



West District Cactus Patch

**President:
Colleen
Becker**

September 2022

OCTOBER: ONE OF THE BUSIEST TIMES OF THE YEAR FOR UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH OF THE DESERT SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE!

- **West District Annual Meeting, Prescott United Methodist Church
October 8, 2022**

This will be an “in-person meeting in the cool pines of Prescott!!!” This is an event the entire District should be looking forward to Registration begins at 9 with the gathering music beginning at 9:50 with the program commencing at 10:00 am.

During this meeting, Awards will be presented to the units for the 5 Star Awards, Living the Charter for Racial Justice Awards, Outstanding Local Organization Award, Recognition of Retiring Officers, Introduction of Mission u Scholarship winners, and Installation of 2023 officers.

The budget for the coming year will be presented and voted on. Let your vote be counted.

- **Desert Southwest Conference Virtual Annual Meeting October 29, 2022
Registration form link at end of newsletter.**

All of the information needed to attend this meeting is contained in the Conference e-newsletter *Southwest Winds*. If you do not subscribe contact your unit president for registration information.

Here is the online link for the Southwest Winds and all archived District Newsletters: <https://dscumc.org/committee/united-women-in-faith/>

"Pouring New Wine"

Saturday, October 29, 2022

9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Featured Speaker

Katie Pryor; Executive for Membership Nurture and Development

Social Action Workshop

Melanie Beikman; Program & Outreach Coordinator, Arizona Interfaith

Join us at 8:30 AM for breakfast with our Deaconesses.

More October activities:

- Elections
- Send new officer information to District
- Send all unit information to Cheryl Buchholtz, West District Secretary, for the new West District digital directory.

When your email address changes, please be so kind as to let us know at: umwomen@dscumc.org or update your subscription information by using the link at the bottom of this newsletter. Thanks! If too many emails are returned as undeliverable we could lose our right to send the news to everyone.

Desert Southwest Conference

United Women in Faith

P.O. Box 32830, Phoenix, Arizona 85064

And now a word from our leadership....



Colleen Becker, West District President

Summer is almost over and it is time to start thinking and planning for Annual Celebration. Prescott United Women in Faith have agreed to host us this year on October 8, 2022. This will be an in person meeting, the first time since 2019.

Registration forms are at the end of this newsletter. It is really exciting to think about seeing so many friends that have only been on screen by zoom for so long. While you are putting this date on your calendar, also put October 29, as this will be the Conference Annual Celebration. Their meeting will be virtual again this year.

I hope many of you have been reading this summer. When the weather is so hot, having a good book to read is a nice and quiet activity. All units need to work on getting your memorial lists sent to Barbara Kelton. Also time is getting short to send funds to Michele Justice for end of year. If you have been working on completing the Mission Today and Social Action activities, these will need to be sent to me. I will be turning over all reports that I have at year end to the new president.

Blessings to all of you. Hope to see you in Prescott in October.

Colleen Becker, West District President



Christine Jones

West District Vice President

My wonderful sisters in Christ, now we move into the wonderful Fall months and round out summer with a season of change.

Mission u was both in person and virtual. I hope you had the chance to attend. I will say I had a wonderful time, maybe because I was teaching at one of the in-person classes or maybe because I enjoyed handling the media as the tech-help in the virtual session. I hope you had as much fun as I did.

The West District Annual Celebration will be held October 8th at Prescott United Methodist Church. This is the perfect time of year to escape the heat and enjoy the cool mountain environment hosted by our sisters in Prescott. Be sure to save the date.

As you may have heard or seen on the district announcements, I have been moved into a position as a local pastor at Spirit of Hope UMC in Peoria, AZ. There are two very important things that I need to share with you about this change.

First, it is the development of leaders, a core tenant of the United Women in Faith, that has helped lead me to this point. Following Jesus and working with my church family has brought me to a point in my spiritual journey where I can lead from the front of a congregation and continue to champion faith, hope, and love. So, thank you, all of you for the role that you have played in this journey and for encouraging me in my leadership opportunities.

Second, I regret that I must step down from the United Women in Faith. It has been an absolute joy to serve with the district team and to serve all of you over the past several years, as your District Vice President, as District Secretary, as the Secretary for the Reading Program. I can't even tell you which role was my favorite because I have had such full opportunities in each position. However, as a local pastor, I am still a member of the United Methodist Women/United Women in Faith but in the capacity of an ex officio, not eligible to serve as an elected or appointed leader of the United Methodist Women. I am truly saddened by this change. If you have been considering stepping up to a leadership role, allow me to invite you to participate as a district officer. You are welcome to call on me if you want to know more about what the experience was like. I promise, it isn't as scary as it seems. I hope you will prayerfully consider stepping forward as a leader.

