

SEJ Nominees for Leadership Planning Team,  
Committee on Nominations & National  
Directors of United Women in Faith



faith  
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sisterhood



2024 SOUTHEASTERN  
JURISDICTION

Get  
Together!



United  
Women  
in Faith

THE CHATTANOOGA CONVENTION CENTER  
1 CARTER STREET  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37402

April 19-21, 2024

# **MEET AND GREET**

Voting Delegates are invited to Meet and Greet Director Nominees on Friday, April 19, 2024, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Rooms 14 & 15 at the Convention Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

This will give you an opportunity to get to know the candidates and help to make your voting decisions with clarity.

***ALL DIRECTOR NOMINEES AND VOTING DELEGATES ARE REQUESTED TO BE PRESENT.***

A light meal will be served.

**“Let’s Get Together”**

## **VOTING AND ELECTION PROCEDURES**

Voting will commence on Saturday, April 20th at 9:00 a.m. in the Exhibit Hall during the morning gathering and will continue until our six directors and two alternates are elected. The incoming Southeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Team will also be elected at this time.

Voting Delegates will sit in a designated area. Bring your smart phone fully charged.

Bring a copy of the Southeastern Jurisdiction Nominees for Leadership Planning Team, Committee on Nominations, & National Directors of United Women in Faith Book (this Book contains pertinent information regarding the election). It can be obtained on the website ([www.sejuwf.org](http://www.sejuwf.org)).

**PLEASE PRINT AND BRING YOUR COPY. COPIES OF THE BOOK WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON SITE.**

All Nominations to be made from the floor for positions on the Southeastern Jurisdiction Leadership Team and Board of Directors must be submitted to Chair of Nominations, Barbara Carroll ([barbara4619@att.net](mailto:barbara4619@att.net)) before April 12, 2024.

The nominations must include a high-resolution picture and a completed questionnaire (sent upon request).

**NO NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR ON THE DAY OF THE ELECTION.**

**REFER TO THE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND UPDATES.  
WWW.SEJUWF.ORG**

# SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINEES

## Nominee for PRESIDENT



**Debbie Bracewell** has been a member of United Women in Faith since 2004 and is a member of St. Luke UMC in Enterprise, AL She has been the Dothan District president and has served as Membership Nurture and Outreach chair and Communications chair on the district level and has served as interim Communications Coordinator on the conference level. She currently is the president for Alabama-West Florida Conference United Women in Faith and serves on the AWF-UMC Board of Laity. She

also enjoys teaching mission studies which she has done at the conference and district level since 2014.

Bracewell's professional experience includes the positions of high school English teacher, cheer coach, cheer judge, executive director of National Council for Spirit Safety and Education, editor of online cheer magazine, and public speaker. She currently is an after-school tutor and a volunteer for church and community. Bracewell has a degree in English Education from Troy State, a master's degree in Secondary Administration from Troy State Dothan and a Master's Degree in Strategic Communication from Troy University. Bracewell is a widow with 2 sons, 2 stepsons, and 10 grandchildren. In her spare time, she enjoys gardening, traveling and hand embroidery.

## Nominee for VICE PRESIDENT



**Azilee Dickey** is a courageous woman of God blessed to be a blessing to others.

At the University of South Carolina, she met her late husband- Lt. Richard B. Dickey. This union produced two children, the late Michelle C. Dickey and the late Spec. Michael T. Dickey; Grandmother of Mr. Enrick Michael Dickey and fur babies: Stroll and Nipsey.

Active member of Asbury UWF, she served as Past President, Vice President, Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Nominations Committee and Communication. Currently Lay Leader, Treasurer, S/PPRC, Usher and Choir, locally and district. She believes in serving and leading others to Jesus.

Past President of Florence District UMW (now UWF), Communication Coordinator, she is a certified Lay Servant Instructor and Chair of the Killingsworth Home for Women, Columbia, SC- a mission of UWF.

Current Chairperson of Nominations for the SCC UWF, and Mission u Instructor.

