



NoCo Connection

United Women in Faith - Northern Colorado

Fall 2025 District Newsletter

A Message from our President

Mary Ann Watson

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I hope you have enjoyed some warm summer weather and managed to stay safe when it was TOO HOT. Despite the hot weather, I am aware fall is just around the corner – schools are starting up, practices for fall sports are well on the way, summer gardens are producing lots of zucchini, sunflowers, and other good things. I try to remember daily to be grateful for all the gifts we receive from God's wonderful creation. Reading *Braiding Sweetgrass*, by Robin Kimmerer earlier this summer was a wonderful reminder to live in gratitude enjoying the gifts from creation and learning to take my place in being a responsible user of those gifts.

Speaking of reading, Robin's book is just one of our wonderful UWFaith reading program. I am currently reading *All You Can Ever Know* by Nicole Chung which has given me some new insights regarding the need to embrace diversity in our culture. It enriches us all and helps others feel accepted. See Jan Spitler's article about the new on-line district book club she is starting. It is great to be able to talk with others about books we are reading and together explore how these books may inform our life as Christians.

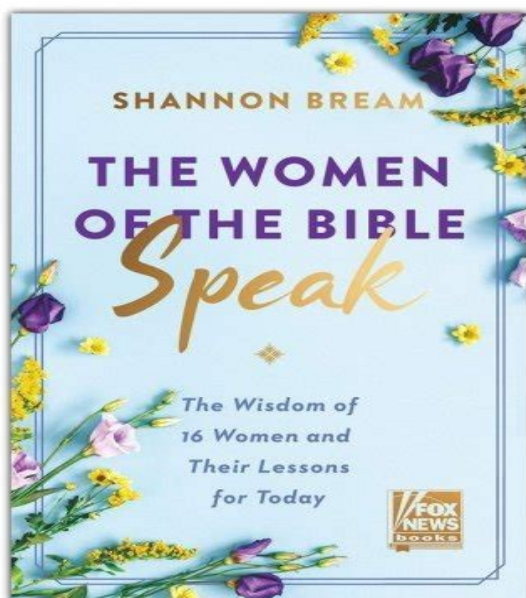
Another sign of fall is the planning for our District Annual Gathering taking place Sept. 27, 2025 at Longs Peak UMC in Longmont. See the registration form in this issue for more detail. We are about to finish our first year as the new UWFaith's NoCo District. I hope you can join your sisters to celebrate some of our work this year and be inspired to continue our missions into a new year full of hope. We have a lot of work ahead of us. One of which is to encourage

churches without units to join us. We can do great things for God's people and God's creation when we all work together. I do believe we can change our world for the better by putting love into action. I believe it because I see you doing it already. Keep up the good work.

A graphic featuring a calendar and the text "UPCOMING EVENTS". The word "UPCOMING" is in white capital letters on a black rectangular background. Below it, the word "EVENTS" is in large, bold, blue capital letters. To the right of the text is a small, spiral-bound calendar showing the month of September. The calendar has a blue header with the word "Calendar" and a grid of dates. The date 18th is highlighted in blue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, September 18th, at
7:00 pm



The Northern Colorado United Women in Faith Zoom Book Club meets on the third Thursday of each month. The book for September is "Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream. See Jan Spitler's article below.

[Zoom Link](#)

September 27, 2025 Faith Carried, Faith Shared: A Journey Forward NoCo District Annual Gathering

Where:

Longs Peak United Methodist Church

[1421 Elmhurst Drive](#)
[Longmont, CO 80503](#)

**When:**

Gathering 8:30 a.m.

Opening worship 9:15 a.m.

Closing finished by 3 p.m.

What:

Inspiring speaker (Watch your mail for more info!)

Memorial service. Fellowship. Pledge service. Communion.

Annual business meeting

Who:

All District United Women in Faith and friends!

Cost \$25 per person

Breakfast, snacks, and Lunch will be provided.

Registrations due by **September 20th**. (Form attached to email)

Questions? Contact Lora

Fulton, fultonhaus@comcast.net OR 303 439 2129.

