

Purpose

We are: A community of women whose purpose is to know God and 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.

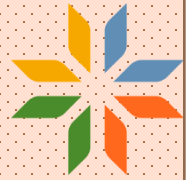
Mission

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.

Vision

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

The Link



November 2025

President—Karen McElfish

president@vauwf.org



What an exciting time to be a member of United Women in Faith!

We've had a wonderful year of events in 2025, including an in-person Spiritual Life Soul Care Retreat, our Pre-AC Tea and Talk, Mission u, Young Women's Retreat and Annual Meeting. What a joy to be together, renewing friendships, building sisterhood.

We have had several Charter for Racial Justice events, including the Three Notch'd District and the Shenandoah River District events. I encourage each of the districts to form Charter for Racial Justice teams and plan events and/or studies which advance the work of the Charter.

Three Notch'd District will again host a Charter for Racial Justice webinar on February 14. In addition, Conference United Women in Faith leaders have been working with Conference United Methodist Men leaders on several collaborative events. Watch for the first, a webinar on March 17, 2026.

Our United Women in Faith National Social Action Priority Campaigns are Ending the School-to-Prison Pipeline and Just Energy for All. As you plan for the upcoming year for your unit or district, what actions will you take?

Participate in some upcoming events, including United Methodist Day at General Assembly, which will be held on January 29. Registration information is on our website and in this issue of the Link newsletter.

[Assembly 2026](#) will be May 15-17 in Indianapolis. Keynote speakers Stacey Abrams and her mother, Rev. Carolyn Abrams! Wonderful workshops. Plan to attend! And bring a friend.

[Virginia hotel room block for ASSEMBLY 2026](#)

As the year wraps up and we consider end-of-year giving, give generously to Mission Giving.

Consider donating to the Legacy Endowment Fund, which will ensure the work of our beloved organization for many years to come. We are almost to our goal of \$60,000,000. Can you help make that happen?

Continue to support our National Mission Institutions, especially Wesley Community Service Center right here in Virginia with our money and our time. New exciting things are happening at Wesley!

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Now is the time to share our stories of faith, purpose, and voice, why we are passionate about United Women in Faith, how we can inspire others to take action. What three things inspire you?

Time to excite and invite others to join us – look for the new “Excite and Invite” booklet on our website under Membership, Nurture and Outreach. We are in a new era. I challenge each unit and district to set a goal for adding new members.

Who will you Inspire to let her spirit be renewed? Who will you Influence to lead with courage, compassion, and faith? Who will you Impact to put faith into action to help change the world?



United Methodist Day at General Assembly

Jeanette Yoh

Date: January 29, 2026 Time: 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Centenary UMC (Parking Lot Address: 400 E Franklin St Richmond, VA 23219)

Fees: \$25 through Dec. 12 or \$40 through Jan. 18

[Registration link](#)

United Methodist Day at General Assembly is scheduled for January 29, 2026.

As your legislative representative, I am often asked “why should I attend?” Well, this may well be the only time you can sit down with your representatives to discuss and ask questions that are of utmost importance to you. There will also be a few set priorities that will we would like discussed with your representative. Don’t worry if you do not feel comfortable talking. Your group will be large enough for others to take on the speaking responsibilities. You are also more than welcome to bring letters with you that can be left at offices. Bottom line, if you have never been, come see how the political process works. And if you have been before, come out and assist others who have not been. COME BE PART OF YOUR DESTINY! LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

Jeanette Yoh

VA UWF Legislative Representative

Vice President — Julia Meade Gallier

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Hello VA UWFaith Sisters,

We've been blessed to have experienced three wonderful VA Conference UWFaith sponsored events since our last newsletter.

We gathered in-person and via Zoom for the 2025 Mission u event and its theme *Practicing Hope*. Maria Ward and Doris Douglass did a great job of leading the team in putting this event together. It was exciting not only to have Sally Vonner, UWFaith CEO, at Mission u to help with the Friday afternoon mission project, to be a classroom participant, and to share some insight on Saturday evening but also to have Bishop Sue take time on Saturday to speak to the group at lunch. If you missed it, I hope you will plan NOW to be at Mission u next year. Work is already underway to plan for Experiencing Emmanuel, the 2026 Mission u Event.

