

Sage District Newsletter; United Women In Faith  
Fall 2022. Volume 11, Issue 4

A Letter from Our Sage District President, Joyce Orem

*“Don’t be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you can figure out what is God’s will, what is good, is pleasing and is mature.” Romans 12:2 CEB*

Many changes have occurred since the start of the pandemic in 2020. We have started using new technologies to meet together, to learn, and to stay connected at home. The name of this organization has changed, yet one thing does not change; the work of United Women in Faith (UWF), to improve the lives of women, children, and youth.

As we look forward to 2023, there will be more changes. Our Shepherdess program has a new name - Unit Partner. We will have one EMEE (Every Member Enrichment Event) via Zoom with Rochelle Killett as our program speaker; the theme is Water Justice. A conference-wide Spiritual Retreat will be held online on Earth Day, Saturday, April 22, 2023, with the theme of The Circle of Life: Wind, Earth, Fire, and Water. Mission u will have one two-part study, “Living the Kin-dom”, Part 1, in 2023. Part 2 will be held in 2024.

Our fall Sage District Celebration, or annual meeting, will be a hybrid meeting.

Many new connections, online at our United Women in Faith website, <https://uwfaith.org/>, includes Mighty Networks, <https://uwfaith.mn.co/>. There are new ways you can join United Women in Faith if you do not have access to a local unit; You may become a District Member at Large, join a virtual circle, or join through our National Organization of UWF. I encourage you to check out the new website; click on Menu, and then, click on different links to get to know the UWF website.

There are many exciting events to look forward to in 2023!

In this issue, the Sage District calendar lists the dates of our 2023 meetings, which will change as more information comes out.

Joyce H. Orem, President, Sage District, United Women in Faith

- Sunday, January 22, 2023 – Idaho Legislative Event, zoom at 7 pm; Reproductive Rights presented by Reverend Sarah LaWall, Universal Unitarian Fellowship, Boise ID
- Sunday, January 29, 2023 – Idaho Legislative Event, zoom at 7 pm; Education Issues In Idaho presented by Mr. Rod Gramer, Idaho Business for Education, Boise ID
- February, 2023 (TBA) – Date to meet with Idaho Legislatures
- (Oregon Legislative Event – TBA)
- Saturday, March 4, 2023 – EMEE, Zoom
- Saturday, April 22, 2023 – Spiritual Retreat, Zoom
- July, 2023 (TBA) Mission u, Zoom
- Saturday, September 30, 2023 – Sage District Fall Celebration
- October, 2023 (TBA) – Conference Fall Celebration

Our Vice President’s Letter, from Evelyn Battema

I can’t believe we are planning for our Every Member Enrichment program already, scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2023. I’m so looking forward to seeing everyone in person or on Zoom. That being said, “in person” is by far my favorite. The details of where we will be meeting are still in the planning stages. I’m excited to report that our program subject, “Living Water”, and speaker, Rochelle Killett, have been selected. The theme will be the importance of water in our daily lives, and water justice around our globe. Final details will be in the spring newsletter.

Evelyn Battema, Vice President, Sage District, United Women In Faith

UNITED WOMEM IN FAITH  
Minutes, Sage District Leadership Meeting, Saturday, November 5, 2022  
Maralyn Wells, Secretary  
**208-989-0917, mfwells-35@msn.com**

Those present were: Chris Mitchell, UWF Conference President, Leona Whitcomb, Bonnie Anderson, Lynda Montgomery, Evelyn Battema, Elinor Chehey, Claudia Moberly, Ingrid Cook, Mary Getchell, Judy Halverson, Lucy Scopinich, Marilyn Wudarcki, Joyce Orem, Carole Sullivan, and Maralyn Wells.

President Joyce Orem called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Heard a talk by Western Jurisdiction. Then Chris was going to show a video by Harriette Olson about her retirement, which did not go through.

Mighty Networks was discussed, a social network which is private to United Woman in Faith. The link is [www.faithmn.co/feed](http://www.faithmn.co/feed). Chris explained its use as ways to communicate with other ladies. One can put the app on your phone.

