

River Bluffs United Women in Faith

THE LINK

Linking together members of the River Bluffs Area

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August 2025

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Greetings United Women in Faith Sisters— I look forward to seeing all of you in person Saturday, September 13, at our Fall Annual Gathering at Stewartville UMC. To make planning easier for our host unit, please register on line or by mail before the September 5 deadline. See the notice on page 3 of what to bring to the Gathering.

"Partnering with God in God's Work" is our theme for the day. I can't wait to be inspired in the morning by **Brittany Radford** as she talks about *Disruptive Love* (Brittany says: "My title will be: **Disruptive Love: A Gospel Response to Immigration and Injustice**. I'll explore how the Church, particularly United Women of Faith, can respond to the current issues of welcoming immigrants and advocating for racial justice from a framework of discipleship. I'll share how the Office of Racial Equity and Justice can partner with you." In the afternoon, **Brenda Blair** will describe *Project Mondema* in Sierra Leone. We'll look forward to 2026 as we elect and install officers and approve a budget for the year. We will honor our past with our Remembrance Service (please bring names of women from your church who have passed away during this year) and hear reports from our officers about UWFaith activities. **Fall Gathering will be live streamed. Fill out registration then choose "Live Stream."**

Thank you to everyone who made our Spring Gathering at The Well UMC in Rosemount successful. Deaconess Cindy Johnson informed us; hosting unit leader, Janet Ewing, and church members provided wonderful hospitality; area officers gave support and assistance. May baskets were made by attendees and later delivered to Emma Norton. Most important, thanks to everyone who attended. Without you, we would not have a gathering.

Nominations: We need your help in 2026. Our Area's **slate of officers is not filled – page 6**. If you are inspired to volunteer, please contact me or Janet Ewing for more information. Being an officer is a wonderful opportunity to work and have fun with other women in our Area. We also need **units to host** our

spring and fall gatherings. Hosting is a great way to serve your Area. Please consider the opportunity and get more information from me or Janet.

Mission Today Unit Awards As of this writing, only two units have submitted Mission Today 2024 reports. If your unit completed the requirements for the award in 2024, please let me know so I can present your certificate at the Fall Annual Gathering. A copy of the form was in the Spring issue of *The Link*, or you can get one from me. As United Women in Faith, we are called to put our faith into action in everything we do, wherever we are, individually and together. We must answer this call!

Until I see you September 13, Blessings and Love, Your President, Jane

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Brittany Radford's upbringing in inner-city Cleveland, Ohio, has fueled her passion for community and shaped the way she sees the world. As an ambivert and Enneagram 8, Brittany is driven by a deep desire to interrogate systems of injustice and offer hope. This calling led her to ask deeper "why" questions of faith, the church, and society, which sparked her academic and professional journey.

She earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology with a minor in African American Studies from Case Western Reserve University, followed by a master's in Human Development and Family Sciences from Mississippi State University. Her graduate work—focused on faith, positive youth development,

and Critical Race Theory (CRT) in the Mississippi Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church—earned her multiple awards. Brittany is currently pursuing her Master of Divinity at Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO), where she is a member of the Racial Resiliency Cohort, a formation program preparing leaders to dismantle white supremacy within the UMC and broader society.

Brittany has over 20 years in the nonprofit sector—including five years of AmeriCorps service in Mississippi, New York, and D.C. In 2020, while at Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHS), she developed the Neighborhood Healing Network (NHN), a million-dollar trauma support initiative for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) individuals affected by violence in St. Louis, Missouri. In ministry, Brittany has served as an Associate Site Pastor at The Gathering UMC in St. Louis, where she led Hospitality and Connections ministries with over 100 volunteers and launched a College and Young Adult ministry. She also served as a youth director for a rural UMC parachurch organization, where she led youth programming, fostering spiritual growth and community engagement. She is a Local Licensed Pastor in The United Methodist Church and currently serves as the Director of Racial Equity and Justice for the Minnesota Annual Conference. In this role, she equips churches and leaders to engage in anti-racism work, supports BIPOC and LGBTQ+ clergy, builds bridges across communities, and advocates for systemic change.

