



United
Women
in Faith

*East Ohio
Conference*

KEEPING CURRENT

Volume 42 Issue 1

February 10, 2024

East Ohio Conference UWF Officers

- President—Becky Sutton
- Vice President—Marcia Adamczyk
- Secretary—
- Treasurer— Beth Canfield
- Nomination Chair—Susan Huston
- Spiritual Growth—Sandy Merek
- Program Resources—Beth Saling
- Education & Interpretation—
- Membership Nurture & Outreach—Cheryl Taylor
- Social Action—Carol Nelson Burns
- Historian— Rita Kyser
- Teen/University—Mikaela Ashburn, Olivia Doran
- Communications Coordinator—Elizabeth Feldman
- Program Advisory Group (PAG)—Kathy Hopkins

MISSION u

- Dean—Cynthia Rose
- Assis. Deans—Mikaela Ashburn and Olivia Doran
- Registrars—Marcia Gill Bass and Kathy Everson

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Greetings From Your President

We hope you're having a great start to this new year! In this edition of our newsletter, we're excited to share with you who we are, what we do, and our upcoming plans.

I'm Rebecca (Becky) Sutton the incoming East Ohio Conference United Women in Faith President. I reside in the West Plains District in the community of Howard, Ohio. I have been a member of UWF for 30 years. My husband is a retired United Methodist Pastor, and we raised 3 children and are always striving to share Christ with our grandchildren and others.

The mission of United Women in Faith is to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities. Our vision is to turn faith, hope, and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Your Conference Leadership Team is working together to fulfill our mission through Mission u 2025, Annual Celebration, providing Program Resources and information about our reading program, updating us on current Social Actions, and developing a creative, supportive fellowship through devotions, prayer and helping one another.

As we keep moving forward toward our goals of increasing membership, and increasing our giving, I encourage you to prayerfully consider signing the Micah 6:8 pledge which can be found at:
win.newmode.net/unitedwomeninfaith/todojusticetolovekindnesstowalkhumblywithgod

The uwfaith.org website has a wealth of information for you. From the website you can access: The Membership Portal—an online resource that offers supplementary information and resources aligned to various interests. And ... United Women in Faith Digital—another online platform to connect with other members to build community and access digital resources for programming and online education.

I encourage you to stay connected and continue telling others about United Women in Faith and the blessings that come from being a member.

Know that the Leadership Team and I are here to support and encourage you as we journey together.

Grace and Peace, Becky Sutton, Conference President
Becky can be reached at rlsutton5@yahoo.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.

Greetings From Your Vice President

I am Marcia Adamczyk and I am serving in the Vice President position for the East Ohio Conference United Women in Faith. I am a member of Columbia United Methodist Church in Columbia Station, Ohio. I have served as Secretary, Vice President and President of our local church UWF. I was the President of the North Coast District for three years and West Plains District for one year. I have also served as North Coast District Secretary, and Vice President.

Plans are taking shape for the Annual Celebration. It will be held on October 26 and the speaker will be Bishop Hee Soo Jung. There will be more information in the near future. Please save the date on your calendars. The UWF Sunday 2025 information was recently sent out to all of the District Presidents. Please share this with the local churches for use this year. Assembly for 2026 will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana on May 15 - May 17, 2026. The theme is *Dream It, Believe It and Do It!* I hope you will plan to go, these are such exciting times.

I am looking forward to getting to know more women in our conference and leading our conference with faith and hope for all that is ahead of us. I feel it is part of my duty to serve in an informative way. I hope to be able to network, share resources and inform you about how to grow your United Women in Faith Unit. Each year there are different people who serve, but we all have a common goal and now is our time to put our love into action and see our way forward into the future. Together we can make our dreams for future generations happen. I hope to meet many of you, as we consider going to Assembly next year in Indiana.

