

MISSOURI CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

MISSION TODAY CRITERIA FOR 2012 and CRITERIA REPORT FORM FOR 2012

(To be completed by **ALL** units even if not completing the requirements for a Mission Today Unit).

PURPOSE OF PROMOTING THE MISSION TODAY UNIT:

The Missouri Conference and its District organizations are asked by Women's Division to encourage every Unit to become a "Mission Today" Unit.

- To encourage use of mission resources throughout the organization;
- To increase contact between units and mission personnel and mission projects, thus helping units understand where their money goes;
- To expand concepts of mission including social justice as mission; and
- To energize United Methodist Women to be more involved in mission through prayer, study and action.

GOALS: The Missouri Conference has chosen the 34 items listed below as criteria for a MISSION TODAY UNIT. A local Unit may be recognized at one of these five levels:

FAITH ten (10) items including four (4) marked with an asterisk (*).

HOPE fifteen (15) items including four (4) marked with an asterisk (*).

LOVE twenty (20) items including five (5) marked with an asterisk (*).

JOY units who made and paid their Pledge (criteria #4).

PEACE units who participated in Mission Today and turned in their report.

The listing includes officers who might make as their goal the support and encouragement of those items listed under their office.

The Local Unit **President** may take responsibility for this criterion:

- _____ *1. The local Unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice policies by meeting the requirements for the Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice Club. After establishing the "club" membership, the unit must complete a different requirement each year.

Additional Requirement # _____ was completed this year.
(See Mai Gray Charter for Racial Justice Club Criteria 2012 for list of requirements).

The Local Unit **Vice-President** may take responsibility for these criteria:

- ___ *2. The local unit will use at least two (2) programs from the current PROGRAM BOOK during the year.
- ___ 3. The local unit will participate in the "Call to Prayer and Self-Denial" program and offering.

The Local Unit **Treasurer** may take responsibility for these criteria:

- ___ *4. The local unit will make and meet its Pledge to Mission.
- ___ *5. The local unit will be a 5-Star unit, contributing to all five channels of Mission Giving: Pledge to Mission, Special Mission Recognition, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory and World Thank Offering.
- ___ 6. The local unit will purchase or will have collected at least \$25.00 for Mission Giving through the ribbons/corsages program.
- ___ 7. The local unit will participate in Mission Giving by the supplementary support of Missions globally. This criteria is met by participating in either one or both of the two facets of the Mission Minutes/Honors or Memorials:
 - 1) Candle Burning -- any amount of money may be given in memory of or to honor persons at either a one-time event (UMW Sunday) or over the course of the year.
 - 2) Mission Minute Certificate -- a Mission Minute Certificate may be purchased to be given to an individual as a way to honor them. The cost of the certificate is the amount of money equal to the cost of funding one minute of mission work through the Women's Division Board of Global Ministries (which varies each year.) Please order the Certificate through your District Treasurer. The Missouri Conference will provide the Certificate and would appreciate an extra \$1.50 for the postage.

The amount of money received by the Missouri Conference for this Mission Minutes/Honors or Memorials (both Certificates & Candle Burning) program will be recognized at the Annual Meeting by the burning of a candle(s) for the total period of time equal to the amount of money given by the local units in the Missouri Conference. The amount for 2012 is \$28.07 per minute.

The Local Unit **Secretary of Program Resources** may take responsibility for this criteria:

- ___ *8. The local unit will have at least two (2) members subscribing to RESPONSE magazine.
- ___ 9. The local unit will have at least two people who complete one of the Reading Program Plans and report on one of the books read; encourage all members to complete Plan One; and have a book review program.

Please report your Unit's participation in the Reading Program:
Plan I _____ Plan II _____ Plan III _____ Plan IV _____
EORO _____ (Each One Read One) Plan

- _____ 10. The local unit, circle or subgroup meeting will include a “Response Moment”, where an article from RESPONSE magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the Mission story. (Order *Response* from PO Box 395, Congers, NY 10920-0395. Cost: \$24 / year.)