A retiree of USPS; hobbies fishing and bowling, member BMCR, her motto is: "If I can help somebody as I pass along, then my living has not been in vain".

**SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION  
LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINEES**  
(continued)

**Nominee for SECRETARY**



My name is **Delores Smith**. I live in Trenton TN. I have been married to my husband, Tony, for 47 years. We have 3 sons, 3 wonderful daughters-in-law, 2 granddaughters and 1 grandson.

I have been active in the United Women in Faith since 1981. I have grown as a Christian and as a leader and I contribute that directly to the training I have received through local, district, conference, and national events. It has been my joy to serve in many areas of the organization. I have a heart for Mission u. I believe the studies I have participated in over the years have given me an insight into the world I would not have known otherwise.

**Nominee for TREASURER**



**Mona Geer**, nominee for the position of Treasurer, Southeastern Jurisdiction, is a “cradle” Methodist, and a second-generation United Woman in Faith. Mona’s mother, Shirley, was active in her local unit in Bradenton, Florida, until her death in 2017.

Mona is a CPA, specializing in non-profit bookkeeping and personal income taxes. She worked at the United Way of Greater Chattanooga for 12 years, first as Senior Accountant, then as Finance Director.

She is the Treasurer of her church, Signal Mountain United Methodist Church, and currently President of the local UWF unit there.

She was the Treasurer of the Scenic South District [formerly Chattanooga District], and has served as Lay Delegate to the Holston Annual Conference 5 times.

She has been a member of the Scenic South District UWF team, starting on the Nominations Committee, Treasurer, elected President in 2023.

She has lived in Walden’s Ridge, Signal Mountain, Tennessee since November 2003, where she and her husband, Jerry, moved in order to live in the mountains.

## **SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINEES**

(continued)

### **Nominee for CON, CHAIR**



**Betty Void** is a life-long member of The United Methodist Church. She is a member of Wesley United Methodist Church in Columbia, South Carolina. As a member of Wesley Church, she serves or has served in many leadership roles. She is currently the unit's local president, Safe Sanctuary Coordinator, and a member of the Worship committee.

Because of her leadership roles within the church, she served on many district and conference committees. She was the President of the Columbia District United Women in Faith, Columbia District United Women in Faith Nominations Chair, Historian, South Carolina Conference United Women in Faith Nominations Chair, Mission u Youth instructor and the Columbia District Lay Leader.

Currently, she is the chair of the Columbia District Connectional Ministry Committee, a Certified Lay Servant, Certified Lay Servant instructor, member of the South Carolina Conference Lay Servant Ministry Executive Committee and the South Carolina Summit on The Black Church Executive Team.

In 1992, she met and married her best friend, confidant, ride or die, God fearing husband, Donnell Void. They have one daughter, Moneka Void.

Favorite scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6 (MSG): Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.

**SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION  
LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINEES**  
(continued)

**Nominee for CON, MEMBER**



**Olene McGowen** has a deep love for United Women in Faith. I served 22 years in UMW leadership positions to include Conference President. I see my service as my ministry and Mission to the community of the Lord. I am humbled and honored to be associated with the UWF organization and look forward to continued service.

I have a passion for cooking and view cooking in much the same manner as leadership and service. Start with a good balance of ingredients. In my experience as a volunteer and leader, I have tried to serve in a way that offers Godly wisdom, honesty, humility and integrity, ingredients that offer the best results, just as in cooking. My God given spiritual gifts are Leadership, Administration and Faith. I believe together these gifts will support and provide direction for me as a CON member for these gifts together address components of a good CON member, that bring an organized leader who reads and studies in advance, is observant, pays attention to discussions and prayerfully seeks and trusts in Godly guidance and wisdom.

In my professional life, I worked for the Federal Government as a Human Resource Manager specializing in Recruitment and Placement.

**SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION  
LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINEES**  
(continued)

**Nominee for CON, MEMBER**



**Debra (Deb) Ketzel** currently lives in Panama City, FL with her husband retired United Methodist clergy, James Ketzel. She attends and is a member of First United Methodist Church of Panama City. She is very active in her local church as president of the local United Women in Faith, member of Sarah Circle, a part of the Asbury Sunday School Class, church organist, and elementary children's choir director. She also currently serves the Panama City/Marianna/Dothan District of United Women in Faith as president.

