

# PACIFIC WAVES

VOL. XXVIII ISSUE 2

Who We Are

What is United Women in Faith? We are women like you, a powerful, fearless force driven by God's love and united in sisterhood. With a focus on women, children, and youth, we act for justice and transform communities. Join us, because love in action can change the world.

The Mission is to connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship and education so that they can inspire, influence and impact local and global communities.

The Purpose is to be 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.

This Vision of United Women in Faith is a world in which women, children, and youth can thrive and reach their fullest potential.



## Upcoming Events

Annual Luncheon at Annual Conference 2026

La Quinta, CA (see save the date flyer in Pacific Waves)

Mission u 2026

July 24-26, 2026

Bell Memorial UMC (see flyer in Pacific Waves)

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# President

“The Lord will stand with you and give you strength” 2 Timothy 4:17

Greetings United Women in Faith Sisters & Friends,

In this Spring season, we are filled with gratitude for the ways God has been at work among us. Together, we have prayed, served, and advocated for justice in our communities and beyond. We have stood alongside women, children, and youth – offering not only resources, but also Hope, Dignity, and the Assurance that they are not alone.

As all of us face the challenges in this dark season within our communities and the world, the United Women in Faith continue to stand strong. At our Mid-Winter Event in February, we focused on Justice for Women, Children and Youth. We embraced the theme “Justice is Love in Action” which is a calling for our discipleship and courage and compassion.

We know the challenges are real. In 2026, poverty, inequality, and injustice persist. But we also know that God’s Spirit equips us for the work ahead. As United Women in Faith, we are not content to simply observe the needs of the world- we are called to respond.

In the coming months, I invite each of you to:

- Deepen your spiritual life through prayer, study, and fellowship.
- Engage in mission by supporting local and global initiatives that uplift women and children.
- Advocate for justice in ways that reflect Christ’s love and our shared commitment to equity.

Let us continue to be a movement of women who believe that faith is not passive – it is active, bold, and transformative. Together, we can be the hands and feet of Christ in a world longing for healing.

Thank you for your faithfulness, prayers, generosity, and unwavering commitment to our mission. I am honored to serve alongside all of you.

We Give All Praise and Glory to God!

Jackie

Jacqueline Campbell, President  
United Women in Faith | California-Pacific Conference  
[msjibc@aol.com](mailto:msjibc@aol.com) | 310-922-2647 (mobile)



# Vice President

When I awake each morning, I see a plaque with the Japanese word “IKIGAI,” which translates to capture “a reason for being.” It reminds me to have sense of purpose and a feeling of well-being. My birthday was in early March, and this was a birthday gift that portended for me a year grounded in surprises that would ASTONISH, with a reminder to be thankful for all that is in my life. As soon as that calendar page was turned, there were actually a number of amazing surprises for me that we can talk about if you corner me!

One of the wonderful surprises I can talk about now is that our luncheon at Annual Conference will host a significantly larger than usual audience of faithful people who will hear the good news about our Sisterhood of Grace! (You will soon see why!) We will have a unique opportunity to be in creative fellowship and to share the story of who we are as United Women in Faith.

In all of the unimaginable and heart-wrenching realities affecting all of us in the world today, we know that God is with us and that we can live and act with purpose and thanksgiving every day of our lives. Our MidWinter Event at Claremont UMC in February was such a boost of good spirit and learning and sharing. Our speakers could not have been a better choice, and the setting was a nostalgic one for many. The women took home with them tangible, meaningful and realistic seeds to be nurtured in their churches and local organizations as United Women in Faith. We know that faith without works is a dead end. Faith needs the work of our hands and hearts in mission to be effective to make the world different. Even if you are not an official voting member at Annual Conference, please consider joining us at the luncheon on Juneteenth, which promises to continue to inspire and move us to be women in action.

Wake up each day with a smile and the spirit of IKIGAI, thankful for a new day filled with purpose and well-being. Let’s make real our Faith, Hope and Love in Action! Let’s continue to ASTONISH as United Women in Faith! God is smiling with us!

Kara Mark, Vice President

United Women in Faith | California-Pacific Conference

karamark808@gmail.com





ASTONISH

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UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH  
LUNCHEON

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SAVE THE DATE:

June 19, 2026

Held at Annual Conference 2026

La Quinta California (near Palm Springs)

49499 Eisenhower Dr, La Quinta, CA 92253

Watch for e-blast information



# CONGRATS

## CAL-PAC UW FAITH



United  
Women  
in Faith



UNSTOPPABLE

### Mission Giving Award 2025

This certificate is presented to the

California-Pacific Conference

in recognition of reaching

## 123% Mission Giving for 2025!

Your Mission Giving supports an unstoppable sisterhood of bold women. Your support strengthens communities, increases advocacy, equips leaders, and provides a safety net for those in need. Your gifts are love in action.

With Gratitude,

Sally Vonner, General Secretary and CEO

Peace,

Tamara Clark, Treasurer/CFO

# MidWinter 2026 Recap - Claremont

## MidWinter FollowUp

Our panel of speakers at the MidWinter Event in February were riveting in their presentations and then in the small groups that followed. Monalisa Tuitahi, Jane Woods, and Leah Switzer spoke with passion and first-hand experience about immigration, David and Margaret Youth and Family Services, and human trafficking. Their stories were singularly compelling, but we soon understood that the dynamics were interconnected. Here are some of the takeaways and action suggestions from each of the groups.

