

Voices of Purpose

December 2022

Quarterly Newsletter of the Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith

President's Message

GNJ Annual Conference 2022 Report

On March 3, 2022, our organization launched a new brand, a new name and a new mission statement: "United Women in Faith seeks to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities." This newly invigorated sisterhood continues to work to improve the lives of women, children and youth. We are enjoying the diversity and new opportunities to work together that redistricting has created in our United Women in Faith districts.

In the spirit of inclusiveness, our Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith has adopted a Welcome Statement that declares that "God's grace is extended to all God's children without exception." We continue our focus on climate justice and the criminalization of communities of color. These emphases may be seen in our spring and fall meeting topics, Mission u classes, and our Charter for Racial Justice¹ conversations. We held two leadership development events, one in January, entitled "Lead Like MLK," and "Recipes for Success" in June.

The spring meeting on April 9 was held virtually. After our opening worship and keynote speaker, we went into breakout rooms by district, a format that was successful the previous year. The theme was "With Hearts and Healing Let Us Sit Together," a panel with Shirley Hager, gkisedtanamoogk, and Shirley Bowen, based on the book, The Gatherings: Reimagining Indigenous-Settler Relations by Shirley Hager and the Mawopiyane. The offering was divided between the UWF Pledge to Mission and Wabanaki Public Health and Wellness.

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Issue Highlights

- Immigration – Welcoming the Stranger
- Methane Pollution
- Call A Friend!
- Social Justice – Taking Action
- First Gun Control Bill
- Harriet Jane Olson Retirement

¹ <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice/#charter>

December 2022

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Editor: Joyce Pratt
GNJUWF Communications Coordinator

Faith can still move mountains.

Matt. 17:20



December 2022

Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith

Welcome Statement

GNJ United Women in Faith affirms that the grace of God is extended to all God's children without exception.

We are committed to the inclusion of people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation as well as people of every age, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status.

We make a bold choice to work for intersectional peace with justice and to create inclusive communities that respect the dignity and sacred worth of all God's children, and honor our shared, common humanity.



United
Women
in Faith

President's Message
GNJ Annual Conference 2022 Report
(continued from page 1)

Mission u in July was our first time as a hybrid event with live and virtual attendees. "Who Can We Be Together?," a study of Luke 13, was offered in both the 3-day (hybrid, 25 attendees) and 1-day (virtual, 34 attendees) schools. Thank you to our team of teachers: Don Kirschner, Wilhelmina Jackson, Jay Brown, Kathy Schulz, and Rev. Dr. Sueng Lin Baik, who led 84 people at the one-day Korean school.

The fall annual meeting on October 15 was entitled "Intersectionality: Where Love and Justice Meet." Our speaker, Dr. Mark Miller, addressed the "overlapping and interdependent systems of discrimination," called intersectionality. The offering was divided between The Trevor Project and the Peyton Heart Project, which also received the ingathering of yarn.

The Charter for Racial Justice series continued in the fall with three sessions. On September 30, Cynthia Mosley, Chair of GNJ's CoNAM and Ragghi Rain, Chair of Native American International Caucus, were speakers for "Justice for Indigenous Children." This coincided with the Week of Prayer and Action and the National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools. In November, we had a panel of Rev. Junehee Yoon, Obed Perez & Rev. Jessica Campbell, followed two weeks later by Meg Isbitski, Diversity Specialist, Somerset Co Dept of Human Services. The sharing of their stories helped to "Know Your Neighbor in the LGBTQIA Community."

Our Spiritual Enrichment Advisor Barbara Miller led four virtual micro-retreats. There was guided meditation with coloring, yoga, and Taize, in a series of "Let's Play, Let's Pray, Let's Be Still." United Women in Faith is very intentional about offering these spiritual opportunities and accepted our conference proposal for a pilot program of the "Soul Care Retreat." A diverse "Design Team" from throughout the Conference is working together to ensure that this first NEJ Soul Care Retreat provides all who attend with an atmosphere of relaxation, rejuvenation and spiritual nourishment.

We are pleased to report that we met our Pledge to Mission, despite the pandemic, virtual meetings and redistricting. Please go to our www.gnjumw.org website for more information and events. The new national website is www.uwfaith.org and includes videos, podcasts and an online membership option.

Sue Zahorbenski, President
GNJ United Women in Faith

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

GNJ United Women in Faith presents

How Can We as People of Faith, Welcome the Stranger?



