



United
Women
in Faith

NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

NOVA NOTES



OCTOBER 2022

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.

God’s Love – Infinite as the Universe -- by Brenda Romenius

In December 2021, the U.S., the European Space Agency, and the Canadian Space Agency launched the James Webb Space Telescope. This is one of the most significant technological advances of humankind. The Webb telescope orbits in space 930,000 miles from Earth (our Moon is 250,000 miles away) and uses extraordinary mirror and infra-red technology to capture images that show the development of stars and galaxies going back 13.5 billion years ago! For reference, the origins of the universe are commonly called the “Big Bang” and is thought to have occurred 13.8 billion years ago.

The photographs that have been captured and sent back to earth from the Webb telescope for view and study are extraordinary. The revelations about the size of the universe and its infinite numbers of galaxies are the sort of stuff that scientists and sci-fi fans find intriguing and exciting.

One of my favorite hymns says it all – (“How Great Thou Art” – Bill & Gloria Gaither, George Beverly Shea)

*O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds Thy Hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my Soul, my Saviour God, to Thee.
How great Thou art, How great Thou art.
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

Looking at the stars above and the bounty of all that God has provided for us on earth, is reason to know that we are loved by an awesome and mighty God. As difficult as it is to explain the mysteries of God’s handiwork, God sent us Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit to connect us closer to Him. His Love, like the universe, is infinite and true. God’s Love is not for just some, but is freely given to ALL His children.

United Women in Faith have a role and commitment to sharing God’s love – providing love in the form of mission to support women and children in need; to advocate for justice; to educate about the care for His Creation; and to seek spiritual enrichment. As United Women in Faith, we are determined and engaged in creative ways to live out our PURPOSE in sharing God’s magnificent, awesome love to our communities, our country, and even the world.

REFLECTION: Your unfailing love, O LORD, is as vast as the heavens; your faithfulness reaches beyond the clouds. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains. Your justice like the ocean depths. You care for people and animal alike, O LORD. How precious is Your unfailing love, O God! All humanity finds shelter in the shadow of Your wings. (Psalm 36:5-7)

Free The Girls



For several years, St. John’s United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) has been collecting new and gently used bras for “**Free The Girls**,” a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that was launched in 2011 – and later featured on CNN’s Project Freedom – to provide job opportunities to women rescued from sex trafficking. Free The Girls ships the bras to places like Mozambique, El Salvador, and Costa Rica. There, the survivors of human trafficking, who are re-entering the workforce, are given the bras to sell in the second-hand clothing market.

This arrangement gives the former victims minimal contact with the men who have exploited them, and more importantly helps the women support their children.

If you would like to participate in this worthy mission, you may drop off your bra donations at St. John’s UMC (5312 Backlick Road, Springfield) between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday –Thursday. Needless to say, there are shipping costs to be considered, so any monetary donation you can make from time-to-time to help cover these costs would be gratefully accepted.

Questions? Contact Marty at martybickford121@outlook.com.

So, to all you ladies out there, don’t be bashful! Raid your dresser drawers, and donate the bras that you no longer wear to **Free The Girls**.

UWF Harvest Banquet at St. John’s UMC Tuesday, October 25, 2022



St. John’s United Women in Faith will hold their Harvest Banquet on **Tuesday, October 25 at 6:30 pm IN PERSON in Donaldson Hall**. The United Methodist Men will provide a delicious dinner. The program will focus on supporting Native American women and children.

Reservations to attend must be made in advance. The cost for dinner is \$10.00 per person. Your reservation AND payment must be received by Wednesday, October 19. Your payment may be dropped off at the church office, mailed to Marty Bickford (3561 Martha Custis Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302), or given to Anne Moore.

Mission Projects - We will collect feminine hygiene products for the **Kwek Society**, an organization that works to end period poverty in Native communities. Pads, liners, and tampons are needed. We will also collect monetary donations for the Native American Children’s Fund, which is a UMC-supported mission.

Transportation: We will be arranging carpools for those who need a ride. More information on transportation will follow.

Come join us for an evening of food and fellowship, learning and service. For more information, contact Anne Moore at atrd@verizon.net or at 703-321-7386.

United Women in Faith Present: Project Joy

Saturday, **October 8** | Doors open at 9 a.m. Program begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 12:30 p.m.
Annandale UMC, 6935 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA 22003

With all that is going on in the world, is it even ok for us to talk about joy?

Archbishop Desmond Tutu says it like this: "Discovering more joy does not save us from the inevitability of hardship and heartbreak. In fact, we may cry more easily, but we will laugh more easily too. Perhaps we are just more alive.

