heaven. This is the prize God offers because of what Christ Jesus has done . . .” (CEV). I am reminded to move toward the goal of what God has for us now and for the future.



We give to the work of the United Women in Faith to make new beginnings possible for women, children, and youth. Through our Mission Giving, God is at work, and we have the opportunity to change lives around the world. Join me to be the vessel God has chosen to make it happen as we begin this new journey together! ”

—Heidi Careaga, Finance Committee Chair

Go to THE MOVE4MISSION WEBSITE

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## OPERATING REVENUE \*

	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>CONFERENCE GIVING</b>				
Mission Giving.....	7.31	8.21	9.17	9.96
Special Edition SMR.....	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04
Supplementary Giving.....	0.11	0.03	0.08	0.02
Designated Giving.....	0.47	0.46	0.47	0.62
<b>Total Conference Giving</b>	<b>7.89</b>	<b>8.70</b>	<b>9.73</b>	<b>10.64</b>
<b>INTEREST INCOME</b>				
Investment Income (Net of Fees).....	1.92	1.39	1.32	1.88
Bequests, Trusts, and Other Long-Term Gifts.....	0.72	0.91	0.56	0.90
<b>Total Interest Income</b>	<b>2.64</b>	<b>2.30</b>	<b>1.88</b>	<b>2.78</b>
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>				
response magazine.....	0.24	0.22	0.25	0.29
Mission Resource Center.....	0.31	0.21	0.27	0.48
<b>Total Publications</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>0.77</b>

(\*ALL FIGURES SHOWN QUOTED IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS U.S.)

	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>RENTAL AND SERVICE FEE INCOME</b>				
Brooks-Howell Home.....	4.80	5.76	4.99	4.06
Church Center for the United Nations (CCUN).....	2.28	2.16	2.21	2.61
<b>Total Rental and Service Fee Income</b>	<b>7.08</b>	<b>7.92</b>	<b>7.20</b>	<b>6.67</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Benefit Trust.....	1.10	1.05	0.86	0.71
Miscellaneous Income.....	1.28	2.04	0.78	0.74
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>2.38</b>	<b>3.09</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>1.45</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>20.54</b>	<b>22.44</b>	<b>20.97</b>	<b>22.31</b>

## OPERATING EXPENSES \*

	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>PROGRAM SERVICES</b>				
<b>Programs Rendered by UWFaith</b>				
Transformation.....	1.88	1.97	2.24	2.01
Position.....	0.29	0.32	0.27	0.22
Engage.....	0.23	0.20	0.17	0.36
Mobilize.....	0.26	0.19	0.28	0.46
Connectional.....	0.54	0.56	0.64	0.52
National Mission Institutions Property Insurance				
Property Insurance.....	0.36	0.90	1.26	1.63
Repairs and Maintenance.....	0.30	0.35	(0.17)	0.67
Mission Education.....	0.74	0.76	0.85	0.81
response magazine.....	0.31	0.22	0.22	0.25
Mission Resource Center.....	0.56	0.43	1.01	1.76
Deaconesses, Home Missioners				
Office, and Network.....	0.44	0.38	0.35	0.47
Other Programs Rendered by UWFaith.....	1.90	1.19	1.18	0.84
<b>Total Programs Rendered by UWFaith</b>	<b>7.81</b>	<b>7.47</b>	<b>8.30</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>Programs Rendered by Other Organizations</b>				
United Methodist Organizations National and International				
National Missions.....	1.75	1.65	1.76	1.62
International Missions.....	1.35	1.21	1.35	1.46
Ecumenical Organizations.....	0.05	0.05	0.07	0.03
Social Action Organizations.....	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Grants from Designated Funds.....	2.98	1.82	2.74	3.25
<b>Total Programs Rendered by Other Organizations</b>	<b>6.18</b>	<b>4.78</b>	<b>5.97</b>	<b>6.41</b>

