

Smoky Mountain District United Methodist Women 2020 READING PROGRAM REPORT

Name of Local Unit/City: _____

Total Unit Membership _____

NAME of PERSON READING	Participants PLAN I	Participants PLAN II	Participants PLAN III	Participants PLAN IV	Participants CHILDREN
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18.					
19.					
20.					
Total Number of Readers in each Plan					



Western North Carolina Conference UMW Justice Today

(Charter for Racial Justice)

Unit _____ District _____ Submitted by _____

Unit Status

Check one of the following:

- Gold Unit** having completed 6 or more of the following actions
 Silver Unit having completed 4 or more of the following actions
 Bronze Unit having completed 2 or more of the following actions

Team Actions Taken

Check all that apply for 2020

Unit Programming:

- 1 ___ Devoted a meeting to studying and discussing the Charter for Racial Justice Policies
- 2 ___ Used a program on racial justice/human rights from the UMW Program Book and/or "Resources for Racial Justice: Tools for UMW Leaders" handbook
- 3 ___ Participated in a bible study on racism
- 4 ___ Gave a book report on a Reading Program book selected from the Social Action area
- 5 ___ Invited an International guest to come and speak about their home country
- 6 ___ Regularly shared local newspaper articles relating to racism (both positive and negative)
- 7 ___ Regularly shared articles from response and New World Outlook relating to racism

Unit Enrichment:

- 1 ___ Display Charter for Racial Justice Policies AND lift up at least one issue at each unit meeting
- 2 ___ Supplied each member with a copy of the Charter for Racial Justice Policies
- 3 ___ Purchased and discussed two UMW Reading Program books about a different culture or written by someone of a different racial or ethnic background
- 4 ___ Participated in a qualifying UMW Social Action Mission Study
- 5 ___ Studied in-depth a particular issue relating to the Charter for Racial Justice Policies, i.e., racism, immigration rights, voting rights, racial/ethnic profiling
- 6 ___ Attended as a unit OR an individual gave a report to the unit about the experience of attendance to a music program, theatre performance by person(s) of a different culture, race or ethnic background

Beyond the Local Unit:

- 1 ___ Gave a Special Mission Recognition pin to someone who works to promote racial justice
- 2 ___ Sent one (1) member to Mission U to take the social action study
- 3 ___ Held a postcard writing party encouraging legislation favorable to the economically deprived or challenged
- 4 ___ Experienced worship with a church of an ethnic background different from your own.
- 5 ___ Hosted an international tasting party, cultural fair or other event
- 6 ___ Planned a worship experience for your unit or church with an emphasis on racial justice, i.e., UMW Sunday

Smoky Mountain District United Methodist
Women 2020 Membership Form

Please print clearly or type

Please review and complete the information below regarding membership in your unit. This form must be returned to me by December 1, 2020:.

Deborah Ray, wsray@charter.net, 569 Country Club Dr., Waynesville, NC 28786

Church/Unit Name:

Church Address:

Unit President First and Last Name:

Unit President Phone and email:

Number of members (as of 1/1/2020)	
Number of NEW members added this year	
Number of members lost by death	
Lost by other reasons	
Final number of members (as of 12/2020)	

Name of person reporting this data:

Position of person reporting the data:

Phone and email:

Each Local Unit is asked to complete the Census questions as they relate to your unit on the national website at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org

If you have questions or need help, please feel free to contact Deborah Ray.

BELOW, PLEASE LIST THE NAMES OF ANY UMW MEMBERS WHO DIED IN 2020:



United Methodist Women

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Northern Piedmont DISTRICT

October 27, 2020

TO: All Local Presidents

Re: 2020 Year End Reports

A very special “Thank You” for the splendid leadership you have given your Unit in 2020 even during a pandemic. You have nurtured each other and served in mission during a difficult time. It is the dedicated work of leaders like you that makes and keeps our organization so strong with arms of love reaching around the world. **ALL** that you do makes a tremendous difference in the lives of so many children, women and youth.

