

# CAMPHOR

Memorial United Methodist Church

*"Empowered by Grace, United in Purpose"*



## United Women in Faith

First Sunday of Lent | Women's History Month  
United Women in Faith Sunday

**March 9, 2025 | 10:00 am**

585 Fuller Street | St. Paul, MN 55103

[www.camphorconnects.org](http://www.camphorconnects.org)

## From the UWF President



### **Empowered by Grace, United in Purpose**

I feel privileged to share this moment with you on the United Women in Faith Sunday (UWF) as we reflect on a theme that speaks to both the heart and the soul: Empowered by Grace, United in Purpose. These words hold a profound truth, one that has shaped individuals, transformed communities, and propelled great movements forward.

Grace is more than just a concept; it is a force that uplifts, sustains, and strengthens us. It is through grace that we find the courage to rise above our challenges, the wisdom to make the right choices, and the resilience to keep going when the road ahead seems uncertain. Grace is the unseen hand that carries us through adversity, the light that shines in our darkest moments, and the love that reminds us that we are never alone.

Grace does not exist in isolation. It calls us to action. When we are empowered by grace, we are not just recipients of its blessings; we are also stewards of its power. It requires us to look beyond ourselves, to reach out to those in need, and to walk together with others on a shared journey.

Our unity in purpose transforms grace into action. When we are empowered by grace and united in purpose, we become agents of change. We lift others as we climb, we build bridges instead of walls, and we create a world that reflects the very essence of grace, love, kindness, and compassion.

So today, I encourage each of you to embrace the grace that has been given to you. Let it empower you to step forward with confidence, to lead with humility, and to serve with love. May we be strengthened by grace. May we be united in purpose. And may we, together, make a difference in this world.

*"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God..."*

*Ephesians 2:8 KJV*

*Saran Cryer*

Saran Cryer  
UWF President

*The UWF Logo*



*The logo for United Women in Faith represents the past, present, and future of our organization.*

*The symbol refers to our Christian roots. The multicolored pieces of the cross coming together represent the diversity we aim for and the inward and outward reflection we engage in as women of faith. The typography is solid, modern, and bold, showcasing our power to support the causes in which we invest.*

*[www.https://uwfaithresources.org](https://uwfaithresources.org)*

## From Camphor UMC Lay Leader

Dear Camphor Family:

Nearly one year ago, in celebration of UWF Sunday, Rev. Dennis M. Oglesby welcomed the United Women in Faith of Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church, acknowledging their work, walk, and witness. He reminded us that their faith, action, and sisterhood help us to fulfill our Christian mission and outreach.

As Lay Leader of Camphor Memorial United Methodist Church, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude and admiration for the incredible work and unwavering commitment that UWF has demonstrated within our church community. As we celebrate UWF Sunday, it is important to acknowledge your profound impact through your faithful dedication and sisterhood.

United Women in Faith exemplifies the spirit of unity and compassion in action. Through your various service initiatives, you have supported community projects, educational programs, and outreach efforts that enrich our church and reach far beyond our walls. Your work is a testament to a shared vision of service over self and relentless determination to uplift and empower others, all in the name of our relationship with God.

United Women in Faith has been at the forefront of addressing critical issues and advocating for social justice, equality, and peace. Your collected voice and actions, grounded in your deeply rooted faith, showcase the power of prayerful women dedicated to making a difference.

On this occasion, we celebrate the bonds of sisterhood that make United Women in Faith a beacon of hope and change. Your work is truly a blessing, and we are deeply grateful for your steadfast commitment to the principles of love, service, and faith. Your dedication is a remarkable example to us all, and we are honored to walk alongside you in faith, unity, and fellowship.

Yours In Christ and Christian Sisterhood,

*Theresa Neal*

Theresa Neal, Lay Leader



*...faith, action and sisterhood "foundations of our journey,"*

[www.https://uwfaithresources.org](https://uwfaithresources.org)

**faith**

**action**

**sisterhood**

## Dr. Stephanie Burrage



Dr. Stephanie Burrage is the Chief Executive Officer for Collaborative Student Transportation, a company that provides alternative transportation options for students across the country. She joined CST in August 2024 after serving as the Chief Equity Officer for the State of Minnesota.