	2022	2021	2020	2019
<b>PROGRAM SUPPORT</b>				
Church Center for the United Nations.....	2.31	2.40	2.52	2.38
Brooks Howell Retirement Center				
Retired Deaconess, Missionary Home Operations.....	5.79	5.25	4.69	4.24
Retired Deaconess, Missionary Pension, and Health Benefits.....	1.65	2.22	3.06	3.38
Scarritt Bennett Education Center.....	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Annuity Fund.....	0.02	0.08	0.02	0.02
Organization-Wide Program Support.....	0.06	0.04	0.20	0.26
<b>Total Program Support</b>	<b>9.93</b>	<b>10.09</b>	<b>10.59</b>	<b>10.38</b>
<b>TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES</b>	<b>23.92</b>	<b>22.34</b>	<b>24.86</b>	<b>26.79</b>
<b>SUPPORTING SERVICES</b>				
<b>Management and General</b>				
Leadership and Management.....	4.75	4.67	4.97	5.35
<b>Total Management and General</b>	<b>4.75</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>4.97</b>	<b>5.35</b>
<b>Fundraising</b>				
Development Office.....	0.60	0.53	0.52	0.58
<b>Total Fundraising</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>0.52</b>	<b>0.58</b>
<b>TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES</b>	<b>5.35</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>5.93</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>29.27</b>	<b>27.54</b>	<b>30.35</b>	<b>32.72</b>

## EFFECT ON NET ASSETS \*

	2022	2021	2020	2019
Operating Deficit.....	(8.73)	(5.10)	(9.38)	(10.41)
Apprn./ (Depn.) in investments.....	(22.04)	8.65	16.35	16.82
Change in Postretirement and Pension Benefit Costs.....	(1.08)	2.20	12.11	(0.46)
Endowment/Sale of Properties.....	1.23	6.41	0.99	1.68
<b>INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(30.62)</b>	<b>12.16</b>	<b>20.07</b>	<b>7.63</b>

## NET ASSETS \*

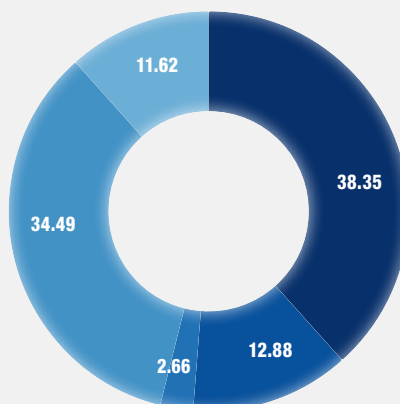
	2022	2021	2020	2019
Without Donors Restriction.....	31.38	40.09	35.80	24.36
With Donors Restriction.....	64.40	86.28	78.44	69.80
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>95.78</b>	<b>126.37</b>	<b>114.24</b>	<b>94.16</b>

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## OPERATING REVENUE

The total operating revenue comes from Conference Giving; sale of publications; income from interest, rentals, and service fees; events; and other funds.

**TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE for 2022 was \$20.54 million**



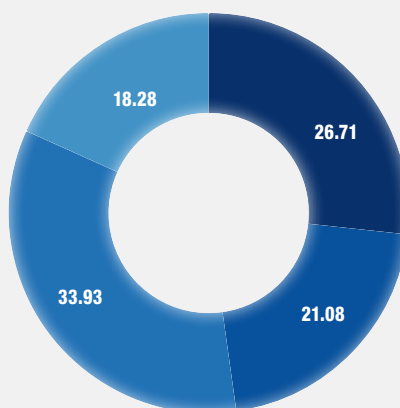
## UWFaith 2022 OPERATING REVENUE

Conference Giving	38.35 %
Interest Income	12.88 %
Publications	2.66 %
Rental and Service Fee Income	34.49 %
Other Income	11.62 %

## OPERATING EXPENSES

The total expenses include services provided through programs rendered by the UWFaith national office. The total expenses also include programs rendered by other organizations such as the National Mission Institutions, the program support expenses at places like CCUN and BHH, and our supporting services expenses which reflect the administrative costs of running the organization.

