GFS Outreach– Diocese of Los Angeles



Annual Meeting – January 24, 2026

Agenda

Welcome to all; meeting guidelines

Time Considerations

Voting eligibility: Officers of the Board, committee chairs and one rep. from each branch; a quorum is 1/5 of the voting members

Invocation: Rev. Patricia Stansfield

GFS Prayer (updated): Holy and eternal God, we ask you to bless us and all of GFS. Strengthen us, protect us, and guide us with your Holy Spirit. Help us all to bear one another's burdens and to live, not for ourselves but for others as members of one family in Christ. Cleanse us from our sins, make us holy by the indwelling of your Holy Spirit, and bring us all at last to the joy of your dream society built upon love, justice and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayers Especially for the repose of John Limo (husband of St. Timothy's Leader, Violet Limo), Anastasia Winley, and the repose of Doreen Pickering, and Happy Birthday Alex!!

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Chaplain's Message

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Approval of Minutes

Request for Approval of Minutes from Last Annual Meeting 2/1/25 - sent out by email

Highlights of Minutes from Previous Annual Meeting

- **Budget for 2025 was passed**
- **Bylaw changes were passed to add 3 Director-At-Large Positions**
- **Sharron Dunn was elected to the honorary Sustaining Membership level**
- **$500 was donated to the One Body One Spirit fund for LA fire victims**
- **$300 was donated to the Ugandan Community Congregation GFS Branch for the Bishop Steven's Memorial Award**
- **Planning for National Assembly in NYC began**

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – President's Report

Review of 2025 – WOW!

- **GFS Presence at Memorial Service for Bob Waters**
- **Grant Committee Work - award to Church of the Messiah - Jóvenes Juntas**
- **GFS Presence at unveiling of Bishop Taylor's Portrait**
- **Many college and high school graduations of GFS members**
- **GFS Delegation to National Assembly in NYC – 24 representatives; sightseeing in NYC**
- **Scholarship applications by college bound students and grade-school and high school students**
- **Summer picnic at Echo Park**
- **GFS Presentation at Firefly Commencement Event**
- **GFS Presence at Launch of Jóvenes Juntas Grant Program**
- **Hiring of Klaire Harris as Executive Director**
- **Diocesan Convention**
- **GFS Presence at Memorial Service for John Limo**
- **GFS Presence at Multicultural Ministries Gala for Bishop Taylor**

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – President's Report













GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – President's Report

Every single woman involved with the board or as a branch leader has sacrificed time to generously to continue work in the diocese. We would not be where we are today without the gifts of your time, experience, expertise and creativity. Thank you everyone so much for coming to meetings, responding to my texts and calls, contributing your ideas and expertise. You are truly amazing women.

Thank you!

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Executive Director's Report

Q1: Developing Knowledge, Relationships, & Opportunities

- Diocesan Convention
- ECW, Province & Local
- Diocesan Council Invitation
- Missy Morain, EDLA Missioner for Christian Formation, Children, Youth
- Grant Applicants
- Board Members

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Executive Director's Report



GFS OUTREACH

Klaire presenting at Diocesan Webinar on Thursday, January 22

Agenda – Vice President's Report

- Verbal report by Martha Watson

Agenda – Treasurer's Report and Budget

Treasurer's Notes:

1. The 2026 budget includes increased annual spending for the Executive Director of and for a bookkeeper. All other expenditures remain about the same.

2. Travel to the World Council will be around half of what it cost us to send our members to the National Assembly last year.

3. Our objective of maintaining our asset base while launching new programs has been achieved.

Julia Wong, Treasurer

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report to be approved for audit

Audit for 2024 and 2025 has been scheduled

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Proposed Bylaw Changes

Add a new class of membership to Article III, Section 1

g. Executive Director: This position is a part-time, paid role which works closely with the GFS/LA President and Board of Directors. The Executive Director is responsible for program administration and maintenance, and developing opportunities to increase the impact of GFS/LA.

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Proposed Bylaw Changes

Include the Executive Director as part of the Board of Directors and describe her role in Article VI. Governing Bodies

Section 1. Board of Directors

a. Membership Named

The Board shall consist of the officers, the Directors at Large, and the chairmen of the Standing Committees. The Executive Director(ED) has an ex-officio membership on the board. The Board shall be representative of the membership.

b. Term

Members of the Board shall be elected for a term of 3 (three) years, with the exception of the Directors at Large, as described in Article III, Section.1f.. The Executive Director is a Board member for the duration in which they hold the ED Position.

c. Nomination and Election

The Board of Directors, with the exception of the Executive Director, shall be nominated for election pursuant to the terms of Article VII, Section 1. Elections shall be held at the Annual Meeting. The Executive Director does not have the authority to vote for Board members.

d. Authority and Duty

The Board shall have general charge and control of the affairs, funds and property of GFS/LA. It shall also act as a policy making and planning body. The Board hires, evaluates, and determines retention of the Executive Director.

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Proposed Bylaw Changes

Add to Article VIII. Committees, Section 3

Section 3. Ex-officio members of Committees
The President and Executive Director are ex-officio members of all committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Ambassadors

- Verbal report by Sedinam Gadzekpo

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Sustaining Members

The current sustainers mailing list has 45 members. Letters were sent out in April, October and December. The Spring letter shared about the upcoming trip to NYC for National Assembly. The October letter thanked the Sustainers for their support for the NYC trip and the December letter announced our new Executive Director, Klaire Harris.

Each donor was sent a thank-you tax receipt.