"Yet as we discover more joy, we can face suffering in a way that ennobles rather than embitters. We have hardship without becoming hard. We have heartbreak without becoming broken." Please join author, speaker, life coach and counselor **Kelly Johnson** for **"Project Joy: Cultivating, Celebrating, and Instigating Joy in Difficult Times."**



This 2-1/2-hour interactive event, including teaching, group activities, and small group interaction, will give us tangible tools to discover and grow in our capacity to experience and spread joy during difficult times.

Choosing to cultivate, celebrate, and instigate joy in the midst of all that is broken in our world is a defiant act of worship. A box lunch is included; choose your lunch selection when you register. Learn more and see needed items list for Lamb Center at <https://annandalechurch.com/project-joy/>

Cost: \$20/person. **Register by Oct. 3**

Pay at <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/CultivateJoy1008> or send checks made out to "AUMW" and the info below to:

Susan Clarke, AUMW Treasurer, 6207 Larston Dr., Alexandria, VA 22312

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Box lunch choice with chips and cookie (choose one):

Turkey sandwich Chicken salad on croissant Vegetarian spinach wrap

We also are asking for donations for the Lamb Center's Welcome Home Kits. For a list of items, visit annandalechurch.com/aumwday.

Lamb Center Welcome Home Kits

The Lamb Center is a daytime drop-in shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness in Fairfax, Virginia. They provide a variety of services without cost to their guests, including breakfast, lunch, showers, laundry service, Bible studies, case management, AA meetings, a nurse practitioner clinic, a dental clinic, and much more. They also partner with local groups and organizations that have a passion for serving the homeless.

As the Lamb Center works to help people transition out of homelessness, they also provide the basics for moving into a new home with kits including many basic necessities. **Please donate an item off the online list of needed items as part of your registration cost; new items only.** These items listed will be collected at the event.

RIISING HOPE invites you to their **EMPTY BOWLS** event on **October 1**

Learn how we, as individuals in a community, can support one another and ensure that no one goes hungry when there's so much available. Join Rising Hope for a hybrid in-person and online event to learn about food insecurity in Fairfax County and ways you can help, all while enjoying a delicious bowl of soup in a gorgeous handcrafted ceramic bowl. Last year's event strengthened the relationship between Rising Hope and Arcadia, a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a more equitable and sustainable local food system. Since then, Arcadia has worked with Rising Hope to begin a greenhouse at Rising Hope. Our chef for the night is Sergeant First Class (SFC) John L. Densham, Jr. He has served as the chef to the Secretary of Defense's Executive Mess and was part of the gold-winning team at the 2016 Culinary Olympics. Learn more and purchase your bowls here:

[Empty Bowls Registration Page — Rising Hope Mission Church \(risinghopeumc.org\)](#)

Updates from Rising Hope -- You should see their revitalized space! Really wonderful! They are re-opening their food pantry and right now need your donations of these items:

- 1/2 gallon milk
- one dozen eggs
- dry rice in 1-pound or 2-pound bags, not larger
- dry pinto beans in 1-pound or 2-pound bags, not larger
- small bottles of vegetable oil, not more than a quart
- masa corn flour, not larger than 5 pounds -- NOT WHEAT FLOUR

Do not donate canned food at this time. Do not donate breakfast cereal or snacks. You can deliver your items on Tuesdays between 11:00 and 3:00, or you can respond to this message and let us know when to pick up your generous contributions. Thank you



Oakton United Methodist Church Fall Bazaar,

Saturday, October 1, 2022 9 am -1 pm, 2951 Chain Bridge Rd. Oakton, VA

Craft fair, Live Music, Farmer's market, free admission, rain or shine. See flyer attached.



Fall Festival at Del Ray UMC – Sunday, October 23 -- 2:00-4:00

100 E Windsor Ave, Alexandria, VA 22301 <https://www.delrayumc.org/> Come to Del Ray for an afternoon celebrating the glorious fall season. You and your family will enjoy games on our lawn, a petting zoo, and trunks full of treats. Del Ray's United Women in Faith will tempt you with bake sale goodies, and the funds will support local missions. For more information, contact maria.ward@gmail.com.



Clarendon UMC will hold its **Heritage Bazaar on 29 October 2022 from 9-1:30**. Please come!

There will be a Silent Auction, boutique with gently used dressy gowns and jewelry, UWF handmade gifts and novelties, bake sale, gently used clothing for all ages, children's, shoes, books, toys and equipment, Holiday decorations, etc. Lunch will be available from 11:00-1:00, and UWF-made, take-home freezer meals will be available for purchase.

