



United  
Women  
in Faith

## The Connection

### Mile High Metro District Newsletter

November 2025 - January, 2026

## Save The Date!

### Dream It! Believe It! Do It!

Our district Mission and Mentoring Day will be **Saturday, January 31**, at Green Mountain UMC. A mailing with details will be sent out closer to the date.

***Mark your calendars now and invite your friends!***

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***May 2 - Spiritual Day - Details TBA***

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***May 15-17 - National Assembly in Indianapolis***

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### To Do List

- Please mail your remaining 2025 pledges to Ann Horton. Ann must receive them by December 10 in order for them to count for 2025.
- Anyone is welcome to mail a check made to “Mile High Metro District UWFaith” directly to our District Treasurer: Ann Horton, 7342 S. Delaware St., Littleton, CO 80120. Checks from IRA RMDs are especially welcome. Call Ann for more info.
- Send an update on your Unit activities to [MileHiMetroUWFaith@gmail.com](mailto:MileHiMetroUWFaith@gmail.com).
- Register for UWFaith Assembly, May 15-17, Indianapolis, IN. <https://assembly.uwfaith.org/website/82390/home/>

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We are experimenting with different formatting for the newsletter. If you would like a pdf copy of the newsletter, please email us. Feel free to provide feedback at [MileHiMetroUWFaith@gmail.com](mailto:MileHiMetroUWFaith@gmail.com).

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### Membership Update

It's membership time! Now is the time to count your members and update your records. I'm told the national office will be sending information on a membership survey in January. This will cover 2024 & 2025. Now that all the disaffiliations have happened, we need to get a good count of our members. Remember, a woman is a member if she chooses to belong and supports our Purpose. Her membership may be displayed by attending events, belonging to a Circle, giving, helping, or praying for our organization, or any combination of these. Everyone is in a different place and life stage. They can participate as they are able. Please be sure to have each woman's name, phone, and email if she has it. This will help to keep her connected. If you haven't heard from someone in a while, give her a call. It's always nice to hear a friendly voice.

**Please send your membership count by the end of the year to**  
[donnaparisi@comcast.net](mailto:donnaparisi@comcast.net).

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**Invite your District Officers:** Your Mile High Metro District officers would love to come visit your meetings and get to know your members. Let us know if you have a meeting that we could visit. We can also provide an update about district and conference events if you would like. We even can help provide a program if you have a need. So contact your district officers and let us know when we can join you!

If your unit is interested in learning more about the **Sand Creek Massacre**, Sara Harris, MHM District co-president has a program ready to share. A former history instructor, Sara would love to share with others a program that looks at the event through the lens of history, with a view of the role that the Methodist Church played then and is playing now. Contact her at [sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com](mailto:sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com) or (620)433-2517 to more.

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18 people attended our Mile High Metro UWFAITH District's Zoom Book discussion of "Witness at Sand Creek: The Life and Letters of Silas Soule" with its author Dr Rev. Nancy Niero Nov. 17.

We had learned about Silas during our district History Colorado Center visit and our August road trip to the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site - the young abolitionist who disobeyed his commanding officer Chivington's orders to massacre the peaceful Cheyenne and Arapahoe women, children and old men there.

We learned so much more Monday from Nancy and her friend Rev Dustin Adkins (who also sells this book at cost avoiding purchasing from Amazon) how Silas' moral courage can help us speak up for justice now - today.

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Our very own **Dr. Yvette Richards**, former United Women in Faith Board President, has been named the **Kansas City Chiefs' 2025 Fan of the Year**—and she's now a **finalist for the NFL's ultimate Fan of the Year!**



[Vote for Dr. Yvette Richards – NFL Fan of the Year!](#)

Dr. Richards is the *ultimate fan*, showing that faith and passion can unite us all. Whether you cheer for the Chiefs, Broncos, Eagles, Bengals, Cowboys, Commanders, or anyone in between, we can all rally behind her spirit, leadership, and love for community.

When **faith and football** come together, we are unstoppable!

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## Unit Events

**Christ Church UWFaith has shared its upcoming schedule of events:**

Contact Carla Schwartzkopf for more details, [carlasch@me.com](mailto:carlasch@me.com)

Christmas Party Monday 12/15 @6p with Ornament exchange

Diaper Collections 11/30 through Christmas Eve

Notes for College Students 11/16/25 & 11/23/25

Book Club 1/18/26, 11:30 in the Chapel, light lunch provided.

