

## **United Methodist Women Programs and Events for 2026-27**

### **Sept. 1, 11:30 a.m. Kirsten Jakowitsch, Ed.D.      Failing Forward, The Power of Mentorship**

Dr. Jakowitsch, interim president at Tarrant County College's Northeast Campus, is a respected educator and scholar known for her leadership in curriculum development, instructional innovation and student success. She has built her career around strengthening academic programs, supporting teachers and advancing evidencebased practices that improve learning outcomes. She will speak to us about an unconventional educational path that has resulted in success--because of the encouragement of others.

### **Oct. 6, 6:00 p.m. Dr. Rita Kirk**

#### **From Neighbors to Strangers: How We Lost the Tie That Binds**

We live in an area where trust in our institutions, government, media, medicine and even the church—has reached historic lows. Drawing on four decades of research in political communications and a fellowship at Harvard's Edmond & Lily Safra Center for Ethics, Dr. Kirk will trace the unraveling of the social fabric that once held communities together. This won't be a talk about politics, but about the human bonds that make democratic life possible and what we must do to restore them.

### **October 28, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm**

#### **UMW Antiques Showcase Coffee**

Back by popular demand, the Antique Showcase event will be held at Ridglea Country Club. Join us for coffee, mimosas & light bites and a unique opportunity to hear Donald King Cowan, a renown antique dealer and certified appraiser from Dallas. Mr. Cowan will discuss the history and significance of antique items brought in by attendees. Whether you bring a treasured item or simply join the audience, a fun and informative time is guaranteed for all!

### **Nov. 3, 11:30 a.m. Melinda Burt and Shelly Seymour**

#### **The Garden of Yes**

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden, a regional landmark, blends 120 acres of curated landscapes, historic vistas and plant collections. In November, "the garden of yes," otherwise known as the Baker Martin Family Garden, will open, with much thanks to our own Lou Baker Martin. Our speakers will speak of the garden's long history, including how the iconic rose garden was built—much like our church—despite The Great Depression through its future, which includes this exciting new garden.

### **Dec. 1, 11:30 a.m. Flutissimo! Flute Choir**

#### **The Joy of Christmas Present**

This accomplished flute orchestra is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> year, drawing talented musicians from across North Texas. Flutists, from ages 18 to 80-plus, have performed challenging music for countless audiences. The orchestra will treat us to Christmas music to celebrate Advent.

**Jan. 5, 11:30 a.m Rev. Susan Phillips**

**Epiphany and Divine Feminine Wisdom**

The Rev. Susan Phillips pastors "Lincolns Church," First Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Illinois, where Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln attended before his presidential election. Rev. Phillips' nearly 40 years of ministry include creative worship design, community building, antioppression advocacy, and trauma mitigation. She cochairs the Illinois Poor People's Campaign, has been honored for her interfaith, LGBTQIA+ and antiracism work. She is also a recipient of a John Owen Smith Preaching Award from Candler School of Theology, Emory University, a United Methodist seminary. Rev. Phillips will invite us to reflect on this holy day and divine feminine wisdom.

**February 2**

**UMW Day of Service**

Come for one or more opportunities for our UMW to serve our church. There will be a morning, afternoon and evening opportunity. Details to come.

**March 2, 11:30 a.m. Dr. Rebekah Miles**

**Perkins School of Theology**

Dr. Miles has the distinction of being named the Susanna Wesley Centennial Professor of Practical Theology and Ethics and an Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor. As a United Methodist elder, her work has spanned Christian ethics, Wesleyan studies, feminist theology and Christian realism. She has served as a clergy delegate to five United Methodist General Conferences, and her family includes six generations of Methodist pastors, including a 19th century circuit rider.

**April 23, 2027 6:00pm – 9:30pm**

**The Boot Scootin' BBQ**

This popular event returns in an all-new venue – the beautiful National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame. Tour the inspiring exhibits honoring the courageous women who shaped the American West. Enjoy a delicious BBQ dinner in the beautiful new ballroom followed by exciting live and silent auctions, and dancing to live music. We hope you and your family and friends will join us for this fun evening benefiting our UMW mission partners.

**May 4, 11:30am Rev. Dr. Jenn Pick**

**Installation and In Memoriam**

We will celebrate our year with the installation of officers and remember our deceased members with our annual memorial service.

For more information for any program, please contact Joy Brandon, VP Programs, for the two Special Events, contact Cheryl Spencer and for Service Days, contact Annette Stamper, Service Chair.