In order to complete our work for the year and to evaluate how well we have done in 2020, we need for the following reports to be completed and returned to me by **December 1, 2020**.

1. Membership
2. Mission Studies
3. Mission Today
4. Reading Program
5. Justice Today

It is not your responsibility to complete all of the reports, but it is your responsibility to make sure they are completed and returned. I suggest that you work with your Executive Committee to complete the reports.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about any of these forms. We want this information for our records, but more importantly, we want to celebrate with you the accomplishments of your unit in 2020.

May God continue to bless you and yours as you give so freely of your time and talents serving Him as you fulfill your accepted responsibility in United Methodist Women.

Blessings,
Deborah Ray, District President
569 Country Club Drive,
Waynesville, NC 28786
828-400-3499
wsray@charter.net

Enclosure



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE. LOVE IN ACTION

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN
Local Unit 2020 Mission Study Report

District SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

Unit Name _____

Report Completed By _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Office in UMW _____

Virtual Mission u

Name of Study _____ # Attended _____
Attendees must have attended all 4 of the I-hour sessions to count.

Finding Peace in an Anxious World _____

District Mission Study N/A for Smoky Mountain. Only fill out if another district's study was attended

Name of Study/Indicate what district was attended _____

(Local) Sub-Groups, Circles, Fellowship Reports *

Name of study	# Attended	#Hours
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Children or Youth Mission Study Report* _____

Name of study	# Attended	#Hours
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*Remember that to count as a Mission Study, programs must be National Mission Study Topics and be a minimum of 4 hours.

Return this form to your District President, Deborah Ray, wsray@charter.net
 OR 569 Country Club Drive, Waynesville, NC 28786



Mission Today 2020 – Revised due to COVID-19

United Methodist Women Western North Carolina Conference

MAKE A DIFFERENCE! Become a Mission Today Unit!!

NEW IN 2020: (Changes are highlighted in yellow.)

Mission Today Gold – Complete 10 criteria: 6 with asterisks (*) and 4 other.**

Mission Today Silver – Complete 8 criteria: 4 with asterisks (*) and 4 other.**

Mission Today Bronze – Complete 6 criteria: 4 with asterisks (*) and 2 other.**

**Note: "Other" may also include items with asterisks (*).

The purpose of promoting a Mission Today Unit is to:

Energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action. Increase contacts between units and mission personnel and mission projects so the United Methodist Women understand where their money goes. Encourage the use of mission resources through United Methodist Women. Expand concepts of mission, including social justice as mission.

What is a Unit?

A unit is any organized group of United Methodist Women within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles, which periodically get together for a unit meeting.

How Do We Become a Mission Today Unit?

In order to be recognized as a Mission Today Unit, (Gold, Silver or Bronze) UMW units must complete a number of the following criteria as indicated above. Activities conducted between January 1-December 31, 2020, will be recognized at annual meetings in 2021. This is an ongoing program, so strive to become a Mission Today Unit!

CRITERIA:

- *1. The Unit will make a Pledge to Mission.
- *2. The unit will use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting or circle meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and our mission work with women, children and youth. A new Prayer Calendar is printed each year and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center.
- *3. The unit will use at least two programs from the Program Book during the year. A new Program Book is printed every year and may be ordered from the Mission Resource Center.
- *4. The unit or circle will conduct or participate in at least one mission study each year. Contact your district or conference Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation to learn what the studies are for each year. (If members of your unit attend the conference Mission u or your District Mission Study and your unit takes an action growing out of the study, Gift to Mission, ministry related to the study, etc., your unit will meet this criteria.)
- *5. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to **response** (1 member subscribing with units less than 15 members; Local unit subscription may count as one.) Order information is printed at bottom of page 2. \$24.00 for a one-year print subscription (includes digital subscription); \$20 for a one-year digital only subscription.
- *6. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least two ways during the year. Possibilities are:
 - a. Have members read and discuss books and articles about other races and cultures;
 - b. Sponsor or attend an interethnic event between two or more units;
 - c. Intentionally recruit women of other ethnic groups to be members and officers of the unit;
 - d. Use the Resources for Racial Justice Available on our conference website on the "Downloads Available" page under "Mission Resources."
 - e. Write to elected representatives to support legislation affecting issues such as immigration, affirmative action, low-income programs, civil rights, etc.If you are a "Justice Today" unit, you have met this criteria. See "Downloads Available" on conference website.
- *7. The unit will have a program and/or complete an action addressing one of the Issue Priorities for 2016-2020. These are 1. Climate Justice; 2. Maternal and Child Health, 3. Criminalization of Communities of Color and Mass Incarceration; and 4. Economic Inequality. Find information at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/general-conference/issuepriorities2016-20
- *8. The unit will add at least two new members (one member for units with less than 15 members) to its roll.