606 N Irving St, Arlington, VA 22201



Centreville United Methodist Women will host the 2022 Annual Holiday Bazaar & Craft Fair on Saturday, November 5, 2017 from 9 am to 3 pm at Centreville UMC, 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, Virginia. <https://centreville-umc.org/>

Fall Festival & Vendor Information- <https://centreville-umc.org/connect/173455-2/umw-bazaar-craft-fair/>



Fairlington UWF Fall Fundraiser 2022- Proceeds from our fundraisers support local and national non-profits impacting the lives of women, children and youth. Email us at FairlingtonUMW@gmail.com for details or to ask questions.

**The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)
which provides help to those who are facing disasters, needs flood buckets!**

CLEANING KIT CHALLENGE

UMCOR's depot is empty and hurricane season is upon us. In partnership with the VAUMC's (Virginia United Methodist Church's) Serving Ministries and Disaster Relief, each district is being asked to contribute to this effort.

District Superintendent Sarah Calvert is asking **each church in the Northern Virginia District to make 4 (or more!)** cleaning kits between now and November 1 in order to meet this need. Our goal is to provide **more than 500** buckets!

URGENT NEED: UMCOR Cleaning Kits

WHO: ALL Northern Virginia District Churches

WHAT: 4 (or more) Flood Buckets

WHEN: By November 1

WHERE: Drop off in your region (sites TBD)

WHY: UMCOR's Depot is empty!

HOW: That part is up to you!

All 8 districts are creating cleaning kits in partnership with VAUMC's Disaster Relief & Serving Ministries



<https://umcmmission.org/umcor-cleaning-kit/>



United
Women
in Faith

Northern Virginia District UWF will meet for our **Annual Meeting** on **Saturday morning, October 15, over Zoom**. We'll gather starting at 9:00 and begin the meeting at 9:30 sharp. At our meeting, we'll celebrate all our mission activities and give thanks for the work you've reported using your Living Into Our Purpose (LIOP) forms, elect our new District officers, approve our 2023 budget, and

remember our sisters who have died in the last year. We will hold officer training after our annual meeting -- please prepare any questions you have and send along your best ideas!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88517943822>

Meeting ID: 885 1794 3822

Passcode: 835835

Phone only: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 885 1794 3822

Passcode: 835835

You are invited to the

50th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Conference United Women in Faith

by Zoom October 22, 2022, 10:00 AM.

Celebrate with us this year, the 153rd year of United Women in Faith and her predecessor organizations!

We will also celebrate an order of Leave Taking and New Beginnings.

Please register **by October 12, 2022** for this event using the link at

<https://www.vaumw.com/events/annual-meeting>

You will receive the Zoom instructions after you register.

A booklet will be available for you to download which will include the agenda, calendar, budget, nominations, reports, and other useful information

Recycle & Reuse

When gleaning, **recycle your greeting cards with Vikki Beaty**. She welcomes your donation of all types of greeting cards, both old and new, whether received and those not sent, all are welcome: the artwork and verse will be trimmed from the card and inserted to Phoenix Rising Food Ministry meal sacks given to homeless along RTE One corridor. The cards Vikki does not use will be donated to the Guest House or Fluvanna Women's Prison.

Donations may be delivered to Vikki at 4415 Roundhill Road, Franconia, VA; place on table at front door under her mailbox or inside the open front door. And, you're welcome to even take a moment to visit, while catching your breath from the task of carrying the load of cards(!) Devotionals and calendars, regardless of age, are welcome. Call VIKKI S BEATY with your questions: 703-577-9061

Help our Sisters at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women

Donations Needed by October 27

Support the Christmas Gift Ministry

This wonderful Christmas gift ministry for the incarcerated women at the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women in Troy, Virginia, is sponsored through GraceInside, Virginia's Prison Chaplain Service. Each inmate at the correctional center receives the gifts listed below. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, please drop off your donations at St. John's UMC between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday on or prior to October 27th. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity. Questions may be directed to Marty at martybickford121@outlook.com.

Here's a complete list of the approved donations. Please note that the correctional center does not permit ANY substitute or additional items.

1) Hygiene Items (place in a gallon zip lock bag)

- One individually wrapped toothbrush (must be in original container)
- One tube of toothpaste, 6 oz. (must be in original container)
- One deodorant stick, 2.6 oz. - no spray or roll-on (as close to 2.6 oz. as possible but no larger)
- One bottle of shampoo, 15 oz. (as close to 15 oz. as possible but no larger)
- One bottle of lotion, 15 oz. (as close to 15 oz. as possible but no larger)

2) Greeting Cards and Stationery Items

- Christmas and Hanukkah cards and greeting cards for all occasions.
- Please avoid purchasing cards that contain aluminum foil on the card or envelope flap
- Stationery items - writing paper of any size and envelopes either 3 5/8 x 6 1/2" or 4 1/8 x 9 1/2"
- Forever postage stamps - used to send donation acknowledgement letters. Please place them in a separate zip lock bag.
- Wooden pencils (unsharpened)

3) Money Contributions.

