



United
Women
in Faith

Mile High Metro District
Quarter 3, 2026 Newsletter
The Connection

Annual Meeting

Saturday, September 26, 2026

9:00 – 1:30

Grace UMC, 4905 E Yale Avenue, Denver



Joining us at our District Annual Meeting?

Sat. Sept. 26, 9:00-1:00

Please let Linda Lloyd know that you will be coming or how many at your church will be attending. We want to give our wonderful Grace UWF Hostesses' a heads up so they can plan the day.

registration@uwfaithmhm.org 303-475-6608 (Cell - Call or Text)

You should have received a separate email on August 21 with the meeting information and links to the relevant documents. If you haven't seen it, please check your spam folder.

The **Conference Annual Gathering** info is now up on the website. This meeting will be held in Helena, Montana October 2-3. The links to pay are on the Google form registration.

<https://www.mtnskyumw.org/events/annual-gathering/>

TO DO List

- Please mail your 2026 Mission Giving donations to Ann Horton as soon as you are financially able. Funds are needed to support ongoing UWFaith National Office operations and missions.
- 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 the names of the ladies from your unit who have passed away since the last Annual Meeting in September 2025 to sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com.
- Unit presidents, please report the number of women from your units who plan to attend the annual meeting to: registration@uwfaithmhm.org.
- Who are our members age 90+? We would like to honor you at our annual meeting. Please notify donnaparisi@comcast.net if you know someone who qualifies for this special honor.
- Save the date! MHM Mission and Mentoring will be held on January 30 at St. Luke's UMC in Highlands Ranch.

Nominations message

Dear Women in our United Women in Faith High Metro District, **WE NEED YOUR HELP to find a woman to serve our district as Treasurer in 2027–2028 as this vital position is still VACANT.** Please think about all the women in your units plus also women in your church not currently in UWFAITH who have the skillset to serve as our district treasurer. Please emphasize how much good United Women in Faith does in our world and the treasurer's job is most important in making that happen!

If someone is interested, please contact me at brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com or 303.941.7634 and I will send her the Treasurer's position description and offer for our wonderful Treasurer Ann Horton & me to meet with her learn more about the position.

Brenda Bronson
MHM Nominations Chair

Membership, Nurture and Outreach Message

Celebrate our Members!

Each year at our Annual Meeting we have a Memorial Service to recognize the friends we have lost in the past year. But why wait?

We have amazing women who have been with us for many years that need to be celebrated. Our historian, Carla, has information about our Living Saints program. That program is a way to recognize our members who are the backbone of the organization.

I would like to recognize every woman over 90 years old. They have seen such changes through the years, done so much to help our churches and our units, and have a wealth of knowledge to share. **Please send me the names, and age if you have it, to donnaparisi@comcast.net.** We will celebrate these women in our Nov newsletter. In the meantime, do something special for them! They are our treasure.

Unstoppable – Year 1

Our national Unstoppable campaign is off to a great start! We have completed the first of a four-year membership and financing campaign. There was a lot of information made available at Assembly and it is now on the national website, www.uwfaith.org. Scroll to the bottom of the page, look for Resources, click on Unstoppable. The Year 1 goal was to increase our membership by 30,000 new women nationally. Each unit was asked to invite new members. How did you do?

Please send me information about how many new women you have added to your unit in the past year. I know there have been many because I have met some at events! donnaparisi@comcast.net. I look forward to meeting all the new members at Annual meeting on Sept 26.

Unstoppable - Year 2

Year 2 of our campaign began on Aug 1. This year's focus is on the theme **Share the Good News Everywhere: Influence**. We will focus on the Influence pathway through our two social justice priorities: Climate Justice and Ending Mass Incarceration and the Criminalization of Communities of Color. These two priorities remain urgent issues which adversely impact women, children, and youth. Watch for upcoming opportunities to learn and engage in these priorities with your local group and wider community.

Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline is one facet of Mass Incarceration, starting by forcing our children, particularly black girls, out of school. Just Energy 4 All is a part of the Climate Justice initiative to make our communities cleaner and safer for all. Low-income areas are more likely to be affected by hazardous conditions. We can do something about this.