Date: Saturday, April 15, 2023
10:00 am

Pitman United Methodist Church
Hybrid – Also on Facebook Live



United
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Methane Pollution – Make an Impact



The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released an updated rule to cut methane, so called “natural” gas, and other harmful pollutants from new and existing oil and gas operations. Methane is a potent climate-warning gas as it’s 80 times more detrimental than carbon dioxide to global warming and can also harm the health of our families and communities.

The EPA’s new Methane rule requires extended monitoring, increases reporting and correction requirements, and calls for recovering and rerouting wasted methane into production lines reducing the need for flaring. Join us in supporting this measure for cleaner air by messaging EPA in support of this new rule!

For many years, United Women in Faith has been urging the EPA to strengthen the proposed rule to protect public health and the climate and use all of its authority under Clean Air Act §111(d) to cut methane pollution from oil and gas development by 65 percent by 2025.

We know that methane pollution increases the threat of climate change and negatively impacts air quality. Black, Indigenous, Latino, Asian, and low-wealth communities will be forced to deal with the worst impacts of both climate change and methane pollution. Thus, we must urge the EPA to act urgently to address this climate injustice to ensure that the health of God’s creation and God’s people is protected.

What can you do?

Please join United Women in Faith and the Breathe Again Collaborative calling for EPA to finalize this methane proposal—to strengthen its monitoring and other protections to help ensure everyone’s right to clean air.

Don’t stop there! Please invite your friends, family and community to take action too!

Lika Vega, Executive for Economic and Environmental Justice, UWF
Kisha Nicolas, Just Energy for All Coordination Consultant, UWF

Submitted by Susan Zahorbenski,
GNJUWF President

United Women in Faith

Northeastern Jurisdiction (NEJ)

2024 Northeastern Jurisdiction: **Get Together! John 13:34**
April 19- 21, 2024 Providence, RI
Ubuntu April 18, 2024 TBA

Early Registration will begin in the fall. Also, this will include hotel information.

Speakers are requested for Racial Justice issues and vendors for the Exhibit Hall.

At this time as Chair of Nominations we are searching for persons who would be willing to serve on the NEJ leadership team. This includes President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee on Nominations (CON), and four committee members. Attached is a leadership form (pages 21-22) to be filled out by the applicant. We are looking for a person from each conference to serve on the NEJ leadership team.

For more information contact Marilyn Powell: mpowell56@comcast.net M: 609-707-8530.

Mission u:

The dates for Mission u include - In person: July 14-15, 2023 and Virtual: July 21-22, 2023. The Korean network TBA.

Theme: Living the Kin-dom- Exploring the Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation by Riva Tabelisma. (Please note that use of "kin-dom" in place of the traditional "kingdom." This term was first coined by Ada maria Isasi-Diaz. It emphasizes relationality, community, and equity as the basis of God's reign.)

Books are available through Mission Resources for \$14.99.

Members are being asked if they are willing to travel to Pennsylvania and stay overnight for a two day in person Mission u. A two-day virtual option will also be available. Plans include 10 hours of CEU's for Lay servant recertification.

The Korean Mission u plans are for a one day in-person event to be announced.

For more information please contact Marilyn Powell mpowell56@comcast.net. M: 609-707-8530.

Church Women United – New Jersey

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

JANUARY IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH - COVENANT HOUSE. NJ Human trafficking affects people from all demographic, social and economic groups but homeless youth are particularly vulnerable. Covenant House of NJ reports that 9.2% of clients they screened (homeless youth ages 18 to 24) experienced human trafficking at some point in their lives. According to the University of Chicago Voices of Youth Count, a third of youth who are homeless had once been part of the foster care system and half of homeless youth had been in the juvenile justice system, in jail or in detention.

Not having a high school diploma or equivalency is the highest risk factor for youth homelessness. A caring supportive adult positively impacts the resiliency of children and youth coping with adverse childhood experiences (ACES).

Julia Einbond will become the new Executive Director for Covenant House in NJ effective July 1 2023. Covenant House NJ has become a national expert on human trafficking under her leadership as associate director of CHART, the Covenant House Action Research Team. Covenant House of New Jersey is one of CWU-NJ state projects in 2022-2023. The Office of the NJ Attorney General and the Division of Criminal Justice will hold their annual Human Trafficking Awareness program at the Trenton War Memorial on Thursday Jan 26th: The focus of the morning session is Sex Trafficking and Persons with Disabilities. The afternoon session includes screening of the documentary Sextortion: the Hidden Pandemic, followed by Q&A about on-line grooming and sextortion of young people.