Valentine Tea Saturday 2/7/26 2pm, Narthex

Please send your events to [MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com](mailto:MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com).



Brenda Bronson, Marcia Canter, and Jana Jones-National President

## **President's Message**

### **Mile High Metro District Co-President**

**Marcia Canter**

**Email:** [bomaanka@yahoo.com](mailto:bomaanka@yahoo.com)

#### President's Letter

11/11/25

Sometimes I feel like my days are filled with questions without answers. We are nearing the end of the year. Where did it go? Why didn't I get more done? Why is there so much to do?

Sometimes I feel like my days are filled with awe. The cottonwood tree at the park in golden splendor. My almost two-year-old grandson so excited at learning things. The way people can come together and make things happen. Becoming more familiar with some awesome in UWFaith.

Looking at this past year and ahead many questions emerge for me as District President. How do we get more members? How do we appeal to younger members? How do we ask our members to do more when they already do so much? How do we put our love into action?

We will explore those questions and more at the mission and mentoring meeting which will be January 31 at Green Mountain Methodist Church. Whether you are an officer or not, your ideas and energy would be appreciated at this meeting. There will be something that will interest or time for you to share ideas.

At this meeting we will also take time to acknowledge the awe. How at the annual district meeting we collected diapers, wipes and gift cards for Hope House to help the moms who are served there. How a group of us (along with friends) traveled to

Amache and Sand Creek Massacre Sites and learned more what we could do. And how several of us, (Hamu Chigwada, Brenda Bronson and Marcia Canter) decided on our own we would do more to build more connection between us and indigenous neighbors.

November is **National Native American Heritage Month**. The idea behind it is to acknowledge the history and heritage of indigenous people. To do that we have to learn more about it. Brenda has arranged for the author of **Witness at Sand Creek**, Nancy Niero, to speak to us via zoom. I'm leading a book discussion of **The Seed Keeper** by Dawn Wilson on November 30. These events will teach us more about what Native Americans have gone through.

Hamu and I wanted to do something that would financially support Native Americans programs. We chose the Denver Indian Center to be our recipient. We both like to walk so we're asking people to donate what they want through the Colorado Gives program. I'm hoping to walk 15 miles on November 28 (Black Friday) and burn off the calories. Hamu is tracking how much she walks the month of November. You can contribute there or you can do your own thing...It could be a flat amount or so much per mile. Here's the website where you can donate. The beauty of it is that The Colorado Gives Foundation will match most of the donations through December 9.

Now this is different than what usually happens in this newsletter. This is not a UWFaith project per se, but it was something that following what we learned at Sand Creek, that inspired us to keep the momentum going and to make a difference. We learned about it through UWFaith. And maybe that's the awe I am feeling. That an idea that came about at the last mission and mentoring meeting of going to Sand Creek in 2025 happened and subsequently we were inspired to do something. Not to mention made connections with each other on the trip.

What do you want to do in 2026 to make the world a better place? What can we as an

organization do—in our communities, the country and the world? How do we help our members where they need it? How will we enrich our lives?

I invite you to the meeting at Green Mountain. I want to hear your ideas there or even before. We can make a difference—and enjoy the awe and find some answers.

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### **MHM Co-President / Spiritual Growth Coordinator**

**Sara Harris**

Email: [sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com](mailto:sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com)

During the month of November we focus our attention on giving thanks. We give thanks for the friends that we have, the family that we love, the life that we live, and the world that we appreciate. But do we give thanks the way that God wants us to? 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us to “Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ.” That means in addition for thanking God for the good things in our life, we need to also thank Him for the not so good things in our lives. How many times have events that we think are bad turn out to be an important step towards a blessing that God has planned for us? How often do difficult times teach us important lessons that enrich our lives? Let us remember that God has a plan for us. We may not know what he has planned or where he is leading us, but we can trust that he is directing our path and is able to bring us blessings beyond measure if we just trust him and give Him our thanks in all circumstances.

