

Genesis

FL conference Website: <https://flconfuwf.org>

Purpose

United Women in Faith is a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

President:

Linda Parrish
lindaparrish.uwf@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Deaconess Ester Kim
esterkim.umw@gmail.com

Secretary:

Mary Van Tol
maryvantol.uwf@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Donna Spear
donnaspear.umw@gmail.com

Committee on Nominations Chair:

Paulette Monroe
Paulette_monroe@yahoo.com

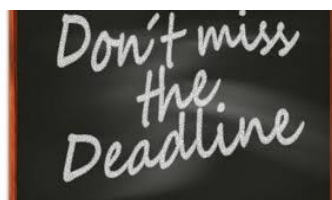
Dean, Mission u 2024-2025:

Dr. Nora Hernandez Hendrix
norahh51@hotmail.com

Legacy Liaison

Pamela Davis
pameladavis.umw@gmail.com

Mission u Scholarships available now!
Download from our Website or print form on last page.



May 15, 2025

MISSION U 2025



PRACTICING
HOPE
TOGETHER

FL CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH MISSION U 2025

In person: Friday, July 18 – Sunday, July 20, 2025

The Westin Lake Mary, Orlando North hotel

2974 International Parkway, Lake Mary, FL 32746

Virtual: Tuesdays and Thursdays, July 22nd, 24th, 29th, & 31st, 2025; 6:30 pm-9:00 pm

Place these dates on your calendars and be watching for more information in your email inboxes and on the conference website.

Adult Study: "Practicing Hope" is a biblical curriculum that invites us to explore hope as a daily practice. Its purpose is to allow all of our communities to cultivate hope that is honest about our current conditions, hope that is restorative when everything feels urgent, and hope that is possible even when we transgress.

Youth Study: "Communities of the Spirit: Living into Hope as Resurrection People" focuses on doing more than simply having hope. This curriculum is about living into hope, and invites youth to consider what they need in a community to help them be committed to actions that transform the world into the kin-dom they anticipate.

Children's Study: "Hope As Resurrection People" intends to help children build trust in Jesus' resurrection and in coming together in mutual support and fellowship. By reflecting on various parts of their lives, children will create a "Tree of Hope" to help recognize that as their hope grows in Jesus, they can build communal hope and be the change our world needs today.

Scholarships are available. The Scholarship application is already posted on the Conference UWFaith website: www.flconfuwf.org/2025-mission-u **Apply Today!**



Pledges

Due Dates

1st Quarter	April 5
2nd Quarter	July 5
3rd Quarter	October 5
4th Quarter	December 10

To encourage Units to report to their Districts, the Due dates have been extended by a month.

Rainbow Givers/ 5 Star Units

April 1

Mission Today and Mission Studies

April 1

Racial Justice

April 1

Reading Plan

September 1



President Linda Parrish

Random Thoughts

Before Jonah found himself in the great fish, he was on a boat with men who were not believers in the one God. You remember that a great storm came and after setting blame on Jonah, the men asked Jonah what to do. He said *“throw me into the sea”* (Jonah 1:12). The men did not do this at first and the sea became rougher. Eventually they did throw him overboard and *“the raging sea became calm”* (Jonah 1:15).

You and I probably have some things in our lives that need to be thrown overboard: a toxic relationship with someone, a person at work who is racist or hateful, a bad habit, a job that is not in line with God’s plan, an addiction to conspiracy theories, too much time playing games on our phones, and the list could go on.

I’m writing this on Sunday. In worship this morning, we sang “on Christ the solid rock I stand – all other ground is sinking sand.” Indeed, if we put our faith in anything other than Christ, we will be disappointed: our loved ones die, our politicians pass questionable laws, our money runs out, our house burns, our children turn against us. No doubt these things will make us sad, but we can move through them with Christ’s help and compassion.

We are also called to action. So perhaps we can comfort someone who has lost a loved one, we can contact politicians about issues, we can provide some relief to those who have lost their homes, we can be a listening ear to those whose family relationships have deteriorated.

