



Virginia Conference United Methodist Women

THE PURPOSE OF MISSION TODAY IS TO fulfill the PURPOSE of UMW by: - Energizing United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action;
- Increasing contacts between units and mission personnel and projects;
- Encouraging use of mission resources; and
- Expanding concepts of mission including social justice as mission

Becoming a Mission Today Unit is a way to increase emphasis on what United Methodist Women have been doing for more than a century: turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.

Period covered in this report: September 1, 2011– August 31, 2012

How to become a Mission Today Unit:

All units must complete item # 1. The number of additional items required is then dependent on the size of your unit.

() **A MISSION TODAY UNIT:** includes eight additional items, including four (*) items, or, for Units with 15 or fewer members, a minimum of four other items, including two (*) items.

() **A MISSION TODAY SILVER UNIT: 13** additional items, including at least six (*) items.

() **A MISSION TODAY GOLD UNIT: 20** additional items, including at least twelve (*) items.

*** 1. THE UNIT WILL MAKE AND MEET ITS PLEDGE TO MISSION. (Must be completed)**

- (*) 2. At least two members, other than a District or Conference Officer, attend the District or Conference Annual Meeting.
- (*) 3. At least one member, (other than a District or Conference officer *that has their way paid by District or Conference*), attend the Conference Spiritual Life Retreat or the District Spiritual Life Event. (If a District or Conference officer goes to the Spiritual Life retreat paying their own way, they may count themselves as going representing their unit.)
- (*) 4. Have at least one member, other than a District or Conference officer, attend the Conference School of Christian Mission, or a District Mission Celebration/Mission School event.
- (*) 5. Sponsor a young woman to attend the Conference or a District Young Women's Event. Name of event attendee: _____
- (*) 6. Use the Prayer Calendar at each Unit Meeting to pray for mission workers and mission projects for women, children, and youth.
- (*) 7. Use at least two programs from the UMW Program Book during the year. Which ones: _____
- (*) 8. Each Unit, Circle, or Subgroup include a "response Moment" where an item from *response* magazine is lifted up as a way to tell a mission story.
- (*) 9. The Unit, Circle, Subgroup, have at least one mission study from the School of Christian Mission during the year. Which one: _____
- (*) 10. Include having the UMW Purpose at every meeting.
- (*) 11. Qualify as a Five- or Six-Star Unit by contributing to five or six Channels of Mission Giving.
- (*) 12. Increase the local unit Pledge to Mission for the coming year.
- (*) 13. Invite a District or Conference Officer, other than a unit member, to one of your Unit meetings during the year and/or United Methodist Women's Sunday.

- (*) 14. Select a mission project which is supported by funds from Women's Division (Wesley Community Service Center), or the 2012 Ministry Grants of VA (listed in the conference yearbook) and visit and/or contribute needed resources. Name of the project: _____
- (*) 15. Add at least two new members to the roll, or one new member for Units with 15 or fewer members.
- (*) 16. Have at least two members who subscribe to *response* magazine.
- (*) 17. At least two members participate in the Reading Program and complete Plan I.
- (*) 18. Implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in one way during the year. Some ideas include:
- have two or more members attend a District Charter for Racial Justice Program/Workshop
 - Have members read books and articles about other races and cultures; give report to unit.
 - Plan a joint unit meeting with a unit of a different racial/ethnic background.
 - Hold a joint Vacation Bible School with a church of a different racial/ethnic background.
 - Encourage your church to support a refugee family.
 - Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, programs serving a low-income population, civil rights, etc.
- Describe what you did _____
- () 19. One or more members participate in hands-on mission such as gleaning, working in a food pantry or clothes closet, bagging potatoes, etc.
Describe what you did: _____
- () 20. Have "Green Meetings" or make some other special effort toward saving God's earth (i.e. recycling, using glasses instead of disposable cups, etc.) Describe what you did: _____
- () 21. Participate in the Campaign for Children (Children's Sabbath Service, support public education, etc.). Some ideas for action:
- Help sponsor a church or community program for children or youth needs.
 - Get involved with children in mentoring or tutoring programs.
 - Visit and show support to your local schools, (attend school board meetings, sponsor a class, provide funds or items of special need)
 - Write congressional representatives regarding children's issues.
- Describe what you did _____
- () 22. Have at least one member attend the United Methodist Day at the Virginia General Assembly.
- () 23. Have at least one member attend UMW Day at Ferrum College.
- () 24. Provide at least ten UMCOR kits and funds for shipping for the VA Annual Conference.
- () 25. Members shall write at least once a year to five mission workers listed in the Prayer Calendar
- () 26. Have at least one person join the UMW's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information. The on-line registration can be found at:
<http://new.gbqm-umc.org/umw/act/network/>

UNIT/CHURCH _____

Number of members in your unit _____

President/Contact Person _____

Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

Mail to <Your District UMW Mission E&I>

by: <date set by your district, or by September 1, 2012>.