



HEADWATERS UPDATES

A Newsletter for United Women in Faith of the Headwaters Area

The Purpose of United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to 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.



United
Women
in Faith



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH **Headwaters Area Fall Gathering**

“Does Anxiety Have an Emoji?”

Saturday, September 6, 9:00am – 2:30pm

Minnetonka United Methodist Church

17611 Lake St. Ext, Minnetonka, MN

Enjoy Emma Norton Coffee beginning at 9:00am

Program follows at 10:00am

You are invited!! The Headwaters Area Team along with the fabulous people at Minnetonka United Methodist Church will be hosting our Area Fall Gathering. Marion Hansen, retired Registered Nurse, Study Leader for our previous UWFaith study “Finding Peace in an Anxious World” by Erin James-Brown and our current UWFaith Conference President will be the keynote presenter for the day.

- Register Here: <https://forms.gle/w4zTJQCoQcypprhr6>
- Cost: \$20.00 payable to Headwaters UWFaith
- Mail to: Diane Bublitz, 1514 Aspen Lane, St. Cloud, MN 56303

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: August 29, 2025

"A Season for Everything"

Marion Hansen ~ Acting Area President



There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Eccles. 3:1

Pause for a moment, take a breath!

When the fall newsletters begin to arrive, that feeling of "oh no, where did the summer go" arrives. Really there is time. However, UWFaith is known for "planning ahead" so yes, it is that time already!

Organizationally we are adjusting to our four Area arrangement, Headwaters Area is continuing to develop its leadership team, so yes, there is room for you to join in by contacting me marionha@wcta.net for more information.

Thank you to Minnetonka UMC for hosting our Headwaters Fall Gathering on September 6. Registration will be online only. Click on the link on page 1 to register and send your registration fee to the listed address.

It is also time for Mission Giving in support of our Headwaters Pledge to Mission and Emma Norton Goal. Your support makes it possible for these important efforts to continue in Minnesota as well as nationally as we reach literally around the globe. Don't forget: This is the "season for giving generously".

Looking forward to meeting you soon!

Every year at our District Fall Gathering, we honor and remember the women from our local units who have died. Please send Vicky Clausen the names for your unit so they can be recognized. Her email is: vlcmaisel@gmail.com

Headwaters Area Fall Gathering

"Does Anxiety Have an Emoji?"

About the program:

Anxiety is at an all-time high and certainly can result in a "frozen state" that inhibits activity and growth. During our time together we will learn to "unfreeze" and build a path to "imperfection". Recognizing that we don't have to be perfect and don't have to fix the world helps to reduce levels of anxiety that are inhibiting and unleashes levels of anxiety that are purposeful and helpful.

About our speaker:

Marion says it brings her great joy and hope to serve alongside the wonderful Sisters of Grace that form the Minnesota Local, District and Conference teams--all serving and advocating with women, children and youth in Minnesota as well as across the county. Marion serves in a variety of leadership roles that result in Conference wide networking and sees herself as a catalyst for action.



Hands-on offering:

Please bring items for the Emma Norton Coat & Winter Gear Drive.



Social Action Update

Nancy Kipp - Social Action Coord.



Hello, to our new Headwaters Area! There is no end to how you can get involved in social action locally, across the state and nation as well as around the world. We need you to make a difference for the earth and all of God's creation. United Women in Faith continues to fight for climate justice, disrupting the school to prison pipeline and putting an end to mass incarceration. Check out the website for ways you can be involved at [United Women in Faith | Love in Action](https://www.unitedwomeninfo.org/).

Locally, my church has participated in the Adopt-a-Bus-Stop through Metro Transit. We have two bus stops near our church. Our Climate Justic Green Team has members assigned to monitor and pick up trash at the bus stops as well as around the church property. Each month, we receive two Metro Transit Go To cards worth \$20 each for our work. We give these to those who are in need of transportation. This is one way to help your community.