Before that she was the deputy commissioner for the Minnesota Department of Education where she helped lead the agency with more than 450 employees serving nearly 900,000 students in 554 school districts. Promoting educational policies, building systems, creating new processes to impact meaningful change have been hallmarks of her legacy during her 35-year career in K-12 education.



# Order of Worship

† *If you are able, please stand | Where indicated, speak or sing the words in **bold***

Prelude

† The Light Enters

Acolytes

† Processional

Women's Chorale

Welcome and Announcements

Trenna Ross McQuirter

*(Worshippers May Enter)*

† Opening Song

Women's Chorale

*Every Praise*

## **[Chorus]**

**Every praise is to our God**

**Every word of worship, with one accord**

**Every praise, every praise, is to our God**

**Sing hallelujah to our God**

**Glory hallelujah, is due our God**

**Every praise, every praise, is to our God**

## **[Bridge]**

**God my Savior**

**God my Healer**

**God my Deliverer**

**Yes He is, Yes He is**

† UWF Litany

Robin Carter: Heavenly Father, You are the author of grace and the giver of purpose. Today, we gather as women, seeking Your guidance and strength.

**Lord, fill us with Your grace, and align our hearts with Your purpose.**

Eleanor Ellis: When we feel uncertain and unworthy, remind us that Your grace is sufficient, and Your purpose is unwavering.

**Help us walk boldly in our calling, knowing that You have equipped us for every good work.**

Carolyn Thorton: In moments of doubt and fear, let us rest in the truth that Your plans for us are good, plans to prosper us and give us hope and a future.

**Give us the courage to embrace Your purpose, stepping out in faith and standing firm in Your promises.**

Dr. Beverly Oliver Hawkins: When the world's expectations press upon us, may we find our identity not in titles or roles but in being Your daughters, loved and chosen.

**Shape our character through grace, that we may reflect Your love in every interaction.**

Cynthia Lewis: Teach us to extend grace to others, as freely as You have given it to us. Let our lives be a testimony of forgiveness, kindness, and compassion.

**Use us as vessels of Your grace, bringing light to dark places and hope to the weary.**

Maxine Carter: As we pursue our purpose, remind us that our strength comes from You. When we grow weary, renew our spirit and restore our joy.

**Lead us beside still waters, refresh our souls, and guide us along paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.**

Mary Sanders: Let us not be swayed by the opinions of others but remain steadfast in the mission You have placed on our hearts.

**May our purpose be anchored in Your will, our steps ordered by Your wisdom, and our hearts filled with Your peace.**

Barbara Harris-O'Neal: Lord, in all we do, let Your grace abound. May our lives be a fragrant offering, pleasing to You and a blessing to those around us.

**We surrender to Your grace and commit to walking in Your purpose. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

† United Women in Faith Purpose Song

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, with lyrics written below the notes. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "U-nit-ed Meth-o-dist Wo-men shall be a com-mu-ni-ty of wo-men whose pur- pose is to know God. -- Whose pur- pose is to know God, and to ex- per-i-ence free-dom as whole per-sons ... through Je- sus Christ; to de- vel- op a cre- a- tive sup- por- tive fel- low- ship; and to ex- pand concepts of mis- sion through participation in the glo- bal min- is- tries of the church. The or- gan- ized u- nit of U- Church." The score includes bar numbers 7, 13, and 19. There are first and second endings indicated by "1." and "2." above the final staff.

Prayer

Chaplain Irene Weaver

Passing of the Peace

*Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation, peace, and love. Saying, to our neighbors, "the peace of Christ be with you," the response is, "And also with you!"*

