FAQ:

Why are we taking a new operating name?

**The name United Methodist Women was adopted in 1972, signaling a change not only in the life of the church but in the lives of women and how they could organize for mission. Over the past 50 years, we have experienced vast changes in how women live their lives and choose to engage the world in faith as well as great changes in the life of the church. It is time to adopt a name that reflects how women are living and engaging their faith in today’s realities.**

Are we still a part of The United Methodist Church?

**Yes! We are still the only official women’s organization of “The United Methodist Church. Our LEGAL name will remain United Methodist Women.**

Why are we now called United Women in Faith?

**We are refreshing the way we tell our story, updating our programs, resources and outreach efforts to better nurture our current members while welcoming new women of all backgrounds and life stages. We are saying “yes” to being part of what God is doing in the 21st century.**

Will these changes impact me and my local unit?

**All traditional structures at the conference, district and local levels will remain intact. New tools and programs are additional options to help better nurture current members, recruit new women and manage unit finances. Management of local unit finances will remain the same. Checks will still be made out to United Methodist Women, our LEGAL name.**

Can we be members if our church leaves The United Methodist Church?

**Yes. Changes to the bylaws allow for women to be involved and be leaders in our organization (UWF). The new operating name is also welcoming to women whose local churches may choose to align with another denomination or who are already affiliated with other denominations. Our new name makes our organization more inclusive.**

How were these decisions made?

**Guided by the National Board of Directors and a Program Advisory Group, research was conducted over the last 5 years by surveys, focus groups and interviews. More than 24,000 United Methodists and women of other denominations and Christian traditions were involved in this effort. These changes are data informed and tested to address the needs and life stages of current as well as future members.**

United Women in Faith has a mission statement. What about the United Methodist Women Purpose?

**The Purpose for the local church remains the Purpose as it appears in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church.* The core of our work remains the same: changing the world through faith, hope and love in action. The United Women in Faith mission statement is a refreshed expression of our core principles.**

What new tools and programs are coming?

**A new website, easier to navigate and designed to pique the interest of women new to the organization. Members will have an easier way to access resources specially designed for them. Some programs include Soul Care Retreats, educational opportunities, national membership option and more targeted giving options.**