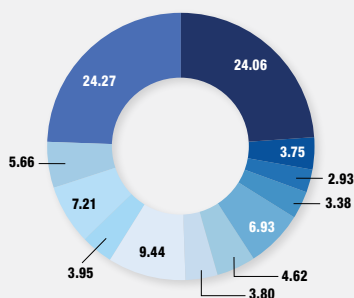
**TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES for 2022 was \$29.27 million**



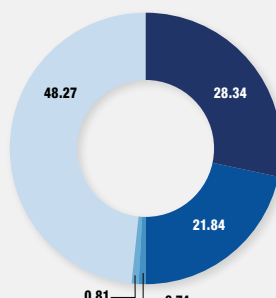
## UWFaith EXPENSE CATEGORIES 2022

Programs Rendered by UWFaith	26.71 %
Programs Rendered by Other Organizations	21.08 %
Program Support	33.93 %
Supporting Services	18.28 %

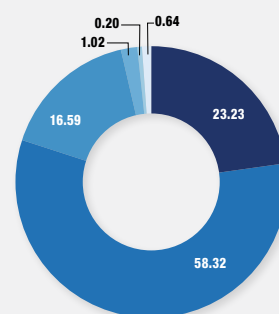
## PROGRAMS RENDERED BY UWFaith



## PROGRAMS RENDERED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS












## PROGRAM SUPPORT










## Report on Conference Giving

A total of 23 conferences met their pledge. Fourteen conferences increased their giving. Below is a list of nine conferences that met or exceeded their pledges and increased their giving!

-  Alaska
-  California-Nevada
-  Kentucky
-  Michigan
-  Missouri
-  Pacific Northwest
-  Tennessee-Western Kentucky (merged conference)
-  Virginia
-  West Ohio

### Conferences with highest giving amounts:

-  Great Plains
-  Western North Carolina
-  Virginia
-  Iowa
-  South Carolina

### Conferences with largest dollar increase compared to the prior year:

-  Virginia
-  Missouri
-  Dakotas
-  Michigan
-  North Carolina

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**Thank you! Your giving makes a difference  
in local and global communities!**





## Budget Narratives 2023

### Transformation Office



“We continue to undergird the strategic work of United Women in Faith to inspire, influence, and impact our members and the lives of women, children, and youth worldwide.”

Sally Vonner and the Transformation Homeroom

The 2023 **Transformation** Budget continues to undergird the strategic work of United Women in Faith to inspire, influence, and impact our members and the lives of women, children, and youth worldwide. We do this through three priorities: Position, Engage, and Mobilize. The budget gives particular emphasis to these priorities as we seek to grow our membership and giving, market and promote our new brand, and continue to transform lives within and beyond The United Methodist Church.

The **Position** organizational priority calls for United Women in Faith to be recognized as a leading organization and trusted source of leadership and inspiration. The 2023 budget continues to focus on making this happen:

- Through our public information officer consultant, Jennifer Farmer, we have continued to secure press release placement in various media and op-eds that highlight United Women in Faith’s work. The monthly podcast *Faith Talks* as well as our own social media outlets and other outside outlets expand this work.
- We will continue working with marketing consultants to build out the United Women in Faith brand and make data-based evaluations of our efforts and program innovations.
- We are expanding paid advertisements, including online and direct mail, to promote United Women in Faith and our new/revitalized programs to current members, the wider church, and new audiences.
- We are supporting innovation as we expand the work of Position based on the new strategic blueprint goals and objectives.



The **Engage** organizational priority seeks to cultivate and increase engagement, membership, and giving. The 2023 budget will support expansive opportunities for membership growth and engagement, developing new resources, and scaling innovative program designs.

- The Mission u team is building on the 2022 Mission u to refresh our focus on more flexible and adaptable curricula with an emphasis on faith and formation. Mission u will continue the cohort model with 16 cohorts and 32 trainers and will continue to be virtual.
- Distance learning will continue to be a supportive tool as online events and training remain part of our program. Expansion and building capacity are priorities that will include using ongoing consultant support and software for curriculum development.
- New programs and resources will be developed and scaled to support districts and units for ongoing, successful recruitment, retention, and reengagement of current and former members, as well as new members.
- We will identify new ways to find the work of United Women in Faith as a priority of the new strategic blueprint. This will expand the current giving model with an e-giving option developed in 2021 with Vanco Payments.
- Soul Care will continue to be a concept that we are weaving into the identity of United Women in Faith. Soul Care retreats, a new welcoming event, will be piloted through the jurisdiction and conferences in 2023. Supportive materials and resources for event replication will be shared with members and leaders. Soul Care retreats will be offered on the Mighty Networks platform with consultants and staff supporting this program.
- The All Access Membership will be supported through the new member portal. Funds will support resource creation, marketing, and social media strategy and implementation in the second half of 2023.
- Spiritual Growth, as part of the strategic work, will innovate on what it means to be a reliable source for women's spiritual growth, connecting faith and action across United Women in Faith programs.