Deb was born in Tennessee to Jessie and Raymond McDade and soon became a Navy family living in Michigan, Texas, and to Chattanooga, TN before her dad retired from the Navy. Debra has a BS degree in Music Education from Bethel College (now University) and an MA in Church Music Education from Scarritt College. After graduate school, Deb served Cumberland Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in Lubbock, TX, Union City, TN, McKenzie, TN, Moulton, AL, Paducah, KY and Downers Grove, IL.

James and Debra married in 1985 and soon moved to the Chicagoland area. After Jim got a United Methodist appointment and became a part of the Northern IL Conference, Deb decided to use her degree in Music Education and became a public-school music teacher. This is when Deb got really involved in United Methodist Women. Deb served as a district president and vice-president, and conference Spiritual Growth Coordinator for the Northern IL Conference. For two years she also was mission u dean for the conference helping conduct not only one mission u in the summer but a winter mission u in January. Many times, Deb has been called upon to share her skills in music and worship for annual conference events and mission u.

Deb in her spare time likes to play the piano, sing in the Panama City a Cappella Chorus, reading, gardening, and enjoys exploring the sights and beaches of Northwest Florida.



## **SOUTHEASTERN JURISDICTION LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINEES**

(continued)

### **Nominee for CON. MEMBER**



**Kay Brock Creel West** was born in Amarillo, Texas. She was raised and educated in Huntsville, Alabama.

Kay graduated from the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Birmingham, Alabama where she was employed until moving to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. She attended Hay Street United Methodist Church.

The family moved to Hazel Green, Alabama where she continues to reside. She attends Trinity United Methodist Church. Trinity is her home church that her father helped to organize, and she began attending at the age of 13.

Kay continues to attend Trinity where is she has served as President of United Women in Faith, District President, and several Conference UWF positions. She has taught at the National School of Mission U.

Kay is a generational United Woman in Faith. She follows her mother as a member and leader in service dating back to the Wesleyan Service Guild. She feels honored to have the opportunity to do the same work as her mother.

Kay is a widow. She has two sons, five stepchildren, several grand and great grandchildren.

### **Nominee for CON. MEMBER**



I am **Holly Neal**, from Crossville, TN, and a member of The Vine UMC in the Tennessee Western Kentucky Conference. I am a 3rd generation United Methodist Woman/United Women in Faith following in the footsteps of my grandmother and my mother. I am a cradle Methodist and I also choose the United Methodist Church.

I have served in my local unit as President and Treasurer and as a District Treasurer and am currently serving on the Conference Level as the Spiritual Growth Coordinator. I enjoyed leading one of the Mission U classes recently where my faith grew learning more about the Lord's Prayer and Kin-dom living.

I have the spiritual gift of faith and inclusiveness and I love how God speaks to me through the Bible and prayer.

I am also a Certified Lay Minister and a Stephen Minister. I serve on the District Committee of Ordained Ministry. I have served as a delegate to General Conference and SEJ Conference since 2012 and am a delegate in 2024. I believe this along with my United Women in Faith experience will greatly help me if elected to the Southeastern Jurisdiction United Women in Faith Committee of Nominations.



# NATIONAL DIRECTORS OF UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH NOMINEES



**SUE BOLTZ**, Virginia Conference

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training Office Administration and Management.