The Young Women's Retreat at Camp Overlook, Keezletown, September 19-20, 2025, was a rousing success, so much so that the participants wanted to stay two nights versus one. Melissa White is already pondering options for 2026. Please be thinking now of young women you can encourage to attend. Always remember to explore scholarship options for first time attendees!

Our last in-person event for 2025 was the VA Conference UWFaith Annual Meeting on October 25, 2025, at Trinity United Methodist Church in Richmond, VA. Many thanks to our host, Trinity UWF, for welcoming us with open arms and making our time there so enjoyable. Our speaker, Rev. Lindsey Baynham Freeman, District Superintendent of the Mission Rivers District, read from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 2 Timothy 1:1-7. Rev. Freeman shared thoughts on how Susanna Wesley was diligent in teaching the Gospel not only to her children but to the community around her, using her kitchen window as her pulpit to

speak to members of the community gathered in her yard. Before ending, she had us turn to one another and share not only who was the Susanna Wesley in our lives growing up but also where each of us might find a place outside our homes to share our faith with those we encounter.

Our Annual Meeting is the last VA Conference UWF sponsored event for 2025. Not to fear, there is information available already for events in 2025 and 2026 that you don't want to miss, such as

Nov. 6, 2025 – [Virginia Council of Churches Annual Day Celebration](#)

Jan. 29, 2026 – [United Methodist Day at the General Assembly](#)

Feb. 14, 2026 – Three Notch'd District UWF webinar on the Charter for Racial Justice

Mar. 17, 2026 – UWF & UMM sponsored webinar on the Charter for Racial Justice

May 15-17, 2026 – [National UWF Assembly 2026](#) in Indianapolis, IN

And there's more than this to come. Stay tuned for more information in the next Link!

If I don't see you between now and the end of the year, I hope you all have a meaningful Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas.

Blessings,
Julia Meade (J.M.) Gallier
Jmcg5580@gmail.com
540-273-8934





Committee on Nominations — Mary Jane Rawley

dwwrawley@msn.com

What a joy to be with our sisters in United Women in Faith in person at our Annual Meeting in October! I have missed the in-person meetings where we celebrate our work, discuss strategies for ways to do things better, and to just have some good old fashioned conversation with our friends. It lightens my heart to be with my sisters in Christ.

At Annual Meeting we elected a few officers to fill positions of a few women who are leaving their positions at the end of 2025 and elected some new members for the Nominating Committee.

Elected were:

- Treasurer – Marty Bickford,
- Program Resources Coordinator – Linda Porter,
- Committee on Nominations

Members Class of 2029:

Penny Kelly, Barbara Phillips, and Annita Nelson.

We thank Dian McNaught, Cheryl Johnson, and Donna Turley for their service and work in the past years.

The Committee on Nominations works year-round. Even though we just finished our work for filling vacancies for the upcoming 2026 year, we are looking ahead to 2027 and preparing to do the work to fill the slots needed to be filled. We do keep a Talent Bank of potential leaders. If you know of leaders in your District who may make good officers, please let me know.

Blessings!

Mary Jane Rawley, Chairperson
Committee on Nominations



Hispanic Language Coordinator— Margie Hernandez



Hello sisters in faith. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your Hispanic Language Coordinator for several years. I have stepped down from this position, but I am always available for you. If there is ever a time when I can visit your circle either in person or via zoom, please reach out to me.

Through the years we have learned about how to be more in community with our Latina sisters and how to encourage thoughtful dialogue around the topic of immigration. I ask that during such difficult times you continue your prayers for Latino communities and seek to be in relationship with our sisters in faith.

