



United Women in Faith March 2025 eNewsletter



It's Women's History Month!

For 2025, the theme is "Moving Forward Together," spotlighting "women educating and inspiring generations." This theme is meant to highlight and support women who have dedicated their lives to education, mentorship and leadership to shape the minds and futures of all generations.

"Empowered women empower the world."
"A woman in harmony with her spirit is like a river flowing."



**OLENTANGY RIVER DISTRICT
SPRING MEETING**



United
Women
in Faith

Saturday April 26, 2025
Lewis Center UMC
1081 Lewis Center Rd
Lewis Center, OH 43035

Check-in & Hospitality at 9:15 am / Program 10:00am-2:30PM

**Come Grow with Us:
Less Fear, More Conversation**

**Julie Carter, West Ohio Conference
Director of Faith Formation & Lay Servant Ministry**

Donations for Common Ground Delaware will be collected
Food items, clothing, household goods, baby items, toys, sports equipment, etc

[CLICK HERE](#) for Spring Program Registration Form

President's Message

When you read this article, the basketball sports world will be in the throes of "March Madness". It is about intense competition as college teams battle it out on the court. Teams are eliminated, and it "comes down to the wire" as the last two groups of players "duke it out" to see who will win the national title and take home the championship trophy. I watch a good number of these games with my husband—understanding the rules of the game a little more each year. As for playing any type of sport—I'm one of the most un-athletic persons you'll ever meet, but I do enjoy watching these young men and women who display such great athletic ability and talent.

Aside from sports, what is "March Madness" for you? Have you been sorting through and cleaning out in preparation for Spring? Are you getting ready to travel or coming home from being away? What disruptions—planned or unexpected have occurred in your days, weeks, or months lately? Madness or craziness is all around us and a good bit of it is out of our control. How do you deal with the chaos of life? Do you read scripture and engage in Centering Prayer? Do you spend time outdoors as part of God's creation? Do you curl up with a good book? How about being in community with friends or family?

If gathering with friends and family brings you a sense of peace, joy, and love—there are several opportunities in 2025 to do just that with your sisters in United Women in Faith. The West Ohio Conference Spiritual Retreat will be held April 4th and 5th at the Proctor Center in London, Ohio. Check the WOC website for more information and the registration form. As I mentioned last month, the ORD Spring Meeting will be April 26th at Lewis Center UMC in Lewis Center, Ohio. The flyer will also be on the WOC website, in an upcoming email, and in the next eNewsletter. Watch for more information coming soon. Mission u will be held June 27th-29th at the Bergamo Center in Dayton, Ohio, (virtual sessions will occur in July) and the WOC Annual Meeting will be October 11th-location TBD. There will also be virtual book club meetings and Racial Justice events throughout the year. 2025 has started out to be a fabulous year for UWF, and it will continue throughout the months ahead! So, check out the WOC website often and plan on attending these invigorating, inspiring events along with your UWF Sisters. This is the kind of "Madness" we like to be a part of!

Pam Boh, President
ORD UWF

Congratulations to our Five Star Giving Churches for 2024. These Sisters in Faith contributed to all five areas of undesignated giving: Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering.

Asbury North
Bethel International
Church of the Good Shepherd
Grove City
Johnstown
Lewis Center
Linworth
Lithopolis
Worthington
Church of the Master
Church of the Messiah
New Holland
Obetz*
Prospect Street
Scioto Ridge
Stonybrook
Wesley Church of Hope

I pray that 2025 will see their accomplishment repeated with others joining them! God Bless you for all you are doing for women, children and youth here and everywhere on behalf of United Women in Faith and may Grace abound for all our work ahead!

Peace and Joy, now and always,
Kim Hoessly, Treasurer
ORD UWF

Reading Program

Olentangy River United Women in Faith's Reading Program 2024 was completed with several new participants!! Welcome to all who learned of challenges in other areas of the world, appreciated the dedication and determination of leaders in our faith, and continued to be inspired in your personal faith walk!!

Now Reading Program 2025 has begun!! Please [click here](#) for a form to print and use to document your reading. Remember that Children and Youth books can be counted. Many children's picture books have messages adults can learn from. How about purchasing a child's or youth book this year, and after reading it, passing the book along to a grandchild or youth in your local church?

Happy learning!!
Linda Miller,
ORD UWF

Greetings to my UWF Sisters...

As your new Spiritual Growth Leader I wanted to know more about Spiritual Growth; so I did some research on the subject. I used my Bible, several commentaries, John Wesley's book, The Nature of Spiritual Growth, and I googled it. I found a lot of information on the subject.

Here's what I found: It's learning more about God and learning to lean on Him. This process gives us a deeper understanding and connection with our own spirituality. We grow by exploring our beliefs, engaging in prayer and meditation and living a life of compassion, forgiveness and gratitude.