January 19 – 21 was a meeting by zoom for presidents and MNO committee heads and Leadership and Development.

EMEE – In the past we have had 3 meetings, Eastern Oregon, Central Idaho, and Eastern Idaho. A discussion was held about churches that had the capacity to hybrid meeting: some were Meridian, Nampa, and Boise First. Suggested zoom with breakout sessions for training. Dates suggested; Saturday, March 4, 2023. Annual meeting to be hybrid on Saturday, September 30, 2023. Evelyn will ask Meridian to be host. The program will be Water Justice.

Saturday, April 22, 2023; a virtual all conference retreat program; Life, Man, Earth, and Fire.

Membership, Nurturing, and Outreach; new name for Shepherdess will be Unit Partner.

**Secretary, Maralyn Wells, needs info from all units for the district directory. Please send to district secretary; see the attached form at the end of this newsletter.**

Mary Getchell gave dates for Legislative Event

Sunday, January 22, 2023, 7:00 pm; virtual on reproductive rights

Sunday, January 29, 2023, 7:00 pm; virtual on Education

Newsletter articles need to be to Lucy Scopinich by Monday, November 14, 2022 for the Sage Newsletter to be out November 19.

Respectful Submitted, Maralyn Wells, Secretary, Sage District, United Women in Faith

A Letter from Mary Getchell, Social Action

Dear Sisters,

We begin each district event and UWinFaith unit meeting with a land acknowledgement, thanking and honoring the First Nations on whose land we make our homes. November was National Native American Heritage month and United Women in Faith joined in this special recognition. On our national website, <https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts>, please listen to Faith Talks: National Native American Heritage Month. It is a full hour, so find a quiet time that you can devote to this panel discussion of the Doctrine of Discovery, the justification of the church and of governments for the conquest of the indigenous peoples of the New World. One of the panelists in this podcast is Sarah Augustine, author of *The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery*. This is a bonus book

Which counts as 2 books(!) in the 2023 Reading Program in the category of Nurturing for Community. *From the catalog: "In this prophetic book, author Sarah Augustine, a Pueblo woman, reframes the colonization of North America as she investigates ways that the Doctrine of Discovery continues to devastate Indigenous cultures, and even the planet itself, as it justifies exploitation of both natural resources and people. This is a powerful call to reckon with the root causes of a legacy that continues to have devastating effects on Indigenous Peoples around the globe and a call to recognize how all of our lives and our choices are interwoven."*

**Reserve January 22 and 29 on your 2023 calendar for the Idaho Legislative Event.**

Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 7 p.m.; the Rev. Sara LaWall of the Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship will speak about how Christians can join in the important conversations about reproductive health issues.

Sunday, January 29, 2023 at 7pm; Idaho Business for Education President and CEO, Rod Gramer, will discuss the education bills before the Idaho legislature. Both sessions will be held via ZOOM. Watch for details regarding registration and joining the meetings on-line. Opportunities to attend committee meetings at the Idaho Legislature, in February, will be shared via email.

News from Marilyn Wudarcki, MEMBERSHIP NURTURE OUTREACH

I would like to introduce myself to you all. I am Marilyn Wudarcki your new Membership Nurture Outreach Coordinator for Sage District. I grew up in Hagerman, Idaho near Twin Falls.

As a child and teen, I was active in the local church and youth group. As an adult, I did not become involved in United Methodist Women until we moved to Sandpoint, Idaho. There I served in the local unit, on the district team, and on the conference team. We moved to Nampa in 2020 to be nearer children and grandchildren. I attend Nampa Southside UMC, and am a member of the local unit. I am a very strong believer in the United Women in Faith Purpose. I would like to offer your unit an opportunity to learn more about United Women In Faith through our Sage District Unit Partner Program. A district officer will be partnered with your unit, and may provide a devotion or a program. She can share United Women in Faith online resources, and talk about upcoming events in the district and conference. We just want to spend time with your unit, and get to know you better. Have a blessed day.

