

**Mission Today Unit Criteria****Revised: January 2024**

The purpose of the Mission Today Unit is to:

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

Criteria for a Mission Today Unit: The unit must complete a minimum of 18 (gold), 14 (silver), 10 (bronze) and include (4) of the asterisked items. Certificates will be distributed each year at the District Annual Meeting.

- \* 1 Use the Prayer Calendar at each general meeting of the unit to pray for persons in mission & their work.
- \* 2 The unit will make and meet its pledge to mission.
- \* 3 The unit will add at least one new member.
- \* 4 The unit will have at least one member subscribe to Response Magazine (suggest each unit purchase a copy to share).
- \* 5 The unit will use at least 1 program from the Program book during the year.(Possibilities - World Thank Offering and Call to Prayer and Self Denial, Officer's Installation), or use monthly program ideas, scripture litanies and/or prayers to develop a similarly themed program.
- \* 6 The unit, circle, or subgroup will conduct at least one Mission Study each year.
- \* 7 The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies in at least one way during the year:
  - Read books or articles about other races & cultures and consider books found in the Reading Program
  - Hold a joint Vacation Bible School, worship, or event
  - Have a pulpit exchange or guest speaker
  - Encourage the church to sponsor a refugee family
  - Invite a guest/unit of a different race or ethnic group to join in a meeting or activity.
  - At least one member participates in a church or community "diversity" study or advocacy group.
- 8 At least one member of the unit (other than a District or Conference officer) will attend Mission U (School of Mission).
- \* 9 At least one member (other than a District or Conference officer) will attend a District or Conference event.
- 10 The unit will have at least one person join the new Climatejustice@uwfaith.org updated from JustEnergy4All webinar (starting March 20, 2024).

- 11 Members will write to five missionaries providing encouragement (Ex. Prayer Calendar, UM Missionaries, Facebook UWF Daily Prayer Guide.)
- \* 12 The unit will be a 5 Star Unit contributing to the 5 channels of mission giving: Pledge to Mission, World Thank Offering, Gift to Mission, Gift in Memory, Special Mission Recognition
- 13 The unit will support a mission project, such as Pink Bag Treatment, Gift Day, Kits (Health, School), Flood Bucket, Prayer Shawls, Food Bank or Soup Kitchen, etc.
- 14 Each general meeting will include a “Response Moment” where an article from Response Magazine will be lifted up as a way to share a mission story.
- 15 The unit will participate in the Campaign for Children. Possibilities for action include:
  - Help sponsor a church/community program related to children/youth needs
  - Sponsor a Children’s Sabbath (promoted by the Children’s Defense fund)
  - Get involved with children by mentoring, tutoring, joining a “Big Sister” program
  - Visit or volunteer at your local school
  - Attend or watch (cable) a school board meeting
  - Write letters, email, or call government officials
  - Submit letters to editor or join a blog promoting children and youth
- 16 Have at least one person from the unit, circle, or subgroup complete one of the Reading Programs.
- \* 17 Plan and participate in a United Women in Faith Sunday
- 18 The unit will invite a District or Conference Officer (other than a member of the unit) as a speaker.
- \* 19 Recite the Purpose of the United Women in Faith at all events.
- 20 Have at least one member participate or join Members & Leaders - United Women in Faith ([uわfaith.org](http://uわfaith.org))
- 21 Make a pledge to care for God's creation by becoming a "Green" UWF unit and take steps toward that goal.
- 22 One member will participate in a Spiritual Growth Retreat sponsored by any United Methodist group (including a unit or circle retreat) or participate in Faith Matters Bi-Monthly Podcasts.
- 23 Have at least one member visit and/or volunteer at a United Methodist Mission Center (for example, Utica, NY, or Harrisburg, PA).
- 24 Host a District or Conference Event.