



United  
Women  
in Faith

# North Country Breezes

North District United Women in Faith  
Desert Southwest Conference

Volume 36, Issue 1

December 2022

**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 community and to expand concepts of mission through participation of the global ministries of the church.



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## President's Message

Let me introduce myself. I am Jane Ann Murray, deaconess with United Women in Faith and North District new president. I'm so excited to see what this current year will bring for all of us as the Holy Spirit is moving. The calendar is filling up and the team will be sending you information about what is in the future from your District.

If you have time check out the United Women in Faith [United Women in Faith | Desert Southwest Conference \(dscumc.org\)](https://dscumc.org) conference webpage and get the latest updates on the Retreat on April 29th, Mission U, Annual UWIF Celebration, and North District Celebra-

tion.

Can you help? Your team is in need of officers; we would love to have you join us. **"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."**

Open positions:

- Secretary
- Vice President
- Committee on Nominations Chair
- Spiritual Growth Coordinator
- Social Action Coordinator
- Committee on Nominations Member Classes 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026

Peace and Grace,

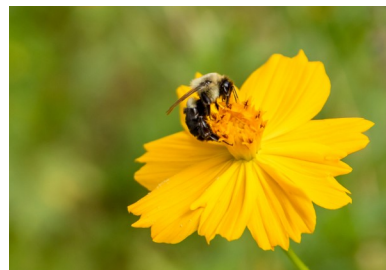
Jane A. Murray

Jane Ann Murray  
North District President



North District President,  
Jane Ann Murray

**"Alone we  
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so much."**



## Desert Spring United Methodist Church

Alison Kerr,  
Serendipity Circle Lead

### DESERT SPRING HOLDS INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

To start the new year, our United Women in Faith unit held a Soup and Salad Luncheon. Our invited guests were Gracie Campbell, United Women in Faith Desert Southwest Conference president, and Jane Ann Murray, United Women in Faith North District president. The highlight of the luncheon was the installation of officers. Jane Ann officiated the ceremony.

We are honored to have the following women serve on our Board: Bebe Brechner - President; Marianne Case - Vice President; Sharon Scobie - Treasurer; Lynn Bain - Secretary; Alma Crenshaw and Olivia Watson - Membership; Yvonne Daniely - Social Justice Coordinator; Clair Hart - Spiritual Coordinator. Our circle leaders are: Marsha Williams - Ruth Circle; Lilia Martinak - Deborah Circle; Mary Johnson and Alison Kerr - Serendipity Circle.



## Journey United Methodist Church

Allie Lakey,  
VicePresident



Greetings from Journey United Women in Faith! As I write, it is Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent 2023. During the season of Lent, Journey United Women in Faith is hosting Undie Sunday. We invite the entire congregation to donate undergarments that will be given to Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth. I'm making an educated guess that this is the fifth year we have collected new undergarments for NPHY. If we get some good photos this year, we'll include them in the next edition of North Country Breezes.

Journey United Women in Faith has resumed in-person general meetings. We met monthly via Zoom during the pandemic. One thing I learned from those two years of "Zooming" was the blessing of being able to continue our work of turning faith, hope, and love into action. It was different not having lunch together and sitting across the table from each other during programs. And programs! Who would have thought we would be able to share excellent programs without being face to face! For the most part, we use the United Women in Faith Program Resource to guide our monthly learning. There is a section in each program for in-person presentations as well as online resources for those units that have that capability. It's really a wonderful resource.

Another United Women in Faith resource we use at all of our meetings is the new format of the Prayer Calendar. It's now called the Daily Prayer Guide. Our Prayer Circle members write to two mission personnel each week. We find their names, field of work, birthday, home conference, and email address in the Daily Prayer Guide. We correspond with them via email.

In future editions, we will share about our work with East Valley Family Services.

## St. Michael's United Methodist Church

Cyndy Montgomery  
Spiritual Growth Coordinator

Here is what has happened so far with our United Women in Faith group:

Sunday, January 8th, St. Michael's United Women in Faith provided the service for the church. Deaconess Jane Murray gave the sermon. Pastor Sandy Johnson installed the officers for 2023. They are: President Judy Schnoebelen, Vice President Barbara Licari, Secretary Louise Hartwell, Treasurer Lois Robinson, Membership Doris Drust, Program Resources Karen Wilson, Spiritual Growth Cyndy Montgomery, Education for Mission Judy Pletting and Social Action Jane Murray. President Judy Schnoebelen presented each of the officers with a long stemmed red rose.



## Zion United Methodist Church

Stephanie McKoy  
Vice President



### ZION's UWF in ACTION!

From November 2022 through the middle of January 2023, Zion's United Women in Faith (UWF) 'Had A Dream,' and in cooperation with the people of Zion United Methodist Church, collected personal care items for the children of Olive Crest Family Resource Center, "Promoting Strong Families and Safe Kids" in Las Vegas, NV.

This organization "transforms the lives of children through the power of God, community, and family; because family is where healing begins. Ending the cycle of abuse and the devastating impact on children and parents in crisis is at the heart of Olive Crest's mission."