The **Mobilize** organizational priority budget requests for 2023 will continue to support the strategic work of transformation by moving women to new levels of leadership and action to build a thriving organization and change the world.

- The social justice issue priority campaigns seek to equip members for advocacy and service by providing multiple opportunities for education and building awareness around Interrupting the School-to-Prison Pipeline and the Just Energy for All campaigns. To that end, 2023 funding supports educating and activating members through direct program offerings, national webinars, capacity-building Zoom sessions, 13 Steps to Sustainability revision, and resources for members to train other members.

- We will also support opportunities for members to engage in local, regional, and national actions—either legislative or through other calls to action. This includes funding for consultants and partnerships to expand our capacity and reach, supporting social action member training, and organizing support for members engaged in work with local partners.
- The Be Just Be Green, Eliminating Institutional Racism, and the Charter for Racial Justice Team budgets will fund developing and supporting member leaders in climate and racial justice with trainings and engagement throughout the organization. There will also be support for jurisdiction leadership teams, all of which are committed to expanding their work around the Charter for Racial Justice through various programs and activities.
- We will provide support as needed for the Reading Program as it expands with a racial justice/diversity, equity, and inclusion lens.
- The Mobilize budget also supports and develops women to be faith and community leaders in any context to which they are called to serve. The Leadership Development budget provides for training and support for current elected and appointed officers from across the organization. This is done through the work of staff liaisons assigned to support the work of conference officers as well as through the Leadership Development Days (LDD) event. In 2023, LDD will be offered virtually and will expand to include district officers. The work of Leadership Development will extend to innovating on the “influence” membership track.

We will continue visioning for the future of how we engage United Women in Faith leaders from the local unit all the way to the board of directors as well as how we continue to develop women leaders to show up in other areas of leadership in the church and in the public square.





**“Connections will continue to maintain relationships with agency partners, caucuses, and ecumenical partners; and work on equipping members of United Women in Faith with understandings and connections for becoming leaders.”**

**Sung-ok Lee and the Connections Homeroom**

2023 will be a year of preparing for General Conference that is scheduled to take place in May 2024. We will be monitoring and drafting legislation, coalition building, networking, and preparing United Women in Faith members for their participation. Connections will continue to lead a working group of board/program advisory group delegates on regionalization with the Christmas Covenant legislation and produce a statement of our position in the global structure of The United Methodist Church, in addition to potential amendments to the legislation.

Connections will continue to maintain relationships with agency partners, caucuses, and ecumenical partners and work on equipping members of United Women in Faith with understandings and connections for becoming leaders in various areas of the church.

Connections will provide guidance and support for Jurisdiction Leadership Teams as they prepare for quadrennial meetings occurring in 2024 and hold elections for national leadership. The meetings will take place from April 19 to June 23, 2024, across the five jurisdictions. We will coordinate networking with annual conferences for United Women in Faith leadership in the church; support members and units to stay connected to the organization as disaffiliations of local churches continue; and maintain and support a staff and board bureau for United Women in Faith annual meetings and other events.

### International Mission

In 2023, United Women in Faith will continue implementing programmatic work in accordance with the new strategic plan. All planned activities for 2023 will depend on each country's specific COVID situation, restrictions, and requirements.





Our three main goals remain unchanged:

1. Leadership development
2. Economic empowerment
3. Skills building

Our leadership development focus continues to be on developing the organizational capacities of local United Women in Faith members as well as providing sustainable life skills to individual women leaders.

In the area of economic development, our country teams work with local communities to assess needs and design locally appropriate responses.

In all our programs, young women's participation and involvement are programmed at 50%. We plan to promote more sustainable projects identified and designed by young women.

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**Innovation and Assessment:** United Women in Faith national staff will continue the work of gathering input and information from United Women in Faith leaders in priority countries contingent upon their ability to work and travel due to country-specific regulations.