Blessings, Marcia Adamczyk, Vice President

Marcia can be reached at adamczykmarcia@yahoo.com

District Spring Meeting Dates

Districts	Date	Location	Time
Central Valley	March 22 (Sat.)	Alliance Christ UMC	9:00 am
Northern Waters	March 15 (Sat.)	Chagrin Falls UMC	9:30 am
South Forest	March 31 (Mon.)	Old Washington UMC	2:30 pm
West Plains	March 22 (Sat.)	Bucyrus UMC	Noon

PAG—Program Advisory Group

Hello East Ohio,

I am Kathy Hopkins, your PAG representative. You may remember me from the old Tuscarawas District. In my new position, PAG stands for Program Advisory Group and is a liaison between National United Women in Faith and you. And I mean YOU! We want to connect with Units, Districts and our Conferences to see what is working well, what are your success stories as well as difficulties you may be facing in your unit. If you hear from me from time to time it's only because I want to connect with my sisters in Christ to try to encourage or uplift. We have so many resources available to us on the web site.....are you using them? At one District planning meeting I suggested getting back to basics. Use the Daily Prayer Guide titled Generations of Grace. Our Program Resource Guide is titled Carrying our Faith Forward. No one has to plan a program for your unit...the work is done for you in the program guide. Our Mission u booklet is available now and is called Practicing Hope. I hope you will begin by ordering these resources for your Unit and use them in your gatherings. God Bless, Kathy

Kathy lives in the Central Valley District and can be reached at kathyh1953@frontier.com

Greetings From Your Treasurer

Who wants to be treasurer for United Women of Faith East Ohio Conference?

When I was approached this past summer at Mission u, I did not intend on being part of the Conference Team. Here I am, Beth Canfield, Treasurer for UWF East Ohio Conference. With many life changes occurring the past few years, I wanted to feel more connected with other women in faith who are dedicated to changing our communities. Who better to be connected with than this wonderful Conference Team and all of you. Being new to my role, I do not have any direction or insights for UWF local treasurers, yet!

Beth Canfield

Beth lives in Central Valley District and can be reached at bnbcanfield@yahoo.com

Mission u

Join Us at Mission u 2025!

We are excited to invite you to Mission u, a transformative experience where we delve into what it means to draw closer to God and one another. This year, we are honored again to have Cynthia Rose as our Dean, guiding us through this spiritual journey.

What to Expect at Mission u

At Mission u, you will engage in a series of enriching activities designed to deepen your faith and foster a sense of community. Our program includes:

- ⇒ An Inspirational Worship Service: Participate in a dynamic worship session that will uplift your spirit and strengthen your connection with God.
- ⇒ Insightful Workshops: Attend workshops led by knowledgeable speakers who will provide valuable insights into living a life of faith and service.
- ⇒ Community Building Activities: Join in activities that promote fellowship and allow you to build lasting relationships with fellow attendees.
- ⇒ Personal Reflection Time: Take time for personal reflection and prayer, allowing you to process your experiences and grow spiritually.

Why Attend Mission u?

- ⇒ Spiritual Growth: Enhance your spiritual journey through engaging sessions and meaningful discussions.
- ⇒ Community Connection: Build strong, supportive relationships with other attendees who share your faith and values.
- ⇒ Renewed Purpose: Leave Mission u with a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of your role in God's plan.

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

Date: July 18-20, 2025

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

For more information, please contact Cynthia Rose - rosecyn52@aol.com.

Please share this information with other family members or friends. See more on the next page.



United
Women
in Faith

Mission u 2025

MISSION U 2025



PRACTICING
HOPE
TOGETHER

Join us at **Mission u** as we focus on the 2025 theme: “Practicing Hope together. (Check-in is) Friday, 3:30pm, July 18 – Sunday 20, 2025 -12 Noon at the University of Mount Union. Executive Team meeting is Friday, July 18, 2025 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

The theme and curricula will guide us to understand **hope** in the midst of so many hard realities. Is it merely optimism? What if we understood hope as something we practice every day? Mission u 2025 will begin with the resurrection appearances of Jesus and the example of early Christian communities to explore what it means to practice hope in God even when things seem to be falling apart.

Mission u 2025 offers three exciting curricula on this theme: Order your copy here: uwfaithresources.org

Adult — *Practicing Hope* by Tabitha Holley

This study's purpose is to allow all of our communities to cultivate hope that is honest about our current conditions (refugia), hope that is restorative when everything feels urgent (rest), and hope that is possible even when we transgress (repair).