- For donors who wish to contribute money, please make your check payable to "GraceInside" and write "FCCW Resource Fund" in the Memo section. These funds are used to purchase any shortages of Christmas gift items and to support inmates in other ways, such as providing classroom materials; furnishing worship supplies; or paying travel expenses for funeral or deathbed visits.
- Please mail all checks to GraceInside, 2828 Emerywood Parkway, Richmond, VA 23294.

THE BUNDLE: 2023 Resources

United Women in Faith: *The BUNDLE you've been asking for!*

United Women in Faith is pleased to introduce a Bundle package for 2023 that will include the following resources:

- Daily Prayer Guide 2023, (\$19.99)
- 2023 Adult Mission u curriculum, (\$14.99)
- 2022-2023 *digital* Program Resource and Community Gathering for *Mosaic of Faith: We Are All Part of God's Story*, (\$14.99)

The special pricing for the bundle package is \$35.00 (shipping and handling *included*). A discount of \$14.97 and shipping costs!

Order [product code K3218](#).

This bundle offer will be available through December 31st, 2022.

Call now, 888-409-8137, to place your order, and mention

[BUNDLE 2023 / K3218](#) or email: cs@umwmissionresources.org.



United
Women
in Faith

You will get a code via email for the digital Program Resource after purchasing the Bundle. Please allow *4-5 business days of receipt of your order* to receive the code and *please check your spam or junk folder for the email*. (Be sure to designate the domain, uwfaith.org, as a "safe sender" in your email platform.)

The print versions of Daily Prayer Guide and Adult Curriculum will *ship in November*.

https://www.umwmissionresources.org/shopping_product_detail.asp?pid=53536

**Centreville United Methodist Women will host their
2022 Annual Holiday Bazaar & Craft Fair
on Saturday, November 5, 2022, from 9 am to 3 pm**
at Centreville UMC, 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, Virginia.

<https://centreville-umc.org/>

For more information, see Fall Festival & Vendor Information-
<https://centreville-umc.org/connect/173455-2/umw-bazaar-craft-fair/>

Members of the Centreville United Women in Faith (formerly United Methodist Women) invite you to their Bake Sale, Silent Auction, Luncheon, and Grandma's Attic. Our proceeds from the Holiday Bazaar & Craft Fair are used to support local, national, and international mission programs sponsored by the United Methodist Church.

Would you like to be a vendor for this event?

Please read the details below and file your application by October 1.

Vendor spaces within the church will be in the Recreation and Outreach Center (ROC) only this year and will be assigned based on vendor need and availability. This is due to space limitations/possible restrictions with using day school classrooms, and the on-going huge food ministry's space needs.

This event is for handmade or original design crafts, including:

- Handmade products
- Products which the vendor has designed (in this case, the vendor may have used professional manufacturing)
- Local authors selling their own books

Vendor items which are **not allowed**: bake sales and direct sales from companies which market nationwide or their local sales representatives.

We will make use of Facebook and the church web site for advertising. We will also use signage around the church facility the week of the bazaar. In addition, the bazaar is advertised by email and Facebook to over 3,000 congregants and flyers will be sent home with all of the students and staff of the church sponsored pre-school. We also encourage you to tell your clients, friends, business associates and family of our event.

Doors open for vendors by 7 am on the day of the bazaar. Each crafter is responsible for setting up his/her display by 9:00 am, selling the crafts, collecting the money, and taking down the booth beginning at 3:00 p.m. The space fee is \$55.00 and provides a 9-foot wide (the side facing the public) by 5-foot deep area. **This fee does not include the use of a table.** If you need extra space, you may wish to lease two spaces.

In addition, each crafter is asked to donate to the Silent Auction an item representing the average price of your inventory. A receipt is available upon request. This is a good advertisement for your craft as well as helping with missions.

Please return your completed application to the address below and indicate on the envelope "Bazaar Crafter". Include your check of \$50 per space, **payable to Centreville United Methodist Women**. We will not process your application without the receipt of your check. Applications and requests for space are processed in the order that they are received. If you have any concerns, special accommodations, or questions, please note them on your application. If your space needs to be located beside electrical outlets, please state that in your application and we will do our best to accommodate. However, please note the space limitations this year.

We will confirm your participation by email after receipt of your application and fee. You will receive your space assignment by email on or before October 1.