I encourage you to:

- Listen to Faith Talks podcasts such as Immigration and Loving Our Neighbors (<https://uwfaith.org/event/faith-talks-immigration-neighbors/>) or GCORR's Immigration Update: A Webinar on Birthright Citizenship (<https://www.gcorr.org/news/immigration-update-a-webinar-on-birthright-citizenship>)
- Invite a speaker from Just Neighbors to lead your small group in a discussion on how you can make a difference in the lives of immigrant families while offering a fundraising event. <https://www.justneighbors.org/>
- Read books from our reading program that educate you about the immigrants' struggle and engage in making a difference in your community.
- Start an English Language Program or join one in your community to empower families through education.
- Offer or participate in the Spanish for Church Hospitality course to better understand what it is like as an adult to learn another language, how much time and effort is involved, how hard the commitment is and how humbling the journey may be. You can buy "Who Is My Neighbor? Student Manual: Learning Spanish as Church Hospitality" <https://a.co/d/4yliUYa>
- Check out the artwork "[La Sagrada Familia](#)" by Kelly Latimore

May peace and hope fill our hearts and may we live the life Jesus has called us to live by following the teachings of [Matthew 25: 31-46](#).



Program Resources — Cheryl Johnson

cherylljohnson1002@gmail.com

Previously I'd asked questions regarding the Reading Program. I want to share one response.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE BOOK READ THIS READING YEAR?

"Oh, how do you pick your favorite child? I personally really enjoyed A Right Worthy Woman – reading about real women inspires me but this took place in Richmond, so some of the places could be physically revisited. Our unit had a Book and Brunch where we chose a book and invited women from our community to come and discuss a book together. This year it was Start with Hello. We had Baptists, Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Lutherans, and other Methodists for a great discussion."

DOES YOUR CHURCH HAVE A LIBRARY WITH UWF READING PROGRAM BOOKS?

"No library but UWF has a shelf with some Reading Program books."

DOES YOUR UNIT OR DISTRICT PURCHASE READING PROGRAM BOOKS?

"The District has books available for sale at the Annual Meeting."

WOULD YOU UTILIZE THE LENDING LIBRARY?

"This year I have several District Units inquire about the Lending Library and how to do it."

Thanks to Joyce Osburn, Mt. Pleasant UMC, Three Notch'd District.

The Lending Library is a valuable resource in the VA Conference UWF, available to all members.

At Annual Meeting held October 24 & 25, the Mission Team proposed changing the report deadline for Districts in sending to Conference their yearly totals for the Reading Program from October 10 to **October 1**. This

aligns with other deadlines. The Executive Committee approved this proposal.

The following Certificates of Recognition were given:

NUMBER OF BOOKS READ	NUMBER OF READERS
1. Mountain View 877	1. Northern Virginia 150
2. Northern Virginia 812	2. Mission Rivers 137
3. Three Notch'd 634	3. Shenandoah River 123

Total books reported read in the Conference – 4226

Total adult & youth readers 708

Total subscriptions to Response Magazine – 184

Linda Porter will assume the position of Resource Coordinator effective January 1, 2026. She is currently President of the Three Notch'd District and brings a great deal of experience to the Mission Team. My prayer is you will all be as kind to her as you have been to me.

Blessings, Cheryl Johnson

2026 Reading Books added to Lending Library

EM Grace Can Lead Us Home
LD Heart of Fire
The Book of Hope
NC Finding Me
The Personal Librarian
SA Everyday Ubuntu
Highway of Tears
SG God's Ghostwriters
Red, White and Whole (youth)

Social Action—Phyllis Geoghegan

socialaction@vauwf.org



Thank you to all who knitted, crocheted or purchased hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and shawls for Ukrainian children, youth and adults. We will get them sent as soon as possible so they can be distributed to the communities in need during the cold winter they have to endure. They should get there for Christmas gifts.

Thank you, also, to the Shenandoah River District, Laurel Ridge Community College and all the sponsors for the **Reaching Across the Racial Divide** event on October 11. Thank you to all who traveled to the event or viewed the virtual event. You may watch the recording at <https://laurelridge.edu/event/reaching-across-the-racial-divide-a-presentation-by-betty-kilby-baldwin-and-phoebe-kilby/>.