**Northern Colorado District United Women in Faith
Annual Gathering Registration Form
Saturday, September 27, 2025
Faith Carried, Faith Shared: A Journey Forward**

Location: Longs Peak United Methodist Church
1421 Elmhurst Drive
Longmont, CO 80503

Time: Gathering 8:30am
Opening worship 9:15am.
Closing finished by 3pm.
Breakfast snacks and Lunch will be provided.

Cost: \$25 per person.

Checks made out to **NoCo UWFaith** please.

Mail Registration forms to **Laurel Kubin** by September 20th.

**909 Palomino Way
Windsor, CO 80550**

Name_____

Address_____

Email Address_____

Phone number_____

Home Church_____

Allergies/special needs_____

Officer/Office?_____ Check #_____

For more information, contact Lora Fulton, fultonhaus@comcast.net or 303 439 2129

October 17 & 18, 2025
UWFaith Mountain Sky Conference
Spiritual Retreat and Annual Meeting



**Faith
Not Fear**
Acting Fearlessly

2025 Mountain Sky Conference United Women in Faith
Spiritual Retreat and Annual Gathering

17 **October 2025**
9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Registration cost \$25/In Person
Registration cost \$10/Zoom
Dinner cost \$20
6:00 p.m. **F U N!!**

18 **October 2025**
8:30 am. to 3:00 p.m.
Registration cost \$25/In Person
Registration cost \$10/Zoom

Registration cost for both events \$60/In Person
Registration cost for both events \$10/Zoom

Host Home options.
Contact:
Beth McCorkle
beth.e.mccorkle@gmail.com

Event will be held at
Montrose United
Methodist Church
19 S. Park Ave,
Montrose CO, 81401

Hotel:
Best Western
2100 E. Main St., Montrose
(970) 240-8000
\$182/night 2 double beds

Reservations under:
United Women in
Faith

**Fly into Montrose
Region Airport** using
any of the following
airlines: Delta,
Southwest, United,
American, Breeze &
Denver Air
Connection

Register online <https://forms.gle/SbduX1oVSMbXVbDH9>

[Register Here](https://forms.gle/SbduX1oVSMbXVbDH9)

October 22-26, 2025 Sand Creek Spiritual Healing Run

The Mountain Sky Conference is coordinating again with Native American runners and elders to honor ancestors lost in the Sand Creek Massacre. The run will begin in Eads, Colorado, on Oct. 23 and will continue through Limon and conclude in Denver. There will be community dinners for the runners, elders, at churches in both Limon and Denver. The run will finish at the state capitol and is followed by a presentation and lunch at the History Colorado museum on Oct. 26.

Funds are needed for food, housing and transportation for the runners and the elders. The Conference estimates that \$1,000-1,500 is needed to support each runner and elder. We have a \$500 match from a Northern Colorado member of United Women in Faith. Could your church, or UW Faith unit, consider adding to this match to fundraise for the run? For more information, please contact Rev. Betty Nguyen at bnguyen@mtnskyumc.org or 303-495-9011.

[More Info/Register](#)

Assembly

May 15–17, 2026

Indianapolis, Indiana

[Assembly
Website](#)



There has never been a more important time for women of faith to come together, tap into our strength, and unite to change the world. Assembly 2026 is that moment—a once-every-four-years gathering of women committed to faith, empowerment, and making a difference. Picture a weekend that uplifts your soul, strengthens your faith, and brings you together with an unstoppable sisterhood

Early Registration fee of \$365 runs from Sept. 2 through Nov. 30, 2025.

Inspiring Speakers: Hear from women leaders who will spark your passion and energize your purpose.

Powerful Worship: 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.

Thanks & Resources

SOUL Care Retreat—THANK YOU! from Cheryl Runyon, Spiritual Growth Coordinator

I want to thank everyone who attended our SOUL Care retreat on May 31 at Boulder First UMC. The retreat was very meaningful with wonderful speakers, great projects related to SOUL Care, and a wonderful lunch, plus fellowship! I hope the retreat has inspired your unit to offer your own SOUL Care retreat in the coming months. We have resources, including the SOUL Care card deck and *Spiritual Practices for Soul Care*, by Barbara L. Peacock, available from district officers. There also is a recording of Ms. Peacock's presentation about her book available on the UWFaith YouTube channel.