Brittany was recently selected as a 2025 Josie R. Johnson Leadership Fellow with the African American Leadership Forum (AALF), a fellowship designed to strengthen Black leadership and promote racial equity and systems change across Minnesota. Her participation in both AALF and MTSO's Racial Resiliency Cohort reflects her deep-rooted commitment to transformative justice and holistic leadership grounded in community. As a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Incorporated, a historically Black professional organization, Brittany lives out its motto *Greater Service, Greater Progress*. She is also the co-author of The GET UP Facilitator Guide, an interactive devotional designed to help individuals rediscover their God-given purpose. Beyond ministry, Brittany is the founder of Bradicoal Studio, a portrait photography business exploring the intersection of art, identity, and radical self-discovery.



"Hi, I am **Brenda Blair**, a retired early childhood special education teacher from the Red Wing school district. I was given the opportunity to go to Sierra Leone in 2016 with one other early childhood teacher. We were given the task of training 11 teacher that were the staff at a newly built preschool in a remote village. I have been going there 1to 2 times a year since that first visit, trying to improve my delivery of education ideas and strategies each time I go. I have attended international education conferences on line and in person and have expanded my understanding of colonialism and community-led development through reading recent research.

"Outside of that, I love to walk, hike, swim, and canoe/kayak, bake and can garden produce and collect agates."

MONEY MATTERS—from your Treasurer

The donations to our Conference Pledge to Missions this year total \$7,728.80; to Emma Norton \$3,197.

Our pledge to Missions for 2025 is \$50,000; our goal for Emma Norton is \$13,000.

As you can see, we still have a long way to go to meet our goals. Most units have major fundraisers in the fall so I hope that we will be able to meet both of our pledges. Also, your Area Treasurer needs to close her books by Dec. 10, so whatever funds you can send by that date will be much appreciated. If you need remittance forms, please contact me, Jane Baker, by phone or text (651-764-2505), or email (ianekbaker@vahoo.com).

Please bring to Fall Annual Gathering:

Names of unit members who have died this year (for the Service of Remembrance)

Fundraising ideas to share with other units

Donations for Emma Norton (page____)

Offering monies for Pledge to Mission & Emma Norton (make checks to River Bluffs UWFaith)

Hearts and minds ready to learn and share!

Fall Unit Survey is to be filled out by your unit President or someone with computer skills. Your response matters. This will allow UWFaith National Office to:

Deliver more resources to local units Gather engagement data based on region Celebrate all the work you do on behalf of women, children, and youth. Find the survey at https://uwfaith.org/unit-survey/

Reading Program by Connie Scott

Contact: Connie Scott 507-456-3073 connielulu55@msn.com

Uwfaithmn.com open tabs: 'What We Do' 'Reading Program'

PDFs for the 2025 Reading Program and a Downloadable List of books in the Lending Library

Last 2 Zoom Book Discussions for 2025:

Sept. 8: Our Missing Hearts, Celeste Ng

Nov. 10: Spiritual Practices for Soul Care, Barbara I. Peacock

Lending Library Schedule:

September 6: Headwaters – Minnetonka September 13: River Bluffs – Stewartville September 20: Prairie Winds – Blue Earth October 11-12: Annual Conference - Alexandria

Book Club Dates

September 8

Our Missing Hearts

November 10

Spiritual Practices for

Soul Care

Resources for Enrichment

We offer many ways for you to enrich your life, live your faith, and put love into action.

https://www.uwfaithmn.com – for Minnesota events, area connections & Fresh Connection
 https://www.tacebook.com/groups/127497622121 – Minnesota United Women in Faith
 https://www.uwfaith.org – National Who We Are, Resources, Get involved, What We Do, News, Events, Give, Legacy Fund, Membership, Donate

https://www.facebook.com - United Women in Faith National

<u>https://www.youtube.com/uwomanfaith/videos</u> - watch current United Women in Faith videos Instagram.com/uwomenfaith

twitter.com/uwomenfaith

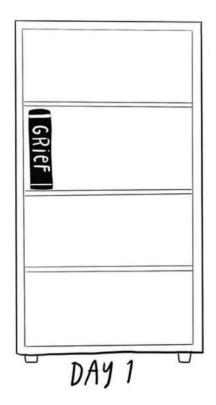
The LINK is published twice a year and is distributed by email only, free of charge.