In 2023, the United Women in Faith national staff will continue coordinating the seven country teams as they train local women in their church and community, conduct post-training assessments, prioritize identified needs, design projects to address these needs, and determine the implementation process.

The United Women in Faith national staff will work with the newly hired Regional Missionary for Africa who will be based in Lubumbashi to set up a country team, assess the needs, and plan for Training for Transformation in DRC.

**Country Teams Strategy:** The work focus remains on a country team model, which includes national staff, Regional Missionaries, Women's Desk coordinators, youth representatives, and other local women leaders. Program funds will continue to be earmarked for regional missionary salaries and program support. Grants will be provided to support the Women's Desk coordinators in priority and other strategic countries. In addition to Training for Transformation, a project design and proposal writing training will be provided to the teams to enhance their program planning skills. Other training needs will be also assessed and addressed as needed.

**Membership Engagement:** Funds will be dedicated to continuing innovation around a plan to engage United Women in Faith-U.S. members in international work.

## Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner

The Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner is an Office of The United Methodist Church administered by United Women in Faith. The Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner has several recurring expenses:

1. Deaconess and home missionary education.
2. Orientation, training, and consecration.
3. Program administration: Fenton Memorial Deaconess Home, self-care, financial planning, cutting-edge grants, professional/personal development grants, deaconess and home missionary coaching, and a Nurture and Care team.
4. Funding of one staff member for the DisAbility Ministries Committee of The United Methodist Church.
5. Engaging in multiple conferences, meetings, and membership in professional organizations which include DOTAC, DIAKONIA, NADHM, and Committee on Deaconess Home Missioner Service.

The Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner has three paid consultants who work with our office. The consultants work with current candidates and discerners as they go through the process of interviews, discerning their call, and take their core studies all the way through to consecration and coaching programs.

The Office of Deaconess and Home Missioner intentionally connects with other agencies in The United Methodist Church and tables at conferences that future deaconess and home missionaries would attend to raise our visibility and educate others about the deaconess and home missionary relationship.





**“Operations seeks to provide the structure and support that allows United Women in Faith to serve women, children, and youth around the world.”**

**Mollie James-Vickery and the Operations Homeroom**

In the three years since COVID-19 changed our world, we have honed our virtual skills, designed hybrid events, created online communities, and launched a new brand. Our 2023 Operations Budget builds on that work while also creating a solid foundation for implementing our new strategic goals and creating a sustainable hybrid culture for our staff and members. This task means shifting the ways we work, gather, learn, serve, and worship. For Operations, this means creating print and digital resources that complement and enhance one another; designing events that are in-person, virtual, or hybrid to meet the needs of our members and shift quickly in response to public health concerns; making the best use of the technology we have; identifying what is needed and equipping member leaders to do the same; and building a workplace that reflects the values of our members and honors their stewardship and trust in our staff. Most of all, Operations seeks to provide the structure and support that allows United Women in Faith to serve women, children, and youth around the world.

**Communications:** Communications supports members with print and digital resources for programs, education, and information. The new mission resource vendor will offer new shipping options and a new e-store will improve the shopping and downloads experience. The second-year pilot for Mighty Networks is in place for digital resources, community building, and interest groups.

**Events Management:** The team that just completed the program and management leadership for the 2022 Assembly has moved on to mentoring jurisdiction event teams. They enhance the live or virtual experience with presentation and production, logistics, and event planning for all national events including board meetings, Mission u, Leadership Development Days, Soul Care Retreats, and more.



**Human Resources:** Human Resources continues to manage the employee life cycle and administer employee benefits. HR is also responsible for the reservations and maintenance of Grace employee apartments, the planning and implementation of employee recognitions, staff-in, the employee bi-weekly newsletter, and live meetings. Over the last two years, HR has also become the gatekeeper of all things COVID, including interpreting policies and contact tracing.

**Information Technology:** IT expenses include telecommunications services, hardware, and software support all aspects of work at United Women in Faith. These systems provide the tools necessary to achieve the goals set forth in our strategic plan and carry out the purpose and vision of United Women in Faith.