God bless you and keep you safe this season and in all seasons.

Pastor Christine Jones

Ex-Officio United Methodist Women/United Women in Faith DSC WD

Spirit of Hope UMC

Cheryl Buchholtz, West District Secretary
and Communications Chair



Wow! I just returned from a 4,000+ mile road trip with my son and his wife, their two dogs, Buck and our two dogs. It was a gift from my son and his wife (Andy and Cheri) to my husband Buck for his 80th birthday. And what a gift it was. We were able to spend priceless time visiting, sharing meals and eating out at some fantastic restaurants. We visited National Parks, drove through 12 states, saw Mount Rushmore - but the best part was spending time with our children, all of Buck's family, helping my sister and her husband pack for their permanent move to Kansas City, and camping at the Air Force Academy and visiting friends we've had for 58 years.

Just as many of us "gift" our financial support to issues we think are important and gifts of stuff we give others on special occasions, one of the most important gifts we can give to others is our gift of time. It doesn't cost us much but the rewards and benefits are many. Right now, it is your chance to gift the West District with your time and service. We need you to step up and take your turn to "gift" the women of the West District with your friendship and leadership.

Our Savior spent much of his time on earth, "gifting" us with his presence, his stories, his faith and assurance that those who believed would be with him in heaven. The gift of "time and presence." May we too, invest these gifts in our world today.



Michele Justice, West District Treasurer

Money Matters

Dear West District United Women in Faith Members,

Remember Franklin Delano Roosevelt saying "the only thing we have to fear is . . . fear itself!" Well, I always say, "the only thing that never changes is. . . . CHANGE!" So we are starting anew with a name change "the United Women in Faith" which brings a new website, new processes for ordering things (can you say Special Recognition Pins ;-0) And I have not even started with the required year end reporting. So, Dear Willowbrook, thank you for your patience! I finally was able to order the special Mission Recognition Pin for your Unit and I pray it has made it to you by the time you read this!

Changes are all around us and one more change is. . . well. . . this will be my last year as your West District Treasurer. It has been a learning experience filled with adventure (trips to Yuma! And Prescott!) and making new friends, learning about creative ways to continue to serve women, children and youth around our local communities and around this beautiful world. It has been my pleasure to learn and grow in this pursuit and to be a part of such a well organized and dedicated organization and I thank you all for giving me this opportunity to serve and for working with me throughout these past 5 years.

Please consider this, and if you are feeling the call to serve in a new and interesting capacity, consider holding the office of the West District Treasurer and contact Vicki Keel, the Chair of West District Nominations committee.

Vkeel55@gmail.com

On another note, financially we are a bit behind where we need to be although several units chose to submit their entire pledge early this year. I pray we can meet our pledged amount at the end of this year. In June, the West District budget committee will meet to develop our proposal for the 2023 Budget. Please pray for a clear path and discernment as we go about this process.

Your sister in Christ,

Michele Justice

West District Treasurer

Sgbd2@outlook.com 623-692-7101



Vicki Keel
West District Chair
Committee on Nominations

My article will be short this time. Why: in my prior articles I mentioned the need for officers and I am mentioning it again. Why? The simple answer is that we STILL need officers for next year and I know you're out there!

Will it be you? Will it be someone in your circle?

I want to say on a personal note that it was so inspiring to attend Mission u in person. I got to meet and see some of you again. It was exciting --- I have faith in the members of United Women In Faith!

However...We've been calling and reaching out to names suggested and unfortunately have received a lot of unable to be an officer responses.

Someone told me that many of the same people volunteer and while that's true; if you haven't volunteered - don't let that stop you. Also think of your peers and come up with the name of someone (yourself?) who might make a good candidate.

Concerned that you will struggle if you decide to accept a position? The former officers and the continuing officers are here to help! I can't say this enough - look around and even ask around; often all it takes for someone to step forward is for someone to ask.

Consider accepting a position by accepting for one year instead of the usual two year obligation.

Blessings,

Vicki Keel, Chairperson of the Committee on Nominations

602-617-8028



PROGRAM RESOURCES

Hi Ladies,

I hope you have had a good summer. How much reading did you get done?

