



Introduction to World Federation

The World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women (WFM&UCW), founded on the 26th October 1939, is a fellowship of officially recognized groups of Methodist, United and Uniting Church Women organised in national Units within their nations. Each affirms the Federation motto:

To know Christ and to make him known.

The logo of the Federation is the Tree of Life with its leaves for the healing of the nations (Rev 22:2)

The Federation aims to be a support group for women acting as a catalyst in their faith and actions; promoting the interests of women in all areas of life, in spiritual growth, equality, development and peace; working towards the equal status of women; facilitating, encouraging and actively promoting leadership training for women; and being a voice for Methodist, United and Uniting Church women.

Members in the Federation meet for an annual World Federation Day Study Program; Area Seminars preceded by Weaving Together Programs for leaders; and the World Assembly. Members delight in their fellowship across national and cultural boundaries, united in faith and common purpose.

While affiliated with the World Methodist Council, the Federation is autonomous, holding its World Assembly at a similar time to the World Methodist Conference and in the same country. At the Assembly, World and Area Officers are elected for the following quinquennium. The Officers co-ordinate programs and network in sharing information.

United Nations Status

In 1983 Federation was granted its own Non-Governmental Organization representation at the United Nations (UN) in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Federation is also a member of the conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN (CONGO). Representatives attend the annual Commission on the Status of Women.

Helen Kim Memorial Scholars

Since 2001 a Leadership Training program honouring the Federation's visionary Founder, Helen Kim, has been run. Two Helen Kim Memorial Scholars (aged 18 to 30) chosen from each of the nine Areas attend a 2-day program of information and training prior to the Assembly and then stay on for the entire Assembly. Units finance the program through a US\$100 per quinquennium contribution and gifts.

Thursdays in Black

Thursdays in Black is an international campaign uniting those who believe in respect for all human life without discrimination. The Federation has covenanted to be in solidarity with groups of women and men who have made this stand for more than 30 years. Federation women wear black each Thursday to demand a world without violence and rape in our communities.

Areas & Countries in which there are Units

Southern & East Africa Area

Angola; Burundi; Democratic Republic of Congo; Kenya; Mozambique; South Africa; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

West Africa Area

Benin; Ghana; Nigeria; Liberia; Sierra Leone; The Gambia; Togo.

Latin America Area

Argentina; Bolivia; Brazil; Chile; Costa Rica; Cuba; Mexico; Panama; Paraguay; Peru.

North America Area

Caribbean; USA (Canada – Associate).

East Asia Area

Hong Kong; Indonesia; Korea; Malaysia; Philippines; Singapore; Taiwan; Republic of China (Japan – Associate).

South Asia Area

India; Myanmar; Pakistan; Sri Lanka.

Europe – Britain & Ireland Area

Britain; Ireland.

Europe – Continental Area

Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria & Romania; Czech Republic; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; Germany; Hungary; Italy; Latvia; Norway; Macedonia & Serbia; Poland; Portugal; Russia; Slovak Republic; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland & France.

South Pacific Area

Australia; Fiji & Rotuma; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Solomon Islands; Tonga.

Area Presidents can be contacted via the WFMUCW website.

www.wfmucw.org



www.facebook.com/wfmucw



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FEDERATION INFORMATION

- Area Seminars are held every 5 years. Unit members develop new friendships and learn about activities across the world. The program includes sessions on Federation, its program emphases, its involvement in the United Nations, and local issues.
- The 13th World Assembly theme, 'Chosen People: Called to Proclaim', challenged us to proclaim our faith through creative worship, healthy relationships and committed social action. Domestic violence, gender justice in health, education and employment, migration, trafficking, child marriage and FGM are just some of the important issues that affect women and girls in many countries. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will provide a focus for each Unit.



- The *Tree of Life*, a quarterly electronic publication, brings Federation news to each member through the website and Facebook.
- Federation has 'special consultative status with the UN', with representatives in New York and Latin America who exercise a 'watching brief'.
- Federation is financed through a minimum US10c per member annual levy on Unit membership.

**The 14th World Assembly
will be held in Scandinavia in
August 2021**



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World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women

A world-wide fellowship of
officially recognized groups of
Methodist, United and Uniting
Church Women
of the Wesleyan tradition.



www.wfmucw.org