**Organizational Development:** Organizational development continues to serve as a resource for United Women in Faith's strategic planning process and work to move the goals and key objectives forward. Organizational Development also supports efforts in the areas of reinforcing culture, strengthening skills through peer coaching circles and other learning and development initiatives, as well as providing support to the board's Planning and Assessment Committee to carry out functions as outlined in the bylaws.

“I am creating something new. There it is! Do you see it?  
I have put roads in deserts, streams in thirsty lands.”  
—Isaiah 43:19 (CEV)



## FIND UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH ONLINE



### UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH WEBSITE

**uwfaith.org** is our primary website. Here you will find the latest news and information about United Women in Faith programs, initiatives, and events. It's where you connect with other members and get involved. You'll also find links to our many resources and the **e-store**. Find new brand elements, member materials, programs, and catalogs here.



### ONLINE COMMUNITY:

**uwfaith.mn.co** Connect with United Women in Faith members on Mighty Networks, a safe and secure online space to deepen our community and engage digital resources for local programming and transformative education. The platform features the digital Program Resource, Prayer Guide, Mission u curricula, online groups around specific interests, and more.



### FACEBOOK

**facebook.com/uwomenfaith** If you're on Facebook, be sure to "like" and "follow" United Women in Faith so that our posts will appear on your home page.



### TWITTER

**twitter.com/uwomenfaith** Do you tweet? So does United Women in Faith! Use the link to find our Twitter account @uwomenfaith. Follow us, tweet with us, and become a part of the continuing conversation around faith, hope, and love in action.



### YOUTUBE:

**youtube.com/uwomenfaith** Need a video for a presentation? You'll find it on YouTube. Check out the video resources available by following the link. New videos are posted often!



### FLICKER

**uwfaith.org/flickr** Need a photo for your newsletter or PowerPoint? Follow this link and you'll find terrific images illustrating the work of United Women in Faith members.

# Photo Captions and Credits

**Cover:** A member of Nimbus Dance helps lead the closing worship service for the United Women in Faith Assembly 2022 in Orlando, Florida. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

**Pg. 5:** Harriett Jane Olson, photo by Pricilla Dickenson/Gittings

**Pg. 6:** Ainise 'Isama'u, photo courtesy of 'Ainise 'Isama'u

**Pg. 7:** A member of Nimbus Dance helps lead the closing worship service for the United Women in Faith Assembly 2022 in Orlando, Florida. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

**Pg. 9:** The Rev. Vicki Harrison, senior pastor from New Hope UMC in Brandon led the morning session. Photo courtesy of the Florida Conference

**Pg. 10:** Courtesy, Methodist Family Health, Little Rock, Arkansas

**Pg. 11:** *Top:* We are a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. Photo by Kristina Krug  
*Bottom:* Members of United Women in Faith at First United Methodist Church in Lincolnton, North Carolina, pose for a photo by their Reading Program bookshelf in their church's library. Photo by Courtney Cheryl Cole

**Pg. 12:** Tabatha Holley, United Women in Faith

**Pg. 13:** *From top.* 1. President, 'Anise Isama'u challenges attendees to use our new brand to recruit new women and Turn it up! Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News. 2. The Rev. YaNi Davis speaks during closing worship at the 2022 United Women in Faith Assembly. Davis, a hip-hop and spoken word artist, is founder of The Peace People's Movement. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News. 3. Janet Wolf inspires and challenges Assembly attendees. Her riveting speeches are available on our [e-store](#) for the first time. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News. 4. Children from National Mission Institution, Cornerstone Family Ministries in Tampa, FL, share special songs with Assembly. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

**Pg. 14:** United Women in Faith members sort packets of garden seeds for Cornerstone Family Ministries during their Ubuntu Day of Service at the United Women in Faith Assembly 2022 in Orlando, Florida. Cornerstone Family Ministries is a National Mission Institution of United Women in Faith, Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

**Pg. 16:** Big Garden employees welcome participants their annual Harvest Festival (2022). The Big Garden raises over 10,000 pounds of fresh produce every year on our campus to donate to shelters, pantries, and food banks in the area. The Big Garden also builds community gardens and starts fruit tree groves as well as educational programs for elementary and middle school children to teach them urban agriculture skills so that they may grow, prepare, and preserve their own food. Photo by Sara Atkins-Rauwald