The Influence track of membership is about leadership development. We all want to help but someone needs to step forward and lead. This year will offer us many training opportunities to learn about these issues, study and research with our friends, and move forward to help better our communities.

This is a prime time to invite women into United Women in Faith to help on new projects. These topics are relevant to many and you may find support from new voices. I encourage you to find your interest, learn about it, share it, and act on it. In my early years in UMW I was told the plan was study – pray – act. That advice still works today (40+ years later!). Remember, you are never alone in United Women in Faith. There are vast resources available to you online, from our national leaders, and from your local leaders. As always, we are our own best resource. You know other women who share your same interests and concerns. Connect, collaborate, and make the world a better place.

I would love to work with you on your ideas and projects. Please let me know how I can help.

donnaparisi@comcast.net
Donna Parisi

In Memory

Karen Bueno passed away on July 12. Karen was a valuable part of the Mile High Metro leadership team and she will be missed! **To honor Karen's work with United Women in Faith, we will be taking donations at the Annual Meeting to send as a Gift in Memory.** You can participate in this Gift in Memory by donating at the meeting or by mailing a check made out to "Mile High Metro District UWFaith". Be sure to note that it is in memory of Karen Bueno.

Ann Horton, Treasurer, Mile High Metro District
7342 S. Delaware St.
Littleton, CO 80120

A memory shared by our Historian, Carla Schwartzkopf: I first met Karen as a youth. She was one of our youth leaders. She was so very kind and always welcoming to all. She invited us to her family cabin in the mountains for a youth retreat and she also accompanied our youth group on a mission trip to Utah.

I also was reacquainted with her as an adult when I joined the District UWF leadership team, where Karen again shared her infectious smile and kindhearted nature. She took her job seriously as our Education and Interpretation leader. She was very passionate about making sure we all knew the mission of United Women in Faith and educating us on how we could live it out.

She always had a smile on her face and love in her heart for everyone she met. She will be greatly missed.

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**Lois Cochran**, former leader of the Trinity unit and former historian for Mile High Metro District, passed away in May 2026. Lois was introduced to The Christian Society of Women in the mid to late 1960s. She was the President of Trinity UMW from 2004-2007. She also served the Trinity unit as treasurer. In speaking with other members of UWFaith at Trinity, they said that Lois was the heart of their unit. The Reading Program was a project she loved; this program met five times each year. Each meeting focused on one of the five categories in the Reading Program: Education for Mission, Leadership Development, Nurturing for Community, Social Action, and Spiritual Growth. Lois cherished the friendships she had with her sisters in faith.

## President's Message

Welcome to the month of change! September always seems to signal a month of transition to me. Summer vacations are over and schools start back up with new energy. The hot days of summer gradually shift to the cool nights of fall. Sunflowers give way to golden aspen leaves. My birthday is in September, so it means another year of growth (hopefully!). And United Women in Faith becomes more active as Units and Circles get back to their monthly meeting schedule. In the Mile High Metro District, it is also the time for our Annual Meeting, where we celebrate the past year and prepare for the upcoming year. We hope that you can all join us on Saturday, September 26th at Grace United Methodist as we gather again as a district. Our special guest for the day will be Bishop Stoneking, who will be leading our communion service. There are many women from the MHM District who will be sharing some of the exciting things that are happening in our area and around the world. And if the District Officers can do anything to help your Unit, please ask! We'd love to come to one of your meetings and get to know you!

Sara Harris, Co-President, Mile High Metro District

From the Spiritual Growth Coordinator: **As we prepare for our yearly Memorial Service at Annual Conference, we want to make sure that we remember all of the women from our district that we have lost since our last Annual Conference. Please send their names to me as soon as possible so that we can include them in our service. Send to: Sara Harris, [sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com](mailto:sara.margaret.harris@gmail.com) or call 620-433-2517.**

Sara Harris

## Vice-President's Message



Co-President and Spiritual Growth Coordinator  
Shalom Sisters in Faith,

I hope you all enjoyed the summer. We have been busy planning our **Annual Meeting for Saturday Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** (please arrive at 8:30 a.m.) Grace UMC (4905 E Yale Ave, Denver, CO 80222) UWFaith is graciously hosting our meeting. Drinks and snacks will be served.