This is the time of year that we nominate new Sustaining Members

GFS OUTREACH

Sustaining Member Roster

Alex Jacobs
Ashlyn Cherry
Anastasia Winley
Barbara Harris
Barbara Toohey
Barbara Abbott
Beth Bianchi
Beverlee Waters
Brenda Noel
Canon Lurelean Gains
Carol Barker
Carolyn Bjork
Carolyn Teaford
Charlene Hughes
Christi Peete
Christine Otiende
Cindy Harteker
Cindy Stieger (moved)
Colleen Mattoon
Diane Faber
Ellen Mykkanen
Emily Harris
Esther Kenyon
Grace Moore
Jane Hyde
Janet Wales
Karen Uhler
Katie Killefer
Madeline Nolde
Margaret Nolde
Margaret Yuki
Marilyn Terry
Mary Mabuoch
Nora Harris
Nancy Ypma
Patricia Meyer
Phoebe Detor
Rosalyn Foster
Sue Rowbotham
Sue Williams
Sharron Dunn
Tammy Shafer Noriega
The Rev. Barbara Stewart
The Rev. Jamie Hammons
The Rev. Kay Sprague

Recently Deceased:
Doreen Pickering

Agenda – Grant Committee

- Verbal report by Mary Frances Ypma-Wong
- Award for 2025-2027 was made to Church of the Messiah, Santa Ana for their program, Jóvenes Juntas
- 2023-2025 Recipient, the Firefly Electrical Training Program at St. Stephen's West Hollywood was completed in September 2025.
- Due date for next round of applications is February 27, 2026





GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Decisions for Input

Form of Appreciation for Bishop Taylor, who is retiring

Grant Committee Next Steps

World Council Next Steps

Additional Hours for Klaire may be needed

Spring Meetings

gfs OUTREACH

Agenda

(5-minute break)

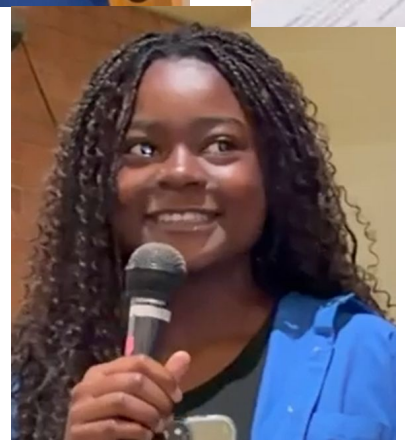
GFS OUTREACH

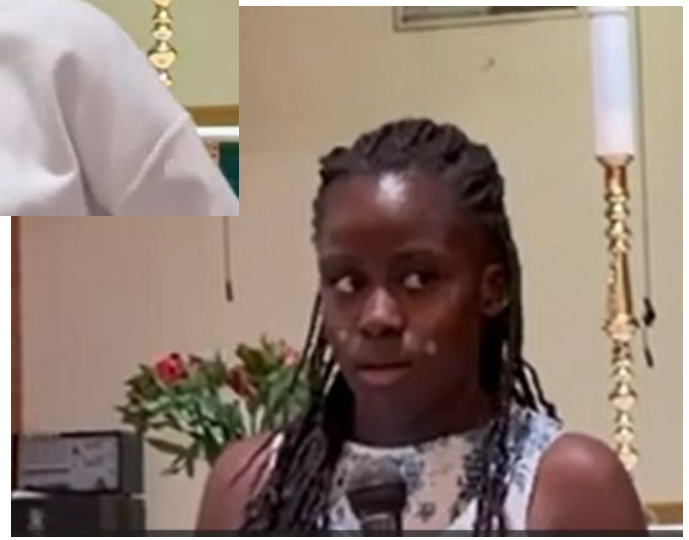
Agenda – Branch Reports











Testimonials By Members of the UCC Branch

Ugandan Community Congregation at St. Mark's Van Nuys

Leaders: Rev. Joy Magala, Milly Nakafeero and Solome Kalule

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Branch Reports

Ugandan Community Congregation at St. Mark's Van Nuys

Dance Presentation at Diocesan Multi Cultural Ministry Gala in honor of Bishop Taylor





GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Branch Reports



St. Joseph's, Buena Park

Leader: Helen Dyell



St. Timothy's, Apple Valley

Leader: Violet Limo

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Supply Scholarship

- Verbal report by Violet Limo

- **Supplies for Success** Scholarships awarded this year
  - Anna Senyojo
  - Anna Tia Senteza
  - Brielle Gue Kasule
  - Jasmine Ung
  - Callie Latour
- $1415 remains in the fund, available for future scholarships
- Next round of applications will be due approximately June 30

- **GFS-USA Scholarships** awarded this year:
  - Hazel Senteza
  - Jaydin Sanchez
  - Next Round of Applications will be due around June. An online application is being prepared

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda

Other Annual Business

Sustaining Member Nomination and Election – *please make suggestions*

- Holly Shafer
- Sedinam Gadzekpo
- Cynthia Kelly

Committee Nominations

Bishop Steven's Memorial Fund Designation - please make suggestions

The donation is a living memorial to consist of a minimum of $300.00 annually for the purpose of the furthering GFS, either at home or abroad. The GFS Board decides each year where the allocation will be set in accordance with the purpose. It is to commemorate all Bishop Stevens did to enable GFS to be what it is today.

GFS OUTREACH

Agenda – Next Steps

Thank you to everyone for all the support this year!

Adjournment

Closing Prayer

GFS OUTREACH