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	District	before 2013
Secretary	District	before 2013
Treasurer	District	before 2013
CON member	Jurisdiction	2017-2020
Education & Interpretation	Conference	2013-2016
Membership, Nurture, Outreach	Conference	before 2013
Jurisdiction Leadership Team	Jurisdiction	2017-2020
Mission u, other	Conference	2013-2016

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

Because I have the time now to do it and to keep me active and encouraging women of all ages who have the physical and mental ability to continue the same mission.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

The ability to listen to women of all ages, races, etc. I have run a Christian preschool for 25 years always concerned with doing the most with little money. I am a peacemaker.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

I would hope that one day women and children of the world will have the respect they deserve, that they will be recognized for their intelligence and that they will have HOPE.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I would hope that I can make a difference in the life of a young girl (as I was) and an old woman (as I am now) and all women in between by being sincere, loving and listening. I would make a difference one by one as God directs.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

Have in the past - served on the Conference Leadership Dev. Committee (Nomination), The Mission Team, on the District level - Council on Ministries, Mission Team - District Superintendent's Committee, Parsonage Committee. Local Level - Official Board etc.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Roseanna Borst, Kentucky Conference**

**Age:** 50-65

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Healthcare and Medical

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

Vice President	Local	2022
Treasurer	Local	2024
Spiritual Growth	Conference	2023
Program Resources	Local	2013-2016
Mission u, other	Conference	2024

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

Actually, I thought that I was being placed as a candidate for PAG. But, since you ask...As everyone does, I feel my voice and skills are unique. I was raised in a fortune 500 corporate town in Oklahoma.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

Compassion, thoughtfulness, humor, knowledge in the medical profession, and I am good enough with technology that I don't embarrass by kids too badly.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

Peace. Coming out the other side of the United Methodist Church fissure, my highest hope is Peace. If peace is attained, then the institution will thrive.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

With my odd humor, my smile and my being there; where and when ever I am called to serve.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

SPR at St Andrews UMC in Arlington, TX in the 1990s. Trustee at Florence UMC in Florence KY in the 2000s. Board of the Preschool at Florence UMC in the 2000s. VBS director for two summers in the 2000s.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Jackie Bridges, Florida Conference**

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Healthcare and Medical

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	Local	2023
Vice President	Local	2017-2020
Treasurer	District	before 2013
Chair, CON	Local	2023
CON member	Local	2023
Education & Interpretation	Local	2024
Spiritual Growth	Local	before 2013
Social Action	Local	2024
Communication	Conference	before 2013
Mission u Dean	Conference	2013
Mission u, other	Conference	2022

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

Out of gratitude for all that UWF has meant in my life, I want to use my gifts, my time, my knowledge to ensure the legacy continues.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

40 years of working with people in a counseling setting; excellent skills in communication, problem-solving, conflict resolution; analyzing/synthesizing information, love of learning, dedication to mission thru UWF

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My dream is that we will never lose the essence of our mission, and that we wisely discern how to include people in that process. It is a challenge to bridge to age and experience gap between older adults and younger women, all of whom have gifts to share.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

Particularly I hope to use my years of experience within the organization and my communication skills to provide a range of resources appropriate for various segments of our membership.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

In addition to being the musician and choir director of my local church, I have been engaged in various children's and youth ministries, including being a certified Parenting with Love and Logic instructor. I have chaired the local church work area of social action.

## **NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**

(continued)



**Dorothy Carter**, Mississippi Conference

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** Black or African American

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training

### **Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President District 2022

### **Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I believe that I can help make a difference.

### **What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

I have served in several leadership positions in United Methodist Women.

### **What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My dream is for all women regardless of age, race to want to join UWF without begging them.

### **How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

Because I have experienced a lot of issues that UWF fights for, I understand what some of the women deal with on a daily basis..

### **Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

Serving now as Administrative Council Chairperson.

## NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES (continued)



### **Pamela Davis, Florida Conference**

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Computers and Technology Education, Teaching, and Training  
Office Administration and Management Events and Events Management.

#### **Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	District	2013-2016
Vice President	District	before 2013
Secretary	Local	before 2013
Treasurer	Local	before 2013
Chair, CON	Conference	before 2013
CON member	Conference	before 2013
Education & Interpretation	Conference	before 2013
Social Action	Local	2024
Membership, Nurture, Outreach	Conference	before 2013
Communication	District	before 2013
Program Resources	District	before 2013
Legacy Liaison	Conference	2022
Mission u Dean	Conference	2022
Mission u, other	Conference	2017-2020

#### **Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

Serving as a Director is not just an honor, but an opportunity to help make a significant difference. God knocked on the door of my heart. I'm ready to serve. I have been preparing for this work since early in my life.