**We are so excited Bishop Stoneking will be joining us in the morning -sharing a message and presiding over Holy Communion. Hamu Chigwada and Penelope Mukarakate will be our Keynote Speakers.** They have had quite a busy summer traveling for UWFaith conferences - The General Board of Global Ministries in Kenya, World Federation of Methodist United Church Women Assembly in New Zealand and National



Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana. We have great breakout sessions planned to educate and inspire you - Girls Inc (interrupting the “Pipeline to Prison”), Just Energy for All, UWFaith Digital (bring your phone, tablet or laptop get connect to United Women in Faith Network), Unstoppable (campaign “everything you need to grow the movement”) and Network Coffee House (Grace UMC mission project to help unhoused and economically challenged women.) We will also have a business meeting, discuss and vote on our budget, install new officers, and have a memorial serve for women who were members of UWFaith.

Grace UWFaith is collecting women’s pants new and gently used size 6-10 for colder months ahead and toiletries for their mission project with Network Coffee House. A great reason to clean out your closet or go on a shopping spree at the local thrift shop and donate the travel size items from your last vacation. (Please only donate unopened travel size toiletries).

We are very **Blessed** with an amazing team very talented, passionate and dedicated women who share Jesus’ love through many missions in our organization on local levels, state, national and global. We would love to share and learn more about what other churches are doing. Perhaps your display/ information might inspire another unit or maybe you can join another unit to help with a mission, project, or event you are passionate about. **We will have tables available in the narthex to share all the wonderful things units are participating in.** Please contact me if you would like to have a table or part of a table – kimuwfaith@gmail.com This was a huge success at Spiritual Day, so we decided to do it again.

Blessings,

Kim Myers

Mile High Metro United Women in Faith Vice-President

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

## **Treasurer’s Message**

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

Please make your checks out to “Mile High Metro District UWFaith” and mail with a remittance form to:

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

### **2027 Pledge to Mission**

Thanks to all the Units who submitted their 2027 Pledge to Mission.

**Using the submitted pledges and estimates, the 2027 MHM District pledge is \$36,000.**

## 2026 Mission Giving

Special thanks to all the Units who have already sent in 2026 Mission Giving Funds.

**MHM District 2026 Pledge to Mission: \$35,000.**

**As of 8/13/26, Mission Giving total is: \$21,755**

Please continue to send your 2026 Mission Giving funds as soon as you have them.

Funds are needed to support ongoing UWFaith National Office operations and missions.

Anyone is welcome to send a donation check directly to our Mile High Metro District.

Checks from IRA RMDs are especially welcome. Call Ann for more info.

Make the check to “Mile High Metro District UWFaith”, and mail it to:

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

## Secretary's Message

Happy August,

I hope that you are having a nice summer and have been able to beat the heat and staying cool in some way.

As you do your planning for 2027 and hopefully add new members to your unit and leadership team. I am putting in a request that **as you fill your new roster for 2027, send me your list while you have it fresh in your mind**. I know it seems early, but if you are already doing it. Just forward it to me. I can go ahead and get started on the 2027 District Directory. Even if there won't be any changes, I still need to know.

We have decided to drop the mailing addresses in the Directory for security reasons and the fact we rarely send out mailings anymore. So, **all I need are phone numbers and email addresses**. If we need further information for some reason, we will have a way to contact you and get the information. If you prefer to have the newsletter or District information mailed to you, please let me know and we will make it happen.

[linda.umw@gmail.com](mailto:linda.umw@gmail.com) 303-475-6608

I hope you are all planning to attend our District Annual meeting next month, September 26th. It is full of interesting breakout sessions and a great opportunity to spend time with Bishop Stoneking. We will have to do some business. The business meeting should go pretty fast if everyone reads the minutes, standing rules, budget and nominations that Nancy Friday sent out on August 21. We will need to review and approve these items to complete our business meeting.