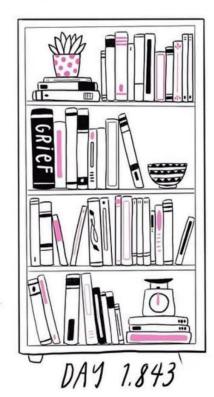
Service Of Remembrance at River Bluffs Area Annual Fall Gathering by Carolyn Winslow, Spiritual Growth

River Bluffs Area Annual Gathering will have a **Remembrance Service** for all women who have passed away from our congregations between September 2024 to present. **All women are United Women in Faith**, whether active in a local unit or not. Please ask your church office or pastor for a list of all ladies who have passed away this year. Bring this list to the Annual Gathering on September 13th. Plan to have someone to come forward prepared to read the names aloud during the Remembrance Service. **If no ladies from your local are attending, please send the list by email or US Postal mail,** to our Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Carolyn Winslow, by September 6th. Carolyn will be sure the list is presented during the service.

Carolyn Winslow; 1393 Clippership Alcove; Woodbury, MN 55125 OR email to: caring@thegrovemn.church







The Evolution of Grief - Day 1 to Day

1,843 - "Imagine that you are this bookshelf and grief were this thick, heavy, and permanent book sitting in it. Over time, that book doesn't change in shape or size. It just stays there and becomes a part of you. As the days and years pass, your library grows around it as everything you add to the shelf becomes another chapter and dimension in your life". (source: HealGrief.org)

Spiritual Growth Article from Carolyn Winslow Forest Bathing

"Forest Bathing" involves spending time in a forest or natural environment, focusing on sensory engagement to connect with God's creation through nature. As we enter the Autumn season here in Minnesota, the brilliantly colored leaves can add to the sensory

experience of spending time immersed in nature for healing and restoration. The practice of Shinrin-yoku, the Japanese term that translates to "bathing in the forest atmosphere" was developed in the 1980's by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to promote health and well-being.

Practicing Shinrin-yoku

It is typically practiced by walking through a forest at a slow and gentle pace without any distractions, such as electronics, and simply taking time to let all your senses experience your natural surroundings. If entering a forest is not doable, simply find your way to a quiet place outdoors and sit or stand quietly. Noticing areas of

any tension, relax your body and let this space surround you like a warm bath. Using your 5 senses, let nature enter in:

- Listen to the sounds birds, insects, the leaves rustling or acorns dropping
- Touch the ground, the trees, the fallen leaves
- Take in deep breaths and notice the smell of the earth, the leaves, fragrant Fall flowers
- Observe the scenery the changing colors of the leaves & how the light filters through the trees, the sky & the clouds, the earth beneath your feet
- Taste the crispness of the air as you breathe in deeply

Shinrin-yoku has been linked to increased immunity, higher energy levels, and a releasing of negative thoughts. As you surrender to your surroundings, consider what you would like God, through God's natural world, to help you release – perhaps a worry or something that has made you angry or sad. Think of 3 things you can let go of as you bathe in the healing powers of God's natural world and give thanks to God.

(Note: If you are unable to get outside at all, gently gazing on a picture from nature and imagining what that place might look, sound, feel, and smell like can be helpful in achieving a calming connection with your Creator.)



Nominations Report by Janet Ewing, Chair.

The River Bluffs United Women in Faith invites you to fill the 2026 slate of officers. It is a great opportunity to keep learning, to help others, to grow in your personal faith, your social and leadership skills. Your concepts about mission and faith will grow as you participate beyond the local level of UWFaith.

Which of the following positions will you choose?

The **Secretary**, records the organization's minutes of all executive/business meetings.

The **Education and Interpretation** Mission Coordinator shares the "who, what, where, why and when" of where the money goes.

The <u>Program Coordinator</u> is an event planner, for the Spring & Fall meetings with the help of the Executive Team. UWFaith has many issues and ministries that can hi-light "love in action."

Spiritual Growth Mission Coordinator provides devotions, grace, prayers at meetings and the worship service for the spring and the fall Area meetings, and newsletter articles related to spiritual growth.

Social Action Mission Coordinator informs and promotes the national issue priorities and to promote justice.

The <u>Reading Program Associate</u> encourages and shares information about the National Reading Program. Share your love of reading about other cultures, adventures, and people who have influenced others.

Do you like to meet new people and learn about their passions? become a member of the <u>Nominations</u> <u>Committee</u>. Your concepts about mission and faith will grow as you participate beyond the local level of UWFaith.

Your "Time & Talent is Voluntary" and the "expenses of each office is paid by the Area UWFaith to encourage your participation, your talents, and interests as you grow in your faith and leadership.

