United Women in Faith

First UMC of San Diego

Newsletter for November/December

For Upcoming Events, click here

Letter from UWF President Barb Eveland

Greetings to all women who share our desire to care for women and children in need in this world.

We have made steps these past two years, to update our Unit and be more active outside the local church. The women who came before us broke ground in order to give us the right to vote, sustaining programs, and a desire to unite across faiths and countries.

It's our turn to consider what the legacy we leave for future generations will be. In Matthew 16:24 we hear, "Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them take up their cross and follow me." We are called to action. Our unit has openings for board members. I ask that you pray about what your cross looks like and how will you serve God this coming year. *Barb*

Unit Meeting: Installation of Officers & Presentation

Saturday, November 14th, 11:00am in the Cove

Coffee and pastries provided (bakers wanting to "practice" for the Nov 22nd Bake Sale are welcome to contribute)

You will want to be at our Unit Meeting this month to vote for – and congratulate – our incoming Board of Directors for 2027. As you peruse the list below, you will note that several roles are not yet filled – now would be your chance to step up! Please pray to hear God's call for you.

President – Sharmon Davis
VP/Programs Chair – Marilyn Scheibal
Secretary – Linda Greene
Treasurer – Nyla Marson
Nominations Chair – Marilyn Stone
Reading Program Coordinators – Valerie Mickey and Jane Ferris
Grace Circle Representative – Roberta King
Hope Circle Representative – Barbara Horton
Joy Circle Representative – Barbara Fulcher
Spiritual Growth Coordinator – OPEN
Social Action Coordinator – OPEN
Communications Chair – OPEN
Membership Chair – OPEN

Opportunities to Serve

In addition to the Board openings above, our committees are seeking a few good women. Joining a UWF committee is a great way to get involved without the full responsibility of a Board member. Get to know other members better, build (or refine) a new skill set, or add value for others by showing them how it's done. What is God calling you to take on next? How will you put your faith in action?

Programs & Events – Assists with planning and execution of our UWF events such as Bake Sales, Spring and Winter social events, Rummage Sale, and Unit meetings (members can support just one or two events – or all; your choice.) Would you enjoy setting up for a party and getting to know others, or maybe coordinating a unit meeting would provide a learning opportunity for you? Chair: Marilyn Scheibal

Nominations - Identifies and encourages members to fill elected and appointed Board positions for the coming year. Builds relationships throughout the year to learn members' gifts and interests. Primary focus on recruitment and nominations takes place during the third quarter. Chair: Marilyn Stone

Communications – Generates communications to the membership such as the bi-monthly newsletter, eNews and upcoming event notices, and strengthens digital communications. We're seeking "reporters" for the newsletter and a special subcommittee to level up our UWF Website. Acting Chair: Nyla Marson

Membership – Grows and retains the organization's membership by developing new outreach channels and creating meaningful opportunities for member engagement and community. Collaborates with board members and others to make membership a key focus of UWF events and initiatives. Chair: Open

If you're not sure which committee calls to you? Contact the committee chair or email us at UWF@fumcsd.org.

Charity Spotlight

FUMCSD Good Samaritan Fund and the Good Samaritan Store

In 2017, long-time First Church members Dick and Jeri Eimers established an endowment fund to support people in need. They believed that, with the right resources, the church could help care for people's physical as well as spiritual needs.

That endowment fund has grown into what we know today as the Good Samaritan Fund. Many are familiar with the Good Samaritan Store—a room beneath the sanctuary that provides food, clothing, sleeping bags, tents, hygiene items, and other essentials for people in need, including those who are unsheltered. Because the store is visible, many people choose to give directly to it. Those gifts are used exclusively to support the store. Donations to the Good Samaritan Fund, however, may support a wider range of needs, including the store.