#### **What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

My professional experience in government and teaching allows me to use my skills and talents in my volunteer work. I have successfully used the skills of communication, strategic planning, technology, and evaluation, serving in all levels of unit, district, and conference, UWF and working on national committees. I was Dean, Mission u and taught studies at the Conference and Regional training, serving as Conference Legacy Liaison, District President, and Reading Program evaluator for the national office. I have articles published in response and Program Book.

#### **What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My hope is encouraging units to be a supportive community--revitalize and help units to be involved in mission work. We can morph that supportive community into a beloved community. My dream is every church have Community and School Partnerships! I would like kids to have the opportunity for mission encounters, such as mission trips to develop their understanding of how they can make a difference through mission outreach. This stems from my summers spent working with Native Americans as a youth. It changed my life, my passion for missions. UWF can make it a life-changing experience for children into the future!

#### **How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

Using my talents, skills, and experiences along with networking and listening to others will impact our future. We can do new things with each of the Directors along with staff, as we employ our spiritual gifts, value each other, and work collaboratively!

#### **Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

In early 2000's, I facilitated Children's Week at the Florida State Capitol, and continue to annually support these efforts through the Hanging of the Hands, representing the hands of Florida's children.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Stephanie Dressler, North Georgia Conference**

**Age:** 50-65

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Computers and Technology; Sales and Marketing

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	Conference	2024
Vice President	Conference	2017-2020
Treasurer	District	before 2013
Chair, CON	District	before 2013
CON member	District	before 2013
Education & Interpretation	Local	2013-2016
Spiritual Growth	Local	before 2013
Social Action	District	before 2013
Communication	District	2013-2016
Mission u, other	Conference	2024

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I am passionate about the PURPOSE of United Women in Faith and want to continue in service to the organization.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

Having served in various leadership roles, I have learned so much about UWF and would like to bring this experience to the table. I am open to new ideas and experiences and love to learn.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith is an organization that is thriving and growing with more women engaged in mission from a multitude of religious backgrounds all working together for a common PURPOSE.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I am a very passionate advocate and that shows in all I do as it relates to United Women in Faith. I also take the time to listen and report back. I am committed to helping in any way I can to ensure the future of United Women in Faith.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

I currently serve on the Housing and Homeless Committee at the Conference level. I serve on CBOL and AC Planning Committee and Nominations at the Conference level due to my position as Conference President. I have served on SPR at the local church level.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Margaret Gipson, Mississippi Conference**

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** Black or African American

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	Local	before 2013
Secretary	Local	before 2013
Chair, CON	Conference	before 2013
CON member	Conference	2024
Education & Interpretation	District	2023
Social Action	Conference	before 2013

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I want to serve at national level as director, as an opportunity to share and encourage women to get involved with the issues concerning women, children and youth.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

The skills and talents I bring are: ability to read and understand the purpose and mission of United Women in Faith; Sharing the concerns of United Women in Faith in creative ways.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My hopes and dreams for United Women In Faith is that more women, obtain greater understanding of the purpose and mission of the organization.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I could make a different in the future in United Women In Faith by seeking to share God's word with my talent, time, serving and helping others to understand the true meaning of United Women In Faith.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

Leadership roles held are: Conference: Residency in Ministry 2008 -2012, Lay Servant Ministry Facilitator 2008-2024. District: Equalizing Delegate, Lay Servant Ministry Facilitator, Lay Servant Ministry. Local Church: Lay Member to the Annual Conference.



**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Kimberly Graham, South Carolina Conference**

**Age:** 50-65

**Ethnicity:** Black or African American

**Professional Experience:** Computers and Technology Community and Social Service Education, Teaching, and Training Office Administration and Management.

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

Vice President.	Local	2024
Spiritual Growth	District	2023

Other roles served: I served as a member of United Women in Faith since 2016.