Considering our **Charter for Racial Justice**, I want to encourage you as individuals, units and districts to share the following books during children's worship, Sunday School, VBS, Preschools, and visits with children or grandchildren. All of these are on our 2026 Reading Program List. I have read them and know they will enrich lives. **We Are Still Here** by Traci Sorell and Frané Lessac shares the history of Native American struggles and changes that were made in their lives. In this book is their Racial/Civil Rights {or lack of} timeline, 1870-2007. Your eyes will be opened!!

Another one is **The Little House of Hope** by Terry Catasús Jennings and Raúl Colón. This is a wonderful story about an immigrant family from Cuba who wanted a happy casita here in the US. They found one they could afford and fixed it up

and then invited the mother's sister and baby to live with them because her husband had been taken away. Then a family from Mexico needed a place to rest and work until they got their papers and their own place to live. They were invited into la casita. What a story of generosity and joy, all working together for the good of others! Beautiful illustrations show the emotions and concern.

Please share **Brown Baby Jesus** by Dorena Williamson and Ronique Ellis which is scripturally based and shares Jesus's Family Tree. Amazing connective illustrations! **The Light She Feels Inside** by Gwendolyn Wallace and Olivia Duchess explores how our "glowing" or passions lead us to service and shares the stories of women who served and enabled injustices to be corrected. Great little book! **Nell plants a tree** by Anne Wynter and Daniel Miyares is an award winning book and will pull you into the heart of the story of life around a pecan tree. Maybe it will inspire you to plant a seed for your family. **A Prayer for Our Country words to unite and Inspire Hope** by Senate Chaplain Barry Black will capture your soul and ensure you that God lives! He loves and is action in the lives of citizens across our country who want it to be a better place and glorify Him as His called children. Thank you, Lord! Amen.

Blessings and Thanksgiving,

Phyllis Geoghegan,
Social Action Coordinator for VA Conference





Education and Interpretation—

Angela Sokolowski sokolowski.angela@gmail.com

Hello Beautiful Friends! I praise God for ALL of you and for bringing us together as United Women in Faith. As we enter this season of giving, let's anchor ourselves in this beautiful promise:

'I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'

— [Matthew 25:35-40\(CEB\)](#)

This love and compassion are what we are called to do!

I'm excited to share the revised [Living Into Our Purpose \(LIOP\): Mission Today Units](#) form, a streamlined, inspiring tool designed to help us better track and celebrate our collective impact. We know how much devotion and effort you pour into your local mission work, and this form is a way of respectfully honoring that commitment. It is truly more than a report; it is a strategic roadmap that clarifies the vital connections between your local actions—from your financial legacy gifts to your hands-on service—and our global ministry. Please embrace this form as the final, essential step in Living Into Our Purpose this year, ensuring your story of loving service is accurately and powerfully told.

This form is designed to push us beyond comfortable routines and challenge us to reach new levels of service. Achieving Bronze, Silver, or even Gold status isn't about bragging; it's about intentionality and know-

ing you fulfilled your highest potential this year. When we look at sections like "Deepen Your Faith" (Section 2) and "Be the Voice: Action & Advocacy" (Section 3), we see a framework for holistic discipleship. Filling out the form is simply asking ourselves the tough, inspiring questions:

- Are we just meeting, or are we growing? Are you actively elevating your spiritual practice, as noted in Section 2?
- Are we just talking, or are we changing policy? Are you truly advocating for social justice and climate action, as outlined in Section 3?
- Are we just a committee, or are we a movement? Are we actively recruiting new members and investing in young women leaders, as inspired by Section 4?

Each checkbox and answer field represents a life you touched, a dollar you magnified, or a concept you broadened. When you achieve your Pledge to Mission, you connect your local church directly to global transformation. When you describe your hands-on mission (Section 6), you make visible the love of Christ in your community.