## David and Margaret Youth and Family Services

- Refer employers
- Consider foster parenting
- Provide vocational training
- Share mentoring stories
- Patronize Dave and Maggie's Café and store
- Collect gift cards for grocery stores and nearby accessible stores
- Donate money through the UW Faith Districts
- Share full size-hygiene products
- Share the Amazon Wish List



## Human Trafficking

- Join or donate to a related organization
- Invite speakers for information and education
- Actively advocate/build awareness
- Give gift cards to victims
- Support Fair Trade/Have Fair Trade sell directly to your group

## Immigration

- Our friend and church member Carlos Chavez was taken by ICE at our church. Places of ministry should be sacred and off-limits. Keep him in prayer.
- We are all God's children. In His eyes we are not "immigrants;" we are His children.
- It's easy to say this doesn't affect me, so I won't let it bother me, so I won't take action. But this isn't a YOU problem; it's an US problem. We need to do something!
- If you feel like there's nothing you can do, offer a prayer.
- A practical thought: offer to walk children to church or school



# MidWinter 2026 Recap - Hawaii

## Highlights from the 2026 UWF Mid-Winter Event at SWCC (3/7/2026)

- SWCC's Free Store - established and serving the community.
- Ongoing work with Native Hawaiians
  - Partnerships w/ McKinley high school & Farrington high school.
  - Kapiolani Community College (KCC) - students are involved in community service including work with the 'aina.
- Basic Mediation Training offered at [The Mediation Center of the Pacific](#)
- [Volunteer Fair at UH Manoa](#) on April 8 from 10am - 2pm
  - 50 spaces for non-profit organizations.
  - Contact Atina Pascua at [atina@hawaii.edu](mailto:atina@hawaii.edu) for more info
- Diamond Head Road Volunteer work
  - March 14 and 21 (free lunch for volunteers)
  - Contact Denise Pierson [neiceypie60@yahoo.com](mailto:neiceypie60@yahoo.com) for more info
- Wesley UMC - "Know Your Rights" Immigration Observer Training on April 11 from 9:30 to 11:30 am
- [Peace March on March 28](#) at 9:30 am at Thomas Square
  - Contact Deanna Espinas [espihawaii@juno.com](mailto:espihawaii@juno.com) (participants will not be arrested).
- [Hawai'i Workers Center](#)
  - Hotline #(808) 743-1031
  - Contact Kami Yamamoto, Executive Director [kami@hawaiiworkerscenter.org](mailto:kami@hawaiiworkerscenter.org)
- Harris UMC's "Kokua Closet"
  - A dedicated space providing professional clothing for immigrants attending court. Shoes & toiletries are needed.
  - Contact [Harris UMC](#) to coordinate donations.
- Kailua UMC's Diaper Drive
  - 8,000 diapers were collected (Keolumana UMC joined as well).
  - Diapers were packed and distributed at SWCC's Food Drive Day. -Diapers sizes 4 & 5 are most needed.
- SWCC's Big Diaper Drive takes place every November.
- Advocacy takes many forms: peace marches, rallies, writing letters to government leaders, and even the small things.
- The influence of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s strong mother shaped him into the person he became.
- Share the word! A conversation can lead to a meaningful change/awareness. Love in action: Be inspired, take action! Do whatever you can. With God, all things are possible.



# Secretary

## NEWS from your Secretary

Proverbs 16:3 'Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established'

Greetings United Women in Faith

It's been a few months since you've heard from me, but I assure you that it's not because I've been sitting on my hands. I've been working hard to deliver on my promise of a new conference directory. And so, I'm happy to say that the time has come. It took so long because I literally had to start from scratch. There were many starts and stops – especially regarding format, officers, and contact information; but with the help of the district presidents and secretaries, and even our Cal-Pac Conference IT support, I was able to produce a complete directory. Looking back, I am reminded of our Program Study, 'Mapping Our Way Forward', because I consider the directory a way for us to find like-minded and close by UWFaith members to be resources to chart a path to inspire, influence, and impact.

In addition to working on the conference directory, I have continued to meet with the UWFaith national secretary and my sister-conference secretaries. At one of our quarterly meetings, Susan Moberg (national secretary) informed us of deadlines set for us. One was that Directories should be done by March 31. So, although I missed last year (my excuse was I didn't know about it!!!), I was determined to make it this year. The bible tells us in Proverbs 4:23 "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life."

After I had pulled the information together, I went to the West District 'super editor' for help. Joni Arlain, Westwords Editor, used her expertise to edit, format, and 'spruce up' an otherwise bland document. The conference is blessed to have such a talented UWFaith member who is always willing to help wherever she's needed.

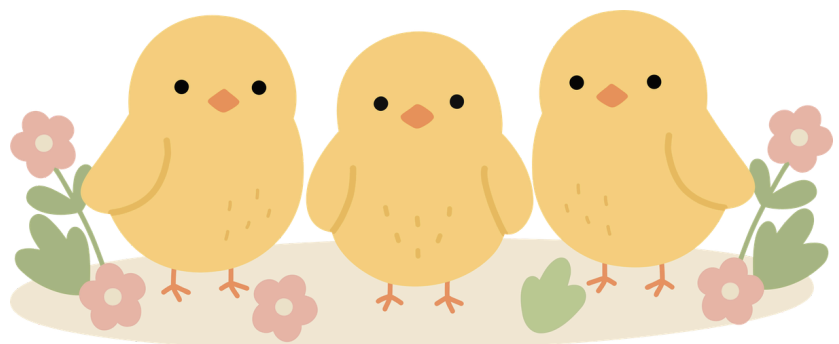
As much as Joni and I tried, we know there are probably errors. So, please feel free to follow up with corrections to me or through your district secretaries.

The Directory is available online at <https://online.fliphtml5.com/qnnvd/jabn/>.

A PDF version of the Directory will be emailed to Pacific Waves subscribers soon.

Thank you for your patience. I hope it was worth the wait.

Tina R. Pool, Secretary  
California Pacific UWFaith



# MISSION EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

## *Love in Action*

United Women in Faith celebrated Day of Giving on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, a special day established in 2021. **“Why March 23?** On this date in **1869**, a group of **eight intrepid women** founded the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society, the forerunner of United Women in Faith. Their vision was to create **educational opportunities** and provide **health care** to women in India. These founding women invited others to join their mission through their **prayers and two pennies**. Thus, a movement of faith and generosity in action was born.” **This is Love in Action!**

“God’s abundant grace has been with us since the inception of The Legacy Endowment Fund and that grace continues to abound as we grow ever closer to reaching our \$60 million goal. We are now less than \$9 million away.” Day of Giving – March 23 – annually is our time to come together “as one to thank God for the continued grace shown to United Women in Faith, by faithfully giving to ensure the future of our vital mission work to improve the lives of women, children, and youth at home and abroad.” It’s our opportunity to be witnesses of “God’s Grace in Abundance” through your generous gifts.