Planting a vegetable garden at your church is another way to support your community. Not only does it help absorb carbon from the air, but it also provides healthy vegetables for your neighbors.

Statewide involvement can be through phone calling, emails and letters to our MN Legislature. United Women in Faith has important issues you can talk about to help influence your lawmakers to help the greater good. Getting involved in rallies is another way to find like-minded neighbors who spread their message in their towns, across the state and nation with signs to stand up for those in the frontline neighborhoods suffering the most from the effects of pollution

and letting the people in charge know that civil rights are human rights. Let your lawmakers know where you stand. As our late US Senator, John Lewis, used to say: Get yourself into good trouble!

Nationally and internationally, there are groups you can join who are able to organize millions of people to help with climate chaos. One such group is the Sierra Club. If you want to help our marginalized neighbors across the world, get involved at <https://www.sierraclub.org/>.

We, the people, have the power! Join with your neighbors, communities and your church to make a big difference to our world by working together. There is no stopping the power of good if we work together for justice!

Education & Interpretation

Louise Johnson ~ E&I Coordinator

Where are our mission dollars going?

Nationally, UWFaith supports National Mission Institutions as well as supporting nearly 90 organizations through grants, technical support, and member involvement.



Internationally, UWFaith supports missions in 39 countries. In Africa, these include missions in Liberia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. In Asia and Pacific Islands, these include India, Nepal, Pakistan, Japan, the Philippines, New Zealand, and the island of Hong Kong. Also, supported in Asia are regional missionaries and scholarships. In South America, missions within the following countries are supported: Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Argentina. In Europe, missions are supported in Georgia, Latvia, Switzerland (World Council of Churches), and Ukraine.

Also, 496 scholarships were awarded around the world this past year.

For further information read "Where the Money Goes 2024" at [where_the_money_goes_2024.pdf](#)

Financial Report

Diane Bublitz – Treasurer



The Headwaters Area, being one of the four new areas created by the Minnesota Conference to replace the five previous districts, has required the establishment of a new checking account. Unfortunately, the process turned out to be more challenging than anticipated. The first account was closed by the bank's "back office" requiring a second account to be established. Successfully this time.

United Women in Faith continues the tradition started by 8 women in Boston in 1869 who "put their love in action by responding to the spiritual and physical needs of their sisters in India."

"Through your Pledge to Mission, you provide a foundation of support to United Women in Faith, ensuring the continuation of millions of dollars in grants and scholarships for organizations and individuals in need around the world, including 80+ community-based National Mission Institutions!"

"But that's not all. Mission Giving empowers our community to take positive action on issues around racial and climate justice and to develop our next generation of women leaders." Quotes are from a letter written by Jana L. Jones, National President, United Women in Faith.

Through mid-July the Headwaters Area remittances total:

Pledge to Mission	\$10,425
Special Mission Recognition	260
Gift to Mission	120
Gift in Memory	260
World Thank Offering	125
Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	291
Total Mission Giving	\$11,481

Emma Norton, Minnesota's only National Mission Institute -- \$2,619

Please mail your remittances to: Diane Bublitz, 1514 Aspen Lane, St Cloud, MN 56303

Questions??? Be sure to contact me at bublom01@gmail.com, or call 320-259-1939 (landline) or call/text 320-267-0912 (cell). If your call is not answered please leave a message with your phone number so I can call you back.

For 2025 the deadline for remittances to be included in 2025's giving is December 12, 2025.

In October I will mail each Unit that I have contact information for a report of total remittances received to date. Thank you for your great work in putting love into action.

Membership Nurture & Outreach



The Unit Survey is coming out this fall. The survey is intended to be completed by your unit president or anyone in the unit with computer skills. Questions are related to how your unit or group is thriving in sisterhood, faith and action and how you are committed to act boldly for justice and to transform communities. Answering the questions will take about 15-20 minutes.

Your responses matter. Your answers will allow the United Women in Faith National Office to:

- Deliver more resources on the areas that matter most.
- Gather engagement data based on region.
- Celebrate all the work you are doing on behalf of women, children, and youth.