**Pg. 17:** The Banay-Banay women's group are from Southern Mindanao in the Philippines and is supported by United Women in Faith's economic development and livelihood initiative. The women produce and sell peanut butter, which allows them to earn an income to support themselves and their families. Peanut butter making is a common means of income-generating among families in this area. The goal of this initiative is to enhance the capacity of women to develop skills and the ability to manage their own livelihood projects. Photo by Paul Jeffrey

**Pg. 18:** Muriel Nelson, President of the Conference United Women of Liberia at the groundbreaking for the Empowering Women and Youth Women through Small Argo Business Program in Liberia sponsored by United Women in Faith. Photo by Martha B. Dobbob

**Pg. 19:** Annah Maria is a participant in the United Women in Faith-funded poultry program in Zimbabwe. Photo by Evelyn Gurupira

**Pg. 20:** *Top:* Bishop Peggy Johnson interprets a video presentation by U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland to the 2022 United Women in Faith Assembly in Orlando, Florida, on May 21. Photo by United Women in Faith  
*Bottom:* United Women in Faith executive for Economic and Environmental Justice, Ilka Vega representing United Women in Faith at COP27 in Egypt. Photo by Bee Morehead, executive director of Texas Impact.

**Pg. 21:** Bizzy Feekes wrote "*Mqqnegi Hirera—Belong to Earth*," a Bible study that connects her identities as an Indigenous Christian artist, seminarian, and writer. Photo courtesy of Bizzy Feekes.

## Photo Captions and Credits

**Pg. 22:** The Rev. Sung Yeon Choimorrow, executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, addresses the opening worship service of the 2022 United Women in Faith Assembly in Orlando, Florida. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

**Pg. 23:** Members of United Women of Faith wear red clothing and their church name badges to show their support for a new equity policy they hope will interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline. Photo by Vivian Shipe, Founder/Director - "I AM" the Voice of the Voiceless, Inc., Knoxville, TN

**Pg. 24:** Newly consecrated deaconesses and home missionaries walk through the crowd to applause during the 2022 United Women in Faith Assembly in Orlando, Florida, on May 20, 2022. Sixty deaconesses and home missionaries were consecrated at the event. Photo by Paul Jeffrey for United Women in Faith.

**Pg. 25:** *Top:* Beatrice Asyago, office of deaconesses and home missionaries, from the Kenya Ethiopia Conference. Courtesy Office of Deaconesses and Home Missioners  
*Bottom:* United Methodist Leah Wandera gives clothes and personal effects to girls at First United Methodist Church in Moheto, Kenya, during a workshop to prevent female genital mutilation. Wandera is founder of Wema Health Foundation, a non-governmental organization that advocates for universal health care and education in Kenya. Photo by Gad Maiga, UM News.

**Pg.26:** iStock

**Pg.27:** iStock

**Pg.28:** Geovania Goncalves, United Women in Faith scholarship recipient at Africa University.

**Pg.29:** iStock

**Pg. 31:** United Women in Faith celebrate during their Legacy Banquet at Assembly 2022 in Orlando, Florida. Photo by Mike DuBose, UM News.

**Pg. 33:** Tamara Clark, United Women in Faith

**Pg. 35:** Heidi Carenga, United Women in Faith

**Pg. 39:** Sally Vonner, Janet Joyner Photography

**Pg. 41:** Leaders on stage at the 2022 United Women in Faith Assembly in Orlando, Florida, on May 21. Photo by Paul Jeffrey for United Women in Faith.

**Pg. 42:** Sung-ok Lee, Janet Joyner Photography

**Pg. 44:** Annual event "Moving for the Movement" virtual 5k sponsored by Love, Justice & Service: The Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner. **Back row:** from left: Presley James-Vickery, Kim Burse, Scott James-Vickery  
*Middle:* Hudson, Niko, Mollie, Kiki James-Vickery, and Leah Wandera *Front:* Megan Hale with Pyrat  
Photo by Michael Oates

**Pg. 45:** Mollie James-Vickery, United Women in Faith

# United Women in Faith

## Vision

Turning faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children, and youth around the world.

## Mission

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.

## Purpose

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.

**faith**

**action**

**sisterhood**



United  
Women  
in Faith