EQUALITY OF RIGHTS

EDUCATION. EMPOWERMENT. EQUALITY. Sustained Advocacy - We Can Make a Difference. On January 11th we celebrate the life and vision of Alice Paul - Feminist, suffragist, political strategist. Alice Paul dedicated her life to the single cause of equality for women. Her vision was a world where men and women were equal partners in society: **Simple Equality**.

This year is the 75th anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention where Alice announced the “Lucretia Mott amendment” to the US Constitution: “Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and everywhere under its jurisdiction.” In 1943, the amendment was re-written as the “Alice Paul amendment”: “Equality of rights shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex”. The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) as passed by a Joint Resolution of Congress on March 22 1972 reads (in part) the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United State which shall be valid for all intents and purposes a part of the Constitution when ratified by the **(continued on page 12)**





Social Justice - Taking Action

Social action is defined as the best way to inspire change by confronting decision makers in a concerted action. It can range from organizing a letter-writing campaign to assembling tens of thousands of people in the state or national capital to promote or protest government actions. Social justice is a fair and equitable division of resources, opportunities, and privileges in society to empower our communities and act in the best interests of all people through social advocacy and justice.

This year, GNJUWF will schedule brainstorming sessions to add to our efforts of social justice through education and training. We are pursuing plans to contact our legislators, in writing and in person, and encourage their review and action on current legislative bills for societal improvements that mirror our efforts – Congressional Outreach.

Some of the focus areas other organizations have embraced are:

- Voter Education, Registration, and Mobilization to empower communities to utilize their most powerful tools of community change and advocacy during local, state, and national elections;
- Public Policy Forums that create convenings of non-partisan open dialogue on policy challenges and the direction of our country.
- Candidate Forums, non-partisan public events featuring candidates running for office who wish to express their positions on issues; and
- Public Servant's Guides developed to highlight women currently serving in political leadership positions along with information on how to create a pathway for women in politics.

Whatever your pleasure, please join GNJUWF at our **February 11, 2023** virtual planning/brainstorming meeting for details on plans and instructions for GNJUWF congressional outreach and share your opinions on how we can be successful in new efforts for success!

Look for our meeting information flyer for details and check the “Resources” page for informational links.

Joyce Pratt
GNJUWF Communications Coordinator

Greater New Jersey Presents:
Charter for Racial Justice



DAY OF ACTION DAY OF LOVE



United
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February 11, 2023

12:00 noon-1:00 pm

Congressional Outreach

including discussion of a possible

Trip to Trenton

Future trip to Washington, DC

Make a Valentine to send to your legislator!

Meeting ID 823 5552 3337

Passcode101994

Invite Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82355523337?pwd=K2ZXRzVGV3piY09ENFpMVTf0dmRudz09>

<https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/racial-justice>

Gun Control Bill Passed

In June 2022, the U.S. Congress passed and President Biden signed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (S.2938) – the most significant firearms legislation in about 30 years. It imposes tougher checks on young buyers and encourages states to **remove guns from people considered a threat**. It is the first time in decades that proposed reforms have received this level of support from both Democrats and Republicans. The bill came after mass shootings last month at a supermarket in Buffalo, New York, and a primary school in Uvalde, Texas that left 31 people dead. The reforms include tougher background checks for buyers younger than 21, \$15 billion in federal funding for mental health programs and school security upgrades, funding to encourage states to implement “red flag” laws to remove firearms from people considered a threat, and closing the so-called “boyfriend loophole” by blocking gun sales to those convicted of abusing unmarried intimate partners.

Source: Excerpts from BBC News by George Wright & Matt Murphy, June 24, 2022.

On July 29, 2022, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the **Assault Weapons Ban of 2022** (H.R. 1808) and was received by the Senate on August 1, 2022, read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The bill makes it a crime to knowingly import, sell, manufacture, transfer, or possess a semiautomatic assault weapon (SAW) or large capacity ammunition feeding device (LCAFD).

[Visit www.congress.gov for bill details.]

EQUALITY OF RIGHTS (continued from page 9)

legislatures of three fourths of the several states within seven years from its submission by the Congress.

ARTICLE— Section 1: Equality of rights shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. Section 2: Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article; Section 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after ratification.