I realize that you are already doing these things and I thank you for keeping “love in action.”





We did it!

Florida Conference United Women in Faith reached our \$175,000 Mission Giving Pledge for 2024!

Thanks to the hard work, persistence, and dedication of the women of Florida Conference United Women in Faith, we were able to give \$178,764.73. We're doing our part to support and empower women, care for children, support seniors, provide housing and food for families in need, provide scholarships, support regional missionaries, and so much more! Keep doing those fundraisers and making those personal commitments so we can do it again in 2025!

Mission Giving Pledges for 2025

January is the time for each of us to make a personal **Mission Giving Pledge** for 2025. For printable pledge cards, use this link: [Printable Pledge Cards](#)

Encourage your local unit treasurer to **turn in your unit's pledge** to your district treasurer, and do your part to help your unit achieve its goal. **All-access members** can submit their mission giving through their district treasurers, or at <https://flconfuwf.org>. For additional information contact Donna at donnaspear.umw@gmail.com.

Upcoming Conference Event

Florida Conference United Women in Faith 14th Haitian Convocation
El Shadai Haitian United Methodist Mission/ Wesley Memorial

4141 DeLeon Street Fort Myers , FL, 33901 Phone: (239) 936-2200 pastor Max Pierre

Theme: Hope for the future/ Espwa pou demen . Jeremiah 29:11

Speaker: Sr. Karen Berlin, First Lady of the Florida Conference United Methodist Church. Our Bible competition will be from the book of Joel; Nap etidye Liv Jo èl pou kompetisyon Biblik la, Prepare ekip ou pou Legliz ou pran pri yo pou Misyon u.

Please print the names and send the list to the registrar with your contribution/Tanpri ekri non yo byen, voye lis la ak lajan by Rodna Choute , rodnachoute@aol.com 954-495 3788, 3700 28th street SW Lehigh Acres FL 33976

If you are sending check please make it to the order of: Florida Conference UWF with Memo: Haitian Convocation

Sr Rodna ap resevwa lajan sou zell ak cash app sou nimero telefòn nan. oubyen nan lapòs si se check wap voye.

\$20.- pou chak moun. Ti moun ki poko gen 5 ane pap peye (You can send Zelle, Cash App to the phone number or send a check to her address Kid under 3 years old do not pay).

Registration is closed. Email Ruth Pierre Jean-Pierre at JeanPierreRuth@yahoo.com to see if they can accommodate more women.

Souple itilize lòt fèy pou kontinye lis la.

Si nou gen kesyon pa ezite, relem nan 305-3931563 oubyen tèks mwen, ou ka e-mail mwen tou/ If you have any question call, text, or email me jeanpierre ruth@yahoo.com



Thank You for your endeavors to give and promote the Legacy Fund!

The Florida Conference ranks 4th amongst all the Conferences in the nation!

The report as of 12.17.24 is shown as follows:

Our 2024 Contributions: 12,616.09

Our Total Given in the Florida Conference: \$332,195.12

The National Grand Total: \$42,135,768.00

SAVE THE DATE!

March 23, 2025

1 p.m.

Live streamed special event

Theme: For generations to come.

Thank you by uniting our hearts and hands. We are building our future filled with hope and support for women, children, and youth.

Every gift you make, regardless of size, will make an impact for future generations to come.

Give to The Legacy Endowment Fund on the Day of Giving, March 23rd!*

For more information go to [uwfaith.org/day of giving](http://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving)

You can give to the Legacy Endowment Fund. Go to our National UWF website: uwfaith.org and select “Legacy.” There you will find additional Legacy information and ways to give online or by check via mail!

I look forward to attending a National Legacy event via Zoom on January 27. I will share any additional information with you. Please share the above with others in your districts and websites. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Legacy Liaison, as we work towards achieving the National Goal of \$60,000,000 by 2028. Let me know your district Legacy Liaison’s name. Please contact me if you have questions:

Pamela Davis, Florida Conference Legacy Liaison

Pameladavis.umw@gmail.com

*You may have received a post card SAVE the DATE promoting the event!