- *9. The unit will have one program from the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church 2017-2020. Available at www.Cokesbury.com for \$3.99 plus tax and shipping.
- *10. The unit will contribute to all Five Channels of Mission Giving.
- *11. The UMW Purpose will be recited at each general and/or circle meeting.
- *12. The unit will contribute \$186.90 or more to the Legacy Fund in 2020.
- 13. At least one member of the unit will attend Mission u and report back to the unit on classes and events they experienced. Virtual participation qualifies as attending.
- 14. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will attend the district or conference annual meeting and report back to the unit about the event and what they experienced. Virtual participation qualifies.
- 15. The unit will have at least one person joining the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information at least three (3) times a year. To join, contact the United Methodist Women Washington Office, 100 Maryland Avenue NE, Room 100, Washington, DC 20002. Phone #: 202-488-5660 or Visit: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/action Attach the issue and action that was taken to Mission Today report.
- 16. Members will correspond with five persons listed in the Prayer Calendar at least once a year.
- 17. The unit will co-sponsor, with the local church, a Children's Sabbath. (This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children.) The United Methodist Women National Office and the Council of Bishops support this effort. Children's Sabbath materials are on our national website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org Type "Children's Sabbath" in the search box.
- 18. Each unit or circle meeting will include a "response Moment" where an item from *response* magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
- 19. The unit will sponsor one teen member (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman member (ages 18 to 39) to at least one conference event during the year.
- 20. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will attend a district Prayer Breakfast, district Day Apart, conference Spiritual Growth Retreat, or any other special district or conference event other than Ubuntu Day. Virtual participation in any of these events qualify as attending.
- 21. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will participate in an Ubuntu Day Event. Units may develop their own UBUNTU event in their communities.
- 22. At least two members (one member for units with less than 15 members) will complete Plan 1 of the Reading Program and give a report to the unit on one of the books read.
- 23. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year and/or for their United Methodist Women's Sunday. This Qualifies as a Local Unit Visit (LUV).
- 24. The unit will add one new teen (ages 12 to 17) and/or one young woman (ages 18 to 39) circle during the year, or one new teen member (ages 12 to 17) or one new young woman member (ages 18 to 39) during the year.
- 25. 100% of the unit's active members will make a gift of at least \$18.69 to the Legacy Fund
- 26. The 2020 Conference Financial Goal is: To increase unit pledge giving by at least \$5.00 per member. The unit will help accomplish the goal by increasing giving in this channel by at least \$5.00 per member over 2019.
- 27. Each unit will be responsible for supporting at least one local mission project and participate in one Conference Hands-on Mission Project during the year. The local project should be listed on your Mission Today report.

Be a Mission Today Unit!