You can find the survey when it comes out at <https://uwfaith.org/unit-survey/>. Thank you for taking the time to fill this out!

Reading Program/Lending Library

Connie Scott – Coordinator



Whether you read paperbacks, physical books, use an e-reader, or listen to audio books, United Women in Faith encourages everyone to join the UWFaith Reading Program to stay current in our knowledge of today's issues, and to continue to be women of action.

Minnesota Conference UWFaith is proud to offer a **free Lending Library**, open to any reader to check out books from over 130 eligible titles from the reading list. This is a great convenience for those who may take longer to read a book (no late fees!), who do not have easy access to a local library, prefer not to use e-readers or audio books, or don't wish to purchase books from the reading list. (However, if you do purchase a book, please consider donating it to our library when you have finished reading it!)

For a complete list of books in the Lending Library go to www.uwfaithmn.com/the-reading-program. To request a book contact Connie Scott at connielulu55@msn.com or 507-456-3073. The book will be mailed to you along with a return mailing envelope. When finished, follow the instructions inserted in the book and mail it back using "MEDIA MAIL" – postage is about \$4.50 for an average sized book.

The Lending Library is scheduled to be at our Headwaters Fall Gathering on September 6th at Minnetonka UMC and at the Conference Fall Gathering on October 11th at Alexandria UMC. Be sure to stop by and check it out!

Interested in joining the Conference-wide Reading Program Zoom Book Club? There are two more book discussions scheduled for 2025. Contact Connie if you're interested in joining. Books to be discussed are:

- Sept. 8: Our Missing Hearts, Celeste Ng
- Nov. 10: Spiritual Practices for Soul Care, Barbara I. Peacock

"I Am a Christian"

Vicky Clausen - Spiritual Growth Coord.

So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Acts 11:26

When I say "I am a Christian"
I don't speak with human pride
I'm confessing that I stumble-
needing God to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong
I'm professing that I'm weak
and pray for strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success
I'm admitting that I've failed
and cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I don't think I know it all
I submit to my confusion
asking humbly to be taught.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect
my flaws are all too visible
but God believes I'm worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain
I have my share of heartache
which is why I seek God's name.

When I say "I am a Christian"
I do not wish to judge
I have no authority
I only know I'm LOVED.



Emma Norton Update

Emma Norton Representative -
Kathy Hulsebus



Emma Norton

- **2025 Opening Doors Gala:** A huge success! The fundraising goal was exceeded, and both the MN UMC and MN UWF were given Champion Awards for their support of Emma Norton and the campaign for Restoring Waters.
- **Back-to-School Supplies:** Summer has been a busy time at Emma Norton and we are now gearing up for Back to School. Backpacks and lunch boxes (for kids and teens), pencils, pens, notebooks, planners, binders, facial tissues, wipes, etc. are needed.
- **Coat Drive & Holiday Gift Card Drive:** As always, we rely on the incredible support of UWF and UMC partners to make both events a success. We don't have firm deadlines for these donation drives yet, but I would estimate mid-October for the Coat & Winter Gear Drive, and mid-December for the Gift Card Drive.
- **Volunteer Opportunities:** As always, we are seeking volunteers to help with monthly bingo at Restoring Waters and community dinners at Emma's Place, as well as volunteers to support donation processing and front desk work. We're also open and excited to other enrichment activities or resources volunteers can bring to our clients—for example, services like haircuts or mending, or classes on fitness, cooking, etc. Please reach out to our Volunteer Coordinator Mo Mayberry at mmayberry@emmanorton.org for more information.
- **Give to the Max Day 2025:** Thursday, November 20

Donations currently needed across the organization:

- Men's hygiene products (shaving cream, body wash, shampoo, razors, etc.)
- Women's hygiene products (Poise pads/Depends - particularly size 3X, pads/tampons, panty liners)
- Queen sized bed sheets (new)
- Mattress protectors
- Pots and pans
- Trash cans (large size kitchen and small bathroom size)
- Mops
- Wash clothes (new)
- Oscillating fans
- Hair products/accessories (clips, hair ties, headbands, hairspray, mousse, shampoo, etc.)
- Body sprays, (perfumes and cologne)
- SNACKS (Always popular items in our Emma's Store for both kids and grown-ups!) Small bags of chips, soda, granola bars, small bags of nuts, etc.