UWF Stewardship Moment

Saran Cryer | UWF President

Offertory

† Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Ministry of Music

Mrs. Greta Oglesby

*(Worshippers May Enter)*

Introduction of Speaker

Trenna Ross McQuirter

† Scripture

Dr. Grace Warren

*Ephesians 2:8-9 (New International Version)*

*8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast.*

*The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.***

Ministry of Music

Women's Chorale

Message

*Grace: The Unmerited Favor of God*

Dr. Stephaine Burrage

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Min. JaNaé Bates

*(Those who desire prayer or anointing with oil may come at this time.)*

Benediction with Blessings

**Let the Church say Amen**

**Let the Church say Amen**

**God has spoken, Let the Church say Amen**

*(Worshippers may depart. Go in Peace)*

**All Women are invited to join us for our Annual Tea in the Narthex/Fellowship Area!**

# Camphor Bulletin Board

## This Week at Camphor Memorial UMC

<b><u>Tuesday, March 11th</u></b>	6:30 pm- Finance Team Meeting (Zoom)
<b><u>Wednesday, March 12th</u></b>	10:00 pm- United Methodist Men Weekly Bowling (Flaherty's) 4:00 pm- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
<b><u>Saturday, March 15th</u></b>	1 pm- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
<b><u>Sunday, March 16th</u></b>	8:45 am- Adult Sunday School (Conf. Room) 10 am: Worship (Sanctuary and Live-Stream) 11:30 am: UMM Chili and Gumbo (Fellowship/Narthex Area)

### It's Girl Scout Cookie Time!

Support Corinne McAfee, a member of BIPOC Girl Scout Troop 58205, as she sells Girl Scout Cookies! Orders are being accepted now through March 30th.

How to Order:

- ◆ **Online Orders:** Fast and easy! Simply scan the QR code below to place your order, and get cookies delivered straight to your doorstep.
- ◆ **In-Person Orders:** Cookies can be purchased at Camphor on Sunday, March 16th, after church.
- ◆ **Delivery by Corinne:** Prefer your cookies delivered? Corinne will be delivering cookies on Saturdays and Sundays. Delivery times will be coordinated directly with Corinne and Joy McAfee.

Thank you for supporting Troop 58205—your purchase helps Corinne and her troop achieve their goals!





## Who We Are: United Women in Faith (based [uwfaith.org/who-we-are](http://uwfaith.org/who-we-are))

### Our Mission

United Women in Faith connects and nurtures women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education. Their mission is to inspire women to make a meaningful impact locally and globally by equipping them to act with love, faith, and justice, creating positive change in their communities.

### Our Vision

United Women in Faith is a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children, and youth, they act for justice, transforming communities through love and service. They face the world's harsh realities, but their goal is to act boldly in God's love to change these situations for the better.

### Our Action

Bold action takes courage, and United Women in Faith draws their bravery from God's love. They are committed to improving the lives of women, children, and youth through service and advocacy. Their focus includes:

**Racial and Gender Injustice** - Advocating for equal rights and dignity for all people.

**Economic Inequality** - Challenging poverty and promoting access to resources.

**Climate Justice** - Protecting the environment and addressing climate change impacts.

**Health and Education** - Supporting initiatives that improve education and healthcare worldwide.

Through these actions, United Women in Faith seeks to embody God's justice, striving for lasting change in the world.

### Join the Mission

When individuals join United Women in Faith, they become part of a movement for justice and change. They connect with a sisterhood of women who share a common purpose of faith, leadership, and action. Together, they spread hope, healing, and justice to those in need. Together, United Women in Faith is more than a group—they are a transformative force, spreading hope, healing, and justice in the world.



# Sermon Notes

sermon title:

key verses:

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Handwriting practice area for key verses, consisting of three separate rounded rectangular boxes stacked vertically.

# Sermon Notes

sermon title:

key verses:

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Handwritten key verses area with horizontal lines.

Prayers

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## **Prayer Corner**

### **Prayer of the Month: "Morning Prayer"**

**Ray C. Jordan | Africana Worship Book (Year C)**

*Lord, show me the way today. Show me an aspect of your greatness that I tend to overlook. Show me what makes you smile and what makes you sad. Show me people whom I need to forgive and from whom I should seek forgiveness. I especially need you to show me...you. Thank you for showing yourself to me in your son, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

#### **Prayer Requests**

- ◆ Dr. Mary K. Boyd
- ◆ Alton Campbell
- ◆ Gordon Edmond (Brother of Stacey Swain & Joel Edmond)
- ◆ Melvin Henderson
- ◆ Dr. Joi Lewis
- ◆ Gary Martin
- ◆ Sharon Martin
- ◆ Willie P. McCoy, Jr.
- ◆ Carlton McQuirter (Brother of James McQuirter)
- ◆ Karen Morgan
- ◆ Calvin Morgan
- ◆ William Watkins, Jr.

#### **Seniors and Homebound**

- Verlene Booker
- Glenice Booker-Butler
- Margaret Carter
- James Cummings
- Ginnie Dennis
- Doris Douglas
- Charlotte Drake
- Johnette Houston
- Pat Jemie
- Barbara Wulf