**United Women in Faith is MISSION GIVING.** As I take the time to share in mission education and interpretation, I find that what has been said before is **“worth repeating”** because the message is still the same. No need to reinvent the wheel, just reinforce it. And so, I share excerpts from the January/February 2026 article in **response** magazine, “A Living Faith in a Changing World, by Catey Miller. Catey shares on how National Mission Institutions (NMIs) began. “NMIs have long been at the heart of United Women in Faith’s commitment to serve women, children, and youth—especially those most often overlooked. Their roots trace back to the determined efforts of 19th-century Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren women who saw urgent needs both abroad and at home and stepped in to meet those needs.” “In 1869, the first autonomous women’s mission organizations began with the Woman’s Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Founded after women heard firsthand from missionaries about the dire conditions faced by women overseas, they decided it was time to take control of their own fundraising and make their own decisions about the direction of their missions.”

From then to now, “we continue to honor our commitment to serve women and families, as we see at “Gum Moon Residence Hall, a San Francisco-based ministry that has served women and children for more than 150 years. Founded in 1870 as the Chinese Mission Home, its purpose was to confront a crisis of human trafficking in the city’s Chinatown.

Mission workers navigated courts, filed writs of habeas corpus, and fought for custody. But their work didn’t stop there; these women also entered brothels and dens of exploitation to find and rescue those trapped inside. They literally faced down systems that allowed young girls to be treated as property, putting their faith into action in courageous ways few of us today may be able to imagine.

As the surrounding community and social conditions changed, so did the ministry. Over time, the work shifted from emergency rescue to providing long-term care for children from broken homes, and eventually to supporting young women through transitional housing, education, and empowerment programs. Now known as Gum Moon, the institution remains deeply rooted in its founding purpose: to offer safety, dignity, and opportunity to those who have been marginalized.” I encourage you to read Catey Miller’s full article found on pages 28-32 of the referenced response magazine issue.

**Mission Giving is Love in Action! Our Five Channels of Giving** (including Pledge to Mission, Gift to Mission, World Thank Offering – last Sunday in November, etc.), **Giving Tuesday** (Tuesday after Thanksgiving), **Day of Giving** (3/23), **The Legacy Foundation**, are designated times to support the work of UWFaith, but you can do it every day. These make the mission work of UWFaith at Gum Moon possible.

May we continue in the spirit of Day of Giving 2026 to reflect on its theme – “Grace in Abundance.” **2 Corinthians 9:8** *And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may be able to do good for every good work.*”

With Joy & Appreciation,  
**Joni Arlain**

Excerpts from <https://uwfaith.org/dayofgiving/> and January/February 2026 issue of **response** magazine.



# Membership, Nurture & Outreach

**Quick heads up our Unit Survey is officially live!**

Please take a few minutes to complete it and share within your networks as needed. Your voice helps shape where we're headed.

You can find it here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Cal-Pac2025>

The survey takes approximately 10–15 minutes to complete

The Cal-Pac 2025 Survey will be extended to Monday, April 13, 2026 per Nicola Epps, Member Services Associate. Appreciate all Local Units to complete the 2025 Survey by the graciously extended deadline.

## How You Can Help

We ask for your support in amplifying this effort by sharing the survey with local unit leaders in your network. Please consider forwarding this message and including the survey information in newsletters, meetings, trainings, and upcoming events.

The perspectives of our members, women like you, leading, serving, and showing up in the world today, are vital. Together, we are Unstoppable, shaping a bold future grounded in faith, justice, and action for women, children, and youth. If you have questions, please contact [Membership@uwfaith.org](mailto:Membership@uwfaith.org) or reach out to me directly using the information below.

Thank you for your leadership and partnership.

Thank you for all you do to nurture connection and keep our movement moving. We're building something powerful and your input matters.

In faith and sisterhood,  
Lisa Kadowaki  
MNO Coordinator



# Program Resources

## PROGRAM RESOURCES 2026

Easter greetings Cal-Pac United Women In Faith, It was a blessing to see so many of you at the Mid-Winter event held at the beautiful Claremont UMC campus. It was my pleasure to congratulate and award the Reading Banner to the Hawaii District, as they reported the highest percentage of readers for 2025. I am also pleased to announce that South District had the highest number of books read by Children and will receive the coveted trophy during Mission u, July 2026.

Ladies, during this Lenten season, and our upcoming Holy Week, which culminates in Easter, let us take time to be intentional in our reading learning and growing, as we also observe Women's History month. We have the opportunity to celebrate the vital role of women in American History as well as participate in Lenten Studies. I recommend reading current books from the reading list about women, past and present One book, Finding Me, a Memoir, by the award winning actress and film producer, Viola Davis ." Ms. Davis hopes to inspire readers to light up their own lives with creative expression and rediscover who they were before the world imposed a label" (Reading Category-Nurturing for Community-2022).

Another recommended Book briefly reviewed in Response Magazine (November/December 2025 is - The Women- by Kristin Hannah, (St. Martin's Press -2024). "This is the story of one woman gone to war, but it shines a light on all women who put themselves in harm's way and whose sacrifice and commitment to their country have too often gone forgotten".(Reading Category -Nurturing for the Community).

The November/December 2025, issue of Response Magazine is an excellent resource and overview of the reading Program for 2026. Please use it to guide your reading of recommended books for the reporting year 2026. I also recommend the regular reading of Response, the magazine of Women in Mission. Please know that readers of Response earn one (1) credit under the category of Nurturing For Community each reporting year. Remember to also include bonus books, Faith Talks Podcasts and the listening to Voices from the Field, on your yearly reading report form, when submitting to your district Coordinator at the end of December for credit.

I am also recommending the Children's book, entitled Something, Someday-by Amanda Gordon- Viking Books for Young Readers (2023). This picture book by presidential Inaugural poet Amanda Gordon and Caldecott Honor winning illustrator Christian Robinson, offers a message of hope to inspire and enlighten young readers. This book for our Children and adults is listed under the category of Leadership Development.

