



United
Women
in Faith

NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

NOVA NOTES

MAY, 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.

The Link UWF Virginia newsletter –

<https://mailchi.mp/12b0e2382e3d/the-link-may-2023?e=819adbe1eb>

Genesis 2:15 God put humankind in charge of caring for the planet.

Earth Day is APR 22 and it is a perfect time to appreciate what God Earth's bountiful beauty and to make sure we are obeying his command by taking care of our planet. We should be good stewards of the earth at all times and renew our commitment in April every year when Earth Day rolls around. Take time to enjoy God's beautiful creations, promise to take one step at a time to become a better steward. It can be by planting one native tree or a small native flower garden, composting, wasting less, recycling more, reducing plastics and other materials that can not be reused, walking more, adopting an animal from a shelter, installing solar panels, cleaning up all areas from litter and invasive plants, buying hybrid or electric cars, supporting climate control legislature, ect.

Start by saying the below prayer and deciding what first step you can take.

A Prayer for the Earth

Dear Creator God, on this Earth Day and all days, let me always be in awe of Your wonderful works of creation. I don't want to take the details of the world You created for me for granted. Everything around me is wonderfully complex and splendid. You, Lord, are both an Engineer and an Artist that built a world to perfectly sustain life. But you didn't stop there. You also made immense details that please all of our senses as well. There are beautiful things to see, sounds to hear, textures to feel, yummy food to taste, and even delightful aromas to bring us enjoyment. Thank you for the details of life. Help me be a good steward of your wonderful creation. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Submitted by Lorrie Rezendes, President of Aldersgate UWF



Ladies, Way to go!! Our first fund raiser campaign was a success!

We purchased 79 shirts and raised \$500+ for District Mission Giving in support of

UMCOR-Ukraine and the UWF Legacy Fund

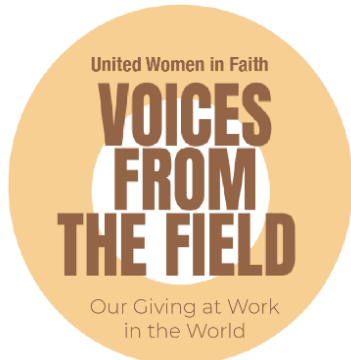
All items will print shortly after April 18, 2023 and you will receive your order around May 04 or shortly afterwards...

The shirts bulk-shipped to me will be separated and readied for purchasers. Two items to consider: if you wish to pick up your unit's shirts from my home; or, have me deliver them, Once readied for you, I'll send you a message; we'll address details later ...

Your sister in Christ



Vikki S Beaty (bvikki123@aol.com)
MNO, NVUWF



Voices From the Field: Regional Missionaries – Living the Dream

**Join Regional Missionaries
Elmira Sellu, Andrea Reily Rocha Soares, Finda Quiwa, and
Frieda Mwebe**

Join the virtual Zoom event Tuesday, May 16, 10:00 AM ET.

Faith creates and shapes who we are today. Meet Elmira Sellu, Finda Quiwa, Andrea Reily Rocha Soares, and Frieda Mwebe, four of the United Women in Faith Regional Missionaries, to hear how faith-inspired mission work transforms the lives of women and their families. Join a discussion to engage, connect, and grow in mission as these Regional Missionaries share stories of their faith and resilience against all odds. Learn what motivates United Women in Faith Regional Missionaries as they do the work of building bridges between women and communities in Africa and Latin America. Join us to learn more about the international work of United Women in Faith and the tremendous impact it has on the lives and livelihoods of thousands of women and their families around the world.

Register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrf-2qqjorGtIKz9lr1aCHQlsjWsWV3MRM#/registration>



Gift in honor of retiring Harriett J. Olson

<https://uwfaith.org/press/2022/unity-women-in-faith-ceo-harriett-jane-olson-retires-spring-2023/>

A Tribute Gift to Mission is a gift in someone's name that supports all the work carried out by United Women in Faith, making a difference in the lives of women, children, and youth around the world. Your gift to Mission today will honor Harriett Jane Olson.

To recognize her and the organization that raised you as leaders and women in Christ. Check the “In honor or memory” box and follow the prompts. Be sure to click “Send a Card” to let Harriett know you are thankful for her service. <https://uwfaith.org/give/?form=tributehjo>

To recognize her and the organization that raised you as leaders and women in Christ. Check the “In honor or memory” box and follow the prompts. Be sure to click “Send a Card” to let Harriett know you are thankful for her service.

You are also invited to honor Harriett by sending her a Gift to Mission card, care of the National office at:

United Women in Faith
Attn: Harriett Olson
475 Riverside Dr., Suite 1500
New York, NY 10115

Each card has a message on the back of the card to indicate that a Gift to Mission has been given in the recipient’s honor through United Women in Faith. **Every greeting card puts money into mission!**

If you do not already have mission cards, you can purchase them from your local leader. Individuals or local units should send at least \$5.00 for each gift to mission card through their local unit treasurer to the district treasurer. Cards are also available at conference and district events.

