



United Women in Faith

East Ohio Conference



March 2026

East Ohio Conference UWFaith Officers

- President—Becky Sutton
Vice President—Marcia Adamczyk
Secretary—Margaret Harvey
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Spiritual Growth—Kathy Kuhn
Program Resources—Beth Saling
Mission Education & Interpretation—Beth Saling
Membership Nurture & Outreach—OPEN
Social Action—Carol Nelson Burns
Historian— Rita Kyser
Teen/University—China Williams
Communications Coordinator—Elizabeth Feldman
Program Advisory Group (PAG) —Kathy Hopkins

MISSION u

- Dean—Mikaela Ashburn
Dean— Olivia Doran
Registrar—Elizabeth Feldman

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Annual Celebration
October 24
Otterbein UMC
New Philadelphia

Greetings From Your President

Greetings in the name of our Lord,

Once again, we find ourselves in the season of Lent journeying our way toward Easter. Lent invites us into a period of honest self-examination. It is not merely about giving up food or habits. It is about drawing closer to God and allowing Him to transform our hearts. Participating in Daily Prayer can help reshape your spiritual life in powerful ways. Even small, consistent steps of devotion can lead to lasting growth. Stay committed, remain honest before God, and trust Him to complete the work He began in you. We as United Women in Faith take Soul Care to heart. If you would like more information for, or help in your Soul Care go to https://uwfaith.org/events/soul-care-retreats.

Let this season of Lent help us slow down. Let it help us refocus on eternal priorities instead of temporary distractions. Today's Prayer: Jesus, help us slow down during this Lent and truly listen for Your voice. Quiet every distraction that keeps us from intimacy with You. Create in us a heart that seeks justice and walks humbly with You. Let our actions reflect our devotion. Amen

The Leadership Team met Saturday, March 7, at the Conference Area Center. Assembly, Mission u, LOL Retreat, information was gathered along with a decision to help bring four UWFaith leaders from North Katanga to Assembly 2026. If you or your Unit would like to contribute, send your donation by check made out to EOC UWFaith with memo line marked leaders from North Katanga and mail to: Conference Treasurer Beth Canfield, 6721 Idelawn, Canal Fulton, OH 44003. We also looked at two Draft Resolutions for us to endorse that will be presented at Annual Conference titled; 1) Of War and Peace Welcoming the Stranger in our Midst 2) Doing Justice; The Heart and Soul of Social Action.

Blessings as you journey to Easter,
Rebecca Sutton, President

PLEASE PRINT/COPY THIS NEWSLETTER AND GIVE IT AWAY FREELY.
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO SPREAD THE NEWS!

If you wish to receive this newsletter by email, send your email address to:
The United Women in Faith Communications Coordinator at
eoc.uwf.news@gmail.com

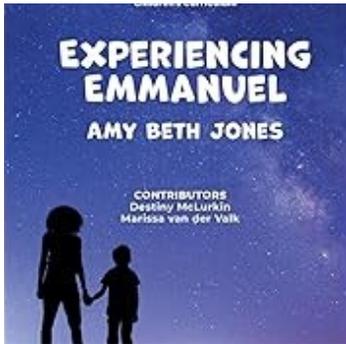
Questions, comments, additions/deletions to mailing list should be sent to the
UWFaith Communications Coordinator at eoc.uwf.news@gmail.com.

Mission u

Join Us at Mission u 2026! / July 10-12 / University of Mount Union / Alliance Ohio



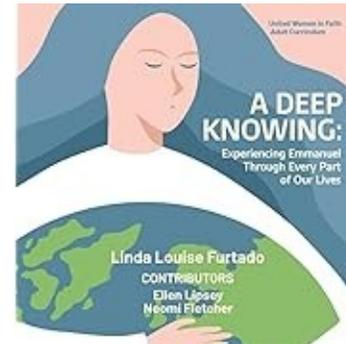
Mission u is a transformative educational program with Bible-based curricula and events. Interested in deepening your faith in community? Gaining experience interpreting Scripture? Working toward healing for yourself, your community, and all of creation? Mission u is for you! Ohio UWFaith boasts the only female intergenerational event with kids in grades K-6, Youth in grades 7-12, and adults. Each group studies *Experiencing Emmanuel* at their level, and enjoys combined meals, worship and fun. REGISTRATION WILL OPEN AFTER EASTER.



Kids



Youth



Adults

What to Expect at Mission u

- ⇒ To be nurtured and encouraged—A transformative experience designed to recharge and refocus your faith. Offering study on biblically grounded curricula, Mission u motivates, informs, and enriches our commitment to create a more just and equitable world, locally and globally.
- ⇒ Let's discover together—Join us as we collectively discover how God calls us to respond to suffering with compassion. Gain confidence in your interpretation of scripture, with a justice lens that connects to today's world. Connect across generations with curricula for adult, youth, and children that uses the same focus and themes. Develop the confidence to speak about social issues as a person of faith.

Join us at Mission u, July 10-12, and embark on a journey of faith, fellowship, and spiritual renewal. We look forward to sharing this incredible experience with you.

Location: University of Mount Union, 1972 Clark Ave. Alliance Ohio 44601

Mikaela Ashburn and Olivia Doran, Deans, Mission u

Mikaela can be reached at mashburn96@gmail.com Olivia at oliviaa.dixon@yahoo.com

Communications

I recently attended a Communicators training conducted by the National Communications Coordinator. One of the things she emphasized was the importance of correct and consistent abbreviations, names and titles. Here are some to look for in your communications.

The official abbreviation of United Women in Faith is UWFaith. Use UWF sparingly.