2023 is the 100th anniversary of continued efforts to add the ERA to the US Constitution. The required 38 states have now ratified the ERA, the final state required for ratification was Virginia which voted YES on Jan 16 2020. The House of Representatives passed legislation removing the deadline for ERA ratification. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has committed to hold a Senate vote to remove the deadline for ratification by the end of March 2023. **LET’S GET IT DONE in 2023!**

Articles submitted by:

Sara Joslin, President of CWU-NJ

DISTRICT Events

Cape Atlantic District (CAD)

Looking Back at 2022

2022 was a blessed and productive year for Cape Atlantic District. It was a change, as the districts had been redirected. Change comes with a certain amount of fear and trembling, and most importantly, a new opportunity for growth. It was an opportunity to meet and connect with new friends and moving forward.

Throughout the year we celebrated with gatherings, virtual as well as In-Person. It was like Cotton Candy, sweet and memorable. I used Cotton Candy, because if you like it, that means that you are open to new adventures and opportunities. We attended events from our Winter Meeting, celebrating Leading like MLK, through the Spring Meeting with Michael Landis, the Executive Director of The Neighborhood Center. Then we **Turned it Up** at Assembly 2022, in person as well as virtually. More than 1000 people attended virtually and that was an awesome opportunity. So, we continued on with Mission U, studying Luke 13, with a call of repentance, and our District Fall Meeting with Laurie Bodie of Ranch Hope.

Yet the ultimate experience for me did not occur in CAD but in Delaware Bay District when I was with the women of Malaga UMC as they re-organized their Unit. Our president Sue Zahorbenski sent a letter of welcome, and in the letter, she stated..."You will be joining a sisterhood of women who seek to inspire, influence, and impact local and global communities through faith and action. You will be joining women like yourselves. We are United Women in Faith, Moving History Forward."

Submitted by Virgie Williams January 2023



MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE, POSSIBLE

District Events (continued from page 13)

Raritan Shore District

Bridgewater United Methodist Church

The Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith held their conference-wide Annual Meeting at the Bridgewater United Methodist Church on Saturday, October 15, 2022. President Sue Zahorbenski welcomed everyone to the meeting and led us in reciting the UWF Welcome Statement and the new UWF Mission statement. Kathy Schulz, President of the Bridgewater UWF, also welcomed attendees. The program included the video entitled “United Women in Faith.”

The theme of the morning program was Intersectionality. The initials LGBTQIA (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersects and Allies) were explained. Also, a video was presented explaining Intersectionality, a word introduced by Kimberly Krenshaw in the 1980s. The video explained that intersection is where things come together and Intersectionality implies that we all have multiple identities that intersect to make us who we are. It’s also a word that gives us a way to talk about oppression and privileges that overlap and reinforce each other.

Pat Schutz, Vice President of GNJUWF, introduced the speaker Mark Miller who with his extensive background in music used music, words and humor to tell his story and explain how intersectionality has and does affect his life. He noted that we need to be aware of the words we sing in worship, how we talk about ourselves and how we address God. He closed his program with “If there is a moment when you can stand for someone, go for it, find those connections.”

Other NEWS

January 2023

National Human Trafficking Prevention Month
United States Department of State

**January 8, 25,
and February 1,
2023**

School-to-Prison Pipeline Bible Study: A Virtual “Sampler”
Led by Pastor Janelle Gayle
Multi-Session Virtual Event, United Women in Faith



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National Call a Friend Day



Christmas is over and New Year's on its way. But in the meantime, December 28 is National Call a Friend Day! Between the stress of the daily grind at work, the needs of your family, and ensuring you have a little time for yourself, our lives can get awfully hectic. National Call a Friend Day reminds us all to take a few minutes, pick up the phone and call that friend you've been meaning to get back in touch with. In modern times, technology has the capacity to unite us more than ever before.

The internet isn't fazed by distance, time zones, or how much money you have in the bank. But in our day to day lives of whizzing from one task to the next (or even multi-tasking on all our projects at once), technology often has the opposite effect. Checking emails, answering texts, responding to Facebook notifications, and other tech-based tasks can fill up our lives and actually make us feel less connected to the people we're spending all our time connecting with!

So, with the holiday season rapidly drawing to a close this year, make an effort on December 28 to reach out with a phone call and connect, voice to voice, with a good friend.