Again, I invite each of you to visit the Program Resources table at each of our Cal-Pac events to visualize and peruse current books, and issues of Response magazine and pick up a new book mark. Eligible book list years for 2026, are 2021-to-2026. I also invite you to order and use the 2026 Program Resource Book -Mapping Our Way Forward, by Hannah Kardon. You will find thematic readings and activities for each calendar month. This Program Resource book, will prove to be an invaluable tool for your local organization circles to use as a guide and enhance your group meetings whether by zoom or in person. Check it out -( [uwfaith.org](http://uwfaith.org))- also available in digital format.

I advise each of our members to visit the UWfaith website- [uwfaith.org](http://uwfaith.org)- and review updated information on a regular basis. Sign up to receive e-mails about upcoming events, Faith Talk podcast and Voices from the Field. Remember books can be purchased directly from the retailer of your choice, from [bookshop.org/shop/uwfaith](http://bookshop.org/shop/uwfaith), or borrowed from your local library. To learn more visit [uwfaith.org/read](http://uwfaith.org/read).

I invite you to contact me if you have questions or concerns. We are a "Sisterhood" and we are encouraged to Inspire, influence, and Impact, each other.

Good Reading Sisters In Faith!

Claudia Spears -Cal-Pac Program Resources Coordinator ([cjspears1@aol.com](mailto:cjspears1@aol.com))



# Social Action

Hello everyone. Unfortunately, I was unable to fully participate as your Social Action Coordinator in December, January and February. I'm back now!

Congratulations to all of the local organizations who completed the Charter for Racial Justice criteria for 2025:

East District: Redlands First UMC

South District: Escondido FUMC, La Mesa FUMC, San Dieguito and San Diego FUMC.

West District: Crenshaw, First Los Angeles UMC, Holman UMC, and St. Mark LA UMC.

Let me know if you have any questions or need assistance in fulfilling the criteria in 2026.

## Social Action Priorities

These can be included in your annual meetings.

Interrupting the School to Prison Pipeline. Here are ways that you can get involved based on your level of involvement (member, unit, district, etc. <https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/mass-incarceration/interrupt-the-school-to-prison-pipeline-resources/>

Just Energy for All. Here is the link to the ways you can get involved.

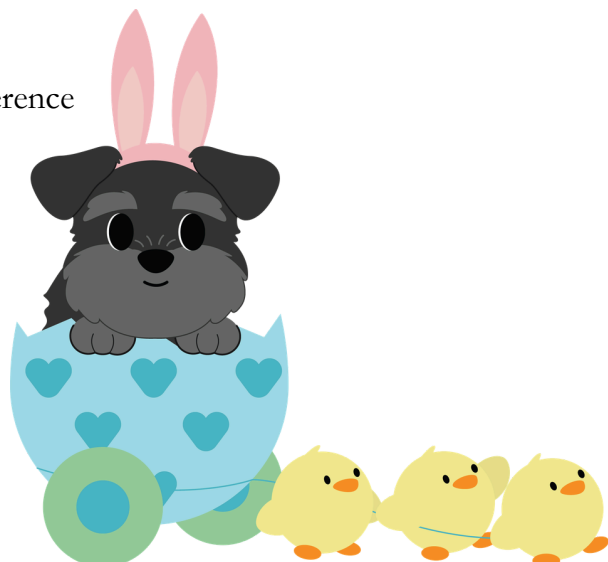
<https://uwfaith.org/what-we-do/serve-and-advocate/just-energy-4-all/resources/>

## Further Resources

United Women in Faith has recently made available additional educational materials to help incorporate Social Action in the work that you do as UWF members. These include two new bible studies "Why Engage in Social Action?" and "Practicing Difficult Conversations". If there is enough interest, these bible studies will be offered through the Cal-Pac Conference at a later date. These are also available for download and for sale through the UWF website in the **Resources** section. You can also learn more about our Social Action priorities through the Reading Program and Faith Talks.

Amybeth Lake, Social Action Coordinator

United Women in Faith | California-Pacific Conference



# Spiritual Growth

## The Seven Deadly Sins We Often Ignore: A Scriptural Reflection

The early church identified seven “deadly sins” not because they are the worst things a person can do, but because they are root sins—attitudes of the heart that quietly shape our choices, relationships, and spiritual health. Many of them hide beneath the surface of our daily lives. We may not commit dramatic acts of rebellion, but these subtle heart-postures can slowly erode our peace, our joy, and our intimacy with God.

**1. Pride — The Quiet Throne of Self** Pride is often called the root of all sin because it places self where only God belongs. It shows up in subtle ways: defensiveness, refusal to apologize, needing to be right, or believing we are above correction. Scripture: “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.” — Proverbs 16:18 Pride blinds us to our need for grace. It keeps us from repentance. And it often masquerades as confidence or competence, which is why we ignore it.

**2. Envy — Resenting God’s Goodness in Others** Envy is not just wanting what someone else has—it’s resenting that they have it. It corrodes gratitude and makes us believe God has shortchanged us. Scripture: “A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.” — Proverbs 14:30 Envy is easy to hide behind a smile. But it steals joy and poisons relationships.

**3. Wrath — Anger That Becomes a Lifestyle** Wrath is not the momentary feeling of anger; it’s anger that settles in and becomes a way of being. It shows up as bitterness, harshness, impatience, or a quick temper. Scripture: “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.” — James 1:19–20 Many Christians excuse wrath as “just how I am,” but Scripture calls us to a transformed heart.

**4. Sloth — Not Laziness, but Spiritual Apathy** Sloth is often misunderstood. It’s not simply avoiding work—it’s avoiding the things that matter. It’s spiritual indifference, procrastination in obedience, or a lack of love for God and neighbor. Scripture: “Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.” — Romans 12:11 Sloth is deadly because it numbs the soul. It makes us comfortable with a lukewarm faith.

**5. Greed — The Endless Hunger for More** Greed is not just about money. It’s the belief that we never have enough—enough security, enough possessions, enough control. It makes us cling tightly to what God calls us to hold loosely. Scripture: “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” — Luke 12:15 Greed is socially acceptable, even admired. But it slowly replaces trust in God with trust in wealth.

