



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

GNJUMW Becoming A Mission Today Unit

Church's Name: _____ District: _____ Date _____

Complete this form and return to E&I Coordinator by March 1st.

Name _____

Address _____ Email _____

Mission Today Criteria

Select the level that fits your unit:

- Bronze- Complete 8-12 criteria, including at least 4 starred items.
- Silver- Complete 13-17 criteria or more, including at least 6 starred items.
- Gold- Complete 18 criteria or more, including at least 6 starred items.

*Starred Items:

- 1. *Each unit, circle, or subgroup will open its meeting by saying the UMW PURPOSE.
- 2. *The unit will use The Prayer Calendar at each general meeting to pray for mission workers and projects.
- 3. *The unit will make and meet its Pledge to Mission.
- 4. *The unit will add at least 2 members to its roll.
- 5. *The unit will have at least 2 members subscribe to Response magazine or New World Outlook.
- 6. *The unit will use at least 2 programs from the UMW Program Book each year.
- 7. *The unit or circle will conduct at least one mission study (4 hours or more a year).
- 8. *The unit will implement the Charter for Racial Justice in at least one way during the year:
 - *Plan a joint meeting with a unit of a different racial/ethnic background or hold a joint Vacation Bible School.
 - *Develop bi-racial/cultural or multi-racial/cultural Koinonia groups.
 - *Get involved with UMW partner organizations such as Justice for Our Neighbors (njfon.org), National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (nnirr.org), SentencingProject.org, or Black Alliance for Just immigration (blackalliance.org). **
 - *Share joint worship services on special occasions or hold pulpit exchanges.
 - *Encourage the church to sponsor a refugee family.
- 9. *The unit will be a 5 Star unit, contributing to all 5 channels of Mission Giving.
- 10. *The unit will include Neighborhood Center, Camden, NJ in its budget, submitting funds through the district treasurer. This is the only National Mission Center within the Greater NJ Annual Conference.

Non Starred items:

1. At least one member of the unit (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the Cooperative School of Christian Mission or Mission "u")
2. At least 2 members (other than a conference or district officer) will attend the district or conference annual fall or spring meeting.
3. The unit will have at least one person join the United Methodist Women Action Network to receive and respond to legislative information.
4. Members will write to 5 persons listed in the Prayer Calendar each year.
5. The unit will promote Child and Maternal Health in at least 2 ways.
 - Partner with or sponsor a church or community program related to pregnant women and children's needs.
 - Sponsor a Children's Sabbath (program promoted by the Children's Defense Fund).
 - Teach nutrition education and cooking classes and emphasize healthy eating. Donate fresh fruits & vegetables to food pantry.
 - Write letters, e-mail or call congressional representatives or others in government about maternal health issues.
 - Become a baby-friendly church, for example, support breastfeeding mothers and offer childcare.
 - Donate or collect for UNICEF.
 - Donate diapers and/or hold a baby shower for a local shelter.
6. Each unit or circle will include a Response moment where an item from the magazine will be lifted up as a way to tell the mission story.
7. Have at least 2 people from the unit, circle, or sub-group, complete one of the reading programs and report on one of the books read. Also to encouraging all members to complete Plan One and have a book review program.
8. 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.
9. Make a pledge to care for God's creation and become a "Green" UMW unit, (Get information on how to "Be Just, Be Green" at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/sustainability> or contact the United Methodist Women INC. Office of Community Action.)
10. Hold or attend a mini-spiritual growth retreat.
11. The unit will include support for one of the following in its local budget.
 - A local domestic shelter, such as: NJ Coalition for Battered Women, Women Aware.
 - A regional food bank or local food pantry, such as Elijah's Promise, CUMAC, Paterson or Community Food Bank of NJ, Hillside.
 - Support Camp YDP in Paterson, NJ, Ranch Hope for Boys in Alloway, NJ or Eirene Immigration Center in Camden, NJ.
12. The unit will contribute kits to Church World Service or UMCOR. This may include; health kits, birthing kits, layette kits and cleaning buckets.
13. The unit or circle will develop a prayer shawl ministry, quilting ministry, or the making of baby caps, layette blankets for local hospitals or lap robes for local nursing homes or UM Homes.
14. The unit will have at least one person to attend the UMW NorthEastern Jurisdiction or the UMW Assembly

- ****Black Alliance for Just Immigration (blackalliance.org)** is an education and advocacy group of African Americans and black immigrants from Africa, Latin American and the Caribbean.
- ****Justice for Our Neighbors (njfon.org)**, represents the response of the United Methodist Church to the needs of immigrants seeking to reunify their families, secure immigration status, and enjoy the right to work. JFON provides free, professional legal services to immigrants in monthly clinics.
- ****National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (www.nnirr.org)** works to defend and expand the rights of all immigrants and refugees, regardless of immigration status.
- ****Sentencing Project (www.sentencingproject.org)**