Marilyn Wudarcki, [mwudarcki@gmail.com](mailto:mwudarcki@gmail.com)

#### UNIT PARTNER 2023

EASTERN IDAHO, Bonnie Anderson

\*Idaho Falls, St Paul's

Ashton, Idaho Falls Trinity

\*Chubbuck, Pocatello

Blackfoot, Rupert

MAGIC VALLEY, Joyce Orem

American Falls, \*Hagerman

\*Buhl, \*Jerome

Burley, Kimberly-Crossroads

\*Castleford, \*Shoshone

\*Glenns Ferry, \*Twin Falls

\*Gooding, Wendell

TREASURE VALLEY

Boise First/\*Amity Campus, Evelyn Battema

\*Boise Collister, Elinor Chehey

Boise Hillview, Lucy Scopinich

Boise Whitney, Mary Getchell

Caldwell, Marilyn Wudarcki

\*Eagle, Carole Sullivan

\*Emmett, Maralyn Wells

Fruitland, Maralyn Wells

\*Kuna, Leona Whitcomb

Meridian, Mary Getchell

\*Middleton, Leona Whitcomb

Nampa First, Carol Sullivan

Nampa Southside, Leona Whitcomb

\*New Meadows, Marilyn Wudarcki

Payette, Claudia Moberly

EASTERN OREGON

Baker, Jean Spence  
\*Cove, Kay Durham/Jean Spence  
\*Haines, Kay Durham/Jean Spence  
Joseph, Kay Durham

LaGrande, Marilyn Wudarcki  
\*North Powder, Kay Durham/Jean Spence  
\*Vale, Kay Durham/Jean Spence

\*Church without active unit

### LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND Gifting, from Lory Nesor, Oregon-Idaho Legacy Liaison

Thanks to all of you who have donated to the Legacy Fund during the past year. Despite the fluctuations in the stock market, our Endowment Fund has grown to over \$35,000,000. Our Oregon-Conference Legacy giving in 2022 contributed \$6,092.50 to the Fund. We have also added Legacy Builders and our Conference now has 21! Six of those were added this year. There are several ways to support and grow the Endowment.

1. Become a Legacy Builder by setting up an automatic gift of \$18.69 a month.
2. Make a planned gift and become a member of the 1869 Society.
3. Become a Friend of Legacy by making a major gift/pledge.

I'd like to suggest that you think about giving a gift in honor/memory of a special friend, family member, United Women in Faith supporter. What a lovely way to remember someone at Christmas. As your local unit discusses ways to empty your treasury at the end of the year, a gift to Legacy could be one of the ways you can do that. It has been a joy working with all of you and I extend

my gratitude during this season of giving thanks.  
Blessings, Lory Nesor



2022 Sage District Annual Meeting, Nampa Southside UMC  
Lory Nesor, Ingrid Cooke, Dixie Jacky, Mary Getchell,  
Leona Whitcomb, Letha Essinger

Sage District President Joyce Orem, Oregon Idaho  
Conference Celebration, 2022



Michael Bayes,  
Jody Peterson  
Stigers, Interfaith  
Sanctuary Director,  
Tiffany Wardell,  
Interfaith Sanctuary  
Catering crew, Oregon  
Idaho Conference  
Celebration, Boise  
FUMC, 2022



## United Women in Faith

*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.*

**Advocacy**—Every four years we identify a specific focus for our advocacy in addition to our ongoing work for gender and racial justice and for oppressed and dispossessed communities, with special attention to the needs of women, children and youth. Our current justice campaigns are **Just Energy 4 All** and **Ending Mass Incarceration** and Criminalization of Communities of Color.

In 2020 and 2021 United Women in Faith provided more than \$9 million to 226 national and international projects and partners and supports mission in 34 countries.