**6. Gluttony — When Consumption Becomes Comfort** Gluttony is not only overeating. It’s using anything—food, entertainment, shopping, scrolling—to fill emotional or spiritual emptiness. It’s turning to created things for comfort instead of the Creator. Scripture: “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” — 1 Corinthians 10:31 Gluttony is deadly because it trains us to seek satisfaction everywhere except in God.

**7. Lust — A Distorted Desire** Lust is not simply sexual temptation; it is desire that has become disordered—desire that uses others rather than loves them. It reduces people to objects and erodes the purity of heart Jesus calls us to. Scripture: “But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” — Matthew 5:28 Lust thrives in secrecy, which is why it often goes unaddressed.

### Why These Sins Matter Today

The seven deadly sins are not about shame—they are about awareness. They help us name the subtle spiritual drift that can happen in any believer’s life. When we recognize these patterns, we can invite the Holy Spirit to reshape our hearts. **The good news:** For every deadly sin, God offers a life-giving virtue—humility, gratitude, patience, diligence, generosity, self-control, and purity. And through Christ, we are not left to fight these battles alone.



# Legacy

2 Corinthians 9: 7

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (NRSV).

Dear UWFaith sisters,

I thank each of you who donate to the UWFaith Legacy Endowment Fund. I pray God will bestow many blessings on you. I know you are cheerful givers because on March 19, 2026, the Legacy Endowment Fund Development Team reported, in their February 2026 Conference Giving report, the fund total was \$55,210,922.00. The California Pacific Conference UWFaith 2026 contribution to the fund total was \$559.13. Our cumulative contribution since the inception of the fund was \$361,450.82.

A reminder of the 3 ways to donate to the fund:

- Become a 150 Legacy builder by making monthly donations of \$18.69.
- Become a Friend of Legacy by making a gift of \$5000 or more, contact Development at 800-278-7771 for more information.
- Join the 1869 Society by making a planned gift through a will bequest, a gift of stock or securities, or a donation of other non-cash assets.

For more information, go to [uwfaith.org/give/legacy-fund](http://uwfaith.org/give/legacy-fund).

If you are able, but you are not contributing to the fund, please consider choosing one of the above mentioned ways to support the fund and help the United Women in Faith achieve its goal of \$6 million dollars sooner.

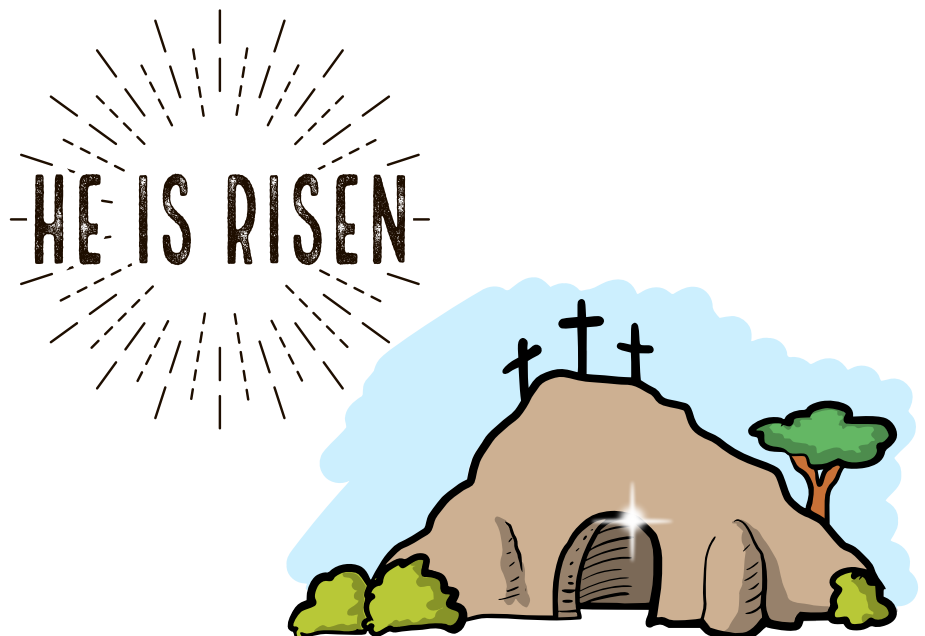
Another way to help the UWFaith meet its goal was to donate on March 23, 2026 to the Legacy Endowment Fund's Day of Giving. It is the largest fundraiser for the year. I hope you, your families and friends were able to make a donation on that day.

I hope you were able to attend the Mid-Winter Event, February 21st. There was information about the Legacy Endowment Fund and other things the United Women in Faith organization does to support women, children and youth. The information will also be at the Annual Conference in June. If you attend the UWFaith luncheon you will see what our conference is doing to meet our mission locally and globally.

Again, thank you for your continued support. May each of you have a blessed, healthy, and prosperous year.

In His service,

Elizabeth (Liz) Martinez  
Cal-Pac UWFaith Legacy Liaison  
(760) 217-6273  
[veolafrank@yahoo.com](mailto:veolafrank@yahoo.com)



## When Leadership Becomes Shared Strength

In many of our small women's groups, the officers who serve do far more than their titles suggest. They plan programs, coordinate events, manage communication, prepare devotionals, and often stay behind to wash dishes after everyone has gone home. This is not a sign of poor leadership. It is a sign of deep commitment — the kind of commitment that keeps our circles alive.

### *How a president's honest conversation opened the door to shared ministry*

Recently, one of our presidents reached out for a conversation. She serves faithfully in a group where the roles of president, vice president, and secretary often fall on the same pair of shoulders. She wasn't asking because she was confused or incapable. She was asking because she wanted her group to thrive, and she sensed that the way she was carrying the load was no longer sustainable. With her permission, I share her story because it reflects what many leaders quietly carry — and because her courage opened a path that others may find helpful.

### *Leadership grows stronger when we release what is too heavy and invite others to shine.*

As we talked, sharing with her the *Guide for the Confident President*, she began to see leadership in a new way. Instead of trying to do everything herself, she explored three simple questions:

1. What are the responsibilities only the president must keep?
2. What are the tasks that can be shared?
3. What are the duties that can be released entirely?