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I can make a difference. I want to represent.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

I am a people person, I have the ability to be communicate well with others. I have a background as an educator and office manager.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

To see this powerful organization be able to reach all communities as one.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I will work to help make us known in all communities.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

Church Council chairperson and Social Media coordinator, Wesley United Methodist Church 2017-2020.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Linda Greer, Western North Carolina Conference**

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	District	2024
Treasurer	District	before 2013
Education & Interpretation	Conference	2021
Communication	Local	2024
Legacy Liaison	Conference	2024
Other roles served: Presently serving as local unit treasurer since prior to 2012. District E&I 2013-2016		

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I would like to work on ways to get more women involved in our organization and dig deeper into the missions that we support.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

I am a hard worker and get along with people well. I carry through with work that I commit to doing and follow through with my assignments.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

I hope we can increase membership which will lead to increased giving which will lead to more funding for Mission!

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I can work with others on the board to formulate ideas and plans to accomplish my hopes.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

I have served as our local church council chairperson as well as church council secretary. I am currently the chairperson for our church's Creation Care Committee as well as our Bereavement Committee. I have previously served on our District Nominations.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Martha Hannifan, Kentucky Conference**

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training; School Psychologist

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	Local	2017-2020
Chair, CON	Conference	2021
CON member	Conference	2023
Education & Interpretation	District	2024
Social Action	District	2017-2020
Other roles served: Social Action- Local- 2024 Education and Interpretation- District 2024		

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

Since I have never been involved at the national level, I feel that I can contribute a fresh perspective on UWF's future.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

Team player, inquiring mind, outside-the-box thinker, avid reader, hard worker, available time, passion for social justice.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

That it will continue to make an impact in US and around the globe by developing more flexibility and including a broader and more diverse membership.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

Prayerful consideration of issues and challenges confronting UWF; making and implementing plans to address them, in conjunction with UWF staff and Directors.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

LOCAL CHURCH: Lay Delegate to KY Annual Conference 2005- 2024; Lay Leadership Team (2018-2024); Staff-Parish Team (2009-2017); organized and co-chaired Creation Care Team (2014-2024) prior to 1990: Chair, Council on Ministries; Church and Society, COSRO.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Renee Hayes, Western North Carolina Conference**

**Age:** 66-70  
**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

Social Action	Conference	2017-2020
Membership, Nurture, Outreach	Conference	2021
Mission u, other	Conference	2024
Other roles served: High Point District Social Action Coordinator		2011-2013
Northern Piedmont District SA Coordinator		2013-2014

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

For as long as I can remember, United Women of Faith or its predecessors have been an influential part of my faith journey. From my mom’s participation in the Wesleyan Service Guild throughout my childhood to my own participation as a United Methodist Woman.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

As a 37-year veteran educator and as a coach for two decades, I have learned to collaborate with peers, to identify strengths in myself and others and build on them, to analyze needs and develop strategies to meet those needs, and to foster a sense of teamwork and community. As a member of district and conference executive teams, I have seen the inner workings of our organization — how to plan and carry out events, how to create and manage within a budget, and how to evaluate our work and go back to the drawing board if necessary. As a deaconess, I have gained a depth of knowledge about scripture and church polity and history and a tremendous appreciation for the diverse network of people embodying love, justice, and service in our world.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

I pray that UWF can continue to foster spiritual growth in our members, empowering them to reach out into their faith communities and beyond. I believe that our focus on mission and social justice can be a model for the church as a whole. And I hope that we can live into our purpose to be a creative, supportive fellowship during this challenging time of conflict and fracture by enabling each other to know God more fully and nurturing each other to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ. The predecessors of UWF have a powerful legacy of church leadership going all the way back to our founding by a handful of women intent on providing health care and education for women half a world away. Our impact on the church as a whole through the Charter for Racial Justice should inspire us today to step into a role of reconciliation and renewal for all individuals and the entire church to offer healing and wholeness.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I feel that I bring a deep love and respect for who we have been and, hopefully, will continue to be. But I also bring a recognition that change is inevitable. Finding ways to embrace change proactively will enable us to be intentional about the direction.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

CONFERENCE: UM Deaconess - Commissioned 2021/Consecrated 2022; WNCC Lay Representative to NC Council of Churches; Governing Board: 2018- present; WNCC Justice & Reconciliation Committee: 2016-present (vice-chair 2022-present).