The Local Unit **Spiritual Growth Coordinator** may take responsibility for these criteria:

- _____ *11. The local unit will use the PRAYER CALENDAR at each general meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission and for our mission work with Women, Children and Youth.
- _____ 12. The local unit members shall write to at least five (5) persons listed in the PRAYER CALENDAR at least twice a year.
- _____ 13. The local unit will involve members in a prayer partner program for the year.
- _____ 14. The local unit will plan or participate in a Spiritual Growth retreat.

The Local Unit **Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation** may take responsibility for these criteria:

- _____ 15. The local unit will sponsor/send at least one (1) person to the Cooperative School of Christian Mission.
- _____ *16. The local unit will conduct/attend at least one (1) Mission Study each year. Present a Mission Study within their local church which is at least four (4) hours in length, uses approved text, strives for total church involvement, and is taught by a person who has attended or taught at the Cooperative School of Christian Mission

OR

have at least 10% of the local unit membership participate in a District mission study which is at least four (4) hours in length, uses approved text, and is taught by a person who has attended or taught at the Cooperative School of Christian Mission.
- _____ *17. Sign the pledge to care for God’s creation and become a “Green” United Methodist Women Unit. The pledge form is on the MO Conference UMW web site. To become a Green Unit 50% of your unit membership must complete five items on the list. In subsequent years three additional items must be completed. Signed Green Unit pledges must be sent to the conference Green Team coordinator, Verlee Gilkerson by December 31, 2012.
- _____ 18. The local unit shall sponsor a young woman (age 12-19) to attend the Cooperative School of Christian Mission.
- _____ 19. The local unit will obtain information, visit, or invite a representative from one of the National Mission Institution Agencies(NMI) to present a program about their Agency or members may participate in a “Mini-Mission Workday”. NMI Agencies located in Missouri are: Della Lamb, Kansas City; Epworth, St. Louis; Inter-Serv, St. Joseph; Spofford, Kansas City and Susanna Wesley Family Center, East Prairie.)

Our Unit had a presentation about _____ (fill in Agency name here) _____ (date)

The Local Unit **Mission Coordinator for Social Action** may take responsibility for these criteria:

- _____ 20. The local unit will have at least one (1) person joining the United Methodist Women's Action Network to receive and then respond to legislative information at least three (3) times a year. To join, contact your District Social Action Coordinator.
- _____ 21. The local unit will invite their State Representative and/or State Senator or a representative thereof, to a local unit meeting to discuss the status of key United Methodist Women's Social Action concerns.
- _____ 22. One (1) person from the local unit (other than their Conference or District Officer) shall attend the Legislative Event and make contact with their Senator and/or Representative.
- _____ 23. The local unit shall initiate or continue one study of the UMW Christian Social Responsibility Campaign Issues. Current Campaigns include: Prayers for Peace, Campaign for Children Phase III, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and UMW Green Team (Note: this is a partial listing.) Detailed listing, resources and campaign status/updates are available through the General Board of Global Ministries, Women's Division, 100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; website: <http://gbgm-umc.org/umw/> contact: Ms. Susie Johnson, Executive Secretary Public Policy; email: johnsons@gbgm-umc.org.

The Local Unit **Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture & Outreach** may take responsibility for these criteria:

- _____ 24. The local unit will sponsor at least one person and/or teen to attend the Conference Annual Meeting and at least two members of the local unit (other than District or Conference officers) to attend a District event.
- _____ 25. The local unit will co-sponsor, with the local church, a Children's Sabbath. (This is a worship service highlighting the needs of children. The Women's Division and the Council of Bishops support this effort. Contact the District Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator for resources.)
- _____ *26. The local unit will add at least two (2) new members to its rolls.
- _____ 27. The local unit will observe one Sunday during the year as United Methodist Women's Sunday in the local church.
- _____ 28. The local unit will sponsor a woman from the local church to attend one or more of the Conference-sponsored Retreats.
- _____ 29. The local unit will sponsor a teen from the local church to attend one or more of the Teen and/or Conference-sponsored Retreats.
- _____ 30. The local unit will start a new UMW circle/group. Contact the District Membership Nurture and Outreach Coordinator/District President for resources.

