



United
Women
in Faith

NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

NOVA NOTES

JUNE, 2023



UWF Mission Statement

United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities.

Why We Might Miss God’s Will

Impulsive, emotion-driven decisions can cause us to miss God's best.

<https://www.intouch.org/read/daily-devotions>

1 John 5:13-15

¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

We looked at two reasons we might miss God’s will. **John 14:26** says the Holy Spirit teaches us all things. So why do we sometimes have trouble understanding His plan?

We make decisions according to emotions. When life gets hard, our instinct is to move *away* from the source of pain—but in reality, we need to move *closer* to Jesus. When we figure He couldn’t possibly want us to feel this way, we’re more prone to take action and *hope* that we’re in His will. But then we’re actually focusing on ourselves instead of God’s plan.

We focus only on the immediate. Many times we come to God troubled about the choices we or our loved ones are facing. We do not see how this situation could possibly be His will. Our short-term focus prevents us from seeing the Lord’s long-term purposes.

We conduct a superficial search. We can treat finding God’s will like a checklist: “Read. Pray. Serve. Give.” But that can result in neglecting to give God the time and stillness needed for us to hear from Him (**Psalm 46:10**). More than simply investing time with the Lord, listening without distraction is also essential.

How much Bible study is required to find out what God wants for us? What amount of prayer? The answer is simple: whatever it takes to hear from Him. He will always answer His children.

(from newsletter “editor”: *a devotion was not provided for me for June and other permission inquiries have not answered yet so I found this devotion from Intouch.org on the web. I am looking forward to continually follow the site!*)

Maria Ward's mid-month summary of month's events:

- **Pre-Annual Conference Brunch** with speaker Dr. Mirta Martin, president of Ferrum College, **Saturday, June 10** -- a very inspiring morning!

10:00 a.m. over Zoom, You can find more information here (scroll down a bit):

[Virginia United Women in Faith - Home \(vaumw.com\)](https://vaumw.com) and register here:

[Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

- **Northern Virginia UWF Mini-Mission Encounter**

Who Can We Be Together? A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13, presented by Rev. Nancy Robinson.

Saturday, July 8, 9:00-11:30, Zoom!

Flyer attached to this message.

- **Virginia Mission Encounter 2023**

Friday - Sunday, July 28-30 in person (Glen Allen) and over Zoom

Information and registration here: [Virginia United Women in Faith - Mission Encounter 2023 \(vaumw.com\)](https://vaumw.com)



Photo Sincerely Media from Unsplash

Click link below to join for free.

https://uwfaith.mn.co/users/onboarding/plans?from=https%3A%2F%2Fuwfaith.mn.co%2Fspaces%2F6522280%3Fautojoin%3D1&space_id=6522280

UWF Reading Enthusiasts

It's one thing to participate in the Reading Program but another to have an online space to connect with members from across the country and around the world to talk about the books we love. We're reading to understand the world, change the world, and grow our faith. Reading Enthusiasts is an online group where members can reflect on the books they're reading, suggest a book, and participate in regular book discussions.



Creation Justice Tips for June 2023

Conserve water (save the planet too).

- Time your home lawn watering for early morning or later evening to avoid quick evaporation.
- Use a broom rather than a hose to clean up outside.
- Wash the car from a bucket, not from a running hose.
- Reuse rainwater and household gray water for outdoor plants. Set up a rain barrel.

Stop throwing away trees at every meal. Instead **use cloth napkins** and simply throw them in the wash with another wash load. You can buy patterned napkins that will hide stains and lengthen the usable life of the napkins. You can also find some distinctive napkin rings to mark each person's and reuse the napkins more than once. If you visit garage sales, you can likely rescue napkins and rings from being trashed.

-United Methodist Creation Justice Tips/Suzanne Dorick

YAHOO!!



Ladies, by purchasing a Northern Virginia District UWF shirt during this fundraiser, you raised funds for the District Mission Giving: UMCOR-Ukraine and the UWF Legacy Fund.

Our District Treasurer, Marty Bickford, received and deposited the fundraiser check: **\$507.67!!**

Marty gave appreciation to me for fundraiser management, but to those who made a purchase, YOU made this a very successful fundraiser!

