



A Message from the Presidents

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"This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:12

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well and looking forward to the holiday season with joy and excitement! As we approach the end of the year, the UWF Board wishes to express our sincere gratitude to each of you for your dedication and contributions to our recent projects.

The Holiday Pie Sale, Silent Auction, and Cash Book Sales were a huge success because of your time, talents, and generosity making a significant impact on our community. We are grateful for your support. The combined total of the three events netted approximately \$7,000 that will be distributed to our mission partners in the next few weeks! Wow!! What an amazing, generous church we are a part of here at Church of the Saviour!!

The spirit of giving and community support lives on throughout December. **"Gifts from the Heart" started its 32nd season** on November 16 and will continue into December! Due to the present climate of need in our country, we have received 15% more names for needy children than last year! I am hoping we can rise to the occasion as a church! Please sign up for "Angels" from the

Christmas trees each week in the Fellowship Hall so we can make each child's Christmas special! ***The children are blessed by every hand that touches these angels and gifts!*** Sign-up here To Assist: [GFTH 2025 Volunteer Sign Up Genius](#)

December is not just a month of closure for our projects; it's also a time to celebrate the birth of Christ! We are looking forward to seeing you at our annual UWF Christmas Celebration which will take place at the Manor House in Mason on December 15 (5:30-8:30 pm). We are excited to share an evening filled with good food, warm fellowship, and the joyous spirit of the season. As part of the festivities, **Joe Galyon's "Queen City Bronze Premier Handbell Ensemble"** will entertain us, in addition to a rousing game of Word Scramble you don't want to miss, so be prepared to have a delightful evening!! [Sign up here for the Christmas Party!](#)

So, friends, as we enter the winter months, may the comfort of loved ones and God's peace surround you. Thank you for your unwavering support and generosity to United Women in Faith!

Wishing you a blessed and joy-filled Christmas.

Your Sister in Christ,

Ginny Kindberg



Queen City Bronze, Cincinnati's Premier Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of **Joe Galyon** will entertain at the UWF Christmas Dinner on December 15. **Don't miss it!!**

The UWF Board meeting is on Monday, DECEMBER 1 (10 am-noon) in person. Meet at church in Room 119. All are welcome to attend. If you have any questions, contact Ginny Kindberg (513-225-5123).

SMALL GROUP MEETINGS FOR DECEMBER

Everyone is welcome at any of our monthly gatherings. Contact the leader to be sure you have all the details.

TUESDAY: 3rd Tuesday Morning Hannah | Group Leaders: Euphazine Reid-Kendall (678-857-8362) and Marilyn Clark (513-909-6878)

Sign up for the UWF Christmas Dinner on December 15.

In December they are all involved in working on the Christmas Dinner and GFTH (sorting, shopping, calling, and delivery of gifts). In January they will volunteer at Crayons to Computers on January 20 (10 am-12 noon).

If there are questions feel free to call Marilyn Clark or Euphazine Reid-Kendall.

TUESDAY: Esther Laird Friendship Group (3rd Tuesday of each month—1:00 pm) | Leaders: Britt Raymond (brittie.raymond@gmail.com/513-375-4403) and Leah Hondorf (lhondorf@yahoo.com/ 513-304-5224)

The Esther Laird group will not meet in December. Sign up for the UWF Christmas Dinner on December 15.

Mark Your Calendar ... Tuesday, January 20 (1:00 pm): Join the Esther Laird group as Leah Hondorf leads a book discussion on *Voices of Hope: Inspiring Stories of Strength and Resilience*. Leah wrote a chapter in this book that was published recently. You can purchase the book wherever you buy your books. Please reach out to Leah Hondorf or Britt Raymond if you have questions.

First MONDAY or TUESDAY: Susanna Wesley Women in Mission | Leader: Mary Jane Sper (513-476-7250 or mjsper@gmail.com)

No December meeting. Sign up for the UWF Christmas Dinner on December 15.

Mark Your Calendar ... Monday, January 5 (7:00 pm): Join Susanna Wesley Women in Mission in Room 119 at the church. They will work on homemade blankets to give to Project Linus supporting children ages 0-18 in the United States who are seriously ill, traumatized or otherwise in need.

If you have questions, contact Mary Jane Sper.

This
Month's
Meetings

Last
Month's
Activities

Susanna Wesley Women in Mission volunteered at the Thrift Store of New Life Furniture.



UWF held a very successful Silent Auction last month to raise money for local mission organizations. Thanks to Karalyn Voorhorst for chairing the fundraiser. And, of course, thanks to Jannelle Moore, our treasurer for managing and reporting our finances.

WEDNESDAY: Lydia Needlecrafters (1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month) 5:30 pm in the church parlor | Leader: Pam Senefeld (513-314-5042)

Wednesday, December 3 and 17 (5:30-7:00 pm): The group will celebrate their yearlong giving to their various ministries! Come to the group meeting and learn how to knit or crochet that Christmas gift you still have time to complete. Prayer shawls, prayer squares, baby blankets, and hats are available by contacting any member, Bonnie Nesbitt, Pam Senefeld, or Carrie Feldmeyer in the church office (513-791-3142).