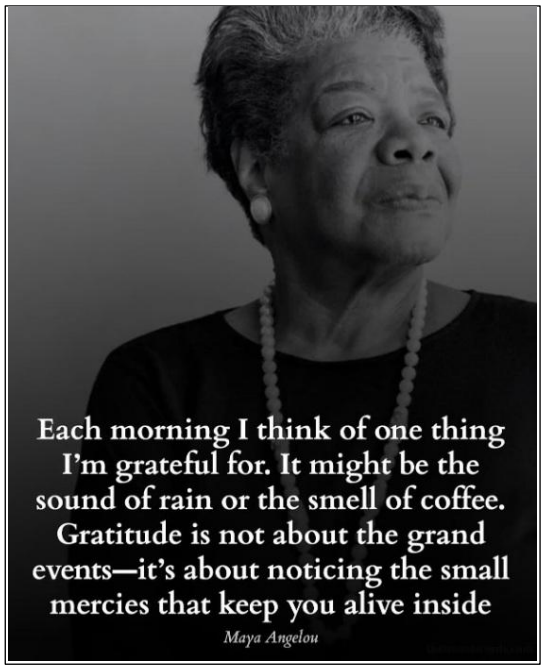
The Good Samaritan Store pantry includes easy-open snacks, hygiene supplies and pet food



Barb Weicksel overseeing the Good Samaritan Store at FUMCSD

The fund's support reaches far beyond the store. After speaking with a pastor to identify the best way the church can help, an individual or family may receive grocery or gas gift cards, a bus pass, a hotel stay, help with utility bills, or assistance repairing a vehicle so they can continue getting to work. Through these practical acts of care, the Good Samaritan Fund helps meet a wide range of needs in our community. Your pledges to United Women in Faith support both the Good Samaritan Store and the Good Samaritan Fund.

Share Your Gratitude: A Thanksgiving Invitation



Since 1881, the **World Thank Offering** invited United Women in Faith members to express gratitude for God's blessings while supporting local and worldwide missions. Some people set aside a coin each day; others give on special occasions. Every gift is a meaningful act of thanks. This November, as we give thanks for our blessings, we invite you to join United Women in Faith's World Thank Offering.

Consider making a donation at your Circle meeting this month. Your offering supports UWFaith's mission to improve the lives of women, children, and youth in our communities and around the world. Together, we can help build a world where everyone is honored and our shared humanity brings joy. Thank you for giving from a grateful heart.



Treasurer's Report

As we approach year end, members are encouraged to review your 2026 pledge balance and take action if needed. Looking toward next year, all members are requested to make your 2027 pledge commitment by end of this year to assist with our budget. You can *pay* your 2027 pledge after Jan 1st as a one-time payment or multiple payments throughout the year.

> *Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*
>
> *2 Corinthians 9:7*

Summary of 4th Quarter Giving
Forecast as of 11/01/2026

New Entra Casa	$650
$500 to furnish new counseling room	
Calexico Neighborhood House	$875
$500 specifically for children's programs	
Christ Ministry Center	$650
$500 for Haitian Immigrants support	
Good Samaritan Store	$250
Good Samaritan Fund	$500
Just in Time for Foster Youth	$450
No Birthday Left Behind	$450
Children's Growing Center	$300
Interfaith Shelter Network	$500
Shoes that Fit	$500
UWF District/National	$7,000

Report of 2026 annual giving at 11/14 Unit meeting and in our Jan-Feb newsletter

Wondering where all the money goes? Join us at this month's Unit Meeting for all members and at large members. A year end Treasurer's report will be presented at our 11/14 Unit Meeting, including 2026 income and distributions and a break-down of where our money goes.

Did you know? You can pay your pledge from your **Individual Retirement Account (IRA)**. UWF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, which means you can pay your pledge directly from your IRA and skip the taxes. Plus, if you are age 73 or more, your pledge counts toward your Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs). For more information, email UWF@fumcsd.com and ask about IRA payments. Or just contact Treasurer Nyla Marson directly.