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### **Your 2026 MHM District Leadership Team**

Back row: Monica Garlin, Linda Lloyd, Nancy Friday, Hamu Chigwada, Brenda Bronson

Front row: Karen Bueno, Donna Parisi, Marcia Canter, Kim Myers, Ann Horton

Missing from the photo: Sara Harris and Carla Schwartzkopf

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#### **Vice President**

**Kim Myers**

Email: [kimuwfaith@gmail.com](mailto:kimuwfaith@gmail.com)

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**MHM Membership, Nurture and Outreach Coordinator**

**Donna Parisi**

Email: [donnaparisi@comcast.net](mailto:donnaparisi@comcast.net)

**Wishing you all the blessings of a joyous holiday season.**

Are you UNSTOPPABLE? I think you are! UNSTOPPABLE is the theme of our 4-year membership

campaign. We discussed it at our annual meeting and at the conference annual gathering. This

is a phased campaign where our national office encourages us to grow our membership to 500,000 women globally. Yes, we can do it!

In the first phase we're asked to invite 30,000 women to join UWFaith. That's a national goal. It sounds big but it's easy to do. The goal is broken down for various sized units:

Large units (51+), invite 5 new members; Mid-sized units (11-50), invite 3-4 new members;

Small units (10 or less), invite 2 new members. We all know 2-5 women in our churches who do not belong to UWFaith. It's time to invite them to join us. How?

There is a new Excite & Invite booklet that tells us how to go "From Hello to Sisterhood in 4 easy steps"

- Make a connection—start with real conversation and see which pathway best fits her

goals: Inspire, Influence, and/or Impact.

- Meet her where she is—listen well, build trust, and pay attention to her passions,

challenges, and dreams.

- Show her what we're about—introduce her to the experiences, events, and stories that light you up.
- Invite her in—offer a clear, warm invitation to walk this journey with you.

All of this information is available on the UWFaith website, [uwfaith.org](http://uwfaith.org). Sign in to the member

portal. Click on the quick link on the right-hand side. Please use and share this information.

Proverbs 11:24 says, “some give freely, yet grow all the richer...”. Share what UWFaith means to you so that others can be enriched by this fabulous organization.

Let's be UNSTOPPABLE together. Who are you going to invite today?

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### **MHM Communications Coordinator**

Nancy Friday

[MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com](mailto:MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com)

In my unit, Smoky Hill UWFaith, I am president. December is a busy month in our unit. We have our Christmas Party, complete with white elephant gift exchange and

highly competitive Ugly Sweater contest. Our second-largest fundraiser, the Cookie Jamboree is held in December. Also in December we collect donations to purchase one-piece jumpsuits for the residents of a nursing home; this project is called Fleece Navidad.

We want to share what is going on in the units so that we can support and inspire one another. **We now have a Facebook page, search for Mile High Metro United Women in Faith and follow our page. Please send emails and photos so that I can share what is happening!** [MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com](mailto:MileHighMetroUWFaith@gmail.com)

[MHM Facebook Page](#)

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## **MHM Secretary**

**Linda Lloyd**

Email [linda.umw@gmail.com](mailto:linda.umw@gmail.com)

Happy Fall, I am Linda Lloyd, your new district secretary. I am a member of St. Andrew UMC and have been on the conference and district leadership teams in past years. I am excited to be part of this district's leadership team. They are exciting, energetic and a true inspiration.

As your new secretary, besides keeping track of the happenings at meetings and events. I am in charge of doing the District Directory. That means that I will be bugging

you to get your updated leadership team rosters to me as soon as possible. I have already started updating the Conference and District pages and have a deadline to

have all your information to me by January 5, 2026 so I can have everything ready for our Mission and Mentoring Day Saturday, January 31 st . Please, don't hesitate

sending your information to me as soon as you have it. My email is [linda.umw@gmail.com](mailto:linda.umw@gmail.com) or call me 303 475-6608.

The district directory not only gives you contact information to the district and conference leadership team for any questions that you might have, but it gives us all ways that we can contact our leadership counterparts. Our district goal is to keep in contact with everyone and share with you what we are learning from national leaders as well as share in local and community events and share our successes and concerns. It doesn't matter how big or small your group is, or if you just meet for fellowship. You are important and we want you to be seen and heard.

So please, even if your church has a small group that may not have any official officers but you meet together, let us know you are there. We want to be in partnership with you as well as the larger UWFaith units.

**Please send your Information to me at [linda.umw@gmail.com](mailto:linda.umw@gmail.com) and save me a phone call.**

What I need from you is:

♥Church/unit name, mailing address, phone number and email if available.