By completing this form accurately and thoroughly, you achieve three critical things for your unit and the broader mission:

1. **Celebrate Success:** The completed form becomes a powerful tool for self-reflection and celebration. It lets every member see, in concrete terms, how much you've accomplished in the name of women, children, and youth.
2. **Ensure Transparency:** It verifies that your financial gifts and mission kit donations are properly documented, guaranteeing the vital work of UWFaith continues without interruption.
3. **Inspire Others:** Your completed form

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becomes a vibrant testimonial for the entire Virginia Conference of the United Women in Faith. It shows other units what is possible, generating a ripple effect of engagement and dedication across the state.

Don't let your Unit's incredible efforts fade into memory. Embrace the LIOP: Mission Today Unit checklist not as paperwork, but as the final, essential act of mission. It is how we certify that we have truly lived into Our Purpose, moving from good intentions to measurable, lasting

impact.

God of heaven, we give ALL HONOR & GLORY to You. We lift up the goals we have for the coming year and recognizing them as our roadmap for living into our purpose. Grant us the wisdom and courage to advocate for justice, the compassion to serve the vulnerable with our hands and the strength to secure our financial legacy. Help us remember, O Lord, that achieving these things is not for our glory, but for Your Kingdom. Keep our hearts focused on the women, children, and youth we serve. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Angela Sokolowski

Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation
Virginia Conference United Women of Faith
sokolowski.angela@gmail.com

Treasurer—Dian McNaught

treasurer@vauwf.org



This is my last article as your treasurer and it is a bitter-sweet moment. I want to congratulate all the District treasurers for the amazing job you have done these last two years. On top of working with ALL of your unit treasurers, and their training, I asked you to learn a new system initiated by the national office several years ago. You all took on that challenge, went through the training first with your SMR orders and then moving forward to your quarterly remittances. Along the way, there were many suggestions about forms and we developed new ones that would hopefully make your jobs easier during and at the end of the year.

In my first year, we had a wonderful treasurer, Kim Beuerle, pass from cancer from the Mountain View District. That's when I learned that the presidents were at a loss as to what a treasurer does. Teresa Watson, Mountain View's president, had to retrieve all the files from Kim's grieving husband, and she didn't have a clue what to do. That's when I began including all the presidents on the training sessions and emails. Not that they needed to learn how to do everything but to have a working knowledge of what to do until a replacement could be found.

We had three new District Treasurers elected: Mary Ann Hoye, Mission Rivers; Carol Ellis to replace Kim; and Cindy Marten of Valley Ridge, which has been without a treasurer for several years. Thank you, Betty Brossy, for stepping in for so long and doing an amazing job as both president and treasurer. I have been there also in the old Charlottesville District and it is not easy.

Knowing that we use the fourth quarter of the previous year and the first three quarters of the current year, for our an-

nual reports, the new information on the quarterly remittance forms should make it easier to pull the numbers that are needed for Rainbow Givers, 5&6 Star Units, and Candle Burning. Now you will only have to refer to four pieces of paper to glean that information.

I am also happy to report that a decision was made to not have the Conference Budget meeting until AFTER all of the districts have their annual meetings, so no more multiple supplements, late night phone calls and many, many emails.

Next year's Annual Meeting will be the first where all is in place. We still have some work to do for the rest of this year with some of the secondary forms, but come the end of this year, when you go on vauwf.org to scroll down to the listing of officers and click on Treasurer, you will find the drop down menu for all the forms. You will see all the district forms, a separate file for Unit forms and also forms needed by the Mission Team. Being standardized at all levels will be a big assistance to you all receiving information from your units, and it will make it so much easier for your next Conference Treasurer, Marty Bickford, Northern Virginia District Treasurer. She has been and will be included in all future changes, and her input will also be invaluable, as she has been there.

As a reminder, please check the revised date at the bottom right side of each form, to make sure you are using the latest. I still expect you to let me know how they can be improved and know that for next year, there will not be so many changes. Fine tuning is the most difficult part of redesigning forms.

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Awarded from the Carroll Palmer Estate Fund:

\$2,500 for printed Bibles and Audio Bibles for Sub-Saharan Africa countries, in the language of those countries. Audio Bibles go further as more people in a family or village can listen at the same time.

