

Central Texas - North Texas - Northwest Texas

Conference Unification Update

To the United Women in Faith of the Central Texas (CTC), North Texas (NTC), and Northwest Texas (NWTX) Conferences:

In the fall of 2023 Bishop Ruben Saenz, Jr., resident Bishop of the Central and North Texas Conferences, announced the initiation of the Unification Consultation process to bring together the Central and North Texas Conferences of the United Methodist Church. Conversations were also



initiated with Bishop James "Jimmy" Nunn, resident Bishop of the Northwest Texas Conference, to enter the consultation process of the unification of the conferences as well. After the consultation was concluded the unification process was initiated and is now well underway. With the implementation of the conference unification comes the unification of our respective memberships of the United Women in Faith. The name for this new conference will be announced at a Special Called Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church on September 28, 2024, in Abilene, TX.

National Representatives on the Program Advisory Group (PAG), Darlene Alfred (CTC), Cynthia Rives (NTC) and Pam Zwickey (NWTX) will work with the Conference Presidents and transition teams assembled to serve as liaisons and be a resource for the unification process and team members. The unification process requires attention to many details with respect for the sisterhood, missions, and traditions of our different conference organizations. Over the past few months, the three Conference Presidents along with the members of the PAG have assembled a Transition Team, Finance Team, Committee on Nominations, and a Communications Team.

- The Transition team consists of fifteen (15) members with five (5) members from each conference to include the Conference President, the Conference Treasurer, each PAG representative and two (2) other members from each conference.
- **The Finance Team** includes the three (3) Conference Treasurers working together to create a budget for the unified conference and one of the PAG representatives.
- The Committee on Nominations (CON) is a 9-person committee consisting of three

(3) members from each conference that will serve to fill the positions of the unified conference. This committee elects their own chairperson and have begun their work to create a slate of officers that is balanced among the legacy conferences and in all other ways in line with our purpose as United Women in Faith including age, race, socio-economic status, ability, etc. One PAG representative will also be with this committee, as liaison.

• **The Communication Committee** is comprised of the three PAG representatives and the three Conference Presidents.

Each committee and any/all sub-committees will include representatives from all three conferences and will again be in line with our purpose and utilize diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise. A full list of committees and sub-committees is listed below.

As the Legacy Conferences prepare for unification, our Annual Meetings will be a celebration of the past year's mission efforts, funding, and recognition of the rich history and legacy of each Conference. This will also be a time to recognize the outgoing officers and conduct any District Officer training, where needed.

Election of officers for the new conference will take place at the inaugural **Annual Meeting** of our new unified Conference on **Saturday, November 9, 2024, in Abilene, Texas**. This will be a time for us to come together, expand our sisterhood, and make history! A space to celebrate the present and look toward the future of United Women in Faith in the new unified Conference. Please be sure to mark your calendars for Nov. 9th, save the date, plan to attend and bring a friend!

There is a place for each of us in this transition. Please contact your Conference President (*links below*) about helping with one of these committees, sub-committees or another area that calls to you. Your gifts, talents, experiences, and love for the United Women in Faith are invaluable and we hope you will share them on this unification journey!

While we know there is work to do.... we are not overwhelmed because our 155-year legacy reminds us that we are a community of women that "shows up and gets things done."

We look forward to going into the future with all of you.

Blessings,

Carolyn Cobb,

President Northwest Texas Conference UWFaith

Wendy Campbell,

President North Texas Conference UWFaith Pam Pinkerton – Whitley, President Central Texas Conference UWFaith

Listing of Unification Teams

Unification Transition Team Members:

Northwest Texas Carolyn Cobb, *President* Jackie Berry – *Treasurer* Brenda Breeden **North Texas** Wendy Campbell, *President* Lela Luxen – *Treasurer* Barbara Weaver **Central Texas**

Pam Pinkerton – Whitley, President Corliss McBride – Treasurer Alayna Merica Pam Zwickey – *PAG* Sonya Burkins Cynthia Rives – Director / National Vice-President / PAG Fannette Welton OPEN Darlene Alfred – *Director / PAG*

Unification Committee on Nominations (CON):

Northwest Texas Donna	North Texas	Central Texas
Watkins	Pam Shamblin	Gail Spears
Jeanne Ann Gibson	Thalia Matherson	Christie Roberts
Sharon White	Rosie Taylor	Barbara Greene

We connect and nurture women through Christian spiritual formation, leadership development, creative fellowship, and education so that they can inspire, influence, and impact communities, locally and globally.

United Women in Faith welcome ALL women of faith, no church membership required.

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