



Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith

MINUTES Annual Gathering

Faith Not Fear – Acting Fearlessly

Montrose First UMC - Montrose, CO

October 17-18, 2025

Annual Gathering Bible verses: 2 Timothy 1:7 *For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of sound mind.* (King James Version)

Welcome by Pastor Kevin Young & Montrose UW Faith President

Assembly video - introduce Conference Assembly Liaison – Beth McCorkle

Opening Music, Devotion, and Prayer

Keynote speaker Bishop Kristin Stoneking via virtual

Business Meeting, Part 1

The 2025 Conference Team was introduced.

Introduction of Mountain Sky Deaconesses and home-missioner.

Committee on Nominations report by Teresa Rivera:

Leadership Team for 2026:

President - Robin Ball, 2nd Term 1st Year

Treasurer - Connie Pittenger, 2nd Term 1st Year

Coordinator for Membership, Nurture and Outreach –

Karen Waldren, 2nd Term, 1st Year

Coordinator for Program Resources – Sue Yeager, 1st Term 1st Year

Communication Coordinator - Linda Cockett, 2nd Term, 1st Year

Spiritual Growth Coordinator – Denise Logan, 2nd Term, 1st Year

Committee on Nominations, Chair - Judy Nielsen, 1st Term 1st Year

Committee on Nominations, W Mtn - Peg Plimpton, 2nd Term, 1st Year

Committee on Nominations, Big Horn - Robynn Wood, 2nd Term, 1st Year

Mission u Assistant Dean - Pattie Klein, 1st Term, 1st Year

Open positions – Mile High Metro, Southern CO

Committee for Nominations

Report from Secretary, Cindy Warren

Minutes from the 2024 Annual Gathering was previously distributed through Sky Lights

– The Call on September 16, 2025, and posted at the Annual Gathering.

A motion was made by Judy Eichert and seconded by Mary Ann Watson and unanimously approved to accept the minutes as presented.

The modifications made to the Standing Rules Report was posted in the Sky Lights – The Call on September 16, 2025, and posted at the Annual Gathering. The changes and additions to the Standing Rules were reviewed. The Standing Rules were approved by committee and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report & presentation of budget - Connie Pittenger, Treasurer

2024 Pledge to National was \$170k Actual received \$182k which is 110% of pledge

We got an award from National for exceeding our pledge, however, we did not get recognized for increasing our pledge.

Our pledge to National in 2025 is \$170k. At the end of September, we have received 54% of our pledge and sent \$91,887 into National. By the end of 2025, money should come in to meet our 2025 pledge. Money needs to be given to District Treasurer by Dec. 10th then they have 1 week to get it to conference treasurer.

We will raise our pledge to National for 2026 \$175k. Assembly money is in our budget. We hold designated money in a savings account for assembly.

All 5 channels of mission giving, undesignated giving, make up our pledge. World Thank Offering boxes can be put out throughout the year. Gift of Mission cards are available to pick up. Pay when you use the cards at a suggested cost of \$5 per card.

Think about the pledge service which is generally done in January. Change this to another month or do it twice a year.

Approve the budget – from the Finance Committee (does not need a motion or second).

Unanimously approved.

Approve the pledge to National for 2026 of \$175k – from the Finance Committee. Approved as presented.

Deaconess and Home Missioner – Lauri Fujinami

Information on Deaconess and Home Missioner. Discernment workshop is coming up on Oct. 25th via Zoom. Deaconess and Home Missioners are called to love justice and service. We do ministry through the church or out in the world. Examples of other callings are nurses, work with mental health and addiction, teachers, special education teachers, school principals, prison ministries, missionary. Contact Lauri if you are interested or have any questions. Her email address is Tlef13@msn.com

Laurie is on the Western Jurisdiction Nomination Committee. In search of leadership skills. "It takes work," The location and dates of the next Western Jurisdiction in 2028 will be announced at Assembly.

Assembly – Beth McCorkle

Video about assembly in 2026 May 15-17, 2026, in Indianapolis, ID. The theme is "Dream it!, Believe it!, Do it!" Goal is to have 126 ladies attend assembly from the Mtn Sky Conference Great speakers and workshops. Scholarships are available. We will be wearing a stole that indicates we are from the Mtn Sky Conference. Sign up for Soul Care, which is free for first time attendees (limited).

Reading Program – Cheryl Runyon and Sue Yeager

Copies of some of the books from the 2026 reading program. They are available for purchase.

Pledge Service and Offering

Workshops:

Crossroads Urban Center – Glenn Bailey
Membership Tool Kit – MNO Donna Parisi
Racial Justice Committee

Business Meeting, Part 2

Election of Officers for 2026, as listed on page 1 – Comes from Committee so does not need a motion and 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Leaving the conference team:

Mary Ann Tabor
Pat Blaise
Teresa Rivera
Debra Bondie
Sandy Barton

Installation of Officers – Teresa Rivera

National Office – Hamu Chigwada

Goal is to have 500,000 members by 2029.

Tell the story of who we are.

We have more than 5,000 Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women (MMIW).

What can we do about it?

Inspire people, be bold and courageous.

Impact we are having in the world. Make a difference in someone else's life.

Be courageous and shine the light.

Young women will be inspired and want to be hands on. They will join us.

Video International Programs

Book give away – Cheryl Runyon and Sue Yeager

Leadership Development gave away “Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.” Gave one to each of the Districts. A book from the Charter of Racial Justice given to each of the Districts.

Silent Auction winners announced – Judy Eichert

Workshops

Crossroads Urban Center – Glenn Bailey

Climate Justice – Debbie Peterson

Mission and Money – Connie Pittenger & Linda Lloyd

Memorial Service

Closing Worship and Communion—

The Annual Gathering of the Mountain Sky Conference was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

By: Cindy Warren, Secretary