[Ms. Peacock on YouTube](#)

At our Soul Care Retreat, donated items went to TGTHR. Want to know more about the link between TGTHR and Boulder First UMC? Click to see a recent blog post.

[TGTHR Blog Post](#)

Leadership Messages

Vice President

Lora Fulton

Church: Broomfield United Methodist

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The Soul Care Retreat in May was a great success. Thank you to all who helped and attended. Hopefully, you went home with ideas to continue taking care of yourself in new and fun ways. Planning for next year's event is already underway.

On September 27th, we will come together at Longs Peak United Methodist Church in Longmont to celebrate our first year as the Northern Colorado district. The theme is **Faith Carried, Faith Shared: A Journey Forward**. We will include our annual business meeting, a pledge service, a memorial service and maybe some fun. The speaker will be announced shortly so watch for an email update. We look forward to seeing you all there for the celebration.

The registration form is in this newsletter.

Please let me know if you have any questions

Secretary

Connie Takamine

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Like many of you, I have multiple responsibilities with my local unit. One of them is being in charge of communications which means I provide information for our Church's weekly eblast. For many who serve as Secretary, this task often falls to you. If you are like my unit, you may have less activity in the summer. You may have the inclination to not provide an article or have information about United Women in Faith, but it is important to keep a spotlight on the organization. The work of missions is never ending and does not take a break.

But this down time is an opportunity to share something about the organization as a whole. A suggestion is to take some of the stories from the United Women in Faith Daily Prayer Guide to share. If you do not have a Daily Prayer Guide, there is an online version through the website. You could also use information from Response magazine, or just search through the website for a lot of information. I did this recently and it was also a learning process for me.

I also want to share a Soul Care tip. A friend and I decided to have a Day of Grace. We wanted to have some rejuvenation and so spent a day at the Denver Botanical Gardens. The flowers were so lovely and it was good to be in nature. Even though there were a lot of people there, it is so spacious that it did not feel crowded. A Day of Grace is a time to either reconnect to nature or it can be to art or something to provide some spiritual uplift. I did it with a friend, but it can also be a time of solitude. We all can use a change of pace and some beauty in our lives.

Treasurer's Tips and Topics

Laurel Kubin

Church: Christ UMC, Fort Collins

(970) 686-0544

laurelkubin@gmail.com



I really don't think about money all of the time. Granted, when we're at meetings together, you often see me proposing the next years' budget, giving a financial report, taking an offering for missions, accepting money for registration fees, paying bills, and sometimes, even sort of begging for more money for the district's pledge to mission.

In reality I like to think of all the good that United Women of Faith are doing for women, children and youth around the world. And that's not just because of our pledges to mission, but because we're committed to helping others. Yes, that takes prayers - - - and money!!

It always amazes me just how generous our United Women in Faith members and units are. I actually love the responsibility of being your treasurer because at the end of the year, you've met, and exceeded, every district pledge to mission expectation while I've been treasurer. Believe me, that's a very good feeling!

At the Annual Gathering on September 27, please be prepared to bring your unit's 2026 Pledge to bring forward during the Pledge Service. Many of the treasurers have responded to the call to let me know what that will be earlier in the year, but there's an even greater sense of commitment when all units participate in the pledge service.

As good stewards of our financial resources, and we keep our expenses reasonable and low, stay within our budget. If you ever have questions about our funds, please contact me.

Membership Nurture & Outreach

Margaret Hotze

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Grace and peace to you as we move into a very busy season! School starts, people are home from vacations, and with that come all the fall activities: budget planning, special programming, bazaars, classes...so many good things!

What do we do to encourage new members to join us? What are we doing to nurture our current members? Our unit always has a Sunday luncheon after a September church service. We plan programming that we think would be of interest to members and to others. We've gained a few new members that way, and it has been a time to let others know what we are about. Let me know what you are doing – I would love to hear from you!

Have you been involved with some of our mission studies this year? Practicing Hope, one of our UW Faith mission studies this year, would make a good study for current members and might also be inviting for other women in your church or community.

Are there women in your church who would be interested in an online community? Karen Waldron, our Conference MNO Coordinator, has a great article in the last issue of our Conference newsletter, *Sky Lights*. If you don't already receive *Sky Lights*, click on the button below and choose the August newsletter or copy and paste this link into your browser: https://www.mtnskyumw.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/SkyLights_2025-August.pdf.