♥Leader's name, address, email address, phone number of each Leadership team member:

President(s)

V. President

Treasurer

Secretary

Social Action

Spiritual Growth

Education and Interpretation

Membership

Program Resources

Communications

Nominations

If you have a unit email address that someone monitors through your church or other source, please also include that as part of your church information.

As always, I am available for any questions. Even though I am new on the team. I will be happy to help you find the answers.

I am a planner and if you are, here are a couple dates to keep in mind as you look into 2026:

♥Assembly is May 15-17, 2026 in Indianapolis. Early registration ends Nov. 30, 2025. There are scholarships available.

♥Mission/Mentoring Day Jan 31 9:00 – 1:00 at Green Mountain UMC

♥Spiritual Day May 2 nd . Location to be determined.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving and warmest wishes this Advent Season. May God bless you and your family.

Linda Lloyd

[2025 MHM Directory](#)

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## **MHM Treasurer**

**Ann Horton**

[annhortonuwf@gmail.com](mailto:annhortonuwf@gmail.com), mobile 303-885-2066

### **BREAKING NEWS – thanks to the amazing generosity of all our Mile High Metro District Units, our District has reached our District pledge of \$35,000 for 2025!**

Kudos and special thanks to all the units who answered the urgent call and submitted their remittances this fall! It has been a real team effort!

Your contributions are so critical to UWFaith and its Missions! I hope to continue to receive remittances in November and December. **As you celebrate the month of Thanksgiving, do consider making a contribution to the World Thank Offering.**

Thanks to all the Units who submitted their pledges for 2026. Unit pledges give the District an idea of what remittances it might receive during the upcoming year. At the District Annual Meeting, we voted to set the MHM District Pledge to Mission for 2026 at \$35,000 again. This pledge includes the 5 channels giving: Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering.

Some end of year Treasurer/President assignments:

1. If your Unit has a new Treasurer, please email me their contact information.
2. Per the UWFaith Handbook, a local unit should keep in its treasury only the minimum amount necessary to carry it into the first few months of the next year. Try to empty “down your treasury” by the end of the year.
3. Unit treasurers should create a giving statement for each member who has given

\$250 or more. It should contain the donor's name, address, and the statement: "No goods or services were received in exchange for this donation." (Contact me if you need the form for this.)

4. Arrange to have an audit performed on your Unit's financial reports, and submit an

Audit Report to the Treasurer. (Contact me if you need the form for this.)

**5. Send your final remittances to me by December 10.** Any remittances after that date will be counted toward 2026.

**Please send your checks with a remittance form to:**

**Ann Horton; 7342 S. Delaware St.; Littleton, CO 80120**

**As always, UWFaith welcomes Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from a**

**member's IRA.** If you or a friend are required to withdraw Required Minimal Distributions (RMDs) from your IRA, you might consider satisfying those RMDs with a

QCD to UWFaith. Feel free to contact me for more details.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Ann Horton, MHM District Treasurer

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**MHM Social Action Coordinator**

**Monica Garlin**

[mongarlin@gmail.com](mailto:mongarlin@gmail.com)

Monica is the newest member of our leadership team.

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### **MHM Education & Interpretation Coordinator**

**Karen Bueno**

email: [karenbueno@aol.com](mailto:karenbueno@aol.com)

One of the leadership roles for all local United Women in Faith local groups is Education and Interpretation Coordinator. In many units, that is the one they skip if there are not enough women willing to hold a leadership position.

But actually, all of the leaders need to do this major task of Education and Interpretation as they speak about United Women in Faith.

**Understand and interpret United Women in Faith mission projects and concepts of mission, working closely with the finance and program committees to ensure that members are well informed about what happens to their gifts, and what ministries are made possible through their Mission Giving.**

I hope you will go and tell our story!

By Karen Bueno, Mile High Metro District E&I Coordinator

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**MHM Historian**

**Carla Schwartzkopf**

Email [carlasch@me.com](mailto:carlasch@me.com)

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**UWFAITH National Board of Directors**

**Hamu Chigwada**

[hamu.umw@gmail.com](mailto:hamu.umw@gmail.com)

Mobile 414-334-3305

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**MHM District Nominations Coordinator**

**Brenda Bronson**

[brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com](mailto:brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com)

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***Nancy***

**"Whether you think you can, or you think you can't--you're right." -- Henry Ford**