Thank you to our outgoing Board for making our fiscal management decisions so we can **Make Mission Happen! Barb Eveland, Cheryl Mason, Nyla Marson, Linda Greene, Sharmon Davis, Barbara Fulcher, Barbara Horton, Roberta King, Marilyn Scheibal, Valerie Mickey, Marilyn Stone, Marjie Larson**

Membership Directory

Did you know there is a directory of UWFaith members on Realm? It's true, you can find other First Church UWF members and their contact information, depending on their privacy settings. When you login to Realm, go to Groups: on your computer, see the menu on the left; on your phone, click the little lines at the top left. Scroll to "United Women in Faith-All" for the whole list, or click just on your Circle. Choose "Participants" from the top menu to see the list. Clicking on a name will show you the available member profile. If no information shows, that member likely has her privacy permissions set to not show information.

In Realm, you can send a message to the group or start a Chat to an individual, or several. So even if someone doesn't post their contact information, you can still contact them through Realm.

All members are encouraged, if comfortable, to set your privacy settings to Leaders & group/serving team members for your email and/or phone number. These will then be available to members of groups you participate in (all your groups, not just UWF).

As the church begins encouraging all members to use Realm for information and communications, you will start to see Realm training, coaching, and tips. Watch for more information on eNews for how to leverage Realm.

Not a Realm fan? Let us know if you want a printed version of our Unit UWFaith directory. If enough people request it, we will publish a booklet with member names, phone and email. Email us at UWF@fumcsd.org or notify any Board member (find the list on Realm.)

Recipe of the Months

Lite & Easy Pumpkin Muffins *Recipe from Nyla Marson*



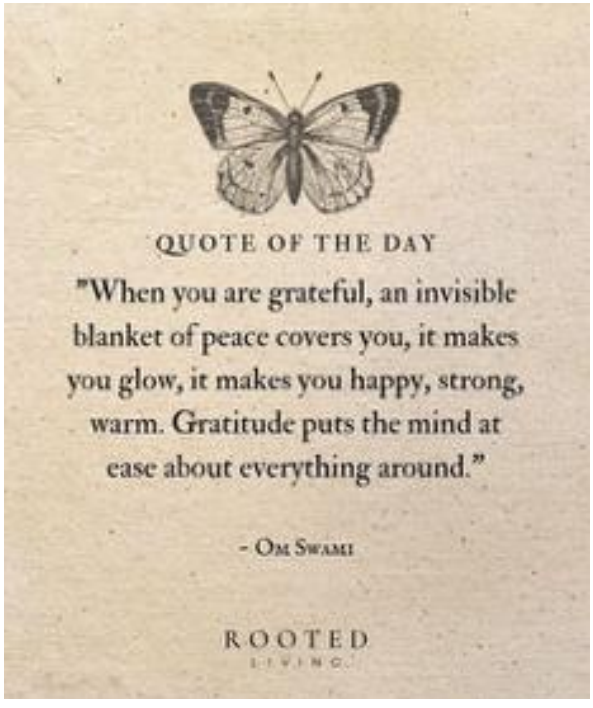
½ cup (149g) granulated sugar, plus more for sprinkling
¼ cup (53g) light brown sugar or dark brown sugar, packed
2 large eggs
¼ cup vegetable oil or melted butter
½ cup +2 tablespoons pumpkin purée
1 teaspoon (tsp) pure vanilla extract
1 tsp baking powder
½ tsp baking soda
½ tsp table salt
1½ teaspoons Pumpkin Pie Spice OR ¾ tsp ground cinnamon, ¼ ground nutmeg, and ¼-¾ tsp ground ginger (use amount of ginger based on your taste and ginger strength)
1⅔ cups (200g) unbleached all-purpose flour, sifted
6 tablespoons (60g) raw or roasted pumpkin seeds, for sprinkling (optional)

Preheat the oven to 375°F with a rack in the upper third. Line a standard 12-well muffin pan with baking cups, then spray the cups with nonstick spray.