Source: National Today [<https://nationaltoday.com/national-call-a-friend-day/>]

The Secret Power of the 8-minute Phone Call



[A study](#) of 240 adults in 2021 found that when participants received brief phone calls a few times a week, their levels of depression, loneliness and anxiety were “rapidly reduced” compared with people who didn't receive a call. As Dr. Waldinger writes in his book, “a few adjustments to our most treasured relationships can have real effects on how we feel, and on how we feel about our lives — a gold mine of vitality that we are not paying attention to.”

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The Secret Power of the 8-Minute Phone Call (continued from page 15)

Today your goal is to think of a person you love, someone you miss, someone you wish you connected with more often.

Send that person a quick text asking if they can chat on the phone for eight minutes — ideally today, but if not, schedule it for some time this week. You can even copy and paste the following:

Hi! I read [this](#) in The New York Times and it made me think of you. Want to schedule an eight-minute phone call this week?

After the eight minutes are up, decide together when your next such catch-up will be — and then honor your time commitment and sign off promptly. (Unless your friend is having some sort of crisis, in which case it's good that you got in touch anyway.) Hang up and enjoy that little glow of well-being.

Source: Excerpts of a New York Times Article by Jancee Dunn, Jan. 2, 2023.

[<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/01/02/well/phone-call-happiness-challenge.html>]



"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen."

Ephesians 4:29

(NIV)



United Women in Faith CEO Harriett Jane Olson to Retire in Spring 2023

Oct. 13, 2022, New York, New York: United Women in Faith General Secretary and CEO Harriett Jane Olson announced her planned retirement in the spring of 2023 in a closed session of the board's annual meeting, held virtually Oct. 7-8.



Ms. Olson took the helm of what was then the Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries in 2007 and began a 15-year tenure marked by programmatic and structural innovations and bold changes to strengthen the organization and position it for a future of growth and increased impact.

"What a blessing it has been to speak and teach from this vantage point about the overflowing love of God and the abundance that God offers as I have focused on the spiritual growth, service and work for justice of our members and all who are touched by the work of United Women in Faith," Ms. Olson said. "We sang 'I Love to Tell the Story' at my first board meeting, and we have been singing it and living it out ever since."

Ms. Olson began her tenure with internal innovations, introducing more flexible organizing structures that required fewer local, district, and conference officers, empowering members to customize their respective organizations to best suit their context. In 2010 the organization reconnected with some of its historic work, including National Mission Institutions and the Deaconess/Home Missioner community and took on the tag line "turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth" to describe its work.

Under Ms. Olson's leadership the national body, which was already self-funded and self-governing, became an autonomous agency within The United Methodist Church in 2012 when the General Conference approved its separation from Global Ministries after operating as a part of the denomination's mission board for more than 70 years.

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Harriett Jane Olson Retirement

(continued from page 17)

The organization also took a step toward regionalization in that year, as the term "national office" was used to describe the former Women's Division. In 2015 Ms. Olson led the organization in launching a 150th anniversary celebration including the creation of The Legacy Endowment Fund designed to cover the core expenses of mission.

And in 2022, Ms. Olson ushered in a broad refreshing of the organization's brand that opened opportunities for women to join and participate through an online All Access National Membership option and that introduced the new name United Women in Faith, making clear the organization's lifetime open door to women within and beyond The United Methodist Church.

Programmatically, during Ms. Olson's tenure the organization's popular Schools of Christian Mission was updated to the 21st century *Mission u* program. The program now offers annual mission studies for adult, children, and youth focusing on a single, Bible-based, justice-oriented theme and are easily adaptable for use in small or large groups, intergenerational studies, vacation Bible schools, and other venues.



Ms. Olson has represented United Women in Faith through leadership in ecumenical organizations by being a board member of Church World Service (twice) and as a representative at the World Council of Churches. She has also spoken in forums around the United Nations raising concerns of women and children and peace.

Prior to heading United Women in Faith, Ms. Olson served from 1996-2007 at the United Methodist Publishing House in Nashville as senior vice president for publishing, responsible for the development, production, and trade distribution of resources from Abingdon Press, Cokesbury and Kingwood Books. An attorney and graduate of Harvard Law School, Ms. Olson was a partner at the Pitney, Hardin, Kipp, and Szuch law firm of Morristown, New Jersey, specializing in environmental law from 1983-1996.