I would love to hear from you concerning any book you read that you would highly recommend. Have you watched any of the Faith Talk series? Remember, watching three of them counts as two books. List them under Spiritual Growth area. Just go to the Faith Talk Series and you will find the podcasts given this year. There is usually one a month. They are very interesting and usually are about 60 minutes. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Janet Rummel, Chairperson of Program Resources

Read

Read

READ

Read

WHAT IS UMCOR?

UMCOR (United Methodist Church On Relief) connects the United Methodists Churches, its people, and congregation to partner with others engaged in God's global work that takes place in a variety of settings both local and in other countries.

UMCOR is the humanitarian relief and development arm of the United Methodist Church.

This past March a \$417,737 grant from UMCOR helped in recovery efforts in the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference after hurricanes Isiah and Ida spawned tornadoes and floods that devastated communities.

100% Of Advance contributions go to a designated cause. A portion of local UMC assessments fund the day to day operations of UMCOR.

Lakeview UMC will be hosting a Mission Bash (pasta dinner) on Oct 8th where half of the proceeds will benefit the Ukraine through UMCOR and half to local missions. All are invited.

Submitted by Susan Briner

(This is a great explanation, Susan!)





WHAT'S GOING ON IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS?

Unit reports

(Thank you to those units who
have shared their activities.)

New Song United Women In Faith **Submitted by Kimi Ivey** **Communications secretary**

The summer of '22 has been a long, hot one, but the United Women In Faith at New Song United Methodist Church kept their membership cool and busy with activities and meetings throughout the time.

Our June meeting attendance was up considerably from previous months, as our covid protocols were eased and we were able to have a salad luncheon afterward at the church. All the ladies that came enjoyed being able to fellowship together again and hoped this would not be the last time. There was considerable laughter and smiles as we began to swap recipes for various salads that had been brought!

One of our circles had been very busy "behind the scenes" the last few months. Our card makers the Dabblers, led by Carolyn Garbaz, had been sending cards to various members and nonmembers of our church to honor birthdays, anniversaries and give words of comfort and support. Due to covid and various other events in our congregation, they were kept very busy. Each of the cards were hand made by the group with great care, and the recipients of these cards appreciated them very much.

Summer is the usual time for the majority of our membership to go on vacation. But you would never know it from the attendance at the annual end of year get together. There were 20 plus ladies present at a local tempura restaurant and everyone had a great time of fellowship and great food. This was a great time to be together and enjoy the company of fellow women of the church before they left for the summer break. For those of us who remained, August was a great month for games-that is at the Game Day sponsored by the United Women In Faith. The event was opened to everyone at the church and any visitors they wanted to bring. Unlike last year, we were not limited to just board and table games, but the ever popular game of cornhole was included. The attendees also were provided with snacks and drinks. It was a great time of fellowship and fun and has become an annual event!



All of these events were in keeping with our informal theme of "We Are the Church." With the continuing contact our congregation has maintained through the summer due to the United Women In Faith for New Song, our church grew in love and laughter. We look forward to our busy season coming up, when more of our congregants return and our organization can truly share and grow too.



Greetings from Shepherd of the Hills

United Women In Faith

President - Sandy Bradley

Our group has had two "Let's Go Out to Lunch events and both were well attended. We were blessed to have many ladies of the congregation join us who are not regular United Women In Faith members and we hope they will consider joining after they see "how much fun we are"!! Our restaurant of choice is Betty's Rooste, a small café right here in Sun City West and the food and staff are wonderful.

Our Team will meet on September 1st to finish planning the fall luncheon programs and set up our ideas for 2023. In October we will be showing the movie—Mission: Joy. It is a look at the friendship between His Holiness, the Dalai Lama and the late Archbishop Tutu. The film goes behind the scenes at the Dalai Lama's residence in Dharamsala, where Archbishop Tutu and the Dalai Lama recount stories from their lives.

We continue to thank our congregation for supporting our Mission Candle Program. During this spring and summer, thanks to our generous pledges and funds from the Candle, we were able to financially support several organizations here and nationally such as: UMOM, Benevilla, Dig Deep, A Mighty Change of Heart, Red Bird Mission. Matthew 25 Prison Ministry and the Community Fund of Sun City West.

The fee to light the candle is \$20 and the purpose is to celebrate and remember persons and occasions dear to them. Those names are announced at the services

on Saturday and Sunday.

It is an ongoing program that has over the past 27 years netted over \$75,000. We have been blessed with a generous congregation.

We are sending prayers for safe travel for all those who have been away and are returning to the Desert. We have been blessed with wonderful Monsoon rain and hope you'll bring some rain back with you too. See you all in Prescott!!!!

