UNITED WOMEN in FAITH

that are ACCESSIBLE!

Make sure publicity indicates accessibility and the registration form asks for special needs requests. Take special interest in evaluation from those with accessibility challenges.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, nearly 1 in 5 Americans — about 57 million people — have a disability. More than half report that the disability is severe.
Offer scholarships, carpooling and low-cost housing options. Model economically diverse speakers.

Numerous studies show income inequality growing since the late 1970s. Real earnings have fallen for many families with globalization, the decline of unions, and technological innovations eroding workers’ wages.
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Intentionally Plans Events

that REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

Offer carpooling, choose venues with public transportation, turn down the air-conditioning and heat, and look for venues that use renewable energy.

Extraction and production of nonrenewable energy disproportionately affects the lives of those already suffering from economic injustices.
Take into consideration the just treatment of farmworkers when you buy food for your meetings.

Three-quarters of all pesticides in the United States are used in the agricultural industry, and nearly three-quarters of all acute pesticide poisonings reported are suffered by farmworkers.
Support worker co-ops and minority- and women-owned businesses.

For every dollar white families have, black families have 10 cents and Latino families have 12 cents. Women are paid 78 cents for every dollar of men’s salaries.
United Women in Faith

That are in Solidarity with the Local Community

Make relationships with the community in which you’ll be holding your events.

Alliances take many forms. Short-term alliances bring together partners around specific issues to add opportunities and needs. Longer-term strategic alliances are driven by wide-ranging goals rather than urgent crises. Effective alliances enhance the degree of impact a community or campaign can have.
Provide child care and teen covenants, and abide by your conference’s Safe Sanctuary policies. Invite young women to be keynote speakers at your meetings!

Older adults who regularly volunteer with children burn 20 percent more calories per week, experience fewer falls, are less reliant on canes, and perform better on memory tests than their peers.
that MINIMIZE PAPER USE

Limit handouts, use double-sided printouts and choose chlorine-process-free and recycled-content paper. Minimize use of napkins and other paper products.

The production and use of paper has adverse effects on the environment. Deforestation contributes to climate change. Pulp mills contribute to pollution of air, water, and land. Discarded paper accounts for about 35 percent of municipal solid waste (before recycling). Paper recycling can be a source of pollution due to the sludge produced during de-inking.
When planning events, agree on racial justice goals and create a diverse planning team from the start. Use vendors that have U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission policies in place.

Racism is different from racial prejudice, hatred, and discrimination. Racism involves having the power to carry out systemic discriminatory practices through the institutions of our society. Racial prejudice plus the misuse of power by systems and institutions equals institutional racism.
Avoid using petroleum-based products whenever possible, and avoid toxic cleaning products and lawn care products. Reduce your energy use.

Each year, more than 6 billion pounds of cleaning products and 450 billion pounds of paper products are used to clean our indoor environments.
that REDUCE WASTE

Compost. Donate excess food. Use reusable centerpieces. Reduce the amount of packaging, paper, and other disposable products you use. Choose reusable plates, cups, and utensils instead.

More than 9 million people in the United States live near a waste facility that is hazardous to the community’s health. More than half of them (5.1 million) are people of color.
Be aware when you’re purchasing goods and services that all extraction, manufacturing, and agriculture takes water. Ask if venues have low-flow showers and toilets. Ask facilities not to automatically fill water glasses and inquire about their towel-reuse policies.

The water it takes to produce the average American diet alone—approximately 1,000 gallons per person per day—is more than the global average water footprint of 900 gallons per person per day for diet, household use, transportation, energy, and the consumption of material goods. One piece of paper takes three gallons of water to manufacture.
that Provide for the WELL-BEING of participants

Offer stretching, exercise, and opportunities to be outdoors. Include intentional breaks in the program. Provide times in which those gathered can learn about the history and ecology of the place where the meeting is held. Compassionate listeners should be a part of each meeting.

Medical studies document faster recovery periods and relief from stress and pain for hospital patients whose rooms have a view of nature and sunshine.