Let me know if you missed out and would like to purchase a shirt; and, would you like to have a long sleeve shirt(?), and any other thoughts you may have regarding a garment with our logo.

Vikki S Beaty

Membership Nurture & Outreach

Northern Virginia District (NVUWF)

United Women in Faith

UWF Updated Purpose

We are a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Why are we paying taxes on our purchase(s) of district shirts? Answer from the company and Vikki Beaty UWF member.

Subject: Sales Tax On Shirt Purchases

Fundraisers are considered self-setup limited-time retail stores. Although you may be raising money for a 501c3 Organization, the supporters themselves are not tax-exempt and therefore must also pay for their local sales tax.

If a supporter is tax exempt, they can email us a copy of their tax-exempt form and we can refund sales tax for their order.

If you also purchase an order with your Nonprofit's funds, for your Nonprofit, we can refund the sales tax for your organization's order!

The members of the Northern Virginia District of United Women in Faith have expressed their support of the district shirt by the purchases they've made.

We surpassed the minimum of 50 shirts ordered on April 2, ensuring our orders became purchases! The question arose regarding taxes paid on purchases. And, those who have been pondering their purchase are coming forward to join those who have made their purchase!!

If you've not made your purchase of a district shirt, please visit the site:

<https://www.customink.com/fundraising/northern-virginia-united-women-in-faith>

We are well on the way of meeting, maybe surpassing, our goal of 100 shirt purchases by the end of this campaign, April 15. As of 4/10/23, we've sold 73 shirts and raised \$440 for our District Mission Giving.

Should you have a question, please contact Vikki S Beaty, MNO, NVUWF; BVikki123@aol.com.



Musical opportunity for children at St. John's UMC

The St. John's Music Camp! Registration is open NOW!

St. John's Summer 2023 Music and Arts Camp (FREE) 🎵

🎵 for Children of 5-8 Years Old 🎵 (Rising Kindergarten Students, Rising 1st – 3rd Graders)

Classes include: Handbells/Handchimes for Children, Rhythm and Creative Movement, Singing, Percussion Instruments, Beginning Recorder - Music Camp Dates: Tuesday, June 20 – Sunday, June 25 (including Saturday)

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. each day 🎵🎵 Concert is on Sunday @10:30 a.m.

Registration is open from March 1 to June 15.

Please send this registration form to Dr. Kitty Yang

email: kittycyang@gmail.com text: 301-717-4120

or mail to: St. John's United Methodist Church 5312 Backlick Road, Springfield, VA 22151



Your invited! In conjunction with our Breathe Again Collaborative partners, we invite you to a special Just Energy For All Webinar: **Your Voice Matters: EPA Rulemaking for Healthy Air. Wednesday, June 14, from 3:00 p.m. ET.**

This special session will be in lieu of our regular Just Energy for All webinars which are regularly the 3rd Wednesday of every other month from 3 – 4:30 p.m. ET. All are welcome to join. The virtual conversation takes place on Zoom. Please use new link below to register.

Join us for a EPA Rulemaking for Healthy Air working webinar brought to you by the partners of the Breathe Again Collaborative on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 3:00- 4:30 pm EST. During this webinar we will hear from BAC organizations working together to lead the fight for clean air and we will TAKE ACTION on 3 important air and environmental quality rules from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that impact us all:

- Heavy Duty Vehicles
- Mercury Standards
- Clean Car Rule

Together we will take steps to influence EPA rule proposals and demand healthy air and healthy communities by submitting public comments. We will discuss the key talking points for each rule and walk you through the process of submitting a public comment to the Federal Register. EPA is required to consider all public comments for rules they receive. This is where your voice matters and you can help influence clean air standards.