As you publicize our District Annual meeting to your membership and friends on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Please send an estimate of how many women from your unit will be attending the Annual Meeting to [registration@uwfaithmhm.org](mailto:registration@uwfaithmhm.org) . We would like to give our wonderful hostesses at Grace UMC a heads up as they plan for snacks and space that is needed for breakouts and gatherings. You may also call me (Linda) at 303-475-6608

Wishing you a blessed August.

Linda Lloyd

District Secretary

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

303-475-6608



## Smoky Hill UWFaith Doll Ministry is off to a good start!

Thanks to the assistance of the Great 8 award from the Mile High Metro District UWFaith, Smoky Hill UWFaith was able to purchase 75 multi-ethnic dolls to jump-start our new doll ministry. We have been able to recruit women from both inside our unit and several new women who want to help crochet, knit or sew outfits and blankets for these dolls. Our goal is to have at least 75 of them ready to donate to underprivileged children in the metro area by Christmas. We've made a connection with Aurora Interfaith Community Services and plan to connect with other agencies.

We hosted a sewing day in July and had a lot of fun sewing for these adorable dolls. And, at our recent rummage sale, we found



about 50 of these little stuffed toys that make perfect "stuffies" for these babies. (Let us know if you find any to donate.

If you are interested in more information or in helping, contact Jana Jones at [JL.jones@outlook.com](mailto:JL.jones@outlook.com).

## **2027 Great 8 Grant Announcement for 2027**

The founders of the Great 8 Grant plan begin last year plan to offer it again in 2027, to celebrate the 8 remarkable women who founded UWFaith and to honor a beloved mother-in-law who was involved in UWFaith for years.

The grant will provide \$800 in funding to support a new venture dedicated to uplifting women, children, or youth within our community.

Projects eligible for this grant should seek innovative paths to address real needs, foster hope, and inspire lasting change.

By empowering local leaders and dreamers, we aim to create a ripple of positive impact that will extend well beyond the initial investment, just like the women did before.

A cornerstone of this grant is the requirement that a minimum of eight women participate in the new endeavor. This includes planning, additional fundraising if needed, implementation and reporting on the results. This ensures a diversity of perspectives and the strength that comes from collective action.

Of these participants, at least four must be individuals who are new to UWFaith, encouraging outreach, inclusion, and the growth of our family. In this way, the grant will not only support a worthy project but also serve as a bridge for new friendships and shared purpose. This grant is open to churches without UWFaith units if they want to start one. The district leadership will support them in starting a new unit.

Projects supported by this grant might range from mentorship programs for girls, to creative workshops for mothers and children, to youth leadership initiatives, support to unhoused women—any initiative that speaks to the heart of empowering and uplifting those who most need it. The chosen project will embody the values of UWFaith of putting love into action.

Deadline for sending the application for the grant is March 31, 2027. They will be reviewed by committee of five, and the award will be announced soon thereafter.

Submit applications and get more information from [Brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com](mailto:Brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com)