Training for all positions will be at the Leadership Development Retreat by the MN Conference UWFaith Team following the Conference Annual Meeting, Oct. 11 in Alexandria and continuing on Sunday. The fees, mileage and motel, will be paid by the River Bluffs Area from the Administration and Membership Fund.

I encourage you to volunteer. You will be a blessing and we hope to bless you. Fill out the Leadership Application and email it to me. I'll send you a more detailed job description. You may also contact Jane Baker, President, janekbaker@yahoo.com, h-651-388-9127, c-651-764-2505.

2026 River Bluffs Slate of Elected Officers

President: year 1 Secretary: year 1

Elizabeth Everitt eeveritt@comcast.net Open

Treasurer: year 2

Jane Baker janekbaker@yahoo.com

Chair Committee on Nominations:

<u>Class of 2028</u> - Virginia (Ginny) Vandervest <u>vvanderves@gmail.com</u>

Committee on Nominations (2per year)

Class of 2026

Teri Arnold jonandteriarnold@hotmail.com

Class of 2026

Dianna Eickelberg deickelberg1@gmail.com

Class of 2027, 2028, and 2029

Open



2026 River Bluffs Appointed Leadership

Program Coordinator: Spiritual Growth

Open

Open

Social Action:

Education and Interpretation:

Open

Membership Nurture and Outreach year 2

Thalia Duffield thaliakduffield@gmail.com

Communications Coordinator: year 2

Catherine Williams cwilliamsteacher303@gmail.com

Reading Program Associate:

Open

Emma Norton Representative: year 2

Christie Brown rlb1949@msn.com

River Bluffs Area

Leadership Application

Full Name:	Date:				
Last	First	M.I.	Age:		
Address:					
	City	State	e ZIP Code		
Phone:	Email:				
Cell:	Church & City:		_		
Employed: full-time; _	part-time;	_ retired.			
Position Applied for: Elected:	Appointed:				
President	Education	on and Interpreta	ation Coordinator		
Secretary	Member	ship Nurture & O	utreach Coordinator		
Treasurer	Social Ad	ction Coordinato	r		
Nominations Chair	Spiritu	al Growth Coord	inator		
Nominations Committee	Emm	a Norton Repres	entative		
Members	Reading	Program Associa	ate Librarian/		
Appointed:	_	n Coordinator			
Communications Coord	inator Are	a Historian			
EDUCATION, WORK AND COMPUTER SKILLS					

POSITIONS HELD IN YOUR CHURCH, COMMUNITY, OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Special talents & skills, music, writing, creative areas

RETURN TO: Janet Ewing, 5995 133rd St. Ct. W., Apple Valley, MN 55124 or <u>janete9@charter.net</u> Home: 952-431-7751 Revised 7-2025

Emma Norton Services Representative by Christie Brown

Living Room Reminder

Emma Norton Services want to share a reminder that the **Living Room at Emma Norton** is available to *anyone in Minnesota ages 18 and up*. It is open noon to 8 pm every day of the week (except for holidays or special occasions), and it is completely free.

Norton If you're able to visit in person at 2265 Hillcrest Ave, St. Paul, MN 55116, no appointment is necessary. If you aren't able to visit in person, you can call the Living Room at 651-251-2629 to schedule a free telehealth appointment. If you know someone in Minnesota who is struggling due to recent events, whether in the news or in their personal life, please share this resource with them.

We are reminded how deeply our communities need spaces of safety, empathy, and connection. In this spirit, we share stories of joy and connection, opportunities to lean into community, and gratitude for the many ways we keep showing up for each other. We also want to remind our community that our mental health drop-in space, The Living Room, is open to all adults 18+ in Minnesota—through walk-in, phone call, or telehealth. You are not alone. (source: Emma Norton website)

Beyond Grateful

Emma

Emma Norton Services wants to share a special thank you to **The Well UMC** in Rosemount for inviting us to shop for free at their annual garage sale in late May! A small group of Emma Norton staff went to The Well together on the morning the sale started, so we could look for items for our clients before everyone else came through. We were able to get so much stuff for clients in our programs, including several youth-sized backpacks, some small toys, housewares like pots and pans, and small furniture like lamps. Thank you again for generously inviting us to "shop" for free—it makes a big difference! (source: Emma Norton website)

Special Donation Needs

- 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. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator Mo Mayberry at mmayberry@emmanorton.org for more information.