Featured Speakers:

Susannah Tuttle - North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light

Dr. Anne Mellinger Birdsong - Mothers and Others for Clean Air

Geri Freedman - The People's Justice Council

Ilka Vega - United Women In Faith

Breathe Again Collaborative Webinar

Your Voice Matters: EPA Rulemaking for Healthy Air

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 3pm ET (2 pm CT, 1 pm MT, 12 pm PT)

Register for Breathe Again Webinar: https://uwfaith-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0pc-6prz8qHd1oml2WfEz9ilhMZYZNjexK?mc_cid=29bb8c26a5&mc_eid=42e341edfd#/registration

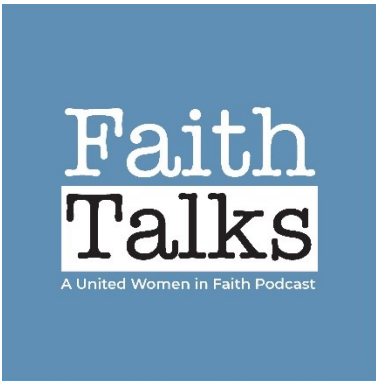
Reminder for NoVA Notes, our Bi-District newsletter for the Alexandria and Arlington

Districts! We will distribute this UWF NoVA notes newsletter monthly to keep you informed of what's happening with the United Women in Faith in our area. In this newsletter, you can watch for news about upcoming events both in the districts and the Virginia Conference. We would love to hear from you! Let us know (Who, What, How & When of your event is helpful and **an invitation** for all) the information your unit has planned for the 2023 newsletters by the 20th of the month. We need the events information to invite others!

Share and invite other UWF members & you can send your stories, photos (jpg. helpful) and news to Carol

Pratt at our e-mail address: UMWNoVaNotes@gmail.com.

Thank you! Carol Pratt, NoVA Notes



You're invited!

Join Faith Talks **June 1, 2 pm** ET, for our inaugural interview with Sally Vonner, newly elected General Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of United Women in Faith. We'll talk about the future of women's faith-based organizing and more.

Ms. Vonner is no novice to women's faith-based organizing or to United Women in Faith. She joined the organization's national staff in 2010 as Assistant General Secretary of Membership and Leadership Development. With reorganization in 2018, she became the Transformation Officer, coordinating the organization's visioning and strategic development to positively impact the lives of women, children, and youth. She oversaw an organizational rebranding that opened new ways for women to join, introduced program innovations and initiatives, and rolled out United Women in Faith as the new public-facing name.



(photo from Facebook post about Ms. Vonner: <https://www.facebook.com/uwomenfaith/>)

The Texas native also has served in many capacities as an organizer for The United Methodist Church's work on immigration assistance, community development initiatives, women's retreats, dismantling racism, and so much more.

Please register for this session and invite a friend!

Fundraiser Flyer Attached from Fairlington UWF

Terri Lynn Nuts

FairlingtonUMW@gmail.com

SPRING HAS ARRIVED ... which means family celebrations for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduations, Juneteenth, and Independence Day aren't far behind. Check out the easy recipes (<https://www.terri Lynn.com/resources/recipes/>) available from Terri Lynn Nuts to select a new dessert to add to the table! And then place your order from Fairlington UWF's online store with Terri Lynn. <https://fairlingtonumw.terri Lynn.com/> All proceeds from your purchase support local missions for women, children in youth. Thank you for your support



****The registration deadline was in May but please inquire if they will accept later registrations!!**

<https://www.vaumw.com/>

DATE: Sat., June 10, 2023

TIME: 10 am – 11:30 am

for a

Virtual Ferrum Day Celebration

In honor of the strong bonds we share, and the 110th year of Ferrum College as an institution!