All donations may be dropped off through connecting with Maureen Mayberry at mmayberry@emmanorton.org or by phone at 612-889-6887. Your donations are most needed and welcomed by everyone at Emma Norton. Thank you for your generosity!

2025 Officer Recognition

Each year at the Fall Gathering our Area officers are recognized upon completion of a term in office. This year we will be honoring 4 people for their service on the Area Executive Team.



The following people will be recognized for completions of their terms in office:

- Louise Johnson--E&I Coord./1st term, 2nd year
- Kathy Hulsebus—Emma Norton Rep./1st year
- Nancy Kipp--Social Action Coord./2nd term, 2nd year
- Vicky Clausen-Spiritual Growth Coord./2nd term, 2nd year



SAVE THE DATE
Conference Annual Fall Gathering
"Hope in Action"
Saturday, October 11, 2025
Alexandria UMC

You are invited to join United Women in Faith from across the state for an enjoyable day of education, spiritual growth, fellowship and fun! The women of Headwaters District will be hosting the 2025 Conference Annual Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 11, at Alexandria United Methodist Church, 2610 6th Ave E, in Alexandria.

Our keynote address, **"Native American Boarding Schools: The Generational Impact"**, will be delivered by guest speaker, Rev. Dawn Houser. Dawn is currently serving as pastor at Aikin UMC, chairs the MN Conference Committee on Native American Ministry (CONAM) and co-chairs the North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Native American Ministries. Be sure to mark your calendars for October 11th and plan to attend!



Attention Conference & District Officers!
Leadership Development Retreat, Oct. 11-12, 2025

The Leadership Development Retreat will be held on October 11-12 at Alexandria UMC. Once again, this will be in combination with the Conference Fall Gathering. All officers will be receiving an email in mid-August with details about the event and along with lodging information.

Leadership Development Retreat is designed for all Conference and District Leaders to strengthen their leadership skills, learn, worship and fellowship together and is an important component of serving as an officer in United Women in Faith. Plan now to attend this fun and informative event!

Register for Annual Gathering & LDR on one form at:
<https://forms.gle/bYotr9zpQetRbwaQA>

2025 Headwaters Area Slate of Officers

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

President: Linda Kotschevar 1st Term. 1st Year

Secretary: *available position*

Treasurer: Diane Bublitz 1st Term, 2nd Year

Chair of Nominations: *available position*

OFFICERS TO BE APPOINTED

Program Coordinator: *position available*

Spiritual Growth Coordinator: Vicky Clausen 3rd Term, 1st Year

Education & Interpretation Coordinator: Louise Johnson 2nd Term, 1st Year

Social Action Coordinator: *available position*

Membership Nurture & Outreach Coordinator: *available position*

Emma Norton Representative: Kathy Hulsebus 2nd year

MEMBERS AT LARGE/ASSIGNED

Newsletter Editor: Linda Kotschevar

Vivie Sr. Community Representative: Susanne Mattison

Vivie Sr. Community Jewelry Representative: Clarice Lien

Members At Large: Joyce Prudden, Chrisana Tripodi

CONFERENCE OFFICERS/LEGACY MEMBERS

Marion Hansen, Sophia Mahowald, Carol Miller, Jomyla Choate, Melinda Kohrt

A special thank you to all these officers for their dedication to United Women in Faith. We continue to be a vital part of the lives of women, children and youth wherever there is a need. Won't you please consider becoming a UWFaith officer? Contact Marion Hansen at marionha@wtca.net or call 218-539-0954.