Give to the Max Day 2025: Thursday, November 20

General Donation Needs

Household Cleaning supplies: disinfectant, floor cleaner, sponges, dish soap, Clorox wipes, paper towels **Baby Supplies**: diapers, wipes, formula, pacifiers

Art Supplies: art hanging hardware, glue & epoxy, jewelry making materials, good quality brushes/sponges, watercolor paper, watercolors, tissue paper, empty journals

General household needs: Queen size sheets and comforters, towels, brooms, non-stick pans

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH Minnesota Conference Annual Fall Gathering

"Hope in Action"



Guest Speaker: Rev. Dawn Houser Pastor, Aitkin United Methodist Church

"Native American Boarding Schools:
The Generational Impact"

Many would describe the boarding school experience that impacted countless Native Americans as "old history". The impact and effects of this traumatic experience are, however, still present today. Children who attended were torn away from their families and culture, raised in a challenging and difficult environment and then expected to return to society. Looking back, we can now see how that experience shaped their relationships as they formed families and raised their own children.

Our guest speaker, Rev. Dawn Houser, chairs the Minnesota Conference Committee on Native American Ministries, and co-chairs the North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Native American Ministries. She will explore today's issues and how we can influence changes within our communities through engagement in foster care settings, school board advocacy and trauma informed practices. Be sure to join us for an informative and fun day!

- 8:00 Check-in, Muffins for Emma & Displays
- 9:00 Program Begins
- Register at: https://forms.gle/bYotr9zpQetRbwaQA
- Morning program from 9-12:00 will be livestreamed at: www.youtube.com/@AlexUMC/streams

Attention Conference and District Officers!

Once again, the Leadership Development Retreat (LDR) will be held in combination with the Conference Annual Gathering. ALL current and new Conference and Area Officers are invited and encouraged to attend!

- The following is a quick look at what the weekend will look like:
 - o Fri. 3pm-8pm: Conference Executive Team Meets (Conference officers only)
 - o Sat. 9am-2:30pm: Annual Gathering
 - o Sat. 3:00pm-8:00pm: LDR
 - o Sun. 9:00am-2pm: LDR
- If you are not a Conference Officer but are arriving on Friday afternoon you are invited to join us at the church for supper and then help with preparations for the next day.
- Lodging will be at hotels in Alexandria (list attached). You are responsible for making your own reservation, paying the bill and then vouchering your expenses. The Conference will pay for two people per room.
- I am attaching a schedule for the weekend. As we get closer to the event you will receive further information with a detailed schedule for LDR.

Registration is now open for LDR as well as the Annual Gathering. You can register for both events on the same registration form this year a https://forms.gle/bYotr9zpQetRbwaQA. The deadline is October 1st.

I look forward to seeing all of you on October 11 and 12 in Alexandria!

Linda Kotschevar - UWFaith Conference Program Coord - 320-252-3827 - jlkotsch2@gmail.com

National News – "A Mighty Tradition" by Sally Vonner General Secretary and CEO of United Women in Faith

"No people can rise higher as a people than the point to which they educate their women."

-Isabella Thoburn



Dear Sister in Faith,

God has blessed us to be a blessing to others. Since 1869, United Women in Faith has been powered by acts of love from women just like you.

Your support has helped us put love in action for women and children on the margins; spiritually grow and nurture women; equip bold leaders; provide love, justice, and service at home and abroad; and carry out important social action and justice work. **Thank you!**

But there is more work to do and more love to share. This year, we've seen the erasure of jobs, history, and benefits that limit access to needed safety nets, particularly impacting women, children, and other vulnerable groups. United Women in Faith will not be discouraged. We continue to advocate for justice, putting our hope and love in action, aligning with God's call to be light for the vulnerable, just as one of our foremothers, Isabella Thoburn, did when she set sail for India. Your Mission Giving dollars support this work.

This bold tradition began in 1869, when eight women in Boston, moved by the plight of their sisters in India, acted. In six months, they raised enough money to send Isabella Thoburn and Dr. Clara Swain to India. **Thoburn boldly launched a women's education program that led to South Asia's first Christian college for women.** What began with six students in 1870 is now Isabella Thoburn College, with 3,500 women enrolled today.