In a large bowl, vigorously whisk the sugars and eggs until thick and pale, 30 seconds to 1 minute. (You may also use an electric mixer for this and the next 2 steps.) Whisk in the oil, mixing until creamy and slightly thickened (like pancake batter). Whisk in the pumpkin and vanilla until fully combined, then mix in the baking powder, salt, baking soda, and spices.

Fold in the sifted flour by hand using a whisk or spatula just until fully combined. Do not overmix in this step.

Divide the batter evenly between the muffin wells (about 2 heaping tablespoons each). Sprinkle each muffin generously with pumpkin seeds (about ½ tablespoon per muffin) and granulated or sparkling sugar (about ¼ teaspoon per muffin).



Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the center of a muffin comes out clean and no wet batter is visible on the surface. Let cool briefly in the pan, just until cool enough to handle, then transfer to a wire rack. Enjoy warm or at room temperature.

Store
leftover
pumpkin muffins in an airtight container at room temperature for several days; for longer storage, freeze in an airtight container or zip-top bag.



Upcoming Events

BAKE  **BLING**

Sweet treats. Sparkling finds. Good causes!

Join us on **November 22, from 8:00–11:00 a.m. in Linder Lounge** for a deliciously fun sale!

Bring your baked goodies to Linder Hall before church, then stop and shop after service for homemade treats and (new this year) gently used jewelry. Pick up a little "bling" to go with your cake and cookies! Everyone is welcome—come treat yourself and make a difference!

Every purchase supports local programs serving women, children, and youth, including New Entra Casa, Neighborhood House, the Good Samaritan Fund, Shoes That Fit, and Children's Growing Center.

UWF Members interested in assisting with this event are invited to contact Programs Chair Marilyn Scheibal.

Deck the ~~Halls~~ Church



All UWF members are invited to help transform our beautiful sanctuary into a festive Christmas wonderland!

Join us on Monday, November 23, starting at 9 a.m.

Just show up in the sanctuary and we'll decorate together, enjoy the fun, and make the church shine for the season. No experience needed—just bring your holiday spirit and a helping hand. We'll work until the decorating is done!



UWF Family Christmas Festival

Kick Off the Christmas Season with Friends, Food, Fun and more!

Join United Women in Faith for a merry morning of **carols, bingo, good food, great company and entertainment**. Last year brought plenty of fun and laughs—come make some holiday memories with us!

Sunday, December 6 • 10:30am–12:30pm • Linder Hall

Advance tickets: Adults 12+ $15 | Children $8

At the door: Adults $20 | Children $10

Get your tickets on the patio November 15, 22, or 29, or purchase on Realm now through December 3rd

UWF Members interested in assisting with this event are invited to contact Programs Chair Marilyn Scheibal.

All Upcoming Events

November 8th 2:00pm **New Entra Casa Silent Auction**, St Paul UMC, National City

November 13th 10:00am **Joy Circle Meeting** – contact Barbara Fulcher for more information

November 14th 11:00am **Unit Meeting**: 2027 Officer Election/Installment & Treasurer's Report

November 15th 4pm-6pm **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**, Congregation Beth Israel (see eNews)

November 17th 9:30am **Grace Circle Meeting** – contact Gail Fuller for more information

November 21st 10:00am **Hope Circle Meeting** – contact Barbara Horton for more information

November 22nd 8am – 12:pm **Fall "Bake & Bling" Sale** (see above)

November 23rd 9am – "**Deck the ~~Halls~~ Church**" (see above)

December 6th 10:30am **UWF Family Christmas Festival** (see above)

Thank you to the following contributors to this issue:

Sharmon Davis, Barb Eveland, Linda Greene, Nyla Marson, Amy Moberly, Marilyn Stone

The UWF of First UMC of San Diego newsletter goes out to all members. If you want to be removed from distribution, email UWF@fumcsd.org with subject line "Unsubscribe"

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