Headwaters Area Financial Report
2025 Income Expenses, 2025 Budget and 2026 Proposed Budget

	A	August 1, 2025	C	D
1		2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Proposed Budget
2	<u>REVENUE</u>			
3	District pledge		\$ 11,375.00	
4	Pledge to Mission		\$ 10,425.00	
5	Special Mission Recognition		\$ 260.00	
6	Gift to Mission		\$ 280.00	
7	Gift in Memory		\$ 260.00	
8	World Thank Offering		\$ 125.00	
9	Love Offering		\$ 25.00	
10	Emma Norton		\$ 2,619.00	
11	Miscellaneous Revenue			
12	Prayer and Self Denial		\$ 291.57	
13	Designated Other		\$ -	
14	Flowers & Book Sales			
15	UMCOR		\$ -	
16	Mission U			
17	District/Conf. Registrations & Offerings		\$ -	
18	Legacy			
19	District's Contribution for Speaker Honorarium		\$ -	
20	Total of miscellaneous revenue	\$ -	\$ 291.57	\$ -
21	TOTAL from Units- all categories		\$ 14,285.57	\$ -
22	A&MD from Conference	\$ 6,870.00	\$ 5,277.50	\$ -
23	A&MD from Conference Applied to Pledge			
24	GRAND TOTAL Received	\$ 6,870.00	\$ 19,563.07	\$ -
25				
26	<u>EXPENSES</u>			
27	OFFICER EXPENSE (available to spend)	\$ 6,370.00		
28	Mileage, Lodging, Meals	\$ -	\$ 1,048.77	\$ -
29	Literature (Handbooks, Mission u Books)	\$ -		\$ -
30	Supplies (Paper, labels, etc.)	\$ -		\$ -
31	Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
32	Financial Review	\$ 300.00		\$ -
33	Copying	\$ -		\$ -
34	MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT			
35	Communications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
36	District/Conference Meetings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
37	Mission U Fees	\$ -		\$ -
38	Resources	\$ -		\$ -
39	Bank Charges	\$ -	\$ 298.18	\$ -
40	Officer Recognition	\$ -	\$ 160.00	\$ -
41	Legacy Fund	\$ -		\$ -
42	Miscellaneous including flowers	\$ -		\$ -
43	Dist. Gathering Focus Organization			
44	total expenses (admin and Mbr)	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,506.95	\$ -
45	Unspent money returned to Conference		\$ -	\$ -
46	Total sent to conference		\$ -	\$ -
47	GRAND TOTAL EXPENDED		\$ 15,792.52	\$ -
48	Balance carried over to next year	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
49				
50				
51				

2026 HEADWATERS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Contact Information

PRESIDENT

Linda Kotschevar
109 3rd Ave N
Waite Park, MN 56387
320-252-3827
jlkotsch2@gmail.com

TREASURER

Diane Bublitz
1514 Aspen Lane
St. Cloud, MN 56303
320-259-1939
bublom01@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Open Position –
CAN YOU HELP?
Contact Marion Hansen

NOMINATIONS CHAIR

Open Position -
CAN YOU HELP?
Contact Marion Hansen

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Open Position –
CAN YOU HELP?
Contact Marion Hansen

MEMBERSHIP NURTURE & OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Open Position –
CAN YOU HELP?
Contact Marion Hansen

SOCIAL ACTION COORDINATOR

Open Position -
CAN YOU HELP?
Contact Marion Hansen

SPIRITUAL GROWTH COORDINATOR

Vicky Clausen
939 Cypress Rd #21
St. Cloud, MN 56303
320-230-6460
vlcmaisel@gmail.com

EDU. & INTERPRETATION COORDINATOR

Louise Johnson
1705 11th St NE
Buffalo, MN 55313
952-412-9533
ljohnson@nuveramail.net

VIVIE SR. COMMUNITY REP.

Susanne Mattison
3017 Jersey Ave S
St. Louis Park, MN 55426
612-987-3336
susanne_mattison@yahoo.com

VIVIE SR. COMMUNITY JEWELRY REP.