As Thoburn said, "No people can rise higher as a people than the point to which they educate their women."

We, at United Women in Faith, will carry that vision forward. **Will you help us by becoming part of our new Isabella Thoburn Giving Circle to further support Mission Giving?** With a monthly \$25 gift, you can help ensure the continuity of vital mission efforts around the world.

Thank you for all you do to put love in action for a better world. Remember, we are bold, courageous, and determined United Women in Faith. Together, we will accomplish mighty acts that future generations will recount. Please visit us online today and join the Isabella Thoburn Giving Circle at uwfaith.org/isabella.

In deepest gratitude.

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

River Bluffs Area United Women in Faith ANNUAL FALL GATHERING 2025

Saturday, September 13, 2025, 8:45am-2:30pm

Cost: \$20, includes lunch

Emma Norton coffee begins at 8:45am

Stewartville United Methodist Church Rev. Laura Nordstrom, Pastor

900 John Wesley Ave. NW, Stewartville, MN 55976

Theme: Partnering with God in God's Work

8:45am
Registration and Emma Norton Coffee/offering;
Visit Resource Tables/Displays/LendingLibrary
9:30am
Gathering for Singing/Worship in the Sanctuary and offering
Business Meeting
10:15am
Program: Brittany Radford: Disruptive Love:
A Gospel Response to Immigration & Injustice
Announcements
Noon
Lunch with time to visit Resource Tables/Lending
Library
1:00pm
Gathering/Singing in the Sanctuary

Speaker: Brenda Blair: Project Mondema

in Sierra Leone

1:45pm Installation of 2026 officers 2:00 pm Service of Remembrance

2:30 Closing

**Offerings go toward our pledge to the conference for missions and to Emma Norton Services. Please make checks to River Bluffs UWFaith. Thank you!

Directions to Stewartville UMC ((also on Stewartville UMC website): from North—follow Hwy 63 south to Stewartville. About 1 block after first traffic light turn right (west) on 10th St NW, go about 1 block and you will be in the church parking lot.

From the South, take Hwy 63 north to Stewartville, go thru town and over bridge. *Take a left (west) by the bowling alley onto 10th St. NW. Go about a block and go left (south) on John Wesley Ave NW. Go straight about 1 block into the church parking lot.*Registrations due by Friday, September 5, 2025

REGISTER: Online (preferred) https://forms.gle/HSmzjcKF5eCB1TKY9 - pay \$20 registration fee at door, OR Complete the registration below and mail with **\$20** check made out to River Bluffs UWFaith to Vickie Howard, 9149 County Rd 115 SW, Stewartville, MN 55976

Live Streaming is available. Go to website: uwfaithmn.com – click on "area connections" – register – choose live stream – link will be emailed to you before the meeting

QUESTIONS: Contact Vickie Howard at 507-421-5539. Email: vhoward@kmtel.com

Name:	Address			
E-mail Address	Phone:			
Church	Previous district (if applicable)	First time attendee	<u>Yes</u>	No
Local/District Officer?	Office Held:			
Food Allergies or dietary concern	ns:			
Child Care: Yes, I need child care	e for 1 or more children. Indicate number _			
Include children's names with this registration form		Include a lunch & snacks for child.		

Children must be pre-registered to have child care available on site.

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.

Dream it! Believe it! Do it! Get ready for Assembly 2026, happening May 15-17 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Registration opens September 1, 2025.

What is Assembly?

• Assembly 2026 is a once-every-four-years gathering of women committed to faith, empowerment, and making a difference. It's a weekend that uplifts your soul, strengthens your faith, and brings you together with an unstoppable sisterhood.

What awaits you at this empowering event?

- **Inspiring Speakers:** Hear from women leaders who will spark your passion and energize your purpose.
- **Powerful Worships:** Experience deep 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 Soul Care.

Past keynote speakers at Assembly have included:

- Nobel Peace Prize winner **Levmah Gbowee**
- The New Jim Crow author and The New York Times OpEd writer Michelle Alexander
- Children's Defense Fund founder Marion Wright Edelman
- Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
- PBS NewsHour host Judy Woodruff
- Worldwide YWCA General Secretary Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda
- Grammy award winner **CeCe Winans**



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. This only happens once every four years. Don't miss your chance to grow in faith, find inspiration, and take action!

Visit for all things Assembly 2026!

We look forward to seeing you there! (source: UWFaith.org)