Karen's article is on page 12. She says, "Be on the lookout for UNSTOPPABLE GROWTH!! That is the name for the National Membership Campaign that is ramping up now and will have its official launch at Assembly 2026..."

Why/ how did you get involved with United Methodist Women/ United Women in Faith? Was it for fellowship? For the studies? Because of your interest in missions in the U. S and around the world? Are you passionate about our social action work? Or, did someone invite you! Does your church advertise your United Women in Faith meetings? Our local unit has monthly luncheons with programs, and we usually have one or two guests with us each month. Our regular Unit meetings and our Circle meetings are good places and times to

welcome newcomers; and, of course, we discover the “sisterhood of faith” and the wonderful support of our fellow United Women in Faith.

Thanks to God for this organization which has meant and means so much to so many!—To us, and also to all those in the U.S., in our communities, and around the world, as we carry out the work of Membership Nurture and Outreach. Blessings to you all!

Skylights Newsletters

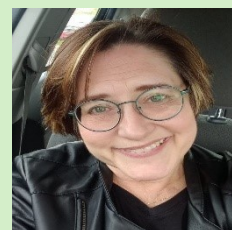
Social Justice & Action

Aricia Shaffer, Co-Coordinator

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Growing up in the Midwest, my grandparents relied on their neighbors - and neighbors relied on them. Not everyone had a car or a specific piece of farm equipment. As today often there were things that were only needed now and again.

And so one neighbor kept the canning supplies and everyone got together in the fall as produce came in, they'd can like mad! Groups would go together to gather food and other supplies at the market - rather than each taking their own car. It was good for community, mental health, and the collective wallet.

We do some sharing now, but perhaps it's time to consider how we might do more of it. It feels almost like a foreign concept, but imagine the hundreds of items we have that we use only rarely. The mower, snow blower, blender, glue gun. Tools and lawn equipment. Crafting and cooking supplies. Even cars!

Have you ever thought about creating a neighborhood sharing network? Or expand on one you've already built?



Social Justice & Action

Nancy Gulley, Co-Coordinator

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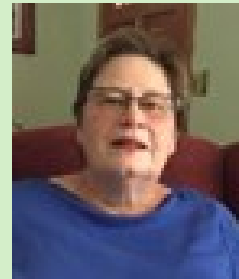
Spiritual Growth

Cheryl Runyon

Church: Mountain View UMC, Boulder

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Accepting Help from Others

I had a hip replacement in late July; I was overwhelmed by the love I received from my church family and my United Women in Faith sisters. I've always been the giver, not the recipient. It took a little talking to myself to realize that I **did** need that help and that I should accept these expressions of love as an expression of God's love. I now understand so much better how I can live out both the first and second great commandments.

This devotion really helped me frame my thoughts:

HELP!

How blessed I am when a friend asks for help.

So Why, Lord, am I so hesitant to bless others in the same way?

God comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.

2 Corinthians 1:4 (NIV)

Spiritual Growth at the Mountain Sky Conference Annual Gathering on Oct. 17

If you are considering attending the Mountain Sky Annual Gathering in Montrose, CO, on October 18, please consider arriving a day early for the "Faith Not Fear" Spiritual Retreat on Friday, Oct. 17. Our conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Denise Logan, has developed a wonderful retreat. The registration fees are: \$25 for the retreat, \$25 for the Annual Gathering, \$20 for the UW Faith dinner on Oct. 17, or \$60 for both days and the dinner. There is a designated hotel, or Beth McCorkle also has host home options for those attending the gathering. Registration is completely online, but Beth has offered to assist you in registering. For more information, contact Beth at beth.e.mccorkle@gmail.com. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Free Books for a Small Group Discussion

Boulder Public Library District selected *See No Stranger*, by Valarie Kaur, as their One Book, One Boulder selection for 2025. At the conclusion of the events related to the book, the Boulder Library Foundation decided to donate nearly 200 books to little libraries around the area. It is my 'job' to put books in the little libraries, but I have saved some copies in the hope that one or more United Women in Faith units will want to read and discuss the book. I will bring copies to the Annual Gathering at Longs Peak UMC on Saturday, Sept. 27, so save a little room in your car to take home a few books! The author has written both a memoir of her life growing up as a Sikh in California and her work related to civil rights issues, as well as the philosophy of revolutionary love that has grown out of the concepts of Sikhism. I believe the book will generate excellent discussions among your members.