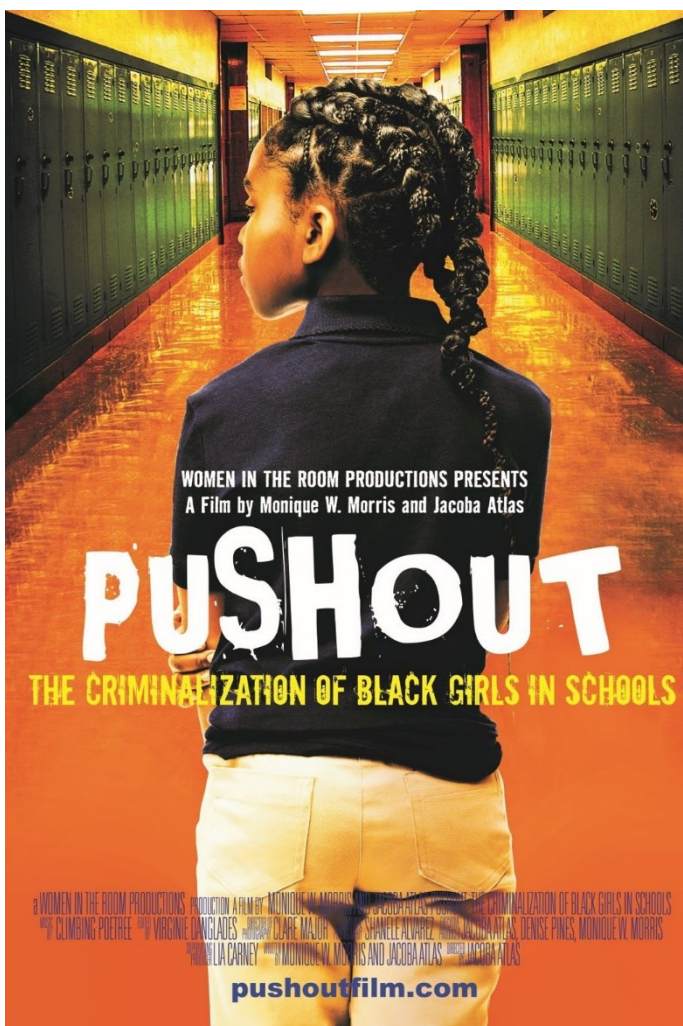
UWF Updated Purpose
We are a community of women whose PURPOSE is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ;
to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and
to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Film Screening + Action Evening

Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools

Monday, May 8, 2023

7PM-9PM Eastern / 4PM-6PM Pacific



Join United Women in Faith members and friends for a special screening of the documentary film *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools*. Before and after this screening, you will have an opportunity to take virtual action in support of The Ending PUSHOUT Act of 2023, important federal legislation crafted to help address the problem of school pushout and the school-to-prison pipeline. This event is hosted by United Women in Faith. There is no cost to participate. All are welcome. Space is limited and registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Register: <https://uwfaith->

[org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpf-yupj4oHNdD7dsDyULhZk6gDK4_V3qp?mc_cid=25ab928aed&mc_eid=cb535e7e1f#registration](https://uwfaith-)



2023 Easter Fun Bags for Children

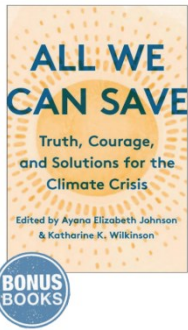
For nearly 20 years, Fairlington United Women in Faith have provided Easter Fun Boxes for children living in local shelters. FUWF members and friends assemble (and then delivered) the springtime surprises following the Palm Sunday worship service.

This year, we expanded our traditional locations* and doubled our donations to include the 74 Afghan children living with families supported by Christ Church Refugees Ministry. We also began thinking sustainably about the items included. For example, we substituted reusable tote bags for the plastic shoe boxes and selected items with minimal packaging.

And of course, we included a few healthy snacks and sweets!

* 2023 Easter Fun Bags for Patrick Henry Shelter, Carpenter's Shelter, Rising Hope UMC, and Christ Church Refugees Ministries

The Annual Day of Giving for the Legacy Fund was held on March 23, 2023. As of March 31, 2023 the total received was **\$301,392.27**.



Read Together Book Discussion

All We Can Save: Truth, Courage and Solutions for the Climate Crisis

Thursday, May 4, 2023

7PM-8PM ET/ 4PM-5PM PT

Join United Women in Faith members and friends for a Read Together small group discussion of *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage and Solutions for the Climate Crisis* edited by **Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and Katharine K. Wilkinson**. *All We Can Save* appears in United Women in Faith's [2023 Reading Program](#) as a leadership development bonus book.

Register: https://uwfaith-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMof-6pqjgtGNx3pUf1wsb5io3mx11_AwnX

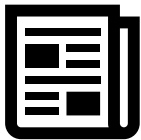
Please note that *pre-reading of the book is required. * This is an interactive small group book discussions that requires all participants to have read the book prior to attending. Please do not register if you are not able to read the book before May 4th. Space is very limited and registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.