From 1988-96, Ms. Olson was a director of the United Methodist General Board of Discipleship and was a delegate to the 1988, 1992, and 1996 General Conferences. She was elected to the postponed 2020 General Conference by the merged Greater New Jersey Conference. She served on many committees of the former Northern New Jersey Conference, including the conference's task force on sexual harassment policy and Commission on the Status and Role of Women. She was instrumental in teaching and interpreting the landmark *Words That Hurt, Word That Heal* document that identified the need to use inclusive language in the church.

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Harriett Jane Olson Retirement

(continued from page 18)

The United Women in Faith board of directors is following the organization's by-law guidelines to begin a search process for Ms. Olson's successor.

Gifts in honor of Harriett Jane Olson's more than 15 years of service to United Women in Faith are gratefully received. To make a gift to The Legacy Endowment Fund, which builds a permanent financial resource for all of United Women in Faith programming, visit: <https://uwfaith.org/legacy>. To make a gift to one of United Women in Faith's targeted giving opportunities or "where most needed," visit <https://uwfaith.org/give/>. Be sure to check the box marked "gift in honor or memory," and when prompted provide the name of the honoree.

For questions, please contact the Development Office at 212-870-3705 or via email at: legacy150@uwfaith.org.

Yvette Moore
Director of Public Relations and Marketing



United
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in Faith

Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith
Presents:

Leadership Development



Saturday,
April 1, 2023

9:30am Fellowship/ Zoom questions

10-11:30am Harriett Olson Tribute and Training

Live and Virtual Details TBA

Register in advance for this meeting, whether attending live or virtual:

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email
containing information about joining the meeting.



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*Photo of Harriet Olson, CEO, and jurisdictional presidents from National
United Women in Faith Assembly, May 2023 in Orlando

GNJ United Women in Faith Calendar of Events 2023-2024



2023

January 14
10am to 3pm

Leadership Development and Day of Action

Native American Issues and Advocacy, New Wineskins, UWF Climate Justice & Mass Incarceration, Congressional Outreach, Gun Violence, and Leadership Team Meeting.

February 11
Noon to 1pm

Day of Action, Day of Love

Plans for Congressional Outreach.

January 19-21
7pm Friday
Noon to 7pm
Saturday

National Leadership Development Days “On Towards the Goal,” Philippians 3:12-16

Virtual for Conference and District Presidents, Conference Vice President, Conference and District MNO

February 11
Noon to 1pm

Charter for Racial Justice, Day of Action & Love

March 11
9:30 to 11:30am

Leadership Team

(continued on page 22)

2023 Calendar of Events

(continued from page 20)

April 1	GNJUWF Leadership Development
April 15	Spring Celebration
May 6	Leadership Team
May 10 7pm	Finance Committee
August 26 9:30am	Treasurers' Meeting followed by LT
October 14	Annual Meeting
November 15 7-8:30pm	Planning meeting



Voices of Purpose **Newsletter Deadlines & Distribution**

Newsletter Issue	Articles	Deadline for Distribution
Spring 2022 (January – March)	April 4, 2022	April 8, 2022
Summer 2022 (April – June)	July 4, 2022	July 8, 2022
Fall 2022 (July – September)	October 3, 2022	October 7, 2022
Winter 2022 (October – December)	January 3, 2022	January 6, 2022

Visit GNJUWF website for previous published newsletters: www.gnjumw.org/news.



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Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith

LEADERSHIP TEAM 2023-2024

PRESIDENT

Susan Zahorbenski ('24)

VPRES/PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Pat Schutz ('24)

SECRETARY

OPEN

TREASURER

Carol Bloch ('24)

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT ADVISOR

Barbara Miller ('24)

**Membership, Nurture and
OUTREACH CHAIR**

Holly Cyrus ('23)

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIONS

ADVOCATE

Sherri Shumate ('23)

PROGRAM RESOURCES

Grace Rapp ('25)

STANDING RULES CHAIR

Grace Rapp

COMMUNICATIONS

PHOTOGRAPHER

Lou Hyson ('23)

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Joyce Pratt ('23)

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES REP.