\$2,500 for a Venezuelan Feeding and Ministry Center to feed over 60 children, 250 meals with Bible instruction.

\$2,500 for the Susannah Wesley Education and Health Center in Morogoro, Tanzania for ten women to receive training and sewing machines to empower them to take care of their families while working at home.

\$600 to support a young man for a year of college tuition to become a veterinarian in Tanzania. His mother died and his farmer father cannot afford his tuition.

\$1,870 for Wesley Pre & Primary School in Tanzania for 11 new additional computers and surge protectors so students can be part of the technological world. Right now there are 4-5 students per existing computers.

\$1,800 to Esther Karimi Gitobu who has visited here in past years and needs funds for her annual anti-Female Genital Mutilation seminar in Kenya for 300 girls. This is for their lunch.

\$1,500 to the Vision Center in Ukraine for their new program "Ukraine - An Unbreakable Family". This center helps new widows, orphaned children of all ages to become self sufficient.

\$2,500 to the Children's Clothes Closet in Harrisonburg.

\$2,000 to Grace Inside for supplies for their new "My Faith in Art" workshop at the Fluvanna Women's Correctional Center.

for a total of **\$17,520.00** in grants.

Awarded from the Kathryn Kyle / Dorothy B. Moore Scholarship Fund:

\$290 tuition assistance for Dasha Darlene Bizarron Tolman, a 4th generation missionary in Tepic, Mexico where her grandparents ministered for 50 years. She will be attending Liberty University.

\$575 in tuition assistance for Adeline Diane Sololowski, who is attending VPI (Virginia Tech), to become a commissioned US Marine Flight Officer, attend medical school and serve her country and community as a physician.

Ladies, we have a lot to be proud of, these are our stories to tell our new younger sisters who we are besides what we accomplish in our Districts and at our Unit levels.

LEGACY REPORT:

The UWF set a goal to establish a fund of \$60,000,000 to insure the work of the UWF for the next 150 years. We are currently at just over \$50,000,000. Find the Legacy Form on the website and sign up for at least becoming an 1869 Legacy Builder by giving \$18.69, (the year we were founded) every month. The Legacy Fund form can be found on our website under the treasurer. Our District treasurers request you give through the district, and NOT directly to the New York office. They have a tracking method.

The Southeastern Jurisdiction has 15 Conferences and the Virginia Conference has given \$18,250.89 in 2025 (4th in giving) and cumulative \$271,695.22 (also 4th in total giving). Let's all push, with the other National Conferences so we can have the \$60,000,000 by the Quadrennial Assembly in May.



Membership, Nurture, and Outreach—

Melissa White

Mel49White@yahoo.com



I always get invigorated and even more dedicated to our Purpose after enjoying an in-person gathering with my UWFaith sisters! Your Mission and Executive teams had the chance to share and brainstorm as we look forward to 2026 when we gathered at Trinity UMC in Richmond Oct. 24-25th for our 53rd Annual Meeting! Loved seeing so many dear friends!

Our Young Women's Retreat at Camp Overlook's Blessings Lodge held in September was a time of sharing, good fellowship and good food, recreation and spiritual growth as we contemplated our individual Faith Journeys! Eleven attended and, I want you to know we'll be returning again to **Blessings Lodge at Camp Overlook, Keezletown, VA on September 18 – 19, 2026**. This event is a good time to build relationships with women who may not be active or even aware of our organization. So, please keep this date on your radar as well as your eye out for younger women who may be interested in learning about the opportunities afforded by being a part of United Women in Faith!!

The Unit Survey will look a little different this year. Based on your feedback, we're shifting the launch from fall to winter (January 2026), so the survey will capture the entire 2025 reporting year. This means stronger data for you to use in planning and clearer insights for the national office. We'll be combining some 2024 questions into the 2025 results to bring us fully up to date. Your support in sharing and championing this upcoming survey and its timing is key to its success. More details and dates coming soon!

