

A Call to Prayer & Self-Denial

A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR
UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH'S
ONGOING WORK FOR
RACIAL JUSTICE.

Llamado a la Oración y al Sacrificio

UNA OFRENDA ESPECIAL PARA
EL TRABAJO CONTINUO DE
MUJERES UNIDAS EN LA FE
POR LA JUSTICIA RACIAL.

기도와 절제의 날

연합감리교회
여선교회의
지속적인 인종정의
사역을 위한 헌금

2027



Rooted in Faith, Committed to Racial Justice
Arraigadas en la fe, comprometidas con la justicia racial
신앙에 뿌리내리고, 인종정의에 헌신하며



United
Women
in Faith

.....
Date/Fecha/날짜

.....
Time/Hora/시간

.....
Location/Lugar/장소

United Women in Faith is
powered by women
who care deeply and act boldly.



You Are Invited

We invite you to gather, pray, reflect, and put your faith into action.

For more than 157 years, United Women in Faith members have taken action to turn faith, hope, and love into work on behalf of women, children, and youth in every corner of the world. As an annual part of our action, United Women in Faith invites women from all over to gather locally and participate in **A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial**.

2027 Focus: Racial Justice

Rooted in Faith, Committed to Racial Justice

Our commitment to racial justice is crystallized in the Charter for Racial Justice, and this year's Call to Prayer & Self-Denial offering will support programs that uphold the Charter's principles and United Women in Faith's ongoing work for racial justice in and around our local communities. Programs that interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline and address the criminalization of communities of color and mass incarceration.

United Women in Faith first adopted the "Charter of Racial Policies" in 1952. We worked on ratification at multiple levels of the organization and readopted an updated version in 1962. Throughout the years, we lobbied The United Methodist Church to officially adopt the Charter, seeking to bring its commitments to the full body of the church. The Charter was first received by the General Conference in 1964 and first included in *The Book of Resolutions* in 1980. Since then, it has been updated and readopted regularly by delegates to General Conference. From the 1950s to the present, the Charter has been a core part of our identity.

One hundred percent of the offering goes to the focus projects for that year.

Imagine, Reflect, & Give

Our foremothers authored the Charter for Racial Justice because they believed. Today, we still believe! These courageous trailblazers, much like our sisters today, held an unquenchable fire—bold, fierce, and radiant, lighting the path for all who follow!

We are continually called to recommit ourselves and to show our belief with our actions.



Therefore, since we also have such a large cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us lay aside every hindrance and the sin that so easily ensnares us. Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. For the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

—Hebrews 12:1-2 (NRSVUE)

We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, our mothers and sisters and grandmothers who marched, prayed, resisted, organized, and hoped. They ran the race before us, naming truth in dangerous times, standing up, speaking up, and fighting when it cost them everything. Women such as:

- **Sarah A. Dickey**, who in 1863 was called to educate newly emancipated people.
- **Kim Seji**, who in 1899 became the first Bible Woman in Korea.
- **Élida García de Falcón**, a Spanish-speaking woman, who in 1944 began translating the Program Book into Spanish.
- Author and lawyer **Pauli Murray**, whose 1951 book *States' Laws on Race and Color*, commissioned by the Woman's Division, became the groundwork for the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling on *Brown v. Board of Education*.

In 2025, \$275,498 was raised to directly support microenterprise projects, vocational training, life skills, and livelihood training for women internationally.

(Information and dates courtesy of United Women in Faith's Racial Justice Timeline.)

As God's people, we are called to give generously to help others. Generosity looks different for everyone. The Apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 8:12 that all gifts are acceptable when given with a willing and eager heart.

Our Work

United Women in Faith recognizes racism as a deep sin and a clear rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ and works for the elimination of racism at all levels: individual, interpersonal, institutional, cultural, and systemic.

Some of the work of the Racial Justice office includes funding local actions and events such as the annual Charter for Racial Justice event in North Texas. In 2024, they held an event that confronted racial disparities in maternal health. Texas ranks 49th in the nation for

women's health, and 30 percent of women residing in Texas receive no prenatal care during the first trimester of pregnancy. Nearly 140 people gathered in person and online to learn why women of color and their infants face disproportionately high rates of preventable illness and death.

In 2025, the Office of Racial Justice offered more than a dozen free, direct-to-member, virtual live programs to help our members and friends learn, act, and lead.

Experts explored the history, policies, and cultural barriers driving these inequities, while advocates

“We connect spiritual women to act boldly for justice and transform communities.”



and policymakers equipped participants to become effective voices for change. Attendees connected with local maternal health organizations, discussed advocacy opportunities, and committed to concrete action steps in their communities.

This is what investment in racial justice makes possible: education that deepens understanding, resources that build advocacy skills, and faithful women empowered to challenge unjust systems.

Plan & Promote Your Service

Whether you choose to organize a virtual observance of A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial or plan to gather in person, our resources will help you organize a meaningful, intentional time of sisterhood, where attendees can pray, learn, and give sacrificially. Services can be held anytime in 2027, though most choose to hold theirs early in the year.

When planning your A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial service, consider the following recommendations for hosting a successful event:

- Distribute/mail the save-the-date prayer cards early, and spread the word in your community, district, and conference wherever appropriate.
- Email marketing campaigns and social media posts can be a big help in drawing attention to your unit's observance.
- Event invitations and digital calendars can also serve as helpful, easy reminders.
- Consider joining with other units or circles in your community or district for a larger service.
- Provide multiple options for giving, such as online donations, cash collected at a local church, or checks mailed to a treasurer.
- Use the resources provided below to reach out to your group easily and clearly.

Planning Resources

Visit: uwfaith.org/CallToPrayer to access the resources below:

- Poster
- Bookmark
- A Call to Prayer & Self-Denial Service
- Stickers

You or your local group can make your gift today by visiting bit.ly/CallToPrayerGift, or sending a check to:

United Women in Faith
Church Center for the United Nations
777 United Nations Plaza, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10017
Attn: Call to Prayer 2027



United
Women
in Faith

Your selfless giving supports vital racial justice programs that restore pathways of dignity and equality for all.