Youth — *Communities of the Spirit: Living into Hope as a Resurrection People* by Regina Heater

Examines the inexplicable hope we find in early post-resurrection Christian communities and how they kept hope alive even in seemingly hopeless times.

Children — *Hope As A Resurrection People* by Joni Cisowski

This children's curriculum helps children build trust in Jesus to bring them comfort and support as they find courageous hope in the face of uncertainty.

Join us! July 18 – 20, 2025 – University of Mount Union, 1972 Clark Avenue, Alliance, OH. 44601
Registration information coming soon!

Come learn together for the transformation of the world!

Membership, Nurture and Outreach

Happy New Year to all. I hope your holidays were fun, festive, wonderful, and enjoyable. But now it's time to turn our attention to the demands of 2025.

We have two pressing projects to wrap up as soon as possible.

Please send the following information as soon as possible.

ATTENTION: LOCAL UWF PRESIDENTS

I am trying to get a current number of the total UWF members in each church in our conference. If you have not yet replied to my previous requests or sent the information to your District President, please forward your total number of members to me at cherylktaylor@aol.com. Please include your District Name, Church Name, and total number of members. (No individual names needed.)

Also, the NATIONAL UNIT SURVEY is due no later than March 31, 2025.

UWF Presidents or someone who understands computers can go to UWFaith.org—then unit survey—then member log in. Then the survey will come up to be filled out.

(If the person completing the survey is not a member already with a user name and password, she will have set that up first before filling out the Survey.)

Thank you so much for your help. Cheryl Taylor, Membership, Nurture and Outreach

Cheryl lives in Streetsboro in the Northern Waters District and can be reached at cherylktaylor@aol.com.

Greetings From Your Historian

Hi, I am Rita Kyser, your EOC UWF Historian. I live in West Plains District and attend Faith Church GMC, and spent time within district and conference offices, since coming to Schools of Christian Mission (Mission u) as one of the “40 Under 40” gals.

As many of you are aware our UMC, UMW and UWF history and archives were stored at the Ohio Wesleyan University Library building which closed because of mold problems. The Methodist Theological School in Delaware offered to house the history archives. The items have been safely moved and stored at Methesco. I am waiting for warmer travel weather to go to Methesco to view the smaller storage site of our history archives.

Continue to hold onto articles from our 10 districts to 4 districts. We will update you as we have more information to share with you.

Please consider holding secretary's reports with Motion and results pertaining to people and financial reports, along with pictures within districts.

Blessings,

Rita Kyser, Historian, EOC UWF—She can be reached at Ritajkyser@aol.com



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 to celebrate the dedication and foresight of our foremothers in mission.

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

Spiritual Growth

We cannot all be famous, or be listed in "Who is Who,"
But every person great or small, has important work to do,
For seldom do we realize, the importance of small deeds
Or to what degree of greatness, unnoticed kindness leads
For it is not the big celebrity, in a world of fame and praise,
But it is doing unpretentiously, in undistinguished ways
The work that GOD assigned to us, Unimportant as it seems
That makes our tasks outstanding, and brings reality to a dream
This old world would very soon, eclipse the evening star'
If everybody brightened up, the corner where they are!
Helen Steiner Rice

If we 'brighten' our corner of the world and put a little love in our heart, what a wonderful world it could be! Blessings, Sandy Marek, Spiritual Growth Coordinator
Sandy lives in Berea in the Northern Waters District and can be reached at S.L.marek@att.net.

Mission Education and Interpretation

Education and Interpretation (ME&I) Coordinator holds primary responsibility for interpreting the impact and importance of Mission Giving as an act of faith and commitment. She empowers women to understand, interpret, and participate in United Women in Faith's mission with women, children, and youth, and outreach of the church, as well as engage in raising funds for mission and outreach.

Program Resources

Greetings from your United Women in Faith Resources. Do you remember looking forward to Mission U and District Meeting? One of the best parts of those gatherings was the Program Resource room, corner, hallway or where ever there might be a bit of space for a table or two. I can remember spending the extra time available during the event to visit that area. I loved looking through all the books, buying my Program Book and Prayer Calendar and checking to see if there were any items I could take back home to share with my ladies.