This framework didn't diminish her leadership; it strengthened it. It gave her clarity, confidence, and a renewed sense of purpose. She realized that inviting others into the work is not a burden to them — it is a blessing. It allows gifts to emerge, relationships to deepen, and the whole circle to grow.

In the weeks that followed, she began gently inviting women into small, manageable tasks. The very women she had been observing and praying about are now stepping forward. They are taking on responsibilities with joy, and she is no longer the last one in the kitchen after every event. Her circle is becoming stronger — not because she worked harder, but because she chose to lead with openness and shared responsibility.

### *Asking for help is not weakness. It is wisdom.*

Her story is not about weakness. It is about wisdom. It reminds us that none of us are meant to lead alone. When leaders speak honestly about their load, solutions become possible. When we name what is too heavy, others can help carry it. And when we create space for new hands and new hearts, our ministry becomes sustainable, joyful, and rooted in community.

If you are an officer who is carrying more than your share, or if you feel unsure how to begin sharing the work, you are not alone. There are simple, practical ways to lighten the load — and we are here to walk with you.

Written by: Dss. Perla Baker  
CalPac Conference – Filipino Language Coordinator



# Mission u 2026

Mission u 2026

Sara Munsin, Dean

Grace Han, Assistant Dean



Mission u is a transformative experience designed to recharge and refocus your faith. Offering study on biblically grounded curricula, Mission u motivates, informs, and enriches our commitment to create a more just and equitable world, locally and globally.

## SAVE THE DATES!

This year's Mission u will be held at Bell Memorial UMC, located in Rowland Heights, CA beginning midday on **July 24** and concluding before lunch on **July 26**. The location is close to the 60 Freeway. Local motels and hotels will be used for housing.

Interactive classes will be available in English, Spanish, and Tongan for adults and in English for children and youth. In addition to the classes, specially designed worship sessions will raise the spirits of all participants, and time will be set aside to find out more about our organization and to participate in fun activities.

All the curriculum books are available on Amazon:

- Adult Curriculum: *A Deep Knowing: Experiencing Emmanuel Through Every Part of Our Lives*
- Youth Curriculum: *God With us: Experiencing God's Presence in Our Lives*
- Children's Curriculum: *Experiencing Emmanuel*

Join us as we collectively discover how God calls us to respond to suffering with compassion.



# National Mission Institution

## SWCC - Hawaii District

It is such a blessing that our Cal-Pac Conference of the UWFaith is living out our mission “... to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the Church.” Each district focuses on an institution for which we perform service. In Hawai’i this institution is Susannah Wesley Community Center (SWCC).

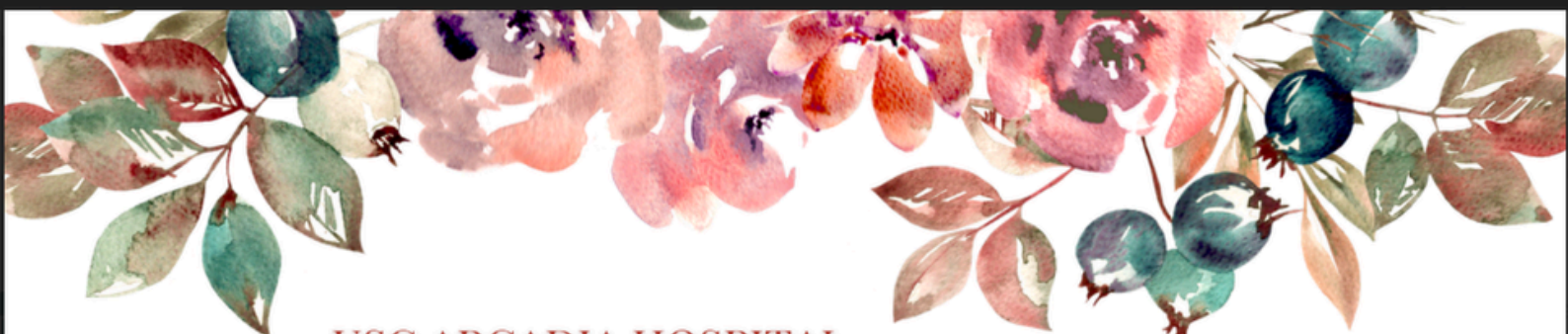
Named after the mother of Charles and John Wesley, and located in the heart of urban Honolulu, this non-profit agency has served the community for over 125 years, empowering youth, adults, and families—many of whom are newcomers to Hawai’i—facing significant social and economic challenges. With a mission to help individuals survive, thrive, and contribute to society, even amidst language barriers and cultural differences, SWCC offers high-quality social services and programs rooted in aloha and respect. Through its comprehensive support, SWCC provides a sense of belonging and hope to those who are lost, hungry, or struggling, fostering self-sufficiency and independence in the heart of this low to middle income community

SWCC has often been the recipient of love gifts from our Hawaii UWFaith family. Just last month, at our MidWinter Event, we collected gift cards and diapers for programs for SWCC.

Many of our UWFaith sisters and I have also volunteered to work at their Free Store. The Free Store is open twice a month, on the first Friday and second Saturday. At the Store, families and kupuna (elderly people) that are either on fixed income or other federal funded programs, are able to “shop” for clothes, household goods, toys, small appliances, books and other items that have been donated. The items are free and families and others are able to supplement their households. It makes me feel great to see happy and relieved faces as people leave the center with bags full of “stuff”.

SWCC’s connection to UWFaith has been and continues to be a strong one. As the District President of UWFaith, I automatically am a member of their governing board. As our Mission Institute, SWCC will continue to receive our gifts and services so that it can do God’s work for the Kalihi-Palama community. May it be blessed!