Submitted by Sandy Bradley-President

And from the Cool Pines of Prescott

Prescott United Women In Faith

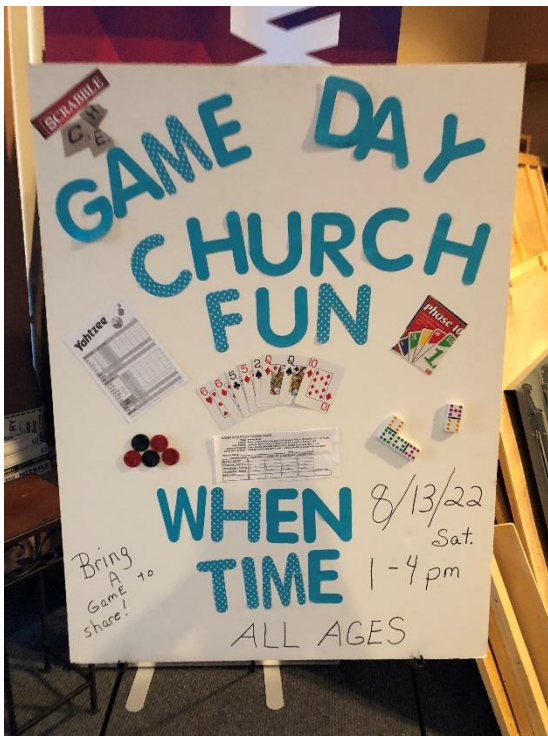
Submitted by Cheri Hull



This summer, the PUMC United Women In Faith took the summer to enjoy family, some travel again and have a relaxing game day in August together. We are looking forward to our regular meetings starting up again in September and will kick off this quarter with special guests from UMOM as they bring us great inspiration in helping us all to know what it can take to end homelessness.

We are also looking forward to hosting the West District Celebration on October 8th in our church. It will be a day of fun and sharing, we are sure, with wonderful friendships, making new and renewing, as well as music by the Sweet Adelines and more. Our board is busily beginning preparations and we hope all will attend!

Respectfully submitted and blessings to all,
Cheri Hull, President
PUMC United Women In Faith



HOW FUN WOULD THIS BE?

Prescott has such a great idea and I think each of us should check on the possibility to host a game day at our own church. What a great way to “mix and mingle” our Oldies but Goodies, oldest and youngest members, and create bonds amongst our different congregations.

We are all looking forward to the West District Annual Program in Prescott on October 8. Let's have a good turn out and show our appreciation for their hospitality.



Unit registration on next page.



Ladies, have you missed past issues of the Cactus Patch? Here is the new link (since we changed our name to United Women in Faith) to locate our past issues: (This is a new link.)

<https://dscumc.org/committee/united-women-in-faith/>

West District United Women in Faith
38th Annual Celebration
Saturday, October 8, 2022
“New Wineskins”



Prescott United Methodist Church
505 West Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301-3617
928-778-1950

REGISTRATION FORM

COST:

\$15.00 (includes registration & lunch)
Make checks payable to: WD-UMW
No refunds after September 21, 2018
Registration may be transferred!

MAIL FORM & CHECK TO:

Registrar:

Cheri Hull
7636 North Paradise Found Trail
Prescott Valley, AZ 86315
Phone: 623-523-1444

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

Saturday, September 24, 2018

NO babysitting services available

MEETING TIMES:

9:00 am– 9:50 am

9:50 am

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Registration & coffee

Gathering & singing

Meeting

“Mission Projects”

We have two specific Mission projects. One is raising money to provide funds and food to the Yavapai Community Food Bank specifically earmarked for children and children's foods (families with children). The second mission project we have is WINR (Women in Recovery). Our members sew and fill 10 cloth bags with personal hygiene items and more, and then we deliver those every 3 months to the recovery house for women coming out of prison or rehab who only have the clothes on their back. Those that are recovering need and greatly appreciate our support and unconditional love.

Come and enjoy a day with your United Methodist sisters. This is also the time you vote for the women who will represent you as your district officers for 2023.

West District United Women in Faith
38th Annual Celebration
Saturday, October 8, 2022

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY OR TYPE

Last Name

First Name

Choose One Option for Lunch

Regular **Gluten-Free** **Vegetarian**

Total Number Registered_____ Total Amount Enclosed \$_____ Check #_____

Name of person sending in registration_____

Telephone #_____ Name of Local Organization/Church_____



The link for the Confererence Virtual Annual Meeting:

When: Oct 29, 2022 08:30 AM Arizona

Topic: 2022 Annual Celebration

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://dscumc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zpNxJIUXRXu97-Z6cOiBvw

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Carla Whitmire



The latest word from our West District Spiritual leader: Jen Kistler

Hello, all of you beautiful women in faith,

I hope all of you had a wonderful and fruitful vacation. I am sure that God has blessed each of us with his words and enthusiasm to do His will.