When we first become a Christian, we all start at the beginning. Think of yourself as a plant. Plants take a lot of time and energy to grow. They need water, good soil, and sunshine to thrive. We, as new Plant-like Christians, need God, the Bible, and prayer – which are the building blocks of our faith. When the plant or us is thriving and growing in Christ, all that time and energy has paid off and becomes the basis of our faith journey.

Paul tells us in 2 Peter 3:18; “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever.”

So how do we as individuals or a unit grow spiritually?

1. Connect with other Christians - Show God's love to others
2. Study the Bible – memorize and mediate on God's Word
3. Form a good prayer habit – pray for growth
4. Obey God's Word – focusing on your relationship to God

This goes along with John Wesley's three general rules for a Christ-like life:

1. Do no harm.
2. Do good.
3. Stay in love with God.

People are always sizing us up by our character, our capacity, and capital. The Lord also measures our character, our capacity but he measures our spiritual capital or spiritual reserves to measure our trust.

So how fast do you want to grow? Look at your commitment in seeking to grow. Do you need to make a change?

In Paul's letter to the Colossians Chapter 2 verses 6 and 7 says, “ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught and overflowing with thankfulness.”

While reading William Barclay's Daily Study Bible series on Colossians, I found Paul's prayer for the church in Colossians 2: 2-7, “How to Measure a Church.” It can also be used to measure our units.

1. Courageous hearts
2. Members that are knitted together
3. Should be equipped with every kind of wisdom
4. Must have the power to resist seductive teachings
5. Should have in it a soldier's discipline
6. Life must be in Christ
7. Holding fast to the faith which it has received
8. Abounding and overflowing gratitude

Rededicate yourself to deepening your Spiritual Growth as a person and as a unit. I know I learned a lot from all my research. So much so I have to make a change too!

Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV): Jesus said, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Penny Scott, Spiritual Growth
ORD UWF



WE ARE OFFERING SOMETHING NEW IN 2025:

MISSION u FOR CHILDREN

June 27 – 29, 2025

Mount Saint John, Bergamo Life-Long Learning Center
4400 Shakertown Road, Beavercreek, Ohio
Sponsored by West Ohio United Women in Faith and the West Ohio Annual Conference

You are invited to spend a weekend with your child or grandchild at Mission u in 2025. The children will study and experience “*Hope as a Resurrection People*” led by two Children's Coordinators, former elementary school teachers. We look forward to an entertaining, fun, learning event for the children. They will bring their sleeping bags and “camp” out in their parent's, grandparent's single room. Children entering 1st grade through 4th (a limit of 10 children). Cost is \$15/child. Registration opens April 1, 2025.

We look forward to seeing you and your child at Mission u 2025. For more information, feel free to contact Carolyn Johnson, cjohnson3253@yahoo.com or Kim Hoessly, khoessly@columbus.rr.com

OLENTANGY RIVER DISTRICT, UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH: Treasurer's Mission Giving Report

February 28, 2025

Period: February

Pledge: \$60,000 Paid: \$4961.00 Difference: \$55,039.00 8% of pledge

Undesignated Giving	February	January	Year to date
Pledge to Mission*	4166.00	550.00	4716.00
Mission Recognition	40.00	0.00	40.00
Gift to Mission	25.00	0.00	25.00
Gift in Memory	75.00	30.00	105.00
World Thank Offering**	25.00	50.00	75.00
Total Undesignated Giving	4331.00	630.00	4961.00

Designated Giving	February	January	Year to date
Prayer and Self Denial	103.00	0.00	103.00
Legacy	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brighter Future for Children	55.14	0.00	55.14
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Designated Giving	158.14	0.00	158.14

2025 Leadership Team

President - Pam Boh, bohpan@gmail.com; 614-205-1011

Vice President - Patti Kelley,
pattijkelley@gmail.com; 614-946-8108

Secretary - Peg Addington, maddin0952@sbcglobal.net; 614-270-1639

Treasurer - Kim Hoessly, khoessly@columbus.rr.com; 614-537-8596

Program Resources - Linda Miller, osucanningnut68@gmail.com; 614-633-7176

E&I/Social Action - Jeri Roseboro, gfroesebo@colby.edu; 207-620-4028

Membership N&O - Peg Addington, maddin0952@sbcglobal.net; 614-270-1639
Beth Kellogg, beththevet@gmail.com; 614-271-5888

Spiritual Growth - Penny Scott, pennyscott@cox.net; 785-375-1624

Communications - Shirley Funt, smfunt922@gmail.com; 614-284-9019

Nominations - Vacant

Nominations Committee Member, Ad Hoc - Katelin Hansen, khansen@4allpeople.net; 513-608-3568



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