Clarice Lien
7505 Aldrich Ave S
Richfield, MN 55423
612-866-3719
lemndrps@msn.com

EMMA NORTON REP.

Kathy Hulsebus
1700 Boulder Dr
Sartell, MN 56377
918-407-0253
kjhulsebus@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Linda Kotschevar
109 3rd Ave N
Waite Park, MN 56387
320-252-3827
jlkotsch2@gmail.com

AT LARGE MEMBERS

Joyce Prudden
Chrisana Tripodi

HEADWATERS 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 5	HW Area Executive Team MYG.	Minnetonka UMC
September 6	HW Area Fall Gathering	Minnetonka UMC
October 11	Conference Annual Gathering	Alexandria UMC
October 11-12	Leadership Development Retreat	Alexandria UMC

Find United Women in Faith Online

United Women in Faith Website:

uwfaith.org

This is our primary website. Here you will find the latest news and information about United Women in Faith programs, initiatives, and events. It's where you connect with other members and get involved.

Facebook:

facebook.com/uwomenfaith

If you're on Facebook, be sure to "like" United Women in Faith. Follow the link and sign up so that our regular posts will appear on your home page.

Instagram:

instagram.com/uwomenfaith

If you're on Instagram, be sure to follow United Women in Faith so that regular posts will appear on your feed.

Twitter:

twitter.com/uwomenfaith

Do you tweet? So does United Women in Faith! Use the link to find our Twitter account@uwomenfaith. Follow us, tweet with us, and become a part of the continuing conversation around faith, hope, and love.

Minnesota United Women in Faith Website:

uwfaithmn.com

This is our Minnesota UWF website. Here you will find information on upcoming events, event registration forms, district newsletters and the Fresh Connection. You can even donate and make payments.

Minnesota UWFaith Facebook Group:

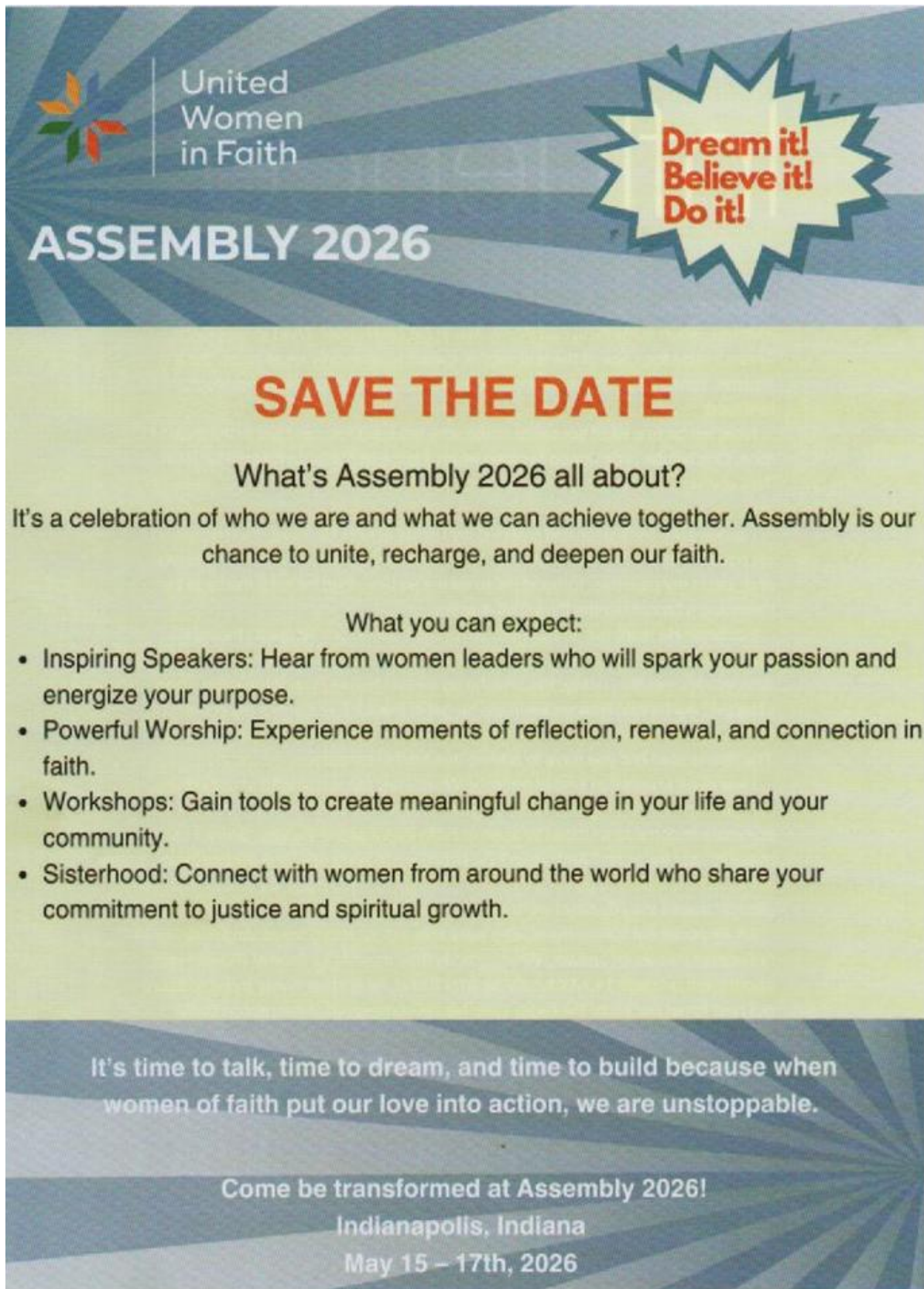
facebook.com/groups/127497622121/

This group is for members of Minnesota United Women in Faith and all who is interested in UWF. Follow the link and press "join the group" and posts will appear on your home page.



United
Women
in Faith

Registration for Assembly 2026 opens September 2, 2025, at the Assembly Website <https://assembly.uwfaith.org/website/82390/>. Contact Marion Hansen at marionha@wtca.net or 218-539-0954 if you plan to attend.



The poster features a blue and green geometric background with radiating lines. In the top left is the United Women in Faith logo, a stylized flower with orange, yellow, and green petals. To its right, the text "United Women in Faith" is written in white. In the top right, a yellow starburst contains the text "Dream it! Believe it! Do it!" in red. The title "ASSEMBLY 2026" is in large white letters. The main section has a light green background with the text "SAVE THE DATE" in large red letters. Below this, the text "What's Assembly 2026 all about?" is followed by a paragraph: "It's a celebration of who we are and what we can achieve together. Assembly is our chance to unite, recharge, and deepen our faith." Then, "What you can expect:" is followed by a bulleted list. The bottom section has a blue background with white text: "It's time to talk, time to dream, and time to build because when women of faith put our love into action, we are unstoppable." and "Come be transformed at Assembly 2026! Indianapolis, Indiana May 15 – 17th, 2026".

United Women in Faith

ASSEMBLY 2026

**Dream it!
Believe it!
Do it!**

SAVE THE DATE

What's Assembly 2026 all about?

It's a celebration of who we are and what we can achieve together. Assembly is our chance to unite, recharge, and deepen our faith.

What you can expect:

- Inspiring Speakers: Hear from women leaders who will spark your passion and energize your purpose.
- Powerful Worship: Experience moments of reflection, renewal, and connection in faith.
- Workshops: Gain tools to create meaningful change in your life and your community.
- Sisterhood: Connect with women from around the world who share your commitment to justice and spiritual growth.

It's time to talk, time to dream, and time to build because when women of faith put our love into action, we are unstoppable.

Come be transformed at Assembly 2026!
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 15 – 17th, 2026