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Zan Jones**, Alabama-West Florida Conference

**Age:** 50-65

**Ethnicity:** Black or African American

**Professional Experience:** Healthcare and Medical

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

Chair, CON	Conference	2021
CON member	Conference	2017-2020
Spiritual Growth	Conference	2022
Social Action	Conference	2013-2016

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I want to serve as a national level as director help keep the legacy of 150 years going. I want to help make a difference in the lives of others.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

Leadership, communication, great listener, work well with others. I bring faith. I trust that God will guide me through all my endeavors.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

I hope that we as UWF continue to build our sisterhood. I hope we continue to be in the forefront of the social, economic issues that affect women, children & youth. Continue to let our voices be heard.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I will continue to stay engaged in the social issue in my community, state and nation. I will continue to encourage my UWF sisters to follow me on this journey as we fight injustice. I will get involved in trainings to better help me understand our issues.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

Served ALWF Board of Church & Society 2014-16, BOMACE( Mobile District Board of Trustees (2020-22) Ignite Mobile Board Member (appointed by District Superintendent(2023-Present. Chairman Prayer ministry for my local church(Present).

## NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES (continued)



### **Melba McCallum, North Carolina Conference**

**Age:** 66-70

**Ethnicity:** Black or African American

**Professional Experience:** Community and Social Services Sales and Marketing  
Education, Teaching, and Training General Business Services Office Administration and  
Management Events and Events Management Religion & Theology

#### **Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

National Director	National	2024
Program Advisory Group	National	2024
President	District	before 2013
Vice President	District	before 2013
Secretary	Local	before 2013
Chair, CON	Local	before 2013
Education & Interpretation	Conference	2013-2016
Membership, Nurture, Outreach	Conference	2017-2020
Jurisdiction Leadership Team	Jurisdiction	before 2013
Mission u Dean	Jurisdiction	before 2013

Other roles served: Standing Rules Chairperson 2019-2020; Chairperson of the National Association of Deaconesses and Home Missioners (2011-2019)

#### **Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

As a Deaconess, my passion and call is to a life-time ministry of love, justice, and service to the global community. Serving as a national director and a member of the UWF policy-making body, will allows me an opportunity to live into my calling.

#### **What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

As a national director, I bring over 30 years of organizational and leadership development skills to include, founder and executive director of a National Mission Institution. My strengths are strategic planning, financial management, fundraising, and governance. Moreover, as a current UWF National Director, I serve with the leadership team to help develop and implement new strategic plans that positively impact the lives of women, children and youth.

#### **What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My hopes and dreams for UWF is to continue the legacy of our fore-mothers over the next 150 years, forging courageously into new paths and creating and improving programs that will nurture current members and welcome new women into our sisterhood. Moreover, leading and engaging women in faith into action on behalf of women, children, and youth.

#### **How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I would love to have a hand in embracing change and supporting creative ways to inspire and influence women to move boldly into action, advocating for justice and transforming lives of women, children and youth.

#### **Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

- Serve on the North Carolina Conference's Board of Trustees and the North Carolina Conference Board of Laity; and a delegate to the NC Annual Conference
- Serve on Bennett College Board of Trustees
- Member of the Gateway District Committee on Ordained

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**W. Agnes McKinney**, South Georgia Conference

**Age:** 71-80

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Education, Teaching, and Training

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	District	2023
Chair, CON	District	2021
Education & Interpretation	District	2024
Social Action	District	before 2013
Communication	Conference	2021
Program Resources	Conference	2017-2020
Mission u Dean	Conference	2024

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

To further my development as a whole person.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

Great speaker, organizer, and willingness to learn, researcher.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

To reach new, younger people to UW in Faith.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

Don't know yet.



**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Lori Sluder**, Holston Conference

**Age:** 50-65

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Office Administration and Management;  
Executive Assistant to the Bishop.

