

PAG report 2024

Annual Meeting Talking Points: 2024

MESSAGE TO MEMBERS: Dream it, Believe it, Do it. UWFaith is positioned for exponential growth. Through 2028 we are looking to increase our membership to greater than 500,000, reach and exceed our \$60 million Legacy Endowment Fund, increase giving to meet or exceed \$10 Million and boldly adapt to change to answer God's call to inspire, influence and impact local and global communities. Let's work together as we continue to put love in action.

Mission of United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith connects and nurtures women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

Celebrate: Share our collective story as United Women in Faith

- **New Membership Campaign:** We are planning to initiate a new membership campaign launching in spring 2025 designed to align with our strategic vision and shape a new mindset around membership and engagement, fostering a culture where every member is an advocate, leader, and change-maker. Through active engagement, we aim to build a supportive, dynamic, and forward-thinking community, bringing in new women and dollars dedicated to our shared values and aspirations.

Inspire: Share how we connect, nurture, and uplift

- **Mission u 2025 Theme: Hope as Resurrection People**
 - How do we understand hope as followers of Christ? Is it merely optimism despite what we witness all around us or is it something deeper than that? What does it mean to be "resurrection people" in the 21st century, and what can we learn and apply to our own lives from the accounts of people who encountered Jesus after his resurrection? Now is the perfect time to reintroduce and invite United Methodist women who are not members to United Women in Faith.
- **Membership** is open to **any** woman who wants to inspire, influence, and impact her community to uplift the marginalized.
 - Encourage members to sign up for the NEW member portal at uwfaith.org to connect to resources, stories, and other members in our online community.
 - Download the Excite and Invite guide to get excited about inviting new women.
 - **We are asking for every member to commit to intentionally inviting 2 women to learn about United Women in Faith. Check out Faith Talks podcast, join the work of climate and racial justice, connect with their interest.**
- **Resources to be inspired:** Visit uwfaithresources.org: Prayer Guide, response magazine, Mission u studies, Program Resource, and the Soul Care Retreat Manual.
- **Opportunities for connection:** Consider hosting a Soul Care retreat, share the *Thrive* e-newsletter, invite women to join the Reading Program or listen to our podcasts, offer scholarships for young and new women to attend Mission u or Assembly, or purchase gift subscriptions to **response** or other introductory means to let new women "try out" our organization.

- **Soul Care Offerings**
 - Soul Care Group on United Women in Faith Digital offers content and community for reflection and Soul Care practice.
Launching in early 2025
 - Soul Care Card Deck for personal practice and reflection.
 - Soul Care Retreat Host Group on United Women in Faith Digital provides community feedback and conversations, resources, and support for those who have purchased a Soul Care Toolkit and are hosting retreats.
 - Soul Care Registration- an offer to create and host the registration for retreats being held, and additional retreat content (workshop recordings, small group circle guide, pre-recorded music) for Hosts who participate.
 - We are exploring the options for live workshops or cohorts to learn about different types of Soul Care hosted through UWFaith Digital.

Influence: Share how we equip women to lead, serve, and advocate

- **Leadership Development Days:** Take your leadership to the next level join us for (LDD) on November 21 – 23, 2024. Save the date!
 - Leadership Development Days will meet virtually for dynamic worship, plenaries, networking, and workshops that will help improve your leadership skills. There will be over 1000 in attendance. This year all 2025 conference officers are invited to attend – another reason to serve as a conference leader! Every district will be able to have 2 district leaders attend! **Registration will open in September, so please make sure to register and mark it on your calendar!**
 - Theme: Revive and Lead Empowered by Resurrection
 - Leadership Toolkit: Many of the resources will be available on the Leadership Toolkit – it will be available to anyone on UWFaith Digital.
- **Follow and engage** United Women in Faith on social media and at uwfaith.org/digital.
- **Join uwfaith.org/digital** for free to connect with United Women in Faith community. You can also subscribe to one of the paid resources.
 - Come connect with sisters, make new friends, join an interest group, and experience your favorite print resources through this online digital platform.
- **Host a Move 4 Mission event.** All funds raised support Mission Giving and Conferences receive credit. For more information go to uwfaith.org/move4mission

Impact: We make a difference through reaching new women, taking action and giving.

- **Social justice priorities for 2024-2028 – both social justice priorities of climate justice and mass incarceration and criminalization of communities of color will continue into the next quadrennium.** We are encouraged to incorporate both priorities into your UWFaith work over the next four years.
- **VOTE** – Put your faith into action. As women in faith, we have the opportunity and responsibility to advocate for justice through engagement in the electoral process. Make sure you vote.
- **Reading Program** -- We are excited to share the 2025 Reading Program, and it is out now. Meanwhile, we give thanks for all the member volunteers whose faithful behind-the-scenes work makes this possible: we had more than 400 people apply to be volunteer Reading Program evaluators in 2024!

Our Impact in numbers

Note: Stats are from our 2023 annual report. Giving stats 2024.

- Scholarships- 304 students in the U.S. and around the world totaling over \$650,000
- Grants- Over 182 grants provided to international mission organizations and the National Mission Institutions along with other organizations totaling nearly 2.9 million
- Leadership Development Days- Virtual event hosted 712 leaders from all U.S. Conferences
- Campaigns- More than 3110 legislative actions were taken by members for Climate Justice
- Economic Development Grants- 16 economic development grants totaling \$186,000 were awarded in 2023
- As of July 2024, the total raised to support the continued work of United Women in Faith through the Legacy Endowment Fund is \$38,773,749.
- The total raised for Day of Giving 2024 was \$424,415.00

General Secretary's greeting

Thank you for your support and encouragement in this first year. It is my joy to be on this journey with you. I invite all of us to keep our faith, hope, love, prayers and giving alive no matter how challenging the future may seem. Proverbs 4:25 says, "Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you," supporting and being in mission with women, children and youth for generations to come. We are influencers and inspirers! We can make an impact! Believe it!

I believe we can, because together United Women in Faith is a community of bold women on a journey, believing that love in action can change the world and with God make the impossible possible! May it be so, Amen.