## RESOURCES

Website: <https://uwfaith.org>

Daily Prayer Guide: [facebook.com/dailyprayerguide/](https://facebook.com/dailyprayerguide/)

Facebook: [facebook.com/uwomenfaith](https://facebook.com/uwomenfaith)

Flickr: [uwfaith.org/flickr](https://uwfaith.org/flickr)

Instagram: [instagram.com/uwomenfaith/](https://instagram.com/uwomenfaith/)

Mission Resources: <https://www.umwmissionresources.org/>

United Women in Faith Digital Community: <https://uwfaith.mn.co/feed>

Podcasts and Webinars: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/podcasts/>

Response magazine: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/response-magazine/>

Soul Care Group: <https://www.facebook.com/uwomenfaith/groups>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/uwomenfaith>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/uwomenfaith>

Western Jurisdiction United Women in Faith Website: <https://www.wjumw.com/>

Oregon - Idaho Conference United Women in Faith Website: <https://www.umoio.org/uwf>

Conference United Women in Faith Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OregonIdahoUMF>

Reading Program: <https://uwfaith.org/resources/2022-reading-program/>



Dear Sage Sisters, Tis the season for change, and I ask you to bear with me during this time, for me, of learning new skills in publishing, both on paper and the web. Also, I will be asking you for contributions to this newsletter, in the form of reports and photos highlighting your Unit activities. I'll start with my own local unit, treating you to a photo of our pie team at Boise FUMC. Every Monday and Friday morning, beginning in late September, Elinor Chehey sends out the call for volunteers to mix, roll, assemble, label and freeze dozens of fruit and custard pies for sale the Sunday prior to Thanksgiving, our major annual fundraiser to supplement individual pledges for mission. We have a fun time working together, and getting to know new women and extended family and friends at these pie making marathons. So, we all are looking forward to sharing experiences across the District. And if you happen to want to slip in a photo of a special grandchild from time to time, well, that would be fabulous!

And, just one more thing before closing; Mary Getchell forwarded her Idaho Humanities Council newsletter to me, with pertinent November topics currently in focus by UWinF; reading books and learning about indigenous Idahoans. Take some quiet time to log into their website to learn more about our neighbors, and definitely learn what a young Bonners Ferry librarian is up to! Go to [Idaho Humanities Council](http://Idaho Humanities Council), [www.idahohumanities.org](http://www.idahohumanities.org) to learn more about our Idaho neighbors. For instance...

## November Profile: Meaghan Mize, Director of West Bonner Library District



*Meaghan Mize, Director of West Bonner Library District, recently visited Boise for the first training for IHC's Spark! Places of Innovation Museum on Main Street exhibit, which is set to launch in Priest River in 2023. We caught up with her this month to share a deeper sense of her work in Idaho's Panhandle.*

Interviewed by Jessica Evett, IHC Development and Communications Officer

**J: How would you describe the mission of the West Bonner Library District?**

M: Officially – The mission of the West Bonner Library District is to encourage active library use by offering a current, uncensored and accessible collection of materials and resources.

**J: What would your community be like without a library?**

M: Our library is a cornerstone of our community. There are limited resources in this area, including cell service and internet access. Without the library there would be a huge lack of resources for people. Not just in books, but information and a sense of community.

Peace be with you all! Happy Thanksgiving! Feel free to contact me with news and photos at Lucy Scopinich, 208-409-2067, lkscop0661@gmail.com

You go, girls! Joey Stillinger, Bonnie McOmber, Mary Getchell, Mary Provant, Marilee King. Working together for mission at Boise First UMC.



Our own Jean Spence, hard at work collecting money at Sage District Annual meeting at Nampa Southside UMC, 2022!



Our Guest Presenter at the Oregon Idaho Conference Celebration in Boise, October 2022. We were so honored to have 'Ainise with us, as well as her daughter, Pollyanna!



# Sage District Local Unit Census Form

Please remit this form to your current Sage District Secretary *by November 1 of the current calendar year*, for inclusion in the Sage District Annual Directory. Your participation is very important to ensure the accuracy of our directory. Thank you for your assistance!

Church/Unit Name \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

Church phone number \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Church e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Unit partner \_\_\_\_\_

Local unit meeting time and frequency/ day of the week \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Membership count \_\_\_\_\_

President, address, phone number, e-mail \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Vice President, address, phone number, e-mail \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary, address, phone number, e-mail \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer, address, phone number, e-mail \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Social action coordinator \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Membership nurture and outreach coordinator \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Education and Interpretation coordinator \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Program resources coordinator \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Spiritual growth coordinator \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Contact \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_