USC ARCADIA HOSPITAL  
WOMEN'S AUXILIARY FOR SPIRITUAL CARE

*Honoring our Special*  
*Heroes* MEMBERSHIP TEA

A fundraising event in support of the chaplaincy program

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**LEWIS HALL**  
USC ARCADIA HOSPITAL  
300 W. HUNTINGTON DR.  
ARCADIA, CA 91007

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**25**  
**APRIL**  
**2026**

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**11:00- 2:00**  
**PM**

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**\$50 PER PERSON**

Reserve your seat by contacting Diane Gin (dlokgin@gmail.com or 323-243-5323).  
Deadline to register and submit a written bio and photo of the honoree is due  
**March 31.** Fill out the attached form and email to the above email address.

Make checks payable to: **"Women's Auxiliary for Spiritual Care"**  
Mail to: **Diane Gin, 1400 Pebble Hurst St., Monterey Park Ca. 91754**





USC Women's Auxiliary for Spiritual Care  
USC Arcadia Hospital

**“Honoring Our Special Heroes”**  
**USC Membership Tea & Fundraiser event in support of the Chaplaincy Program**

**Date: Saturday, April 25, 2026**

**Time: 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.**

**Place: Lewis Hall  
USC Arcadia Hospital  
300 West Huntington Dr., Arcadia, CA 91007**

**Cost: \$50/per person**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual USC Women's Auxiliary Membership Tea and Fundraiser for the Chaplaincy Program is coming soon, and we are hoping to see a number of “Special Heroes” to be honored on that day.

In addition to “Honoring Our Special Heroes” our featured guest speaker is Sandra Chen Lau, president of the USC Arcadia Hospital Foundation. She has with her over 25 years of experience working in a number of executive philanthropies. She will be sharing her insights and visions of the Hospital.

So now is the time to get your reservations in, submit your “Special Hero” nomination form from your local unit organizations, **no later than April 10**. The Nomination Form and Promotional flyer with all of the needed information are included in this Pacific Waves edition.

Here's another way to help, if you are unable to attend but would like to participate, we will be accepting **Gift Baskets** to be used at our Silent Auction table. It would be greatly appreciated if the baskets were cellophane wrapped with a description of items enclosed and the value of the basket.

We invite one and all to join us for a relaxing afternoon as we hear all the good things happening in the Hospital as well as celebrating those special heroes in our midst!

Questions: Diane Gin [dlokgin@gmail.com](mailto:dlokgin@gmail.com)  
323-243-5323



# Western Jurisdiction

Greetings from the Western Jurisdiction! It has been a busy time of planning and preparing for the upcoming Assembly 2026...I hope you will be joining us! YOU still have time to register, and the deadline is drawing near but do try and make a point of attending. Let us see if we will have the most attendees from the Cal-Pac Conference! I am sure Jackie will have no objections standing on stage that evening representing US!

**Dream it! Believe it! Do it!** Will be held during the weekend of May 15-17, 2026, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Assembly is held every 4 years; it will be a celebration of who we are and what we can achieve together as United Women in Faith. It is a time to unite, recharge, and deepen our faith. It is a weekend of connecting with women from all walks of life who love God and want to make a difference in an unstoppable sisterhood. We will gather in communities, attend workshops, and connect with women who are committed to justice and spiritual growth. You will even get a chance to hear our two powerhouse keynote speakers, both longtime United Methodist, Stacey Abrams, a lawyer and former Georgia State Representative and the Reverend Carolyn Abrams.

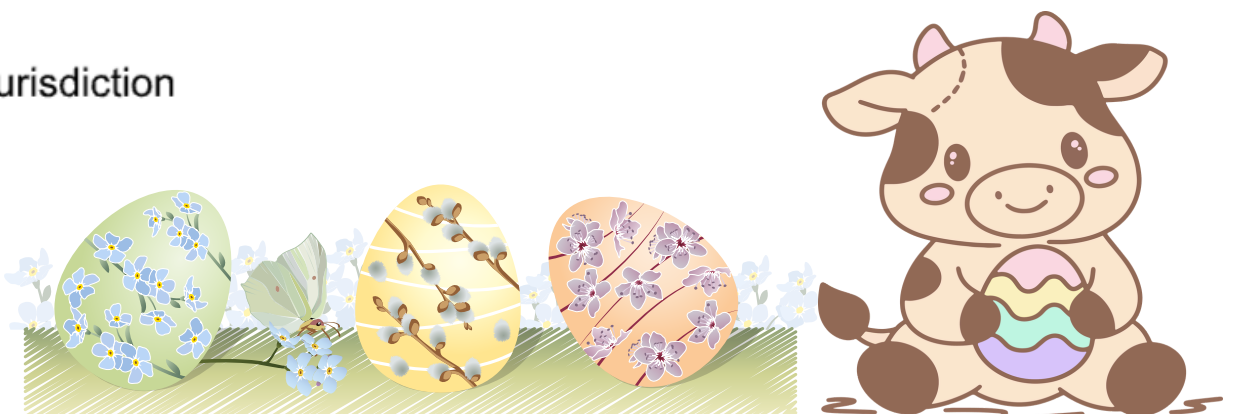
BUT here is the added plus, at Assembly 2026 ...WE will be announcing "The Big Reveal" of the 2028 Western Jurisdiction Quadrennial Event. Mums the word until May 15-17, at Assembly; so, I hope you will be able to attend and join us for this unforgettable weekend.

Looking forward to seeing YOU in Indianapolis, Indiana...the Registration link is below for your convenience; So, Do it now!!! Deadline is April 13, 2026