Our Facebook Site has been given an Update.

Facebook is where you can find out what’s NEW and what YOU can do!

<https://www.facebook.com/floridaconferenceumw>

South West District invites you to a Social Action Event on March 8 at 10 am on Zoom. Author Kit Miller will join us to talk about her book *Culture Shift: Non Violence at Work*. Our 'work' is United Women in Faith at the Conference, District and Local level. We seek to involve women of all ages, cultures and backgrounds. Kit offers ways for us to come together as effective teams, moving past sometimes hidden barriers to respect and cooperation. Register at Events on the district web site <https://www.southwestdistrictumw.com/> for this free event.

United Women in Faith
South West District of the Florida Conference
Social Action Event

Author Kit Miller speaks about her book "Culture Shift: Nonviolence At Work" showing us how we can look forward to our gatherings where each person is valued.

SATURDAY MARCH 8, 2025
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
ON ZOOM
REGISTRATION OPEN NOW AND IS FREE ON EVENTBRITE

**CULTURE SHIFT
NONVIOLENCE
AT WORK**
KIT MILLER

"Whenever others are directly, always at once, I am not. I am a very different kind of person. I am a person of faith."

"Whenever you are confronted with an opponent, conquer him with love."



Our Florida Conference supports events in our state that are open to everyone. Two events in April are scheduled for your Districts and Units to participate in. You can send members to Children's Week in Tallahassee and have local units participate in the Hanging of The Hands in the Capital. Go to the website to see how you can help.

<https://childrensweek.org/>



A local Mission Institution we support is Cornerstone Family Ministries in Tampa. Their 45th Annual Wonder Walk /Run will take place on Saturday April 5.

There are many ways to help and participate. Go to their website to check it out.

<https://www.cornerstonefamilyministries.org/wonderwalk>



2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 15	Haitian Convocation	El Shaddai at Wesley Memorial, Ft. Myers
March 23	United Women in Faith "Day of Giving"	
April 14-16	Children's Week	Tallahassee
June 5-7	Florida UMC Annual Conference	Lakeland
July 18-20	Mission u/Spiritual Retreat	Weston, Lake Mary, Orlando
July 22, 24, July 29, 31	Virtual Mission u (Four 2 hour sessions)	Zoom

FLORIDA CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWFaith)

2025 MISSION u SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Application Deadline: **May 15, 2025**

The Westin Lake Mary, Orlando North (Friday, July 18 – Sunday, July 20)

Name of applicant: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home _____ Mobile _____

E-mail _____ UMC

District: _____ Name of Church _____ City: _____

Are you a member of United Women in Faith (UWFaith)? Yes _____ No: _____ If you are a UWFaith

District and/or Conference Officer, what is your position? _____ Will this be your first

time attending Mission u? Yes _____ No _____ Have you previously received a scholarship for Mission

u? Yes _____ No _____ If so, which year? _____ Ethnicity: _____

Age Group as of July 18, 2025 (check one):

11 & under _____ 13–17 _____ 18–30 _____ 31–45 _____ 46–60 _____ 61–75 _____ 76+ _____

Why do you want to attend Mission u?

Why are you applying for a Mission u scholarship?

Please read and sign the following statement:

If awarded a scholarship, I agree to:

a. register between June 1 - June 27 for the event, (*Note: Please do not register for Mission u until you have received notification from the Mission u Scholarship Committee regarding the status of your scholarship application. You will be notified by June 1, 2025.*)

b. attend the event, and

c. be available, if asked, to share my experience at the local, district, and/or conference level.

Signature: _____ Date _____

(Signature of parent/guardian if applicant is 17 or under)

Your scholarship application must be **received** by **May 15, 2025**.

Please email or mail your signed application to:

Donna Spear, Mission u Scholarship Committee Chair, 5107 N. Seminole Ave, Tampa, FL 33603
donnaspear.umw@gmail.com • Phone: 813-293-4281

rev 9/10/24