God is always with us. He never abandons us. My own personal experiences have taught me that if I don't feel God's presence it is because I'm ignoring Him or not paying attention. (In today's world it is often difficult to tune out the negative or unimportant messages) - *the Son of God - who came as a human, flesh and blood person comes from God and belongs to God.*

1 John 4: 2 - 3

Everyone who confesses his faith in Jesus Crist - the Son of God - who came as a human flesh and blood person - comes from God and belongs to God.

1 John 4: 4 - 6

My dear children, you come from God and belong to God.

When we turned our loves over to God, we were filled with the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit within us is stronger than anything in the world.

God's gift to use is his power and it is given to us through the Holy Spirit....thus we are never along.

God bless you all.

Jen

WEST DISTRICT BUDGET TO BE VOTED ON AT ANNUAL MEETING IN OCTOBER.

	<u>Jan - Dec</u> <u>23</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Designated Giving	
Call to Prayer & Self Denial	1,150.00
Legacy Fund	700.00
UMCOR	500.00
World Thank Offering	<u>2,100.00</u>
Total Designated Giving	4,450.00
District Income	
A&MD	8,000.00
Mission U scholarship reimburse	<u>120.00</u>
Total District Income	8,120.00
Event income	
Jurisdiction rec'd frm conf	905.00
Registrations	
Annual West Dist Meeting	750.00
LDD Training	<u>750.00</u>
Total Registrations	<u>1,500.00</u>
Total Event income	2,405.00
Event Offering	
Annual meeting offering	<u>300.00</u>
Total Event Offering	300.00
Mission Giving (5 stars)	
Gift in Memory Cards	340.00
Gift to Mission Cards	100.00
Pledge to Mission	30,000.00
SMR	
pins Past President	<u>100.00</u>
Total SMR	<u>100.00</u>
Total Mission Giving (5 stars)	<u>30,540.00</u>
Total Income	45,815.00
Expense	
5 Star Giving	
Gift in Memory Cards	340.00
Gift to Mission Cards	100.00
Pledge to Mission	
Event offering	300.00
Pledge to mission	<u>30,000.00</u>
Total Pledge to Mission	30,300.00
Savings to Conference	

Assembly -savings	500.00
Jurisdiction - savings	<u>500.00</u>
Total Savings to Conference	1,000.00
Special Mission Recognition	300.00
World Thank Offiering	<u>2,100.00</u>
Total 5 Star Giving	34,140.00
Contract Services	
Audit fees	<u>75.00</u>
Total Contract Services	75.00
Designated Gifts	
Call to prayer	1,150.00
Legacy Fund	700.00
UMCOR	<u>500.00</u>
Total Designated Gifts	2,350.00
District officer Expenses	
Computer supplies & Maintenance	200.00
Local Unit Mileage	200.00
Meals	350.00
Mileage	450.00
Name Badges	140.00
Postage	160.00
President to Annual Conference	600.00
Presidents pin	160.00
Printing	215.00
Registrations	280.00
Supplies	<u>175.00</u>
Total District officer Expenses	2,930.00
Event Expenses	
conference social act event	200.00
District Social Action Event	225.00
DSWConference Annual Meeting	
conference annual lodging	750.00
conference annual meals	200.00
Conference annual mileage	800.00
conference annual registration	<u>600.00</u>
Total DSWConference Annual Meeting	2,350.00
WD Annual Celebration	
meals for Team	120.00
Meals paid to church	700.00
Mileage	<u>220.00</u>
Total WD Annual Celebration	<u>1,040.00</u>
Total Event Expenses	3,815.00
Programs	
Local Unit Training LDD	
Lodging	700.00
Meals	260.00
Mileage	600.00

Postage	10.00
Speaker, Pianist, Child Care	75.00
Supplies	<u>175.00</u>
Total Local Unit Training LDD	1,820.00
Mission U	
Books, materials	60.00
Lodging	75.00
Mileage	50.00
Registration	300.00
scholarship - local	<u>200.00</u>
Total Mission U	<u>685.00</u>
Total Programs	<u>2,505.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>45,815.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>0.00</u>
Net Income	<u><u>0.00</u></u>