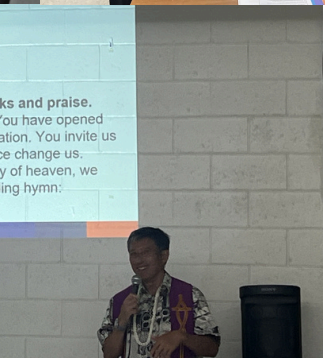
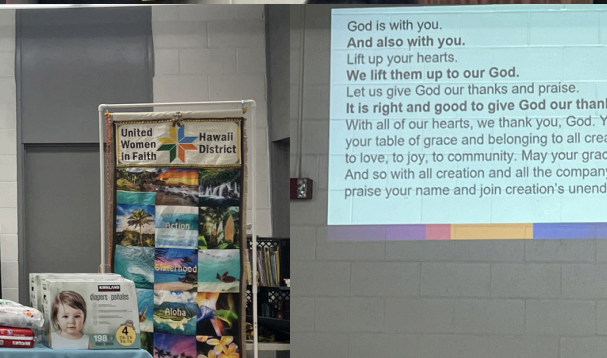
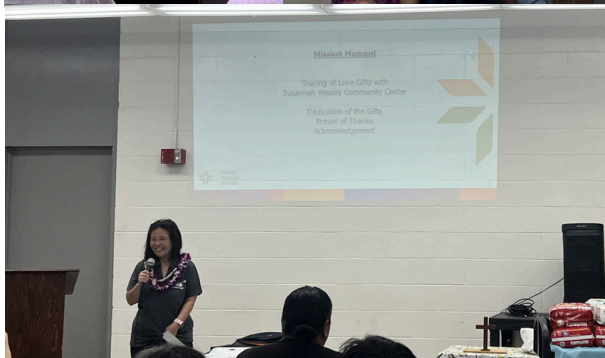
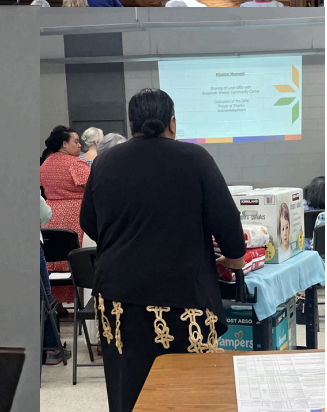
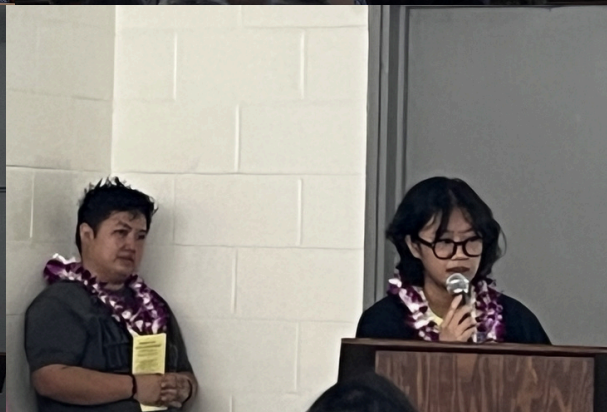
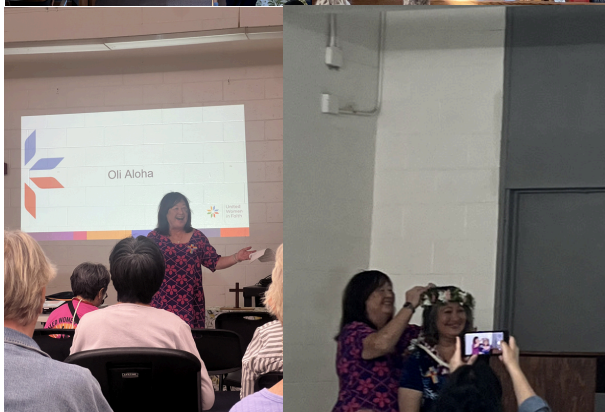
[UWFaith.org/Assembly](https://UWFaith.org/Assembly).

Together with you on the path,

Diane Gin  
Western Jurisdiction  
President



# MidWinter 2026



God is with you.  
And also with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to our God.  
Let us give God our thanks and praise.  
It is right and good to give God our thanks and praise.  
With all of our hearts, we thank you, God: You have opened  
your table of grace and belonging to all creation. You invite us  
to love, to joy, to community. May your grace change us.  
And so with all creation and all the company of heaven, we  
praise your name and join creation's unending hymn:

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**calpacuwfcommunications@gmail.com**

**The cost for a mailed subscription is \$15.** Make check payable to **Cal-Pac UW Faith**. Please mark in the memo line: **Pacific Waves 2026**. Mail payment & the form below to Cal-Pac UW Faith Treasurer:

**Freda Low**  
**8437 Village Lane**  
**Rosemead, CA 91770**  
**freda.umweast@gmail.com**

Pacific Waves 2026 Subscription Form - mail to Cal-Pac UW Faith Treasurer

Please print all information legibly:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone (home/cell) \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Official Area:

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date received by Cal-Pac UW Faith Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

<https://www.calpacumc.org/uwfaith>



<https://uwfaith.org>

# Editor's Page

As we continue our journey during this lent season, it provides me with the opportunity to reflect on how God continues to be in my life. I wanted to share one of my lenten reflections I wrote this year. I hope you enjoy seeing the pictures from our MidWinter Event and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Blessings,

Nicole | Cal-Pac Communication Coordinator

P.S. Since you all loved last year's egg hunt, let me know how many you can find throughout this newsletter edition. Also, below are some for you to color and decorate as well!

[HTTP://LINKTR.EE/CALPACUWFAITH](http://LINKTR.EE/CALPACUWFAITH)

Timothy 1:3-7

In this scripture, Paul thanks God for Timothy and his family. We learn that Timothy's faith is passed down from his grandmother Lois and mother Eunice and now is instilled within him. He is reminded that God provides the spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. With that, we should not fear since God did not give us a spirit of cowardice.

As for my faith journey, I grew up at Wahiawa United Methodist Church as my faith was passed down from my grandparents and family. I inherited this faith from my family, and I am blessed to have God's spirit within me. I thank God for with this gift God provides, I am able to live boldly and not fear. For this is my foundation of where my faith began.

In my faith journey, I have been able to share God's love through United Women in Faith. The many motherly mentors in my life have helped to continue to nurture and remind me of God's power, love and self-control that have allowed me to continue and work in the lives of others. May we all be motherly mentors and share God's love with future generations.

Prayer: May you and your family continue to learn and feel God's presence in your everyday life, knowing that he gives you the power, love and self-discipline to face challenges and fears. During these times of uncertainties in the world today, remember that his spirit inside of you is greater than anything that comes against you. Do not walk in fear, but walk in God's power, love and self-discipline. Amen.