2023 Spiritual Life Retreat May 13, 2023, Speaker: Linda Porter President of United Women of Faith Three Notch'd District. Plans are being made for our Spiritual Life Retreat. You do not want to miss this exciting event so please put the date in your calendar. Zoom event.

[Click here to register for the
Spiritual Life Retreat](#)

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ldemprD0tGNwBSLoQI2wqhZ8Ow_fJBQCF



We are United Women in Faith! To celebrate our new look and new name, the March/April 2022 digital issue of **response** magazine is **free** for everyone! This issue not only features an article on our new brand, but it's also the special biennial mission maps issue, showing the people and programs your generous Mission Giving supports around the world.

Happy reading!

Check out the **March/April** 2022 issue of response Magazine!

<https://online.fliphtml5.com/eiek/knab/>

May 21, 2023 is UWF (United Women in Faith) Sunday at St. John's United Methodist Church, 5312 Backlick Rd., Springfield, VA . **Rev. Dr. Carla Works**, Wesley Theological Seminary visits St. John's UMC and preaches Sunday.



Dr. Carla Works teaches New Testament studies. Her research interests include the Pauline epistles, the New Testament's use of Israel's scriptures, biblical ethics, and theological interpretation. She holds a Master's degree from Yale Divinity School and a Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary. Her publications include *The Church in the Wilderness: Paul's Use of Exodus Traditions in 1 Corinthians* (Mohr Siebeck, 2014), *The Least of These: Paul and the Marginalized* (Eerdmans, 2020), and "Philippians" in *The Women's Bible Commentary* (Westminster John Knox, 2012). She is passionate about teaching and learning for the service of the church.

Faith Talks are monthly conversations with United Women in Faith hosted by Jennifer R. Farmer, Spotlight PR. Each conversation explores themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope and love into action. 69 previously recorded Faith Talks episodes recordings can be accessed online.

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>

May 4 and 18, 2023, 2 pm



[Faith Talks commemorates Mother's Day with a panel on the importance of supporting mothers May 4, 2 pm ET.](#)

Guests will include:

* **Brittany K. Barnett**, attorney, author, and founder of Girls Embracing Mothers, a nonprofit helping women in prison and their daughters to break the cycle of incarceration and lead successful lives with vision and purpose.

* **Devin Long**, community outreach specialist for New Beginnings, Navajo United

Methodist Center, a United Women in Faith supported National Mission Institution in Farmington, New Mexico.

* **Mollie James-Vickery**, interim CEO of United Women in Faith.

Register:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wlkkSvtdSNenzRDgZg4J4g?mc_cid=ac81a52688&mc_eid=42e341edfd#/registration

response Podcast



Tune in to audio versions of some of the top articles from each issue of **response** magazine, the award-winning official magazine of United Women in Faith. Topics cover everything from spiritual growth and living our faith to reports on local, national and international work.

<https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>



Tips for May 2023

When you are spring cleaning and realize you no longer need something, resist the temptation just to toss! Instead, take the time to find a place to donate. Your efforts avoid adding to landfills and to air and land pollution and to the injustice suffered by people close to the landfill.

When you care for your house plants, reenergize them with any of these: cooled cooking water from preparing vegetables, potatoes, pasta, or green tea (leaves or brewed). No wasted water and happy plants—a good combination.

When you shampoo your hair, kick the plastic habit. Choose a shampoo bar instead. Try various [options for no plastic-use](https://earthhero.com/?_vsrefdom=adwords&gclid=EALalQobChMIhcvxhLCO_gIV5hvUAR0tzwY0EAAYA_SAAEqJGq_D_BwE) for multiple personal and home care products.
https://earthhero.com/?_vsrefdom=adwords&gclid=EALalQobChMIhcvxhLCO_gIV5hvUAR0tzwY0EAAYA_SAAEqJGq_D_BwE

When you love [butterflies](#), give those pollinators (and [others](#)) a reason to stop at your place—plants, especially ones that are native to your area, that feed caterpillars and the beautiful, winged creatures that give us great delight. Nix the pesticides for their sake too.

When you are choosing products and you wonder which ones are truly good for the earth, you don't need to be confused or worried about "[greenwashing](#)." Here's a [quick read](#) that can help clarify the labels "green," "non-toxic," "cruelty-free," "organic," "natural," "Green Seal Certified," and "Ecologo."
<https://greenbusinessbureau.com/green-practices/what-is-greenwashing-and-how-to-spot-it/>

When you head to the beach, lake, or river for recreation, note that the word is also "re: creation." Look at the beauty God has provided and offer a prayer of gratitude. Look also for signs of humanity being careless with nature. Take gloves and trash bags (preferably reusable) along with your supplies and stash the trash..

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH BEGINS

Jun 01 2023 |

*** Attached please find a Terri Lynn Nuts flyer for from Friendship UMC-UWF*