We don't have that opportunity any more but we have something just as good (except you can't run your hand over those new books!) I just spent a half an hour, for the second time this week, on my computer. Just type in UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH RESOURCES and the Resource room comes to you. You can find all the books, book lists and even some freebies if you look hard enough. If you are not a computer person, just go to your local library and ask someone to show you how to use their computer. While you are there you might check out a book that's on the Reading List. Take a friend with you and the two of you might share the experience.

A couple of books looked really interesting to me right away. "The Girl with the Louding Voice" is about a girl growing up in Nigeria and is learning to speak for herself. The second book, "The Women of the Bible Speak" tells of the wisdom of 16 women of the Bible and their lesson for today. Just wanted to share a little with you. Have a wonderful day.

"This is the day the Lord hath made. Rejoice and be glad in it."

Beth Saling, Program Resource Coordinator

Beth lives in the South Forest District and can be reached at bwsaling@gmail.com

Nominations

Joshua said, “But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Josh. 24:15) I know all of you already serve the Lord in many ways but now I'm asking you to consider serving United Women in Faith at the conference level. With the redistricting the number of district officers was cut by 60%. Are there ladies out there who are no longer serving as a district officer but would like to remain in a leadership role in UWF? Or perhaps you've never been an officer and want to find out how the organization works at the conference. If you are willing to learn, we have training available. The conference officers work as a team supporting each other so no one has responsibility for a position totally alone. We need people to step forward to help keep our conference strong as we continue to make a difference in the lives of women, children and youth throughout the world. Will you take a few minutes to pray about joining the conference team? If you have questions feel free to contact me.

Susan Huston—Nominations Committee Chair

Susan lives Massillon in the Central Valley District and can be reached at susanhuston178@yahoo.com

Social Action

“WE ARE CALLED...” STORIES OF “Social Actioning”

A story of “Senior Shenanigans” [paraphrased from “Harvesting Hope in Sebring, lifting seniors spirits, tackling food insecurities,” by Benjamin Duer, as recently published in the Canton Repository]

Have you ever gone, alone, into a new restaurant where “locals” have gathered? That’s what Mary Dixon did one morning in this quiet corner of East Ohio. Not knowing anyone in the restaurant, she sat alone until a woman invited her to join a group of women. Since that invitation, they have been meeting regularly, dubbing themselves “The Senior Shenanigans...”

In what ways have YOU been “moved,” unexpectedly, to reach out to someone to share in some way...conversation, stories, assistance, a new friendship?

Carol Nelson Burns—Social Action Coordinator

Carol lives in the Central Valley District and can be reached at cnbkelleys@yahoo.com

From *response* magazine

... Jesus and Paul made it clear in 1 Corinthians 13 that **Love is our Superpower**. 1 Corinthians gives us the roadmap to be, live, and share love. So does our 155-year-old legacy of United Women in Faith and our predecessors. I am convinced that we would not still be in existence if we were not using love as our superpower. Casting our eyes forward in 2025 – year one of our four-year path to growth in membership, income, and The Legacy Endowment Fund – trust that we will get there one year, one month and one day at a time. Remember we are bold, courageous and determined United Women in Faith. Together we will accomplish some mighty acts that future generations will recount. Our time is now to put our faith and love into action to ensure our bright future. Let’s do it!”

Sally Vonner , General Secretary and CEO, United Women in Faith

Read Sally’s complete article (and many others) in *response* magazine, January/February 2025

Start Planning for Assembly

May 15-17 2026—National Assembly—Indianapolis IN

Every four years, United Methodist Women members and friends from around the world gather at Assembly. The 2026 event will be in Indianapolis IN. (close for us!)

Start saving your quarters!

United Women in Faith

East Ohio Conference of The United Methodist Church
8800 Cleveland Ave NW
North Canton OH 44720

PLEASE PRINT/COPY THIS NEWSLETTER AND GIVE IT TO ALL WHO WISH ONE.
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

Spring 2025



Newsletter of the United Women in Faith
East Ohio Conference, Becky Sutton, President
Published twice a year, Spring & Fall

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Copies emailed to local Unit presidents and treasurers, East Ohio Conference UWF District and
Conference Mission Team members.

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

Fall newsletter article deadline – August 27, 2025