Send to: Centreville United Methodist Women (Attn: Bazaar Crafter), 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville VA 20121

Refund policy: The cancellation fee is \$10. If you reserve 1 space for \$55 and have to cancel, your refund will be \$45 as long as you contact us by October 5, 2022. If you reserved 2 spaces for \$110, your refund will be \$100. After October 5, 2022, there will be no refunds for cancellations.

We look forward to seeing you on **November 5th!**

CENTREVILLE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (formerly United Methodist Women)

2022 ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR AND HOLIDAY BAZAAR

November 5, 2022

Application for Craft Vendor

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Description of Craft(s): _____

Indicate number of spaces: _____

All spaces will be assigned in the ROC due to space limitations/on-going church food ministries. Maximum of 48 spaces. Spaces are assigned in the order the applications are received.

Amount of payment enclosed (\$55.00/space): _____

Reservations are not confirmed until payment is remitted. **Confirmations will be sent by email.**

Note: With your permission, we will hold your check until closer to the event due to uncertainties with COVID; return the check to you in the unlikely event that we have to cancel.

Mail To: Centreville United Methodist Women (Attn: Bazaar Crafter)

6400 Old Centreville Rd., Centreville, VA 20121

Questions, comments or requests for special considerations or space assignments (i.e. Electricity):

Refund policy: The cancellation fee is \$10. If you reserve 1 space for \$55 and have to cancel, your refund will be \$45 as long as you contact us by October 5, 2022. If you reserved 2 spaces for \$110, your refund will be \$100. After October 5, 2022, there will be no refunds for cancellations. Contact caroljane@verizon.net to cancel.



Photo: Alma Snortum Phelps (Unsplash.com)

The Ripples Will Go Out!

Noted climate scientist and committed Christian, Dr. Katharine Hayhoe gave a [TED Talk](#) titled, "The most important thing you can do to fight climate change: talk about it."

You are a trusted source. What you say influences others. So, do the "most important thing" and talk about what you are doing for creation justice and how your concerns and your actions are rooted in your love of God and love of neighbor.

Share these United Methodist Creation Justice Tips with your family, friends, and congregation. Choose any or all. Forward them to someone you care about. Cut-and-paste to put them with your email signature, in your letters and emails, worship bulletins, newsletters, social media, or website.



Tips for October 2022

A revered spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama reminds us, "Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects." **Individual action matters, especially if you talk about it.** Your example, your words, are rippling out and inspiring others to act for creation justice.

Go after those sneaky leaky windows and doors. Rather than add a space heater or crank up the whole HVAC system, get a caulking gun and hunt for gaps to fill. A little effort will keep you warmer in winter and cooler in summer and save emissions and dollars.

When you shop for clothes online, **shop for companies that are kind to Mother Earth.** Check their website for the "About Us" story of their commitment to sustainability, to fair practices for their workers, and to giving back (planting trees, for example). If the cost is higher than you would pay for "fast fashion," recognize that your purchase is supporting a sea change in an industry that has been abusive to earth. Check out [Arrayed](#), [TenTree](#) [United by Blue](#), [Pact](#).

As election season heats up, remember that the planet is also heating up! **Scrutinize candidates for their stand** on dealing with climate change and the injustices done to so many people. Do your homework at all levels of government—federal, state, and local. Vote your values.

Jesus has told us that we are to care for the "least of these who are members of [Christ's] family" (Matthew 25:40). Working to ameliorate and improve climate change recognizes that people like Jesus described, those with few resources or connections, will suffer the most from the ravages that are more and more

evident. **Jesus calls us to care for humanity and to work for climate justice.**

Hillcrest UMC (Nashville, TN) fired up 75 volunteers from the church and community and planted 400 trees along the banks of the stream that runs through the church property. In short order, the church saw improved water clarity, healthier vegetation, more fish, less flooding downstream, and continued flow during the driest summer. **Look at your church property for planting potential.**

October, before the first frost, is good for planting perennials. Perennials are good for pollinators, for withstanding drought, and for saving money. **Plant some power flowers for the environment.**

Manufacturing just 1 Styrofoam cup demands 10 times the amount of water used to wash just 1 reusable cup. **Switch to washable cups at home, at work, and at church.** Use your own cup if you regularly purchase coffee. Tell the barista no thanks to single-use foam.

For more about the UM Creation Justice Movement, go to umcreationjustice.org

Our Purpose

United Women in Faith shall be 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 by participation in the global ministries of the church.

www.uwfaith.org

Virginia United Women in Faith – www.vaumw.com

Northern Virginia United Methodist Church – www.novaumc.org