SATURDAY: Moms & Kids Small Group | Leader: Kristine Kahl (Kristine.f.guevara@sbcglobal.net)

December 6 (2:00-4:00 pm) church Dining Room: Moms & Kids will gather for their annual gingerbread house decorating event. Bring a tub of white frosting and a couple of candy favorites for decorations. RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/yzcjb8w>

WEDNESDAY: UWF Bible Study (1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the Month—7:00 pm) on Zoom | Contact Person: Jennifer Ehlers (mehlers4@aol.com)

Stay tuned for an exciting New Year study on zoom. Contact Jennifer Ehlers for the zoom link.



United Women in Faith Social Justice

from Karen VanWagenen (513-325-2849), Social Justice Coordinator

"Love is patient, love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no score of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." I Corinthians 13:4-7



This is part of a famous Bible passage that we know and use as a guide in all relationships, but, as we also know, these words are a difficult checklist to accomplish all the time. In some frightening situations, they are seemingly impossible to even imagine.

Perhaps you've heard that stress-related holidays bring more domestic violence, depression, and mental health problems. New Year's Day has the most tragedies, with Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, and hot weather holidays/months following all adding up to possible trouble. Such a sad reflection of our times!

The 19th Ohio Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report for **September 4, 2024, one day only**, showed these statistics:

- 1,621 adults and children found refuge in emergency housing, hotels, motels, or local housing programs.
- 1,080 adults and children received nonresidential services – transportation, court accompaniment, counseling, and more.
- 636 hotline calls – an average 27 per hour.
- 347 unmet requests for services not available.

Again, that's just one day!

What actions can we take to help protect and heal ourselves and/or others?

There is the **Ohio Domestic Violence Network** hotline (1-800-934-9840), website (odvn.org), and address (1855 E Dublin Granville Rd, Suite 301, Columbus, OH 43229).

The [United Methodist Church and Society website](#) has many suggestions for programs, literature, and speakers.

The [United Women in Faith website](#) has videos, program ideas, webinars, and podcast suggestions.

Please do what you can. Be observant with friends, neighbors, and relatives. Pray. Call for assistance. Make a plan. Accept help. May God give us courage to be the hands and feet of Jesus!

Becky Ruple, West Ohio Conference Social Action Coordinator



Sign up for the United Women in Faith Christmas Dinner by following the link below ...

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080848AEA62BAB9-59466688-christmas>

If you have questions or problems, please contact Ginny Kindberg (513-225-5123).



Gifts from the Heart



Thanks to everyone who has helped so far with Gifts from the Heart to bring Christmas to local children. Also, thanks to Jen Woeste for her excellent leadership.

Many of you are aware of the Gifts from the Heart ministry, one of UWF's largest of the year. We supply Christmas gifts to children in need throughout the greater Cincinnati area.

Please consider the following volunteer opportunities to help make this year's Christmas be the best ever.

1) Select angels and shop for gifts generously this season! This year we have been asked by our partners to support 15% more children than in prior years. That translates to 70 extra angels that will be on the trees! Choose your angels from the trees in Fellowship Hall, put your name on the sign-out sheets, and shop for just the right gift. Return your gifts on December 7 or before.

2) Sign up to assist in Fellowship Hall on any of the next 4 Sunday mornings. Volunteers will decorate the Christmas trees with angels, man the sign-out sheets for "quality control," receive returning gifts, and help sort and organize gifts. This is a fun and collaborative activity - the more the merrier!

Local children are blessed by every hand that touches these angels and gifts.

Click here to Sign up: [GFTH 2025 Volunteer Sign Up Genius](#)

We are on a roll after the successful Silent Auction and Pie Sale - let's keep it going!

Thank you in advance,

Jen Woeste
937-475-0054
jenmiL4@yahoo.com





The Children's Closet is Supporting Jack's Closet for DECEMBER

Our Children's Closet, located in the colorful cabinet across the hall from the church office, is collecting ...

- hats,
- gloves,
- mittens,
- scarves,
- socks, and
- other new or gently used items to help keep local kids warm this winter.

The items will be given to Jack's Closet, which serves children in foster care, Wesley Chapel Mission Center, which serves children and youth in downtown Cincinnati, and Wesley Education Center, which provides care to preschool age children. Thank you for your generous donations to help local children and families feel the warmth of God's love! Questions can be directed to Regan Murray Mitchell, Children's Closet Coordinator (reganmurray@hotmail.com).

Jack's Closet



A FREE clothing closet for children who are in foster or kinship care

United Women in Faith distribute funds raised during 2025 on December 1

It's not too late to submit a "pledge to UWF mission" donation for 2025! These donations support local and global UWF missions.

In addition to direct donations, UWF raises funds through events like the Silent Auction and Pie Sale. These events were a big success thanks to your efforts and support. However, we did not do the Rummage Sale this year, and thus overall fund-raising is down.

We will decide the distribution of 2025 funds to local non-profits at the December 1 meeting. Any donations received after December 1 will be included in 2026 giving.

If you would like to make a year-end donation to United Women in Faith, please mail it ASAP to:

Jannelle Moore, UWF Treasurer,
3232 Brinton Trail
Cincinnati, OH 45241

Make checks payable to **UWF-COS**.

Thank you for your extraordinary support of United Women in Faith!