I think the book is excellent and I will be recommending it for the UW Faith Reading Program for consideration for future selection

Communications

Mary Ann Kerttula

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Have you read your local units' standing rules recently? I mean, really read them. I was on the standing rules committee for our new district. I read the standing rules, made a few edits to them, and forgot a lot of what I read almost right away. Come to find out, there are some really important points that I forgot, like all the different people who are to receive the district newsletters. I've been sending them to a couple of people for each unit, the district leadership, all the churches, and a couple of people at the conference/national level. This newsletter will be delivered to all the people listed in the standing rules. Even with more newsletters being sent out, it is up to all of us to spread them even further. So, I ask you to please send the newsletter on to others in your unit.

One of the important district rules is about sending notifications out at least 30 days before the annual gathering. These notifications have to do with things like changes to standing rules and elections. You should have received the notifications in mid-August. If you didn't, check with others in your unit. Elections and approval of changes to the Northern Colorado District standing rules will take place at our Annual Gathering on September 27. Please read through the edited Standing Rules before that.

I also ask that you go back and read your unit's standing rules. Make sure that you are following what they say. If you get asked to work on your unit's bylaws or standing rules, remember that they are to conform with the Constitution & Bylaws in the 2025-2028 United Women in Faith Handbook. The digital version of the handbook is available at <https://uwfaithresources.org/prodDetail.cfm?productID=12087&catid=2196>. Local units are covered in the part entitled "Bylaws of United Women in Faith in the Local Church."

Program Resources

Jan Spitler

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I started a Zoom Book Club in August and plan to continue offering it on the third Thursday of each month. The date for September is Thursday the 18th at 7:00 pm. The book is "Women of the Bible Speak" by Shannon Bream. She discusses sixteen different women from the Old and New Testaments and how we can apply their lessons today. If you wish to join the discussion, you can contact me at janaspitler@gmail.com or call or text me at 720-600-3344 for Zoom instructions or use the Zoom link provided above under "Upcoming Events." Even if you don't have a chance to read the book, please consider joining the discussion. Books are often available at your library or on Amazon or other sites. Every book will be from our Reading Program. I hope many of you will join in.

Also, the District Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, September 27th at Longs Peak UMC which is my church in Longmont. All of us at Longs Peak look forward to hosting this important meeting.

I hope many of you have been able to do some reading this summer from our Reading Program. There is a huge selection and many interesting and meaningful stories. I hope to see many of you on Zoom on September 18th.

Committee on Nominations

Jan Dillie - **Chair**

Church: Broomfield United Methodist

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I am looking forward to seeing members from different units in our Northern Colorado District at our Annual Gathering in Longmont. Our District covers many miles. I know it is hard for some to attend these meetings. Shepherdesses need to keep their Units that are not able to attend informed of events and what is happening in our District.

In June, I was able to visit the Wray United Methodist Church on their United Women in Faith Day. The ladies there were so warm and welcoming. Although they do not have a large number of members, these women are very active in their church and community. I am glad they are a part of our District. I will keep in touch with these wonderful ladies in Wray.

Now on to Nominations. We still have the position of Education and Interpretation open. We will be accepting nominations at the Annual Gathering. Please consider if you or someone you know would be interested in filling this position.

Hope you have enjoyed your Summer.

Committee on Nominations Members



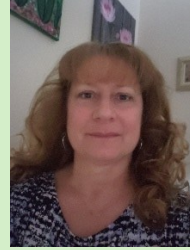
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Deadlines for Newsletter Submissions

- November 22 for the Winter 2025 newsletter
- February 21 for the Spring 2026 newsletter
- May 23 for the Summer 2026 newsletter.
- August 22 for the Fall 2026 newsletter
- November 21 for the Winter 2026 newsletter

Problems with the Newsletter? Please let me know
at makerttula@gmail.com or makerttula@comcast.net



[Designed with Beefree](#)