Thanks goes to Gerri Eason, Cheryl Williams, Stephanie McKoy, Jasmine Griffin, Irene Harrison, along with Eileen Guillermo of Journey UMC who acted as our photographer, for being helping hands in seeing a dream fulfilled. These members of Zion's UWF, stayed after service and spent a few hours sorting the items into individual bags. Our collective efforts managed to fill 30 bags (containing an eclectic assortment of items ranging from hygiene, diapers, socks, calendars, pens and prayer books) to be donated to the Olive Crest Organization. *"The one who is gracious to the poor lends to the Lord, and the Lord will repay him for his good deed(s). (Proverbs 19:17)"* During the presentation, there was an opportunity to sanctify the bags and the items in them with a special blessing to each unknown recipients of these items. May they be filled with joy, comfort, and a reinforced spirit that life is best served in community.

Final delivery took place the first Monday in February, and our facility contact, Susan Fuller, was gracious enough to give the three women delivering the bags (Irene Harrison, Cheryl Williams, and Stephanie McKoy) a small tour of the facility and the operation.

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## A Day Apart Conference Retreat

# "You are **Powerful**"

Prayer, **O**thers, **W**ord of God, **E**quipped, **R**espond  
Filled, Uplifted, Loved

**Saturday, April 29th**

*But as for me, I am filled with power, with the spirit of the Lord,  
and with justice and might. Micah 3:8*

Continental Breakfast: 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Retreat: 9:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Catered lunch

Payson United Methodist Church  
414 N Easy Street

### Retreat leaders:

Chris Spencer, Facilitator and Alane Eaton, Music and Drama

Chris served 6 years as president of Justice For Our Neighbors and has held many leadership positions in United Methodist Women / United Women in Faith.

Alane is a retired teacher, talented musician, enjoys hiking, reading, and being a grandma. She loves sharing God's love with others.

We are back! You will not want to miss this opportunity! This is a chance to reconnect and to experience one another again in the tall Pines of Payson, Arizona.

All women in all districts are invited to attend. If you are not in a unit, no problem. Just come on board, register, and join the day of activities, spirit filled moments, serving others. We always encourage you to bring friends to share the day. Share this information with all women in your church. They will want to share in our day!!

Activities will include singing, skits, sharing our talents, Greeting Cards for others, Sugar and Spice project, Prayer walk and more. It's going to be amazing!

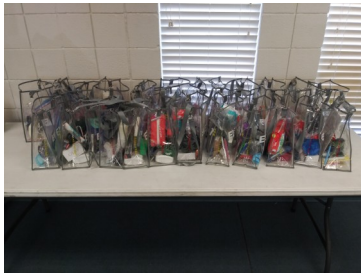
Hotel retreat information for Majestic Mt. Inn, Best Western Inn of Payson and Super 8 by Wyndham  
~ [click here for more information.](#)

*From Southwest Winds, the newsletter of the United Women in Faith of the Desert Southwest Conference*

## Zion United Methodist Church



Matthew 9:37, "Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few,'" has never been more meaningful than in this environment. "Foster parents may be married, single, growing families, or grandparents from all ethnic, educational, and social backgrounds. And foster families are needed for infants, children, and teenagers. Their ages, special needs, and developmental stages may vary, but they all desire the same thing: to have a loving, patient, and committed family." Start your application process at [www.olivecrest.org](http://www.olivecrest.org)



Special thanks to everyone who contributed toward this worthwhile cause and to the ladies of Zion UWF for their good works.

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**“Then He said  
to His disciples,  
‘The harvest  
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**Matthew 9:37**

## Lena King... “One Awesome Lady!”

Alison Kerr  
Desert Spring UMC

CPL Lena D. King, 6888th Army Veteran celebrated her 100th birthday on January 27, 2023. CPL Lena King is also the recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal as her Battalion the 6888th was honored with this award in March 2022 for their distinguished achievements and contributions overseas during World War II. The women of that battalion moved 640,000 pieces of mail per shift, 3 shifts per day.

Lena King is a long- time member of Desert Spring Church and United Women in Faith, although she still refers to our group UMW! Lena is not only a WW2 veteran but an all around awesome lady.



*“We thought an article about one of our most senior members would be of interest. Lena King, as you will read in the attached, is a remarkable woman! She was a trailblazer in her youth. On her 100th birthday she was celebrated with a special birthday party which was attended by Tyler Perry who is working on a movie of her life experiences!”*

Alison Kerr

**faith**

**action**

**sisterhood**

**Mark your calendar!**  
**Day of Giving is one month away - 3/23/23**



**Day of Giving at a glance:**

- The theme is: **The Future is Now**
- Day of Giving gifts will be matched with a \$100,000 gift from Scranton Women's Leadership Center in Seoul, Korea.  
For more information: [uwfaith.org/dayofgiving/](http://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving/)
- Tune in on March 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Day of Giving Facebook Event

**Ways to Give:**

Online at: [www.uwfaith.org/dayofgiving](http://www.uwfaith.org/dayofgiving)

- By phone: 800-278-7771 (8 am-6 pm EST, Mon.-Fri.)
- Text: "GIVE" to 20503
- By check to:

United Women in Faith, Attn: Legacy  
475 Riverside Drive, Ste 1500  
New York, NY 10115

Write "**Day of Giving**" in the memo section.