From Leadership Touchpoints, Oct. 2025

I will reach out to our district presidents and M, N, and O Coordinators with more details as I receive them. Please reach out to me or your district person in charge of overseeing the survey if you have any questions – we'll be willing to help! One tip is to go over the questions first and plan your answers when the pdf of the questions is available. Then you can sit down in one computer session and input the data. A goal for us in Virginia is to send in a survey from each of our units!



Have you seen this yet??? If not...check out the UNSTOPPABLE HUB on UWFaith/digital for the brand-new Growth Campaign Toolkit! You'll find everything you'll need to Grow our Movement! (Email me and I can send you the pdf.)

Assembly—Debbie McDaniels (Program Advisory Group)

DHMcDaniels@gmail.com

If you haven't heard, Assembly 2026, where we'll *Dream it! Believe it! Do it!*, is coming to Indianapolis, Indiana, May 15th through May 17th! What is "Assembly" and why do you want to go?

Assembly is a once-every-four-years gathering of women committed to faith, empowerment, and making a difference.

Picture a weekend that uplifts your soul, strengthens your faith, and brings you together with an UNSTOPPABLE sisterhood. It's designed to be a transformative opportunity to learn and connect with ourselves, with women we know, and with women we haven't yet met.

Our Inspiration Speakers will be longtime United Methodists Stacey Abrams and longtime UWFaith member Rev. Carolyn Abrams.

The 40 workshops available are grouped into Inspire, Influence, and Impact tracks and have detailed descriptions on the [Assembly website](#).

Recharge at Assembly 2026 and encourage your membership and nonmember friends to go, too. For those nonmembers, Assembly is a great introduction to UWFaith.

Annual Meeting (Oct 2025)



Three Notch'd District elliespeer@gmail.com

All are invited to join the **Three Notch'd District** United Women in Faith for Advent worship on Saturday, December 6, 10:00 a.m., at Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road, in Richmond. The Reverend Florence Brooks will bring a message inspiring us to "carry our faith forward" as we prepare to celebrate the holy birth of the Messiah. Plan to join the Three Notch'd District United Women in Faith for these 2026 events:

- Saturday, February 14, 2026 Charter for Racial Justice (a virtual event)
- Saturday, March 14, 2026 Lenten Prayer Breakfast
- Saturday, October 3, 2026 Annual Meeting
- Saturday, December 5, 2026 Advent Service

Virginia Conference United Women in Faith

2026 Conference Calendar

Event	Date	Location
<i>Mission Team meeting *</i>	<i>January 3</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
<u>United Methodist Day at General Assembly</u>	January 29	Richmond
<i>Mission Team meeting (grants)*</i>	<i>March 7</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
<i>Mission Team meeting*</i>	<i>March 14</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Executive Committee meeting**	March 15	TBD
<u>Spiritual Life Retreat</u>	April 17-19	TBD
(National UWF) <u>Assembly</u>	May 15-17	Indianapolis, Indiana
Pre-Annual Conference gathering	TBD	TBD
VAUMC Annual Conference	June 17-20	Harrisonburg
<i>Mission Team meeting*</i>	<i>July 11</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
<u>Mission u</u>	July 24-26	TBD
Young Women's Retreat	September 18-19	Camp Overlook, Keezletown
<i>Budget meeting</i>	<i>October 10</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
<i>Mission team meeting (grants)*</i>	<i>October 17</i>	<i>Zoom</i>
<i>Mission Team meeting*</i>	<i>October 23 PM</i>	<i>TBD</i>
Executive Committee meeting**	October 24 AM	TBD
<u>Annual Meeting</u>	October 24 PM	TBD

*=VA Conference Mission Team

**=Executive Committee (includes VA Conf. Mission Team, District Presidents, Conference Committee Chairwomen, Committee on Nominations and Appointed Members)

Charter for Racial Justice

Saturday, February 14

(a virtual event)
Three Notch'd District

Conference UWF & UMM webinar on Charter for Racial Justice
Tuesday, March 17, 2026

November 14, 2025 at 7 PM
An Evening with Ellie Lofaro
bit.ly/EveningWithEllie

Herndon UMC
Northern Virginia District

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Virginia Conference United Women in Faith

Benn's UMC
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