Leslie Bivins

LGBTQ Representative

Open

GNJUWF Website: www.gnjumw.org

COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

NOMINATIONS CHAIR

Open

CLASS OF 2023

Marilyn Beres

CLASS OF 2023

Alice Bennett

CLASS OF 2024

Cynthia Lydon

CLASS OF 2024

Ivy Daniels

CLASS OF 2024

Rosa Lee McNair

CLASS OF 2025

Kathy Schulz

CLASS OF 2025

Open

APPOINTED

CHARTER FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

Chair: Sue Zahorbenski

Members: Leslie Bivins, Joyce Pratt
Carolyn Pendleton, Millie Grey
Mary Bland, Sherri Shumate,
Barbara Miller

Legacy Fund Committee

Chair: Yvonne Bouknight

Members: Sherri Shumate



LEADERSHIP TEAM – 2023-2024

(continued from page 20)

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

COASTAL PLAINS

CAPE ATLANTIC

Virgil Williams ('22)

CENTRAL

Debbie Campion ('25)

DELAWARE BAY ('25)

Staci Sheetz

METRO HIGHLANDS

MEADOWLANDS

Tracy Carroll ('25)

Tia Swanson ('25)

RARITAN SHORE

OPEN

SKYLANDS

Elizabeth (Liz) Steen ('26)

ELECTED BY OTHER GROUPS

KOREAN NETWORK PRESIDENT

Kyungmee Kim

KOREAN LANGUAGE COORDINATOR

OPEN

KOREAN LANGUAGE COORDINATOR

OPEN

HISPANIC NETWORK PRESIDENT

OPEN

HISPANIC LANGUAGE COORDINATOR

OPEN

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Sara Joslin

OTHER LEADERSHIP TEAMS

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Kathleen Schulz

ALTERNATE NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Yvonne Bouknight

DEAN MISSION "U"

*Marilyn Powell

ASSISTANT DEAN MISSION "U"

REV. ELIZABETH VANEKHOVEN

UMW NE JURISDICTION MISSION ADVOCATE

REBECCA PARSONS

UMW NE JURISDICTION REPRESENTATIVE

MARILYN POWELL

UMW NATIONAL DIRECTOR/SECRETARY

BETHANY AMEY-SUTTON

GNJUMC PRESIDING BISHOP

Rev John R. Schol

CONFERENCE UMW WEBSITE: www.gnjumw.org

Resources

Greater New Jersey United Women in Faith Website

www.gnjumw.org.

National Human Trafficking Prevention Month

www.state.gov/national-human-trafficking-prevention-month/

New Jersey Assembly Bills Pending

<https://legiscan.com/NJ/pending/ssembly-state-local-government-committee/id/3085>.

New Jersey Legislature

List of all New Jersey legislators in alphabetical order showing, party, hose, and district. Legislators can also be found by municipality/city. Click on “Members” and then “Legislative Roster.” <https://njleg.state.nj.us/legislative-roster>.

United States House of Representatives

Directory of U.S. Representatives (also referred to as congressmen or congresswomen) showing district name, party office, phone, and committee assignment. <https://www.house.gov/representatives>.

United States Senate

Listing of all U.S. senators alphabetically by name, showing state, party, office room and phone. <https://www.senate.gov/senators/>.

United Women of Faith Northeastern Jurisdiction Prospective Leadership Form

See pages 22-23.

United Women in Faith Website

<https://uwfaith.org>.

United States Congress

Meeting sessions and links for House of Representatives and Senate and current bills search. <https://congress.gov>.

Social Justice

***We have a choice. Be part of the problem through inaction
or part of the solution through change.***

[Prince Harry, People magazine, 1/23/23]



United
Women
in Faith

Prospective Leadership Form

Northeastern Jurisdiction United Women in Faith

Name: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Phone: M: _____ H/W: _____

Address: _____

Optional:

Age: _____ Race/Ethnic group: _____ Gender ID: _____

Languages spoken: _____

Employment: Full Time _____ Part Time _____ Retired: _____

Nature of Employment: _____

Local Church: _____ District: _____

Conference: _____

Experience in United Women in Faith:

Local: _____

District: _____

Conference: _____

Jurisdiction: _____

Other UWFaith, Ecumenical or Community Experience: _____

Areas of Special Interest: _____

Special Talents and Skills: _____

Availability to be away from home or employment:

Full Day: _____ Weekend: _____ Extended time: _____

Other Significant Information: _____

Please Return to: NEJ UWFaith Chair of Nominations

Marilyn Powell
295 Broad St.
Williamstown, NJ 08094
mpowell56@comcast.net
M: 609-707-8530

Rev. 4/22
MP



GNJUWF at Assembly 2022 Memories are made of this!



United
Women
in Faith

Assembly 2022 Photos