Mission Resource Center

Website: www.umwmissionresources.org UMW Mission Resources, PO Box 742349, Atlanta, GA 30374-2349;

Phone: 1-800-305-9857 (toll-free); Fax: (770)280-0061; e-mail: cs@umwmissionresources.org

Magazine Circulation (For response Toll Free 1-877-881-2385 • FAX: 1-845-267-3478

Magazines with a Mission • PO Box 395 • Congers, NY 10920-0395

Smoky Mountain District United Methodist Women

2021 LOCAL UNIT OFFICERS

Unit Name: _____ Submitted by: _____

Church Address: _____ Church Phone: _____

Church City: _____ Church Zip: _____

(Remember that the only required positions are those in bold: President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Chair of Nominations)

Office	Name	Address	Zip	Phone	Email
President					
Vice President					
Secretary					
Treasurer					
Nominations Chair					
Spiritual Growth					
Mission Education & Interpretation					
Social Action					

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN STATEMENT

General Conference 2021 Board Task Force Proposed Recommendations



The United Methodist Women Board of Directors General Conference task force makes the following recommendations as principles to support for General Conference 2021:

Guiding principles for General Conference

United Methodist Women members are not of one mind. We disagree on matters of both polity and politics. We do not interpret Scripture in the same way, and we do not hear the voice of God speaking in a single register. Yet we value one another deeply and we all share a concern for the future of the church. Our love for one another and for this church compel us to speak. To that end, our board of directors humbly offers the following recommendations for General Conference 2021.

While there are no perfect solutions, we believe that the most faithful future for the church must be based on the following core principles:

1. **Gender equity:** Women have been the backbone of The United Methodist Church for decades, building and sustaining the church through contributions of time, talent, gifts and witness. Yet both clergywomen and laywomen still find their work dramatically undervalued and underappreciated in many spaces. A faithful future for the church will seek gender justice, share power equally with people of all gender expressions, and respond particularly to the global and local needs of women, children, and youth.
2. **Mutuality in mission:** We are blessed to be part of a global connection. We repent of the ways our connection has been misshapen by colonial attitudes, policies and practices. Our connection must grow ever more deeply into that of the beloved community, known through equity and mutuality in mission. A faithful future for the church will allow every region of the church to discern its own callings and shape its own future without undue interference, manipulation or financial threat.
3. **Antiracism:** The sin of white supremacy grieves the heart of God. Throughout the church's history white United Methodists have sidelined, ignored, disrespected and dismissed United Methodists of color, especially Black and Indigenous people of color. The church must move beyond rhetoric and ensure the leadership of people of color,

provide meaningful material and social support for ministries and churches serving communities of color, fulfill its own promises in the Charter for Racial Justice, and reject racism in all its forms.

4. **LGBTQ+ inclusion:** Understanding that some support the current stance of The United Methodist Church, but consistent with United Methodist Women's belief that LGBTQ+ people are of sacred worth, we support the formation of an expression of the church that will celebrate every individual, including LGBTQ+ persons in the full ministry and life of the church, without barring ordination or marriage. United Methodist Women is an inclusive organization. We celebrate the gifts LGBTQ+ siblings bring to the church.

Regionalization

The United Methodist Church must move out of a U.S.-centric, colonial mentality. Central conference informed and supported plans like "Creation of a U.S. Regional Conference" and the Christmas Covenant help bring parity in structure and focus to The United Methodist Church and allow the church to be truly global. As a regional organization, United Methodist Women works to practice mutuality in mission, partnering with women worldwide who organize in ways that work best in their context; we support regionalization of the denomination as a step toward decentering the United States. Regionalization also unburdens General Conference from dealing with U.S.-only matters and allows the church to be better stewards of its resources by reducing the time and money needed for a General Conference.

Remaining connected

United Methodist Women grieves separation but supports plans that offer more financial and contextual independence and that facilitate a United Methodist Church connected in mission and ministry to new expressions that may form. United Methodist Women has already taken steps to make this possible for our own membership.

Fiduciary responsibility

Throughout its 151 years, United Methodist Women and predecessor organizations have fought to protect the women's right to raise and manage their own funds and elect their own leadership. United Methodist Women is an independently funded organization within The United Methodist Church; it does not receive apportioned funds and is not subject to the oversight in paragraphs ¶1701-824 of the Book of Discipline. United Methodist Women will continue to protect funds given to the organization for women, children and youth.

Next steps planning

United Methodist Women commends delegates' attention to work preparing for next steps and support having a process in place before the leaving Minneapolis.

Posted or updated: 9/4/2020 12:00:00 AM