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	District	2024
Secretary	District	2017-2020
Social Action	District	before 2013
Membership, Nurture, Outreach	Conference	2017-2020
Communication	District	2017-2020
Mission u Dean	Conference	2024

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

Being a part of the United Women in Faith has been my passion for many years. This is the next step to be a voice for the women & children around the world. Also, to be a part of furthering the ministry of United Women in Faith.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

Leadership, service, and organizational skills and the passion to do the work of United Women in Faith to be Love in Action.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My dream is that the mission of United Women in Faith will continue serving in mission for years to come, offering a voice and hope to women and children around the world.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

To be a voice and to help to continue building and the mission and vision of United Women in Faith however I am asked to serve.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

I have been employed in ministry in the Holston Conference Conference Office, Chair of Outreach Advocacy for Holston Conference, Missions Team - Conference and Local church, Administrative Council Chair.

**NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES**  
(continued)



**Patsy Thomas**, South Georgia Conference

**Age:** 50-65

**Ethnicity:** Black or African American

**Professional Experience:** Sourcing and Procurement, Corporate Communications, Contracts/Legal Reviews

**Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	District	2023
Secretary	District	2013-2016
Treasurer	Local	before 2013
Chair, CON	Jurisdiction	2017-2020
Jurisdiction Leadership Team	Jurisdiction	2017-2020

Other roles served: I have served as local unit president since 2009. During this time, i also served as Northwest District President from 2019-2023 and as Chair of the SEJ CON from 2016-2020.

**Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

I want to serve at the national level because I believe in the advocacy work we do. I believe that we are making a difference and that our voices are needed now more than ever.

**What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

I have good communication skills, the ability to work with a variety of people/skillsets, etc. and the desire to see our organization be seen as the voice of reason as we work our way through the other side of disaffiliation.

**What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

My hope is that we continue to be counted on to advocate for those who don't always have a voice.

**How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I can make a difference in United Way in Faith by living out our purpose. I can recruit other women to become members so we can use our voices to bring attention to issues that impact the socio-economic lives of women, children and youth.

**Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

GENERAL CHURCH: South Georgia Conference - During the South Georgia Annual Conference meeting in June of 2023, I was elected as a Lay Delegate to attend the 2024 General Conference. I serve as secretary for the delegation during our meetings.

## NATIONAL DIRECTOR NOMINEES

(continued)



**Katy Wrona**, Alabama-West Florida Conference

**Age:** 25-35

**Ethnicity:** White or Caucasian

**Professional Experience:** Non Profit Management

### **Most recent officer/elected leader experience:**

President	Local	2023
Vice President	Conference	2023
Spiritual Growth	Conference	2024
Social Action	District	2017-2020

### **Why do you want to serve as a National Director?**

This answer is really two fold for me. UWFaith leadership opportunities has expanded my capacity as a leader and as a disciple. I know this experience will do the same thing. But I also believe my service has increased the capacity of the conference leadership team.

### **What skills and talents do you bring to the position of director that better enable you to fulfill the role?**

I am a strategic thinking. I love big picture planning and the process of making the vision into reality. I am organized and manage of team of 10-15 individuals each year. I believe my experience of serving a nonprofit for the last ten years will be an asset to the director position.

### **What are your hopes and dreams for United Women in Faith?**

I have a passion for young women in leadership. I have spent most of my time in church settings being the youngest person in the room. My hope for UWFaith is to connect with the current generation of young women but more importantly raise the next generation of powerful women who go on to evangelize, advocate, and move mountains in the church and in the our communities.

### **How can you make a difference in the future of United Women in Faith?**

I hope to continue to advocate for events and opportunities for the working women / women with children. Too many times, our planning resolves the needs of the older generations and we need to move to a structure that connects to every generation.

### **Please identify other leadership roles held in the church, conference, and local church outside of United Women in Faith:**

Local Church: - Chair of Finance Committee (2023-2024) - Trustees Committee Member (2018-2020) - Church Council Secretary (2023-2024) - Annual Conference Delegate (2008-2014) Conference level: - Conference Secretary for Global Ministries.