Our four districts are: Central Valley, Northern Waters, South Forest and West Plains

Mission u always has a lower case u

response magazine always has a lower case r

MEI—Mission Education and Interpretation

MNO—Membership, Nurture and Outreach

Social Action

“Social Action” IS the heart and soul of Jesus’ entire ministry and message. While there is no definitive list of specified “social actions,” the entire purpose of United Women in Faith is rooted in its origin of women who saw needs in their communities, and collectively responded, over a century ago, and still today. Whether preparing and serving meals, sewing and knitting, teaching, or marching together as a force for social change... There has never been a time in our history when the work of women has NOT been needed!

Because we women have been the nurturers, the carers, the voices who speak out, the sisters who join together to advocate, and to act, we remain a united force of compassionate care for JUSTICE where we observe need. In addition to numerous local needs—church dinners, child care, teaching and reaching out, two emergent needs are evident in these times.. As I write, our nation is engaged in a new war, where young school girls have died, and within our own borders, immigrant populations have been targeted with threats. Ohio has always had a unique role in social justice actions, assisting enslaved people to escape to freedom across our northern lake, supporting the work of women who sought, and fought, to secure the right to vote, and in empowering women to choose their own destinies long before most U.S. colleges admitted females. THAT SPIRIT is “social action,” alive and well in women of faith, even now, all these decades since the founding of United Methodist Women, our forerunner. So, as someone more famous than I am stated, just keep the faith of “women’s work” by continuing to “make good trouble..”

Carol Nelson Burns (social justice advocate)
Carol can be reached at cnbkelleys@yahoo.com

District Spring Meeting Dates

Districts	Date	Location	Time
Central Valley	April 18 (Sat.)	Western Reserve UMC	9:00 am
Northern Waters	March 21 (Sat.)	Bay Village UMC	9:30 am
South Forest	April 19 (Sun.)	Roscoe UMC	2:30 pm
West Plains	April 25 (Sat.)	Bucyrus UMC	11:30 am

Assembly Highlights



May 15-17, 2026 / Indianapolis, Indiana / Indiana Convention Center

Assembly is a once-every-four-years gathering of women from all around the world who are 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.

There has never been a more important time for women of faith to come together, tap into our strength and unite to change the world. Assembly 2026 will host longtime United

Methodists Stacey Abrams and her mother, a longtime UWFaith member, Rev. Carolyn Abrams in conversation as our Inspiration Speakers. Many different events are offered including Community Gatherings, Workshops, and Experience Hall (Trade-Show—booths from around the world).

There is still time to register. <https://assembly.uwfaith.org/website/82390/>

There is still room on the chartered bus, taking women from East Ohio and West Ohio to Indianapolis. For less than the cost of parking in Indianapolis, you can ride and fellowship with sisters with the same heart for Mission and Justice for women, youth and children. And, the bus will take you right to the front door of your hotel. For more information email one of these women;

Kathy Hopkins at kathleenhop1953@gmail.com

Becky Sutton at rlsutton5@yahoo.com

Marcia Adamczyk at adamczykmarcia@yahoo.com

THE EAST OHIO CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

2026 TEAM

President	Rebecca Sutton	rlsutton5@yahoo.com
Vice President	Marcia Adamczyk	adamczykmarcia@yahoo.com
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Treasurer	Beth Canfield	bnbcanfield@yahoo.com
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Membership Nurture & Outreach (MNO)		OPEN
Mission Education and Interpretation (MEI).....	Beth Saling	bwsaling@gmail.com
Mission u Dean	Mikaela Ashburn	mashburn96@gmail.com
Mission u Dean	Olivia Doran.....	oliviaa.dixon@yahoo.com
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Nominations Committee	Gloria Allen-Levert.....	allenlevert@yahoo.com
Program Resources	Beth Saling	bwsaling@gmail.com
Social Action	Carol Nelson Burns	cnbkelleys@yahoo.com
Spiritual Growth	Kathryn Kuhn.....	kjk.now69@gmail.com
Teau/University Women	China Williams.....	chinawcommerce@gmail.com
President North Central Jurisdiction	Linda Crowell	lfchso@msn.com
Program Advisory Group (PAG)	Kathy Hopkins	kathleenhop1953@gmail.com
District Presidents		
Central Valley.....	VP, Linda Martin.....	330.787.1857
Northern Waters.....	Mary Lane Wright.....	wrightm667@gmail.com
South Forest.....	Betty Parry.....	bjparry46@hotmail.com
West Plains	Rosalyn Barnhill	barnhillrosalyn@aol.com

United Women in Faith, the largest U.S. denominational women’s mission organization, supports programs to empower women and improve life for women, children, and youth in the United States and internationally since 1869.

West Ohio UWFaith

In anticipation of our retreat with West OH UWF, you may be interested in reading or subscribing to their monthly newsletter, *Inspirations*. If you would like to have the newsletter sent to your email inbox, go to their website, <https://www.westohiouwf.org>. On the first page, click the box “Subscribe to our newsletters.” Enter your email, click on “Submit” and you’ll start receiving the newsletter monthly.



LEGACY FUND – A permanent endowment that will support the mission outreach of United Women in Faith of future generations. This fund was set up in 2019, with a goal of \$60,000, to celebrate the dedication and foresight of our foremothers in mission. As of October 2025, the balance was \$52,455,923.

Gifts to the Legacy Fund can be made in several ways:

Mail check to:
United Women in Faith
Attn: Legacy
Church Center for the United Nations
777 United Nations Plaza, 11th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Online: uwfaith.org/legacyfund

By phone: 800-278-7771

• Read *response* magazine