CELEBRATION OF LIFE  
AUGUST 29, 2026 1PM-3PM

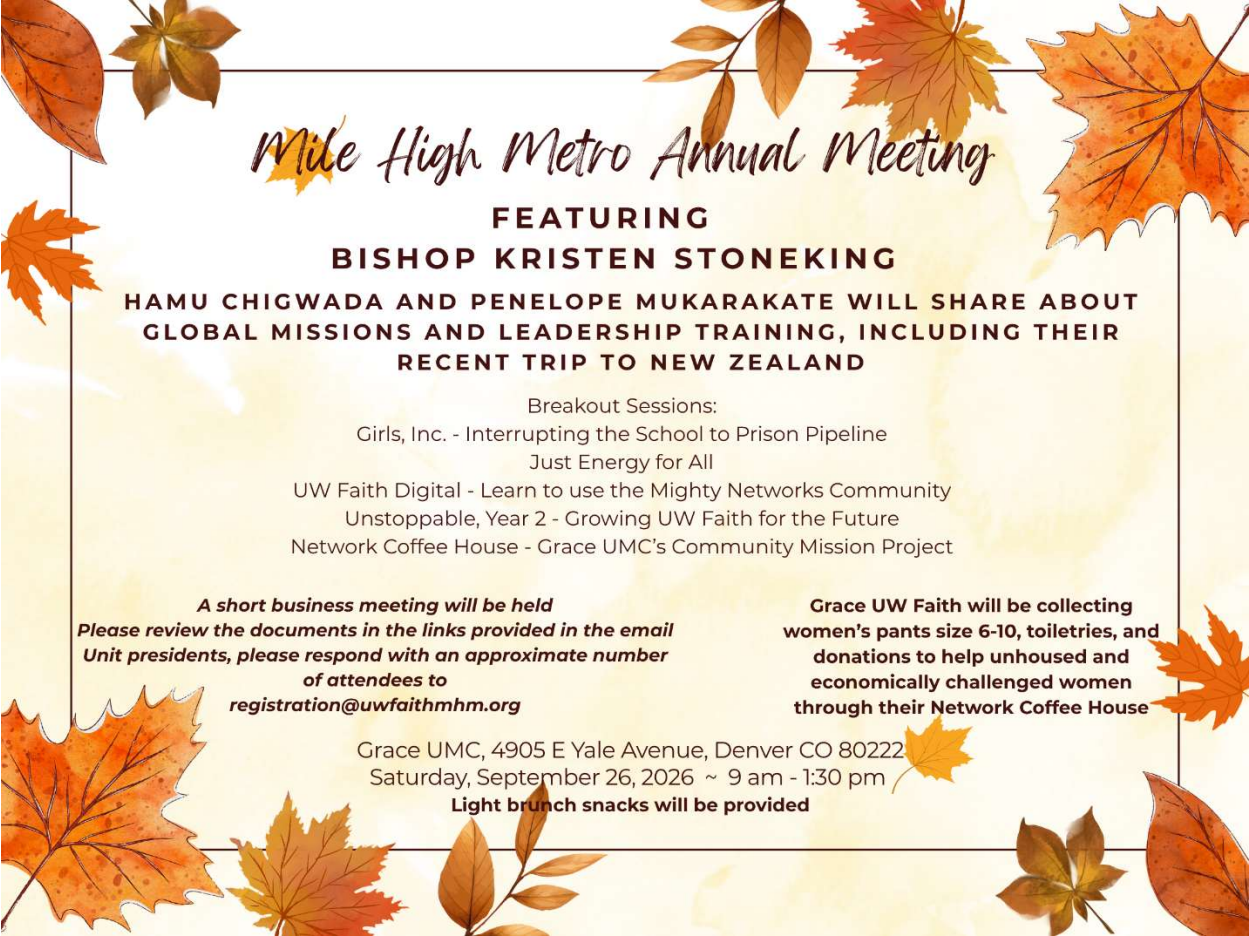


KAREN LOUISE BUENO  
(JULY 9, 1938 - JULY 12, 2026)

GOOD SHEPHERD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
3960 E 128TH AVE, THORNTON, CO 80241

PLEASE WEAR BRIGHT COLORS  
TO HONOR HER BRIGHT SPIRIT





# *Mile High Metro Annual Meeting*

## **FEATURING BISHOP KRISTEN STONEKING**

**HAMU CHIGWADA AND PENELOPE MUKARAKATE WILL SHARE ABOUT  
GLOBAL MISSIONS AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING, INCLUDING THEIR  
RECENT TRIP TO NEW ZEALAND**

**Breakout Sessions:**

Girls, Inc. - Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline

Just Energy for All

UW Faith Digital - Learn to use the Mighty Networks Community

Unstoppable, Year 2 - Growing UW Faith for the Future

Network Coffee House - Grace UMC's Community Mission Project

***A short business meeting will be held***

***Please review the documents in the links provided in the email  
Unit presidents, please respond with an approximate number  
of attendees to***

***registration@uwfaithmhm.org***

**Grace UW Faith will be collecting  
women's pants size 6-10, toiletries, and  
donations to help unhoused and  
economically challenged women  
through their Network Coffee House**

Grace UMC, 4905 E Yale Avenue, Denver CO 80222

Saturday, September 26, 2026 ~ 9 am - 1:30 pm

**Light brunch snacks will be provided**