

## **How to become a Mission Today Unit**

A unit should make every effort to become a Mission Today unit between Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> and Aug. 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

### Requirements for a Silver Unit

Complete at least eight of the criteria, four of which must be marked with \*

### Requirements for a Gold Unit

Complete at least 16 of the criteria, 10 of which must be marked with \*

*For units with less than 15 members, the requirements will be half of the above-mentioned numbers.*

### **Set a goal early on and check the box as you complete each item!**

- \* 1. The unit will make and meet its pledge to mission.
- \* 2. Use the *Prayer Calendar* at each general meeting of the unit to pray for people in mission and for our mission work with women, children and youth.
- \* 3. The unit will add at least two members to its roll.
- \* 4. The unit will have at least two members subscribing to *Response* magazine.
- \* 5. The unit will use two programs from the *Program Book* during the year.

- \* 6. The unit or subgroup will conduct at least one Mission Study a year.
- \* 7. The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least two ways during the year. Some suggested plans of action:
  - Hold a joint unit meeting with a unit of a different racial/ethnic background.
  - Read books/articles or view a video about other races and cultures.
  - Recruit women of all races into the membership and provide leadership opportunities without discrimination.
  - Support legislation affecting such issues as immigration, affirmative action, civil rights, and programs for low income persons.
- \* 8. The unit will promote and offer scholarships to the Conference Cooperative School of Christian Mission or District Mini School of Christian Mission.
- \* 9. At least one member of the unit will attend the Conference Cooperative School of Christian Mission or District Mini School of Christian Mission.
- \* 10. At least two members will attend the district or conference annual meeting.
- \* 11. At least two members (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the Local Leadership Training Event.

- \* 12. The unit will be a Five Star unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving (Pledge to Mission, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, Special Mission Recognition, and World Thank Offering).
- \* 13. The unit will have at least two people complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on one of the books read; encourage all members to complete Plan One; have book review program.
- 14. The unit will write to five people listed in the *Prayer Calendar* at least twice a year.
- 15. The unit will have at least one person join the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information.
- 16. At least two members of the unit will attend the WA or ID Legislative Day.
- 17. The unit or subgroup will include a mission moment where an article from *Response* or *New World Outlook* magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
- 18. The unit will have a Bible Study group during the year.
- 19. The unit will participate in the "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" offering.

- 20. The unit will participate in the Campaign for Children in at least two ways. Possibilities for action:
  - Help sponsor a church or community program related to children and youth needs.
  - Sponsor a Children’s Sabbath, promoted by the Children’s Defense Fund.
  - Get involved with children in mentoring, tutoring, and “big sisters” programs.
  - Write letters, e-mail, or call congressional representatives and/or others in government regarding children’s issues.
  - Visit your local schools.
  - Attend a school board meeting.
  - Learn how our schools are funded.

□ 21. The unit will invite a district or conference officer, other than that of a member of the unit, to one of the unit meetings during the year.

□ 22. The unit will support our conference mission giving – Mission Magic and Love Ribbons.

□ 23. The unit will support our conference Endowment Fund.

□ 24. The unit will contribute quilts to at risk children or kits to UMCOR or contribute to other local projects.

□ 25. The unit will have two or more members volunteer at a food bank, feeding program, women’s shelter, or agency that works with children.

## Mission Today Litany

Leader: Mission is a gift, not a task, given to us by God.

People: women in mission are communicators of love in action.

Leader: We share in God’s mission to the world by witnessing to God’s acts in the past and in the present.

Side 1: women’s approach to mission stresses partnership, mutuality, interdependence, and solidarity.

Side 2: Women in mission see themselves as commissioned by the Holy Spirit; as following the will of God, which they sometimes see as different from the will of the authorities that rule the churches.

People: women name the demons that plague the world, confront them, and cast them out as instructed by Jesus.

Side 1: Women have a passion for justice.

Side 2: Being in mission unites women across barriers; they acknowledge their diversities but also the source of their unit in Christ.

People: Through the Holy Spirit, God directs the mission which is for everyone.

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

# United Methodist Women

in

# MISSION TODAY

Check off the completed criteria and send this folder to your District Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

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**Name and Number of Members of Local Unit:**

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