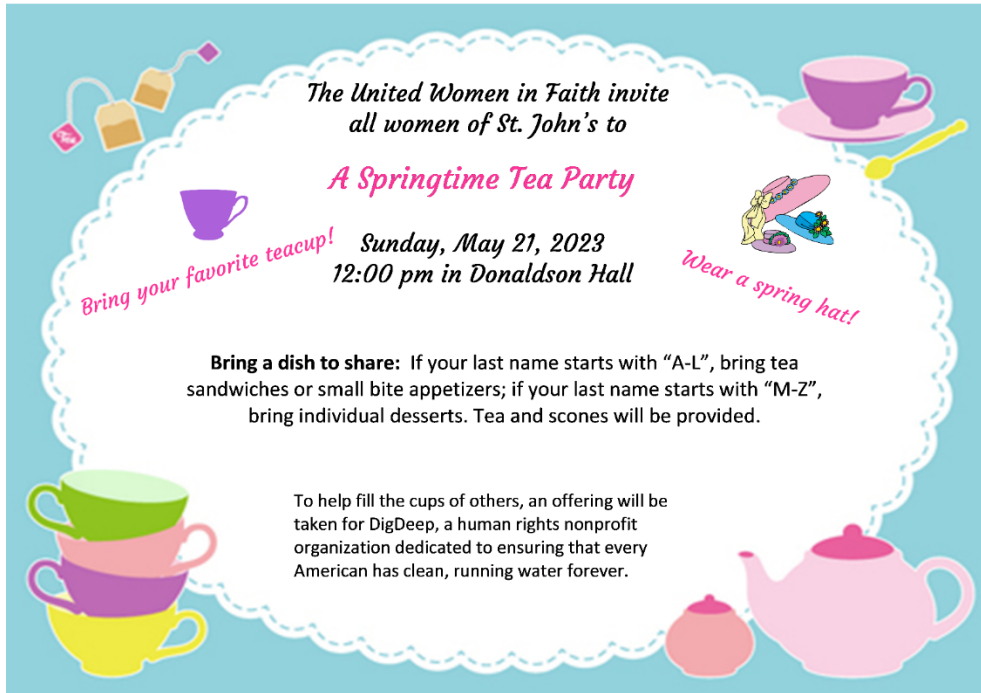


Our Speaker, Dr. Mirta M. Martin, President
Please register by May 22, 2023

Click here to register
for the
Pre-Annual Conference Brunch
(zoom only)

Our Pre-Annual Conference Zoom event on **Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 10:00 am – 11:30 am** will be a Virtual Ferrum Day Celebration. We honor the strong bonds we as United Women in Faith share with Ferrum College since the seeds were sown in the early 1900's by the VA Conference Woman's Home Missionary Society of the United Methodist Church donating \$1,200 for starting "a school for mountain boys and girls, in a remote place, yet accessible, where the need seemed the greatest." (from **Our Methodist History, Ferrum History - Ferrum College**) Ferrum College celebrates its 110th year as an institution this year and I am very pleased to tell you that Dr. Mirta M. Martin, Ferrum College President, will be our speaker! As the proud mom of a Ferrum graduate who was so nurtured there, I'd suggest our members invite friends who have almost college-age children to join us for this event!

St. John's United Women in Faith May Tea Party Memories: (and ideas for your future UWF future events?)



Collection was taken for **DIGDEEP** a human rights nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring that every American has clean, running water forever



St. John's UWF members Marty Bickford, Suzanne Dorick, and Anne Moore

Mark your calendars for this July 8th event!



The NOVA United Women in Faith invite you to a virtual "Mini-Mission Encounter" on Saturday, **July 8**, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM. **"Who Can We Be Together? A Biblical Exploration of Luke 13"** will be presented by Rev. Nancy Robinson. We will gather for fellowship at 9:00 AM, and begin the program at 9:30 AM.

There is much to learn about serving others from the parables that Jesus taught in this well known chapter from Luke. In addition to our study together, we will hear about mission and ministry activities from representatives of:

Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth, VA, a National Mission program, and; **Shade and Fresh Water**, a global ministries program serving 3,000 at-risk children and youth.

Monetary donations on behalf of these mission programs can be sent to: Marty Bickford, 3561 Martha Custis Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302. Please make check out to: NOVA UWF with a note "Mini-Mission."

Save this Date! No reservations required -- hope to see you there!

If you wish to make a monetary donation to these mission programs, please send your check to: Marty Bickford, 3561 Martha Custis Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Make check out to: NOVA District UWF, with a note "Mini-Mission."

Join Zoom Meeting July 8, 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82944476239>

Meeting ID: 829 4447 6239

Passcode: 722099

Phone only: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 829 4447 6239

Passcode: 722099

Save this Date! No reservations required -- hope to see you there!