

VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Living Into Our Purpose

PURPOSE

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SHALL BE A COMMUNITY OF WOMEN WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO KNOW GOD AND TO EXPERIENCE FREEDOM AS WHOLE PERSONS THROUGH JESUS CHRIST; TO DEVELOP A CREATIVE, SUPPORTIVE FELLOWSHIP; AND TO EXPAND CONCEPTS OF MISSION THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH.

Achievements for Recognition

Living Into Our Purpose (Level I) : Complete **eight (8)** items; must include at least **four (4)** items (*) [four (4) items with two (2) * items for organizations with less than 15 members]

Living Into Our Purpose Silver (Level II) : Complete **thirteen (13)** items; must include at least **six (6)** items with (*) [six (6) items with three (3) * items for organizations with less than 15 members]

Living Into Our Purpose Gold (Level III) : Complete **twenty (20)** items including **twelve (12)** items with (*) [ten (10) items with six (6) * items for organizations with less than 15 members]

The evaluation period for this report shall be **1 SEPTEMBER 2014 THROUGH 31 AUGUST 2015**.

Mark the items you completed. Use these suggestions to **MAKE IT HAPPEN** in the world in which we live.

1. ORGANIZED

- 1a. (*) **Make and Meet a Pledge to Mission Giving.**
- 1b. (*) **Include the UMW Purpose at every meeting.**
- 1c. (*) **Increase the local organization's Pledge to Mission this year.**
- 1d. (*) **Qualify as a Five- or Six-Star organization by contributing to Five or Six Channels of Mission Giving (Pledge to Mission; Special Mission Recognition; Mission Giving Cards; Gift in Memory; World Thank Offering; and Candle burning).**
- 1e. (*) **Have **one (1)** member become a Rainbow Giver. Name _____.**
- 1f. (*) **Participate in the United Methodist Women 150th Legacy Fund.**
- 1g. (*) **Have at least **two (2)** members **complete Plan I or higher** of the Reading Program. ***
- 1h. (*) **Use at least **two (2)** programs from the Program Book.**

2. KNOW GOD (FAITH)

- 2a. () **Encourage the practice of Spiritual Disciplines (i.e. scripture, prayer, fasting)**
- 2b. (*) **Have at least one *Prayer Calendar* which can be used at each local organization meeting to pray for mission workers and mission projects for women, children and youth.**
- 2c. (*) **Have at least **one (1)** member attend a District or Conference Spiritual Life Event. (District or Conference officers who have paid their own way may count toward this item)**
- 2d. () **Host or participate in a Children's Sabbath Service highlighting the needs of the children. (Resources can be found at www.childrensdefense.org)**

3. EXPERIENCE FREEDOM AS WHOLE PERSONS (HOPE)

- 3a. (*) Choose **one (1)** District Social Action Priority to work on. Priority is: _____.
- 3b. () Present a Program or Initiate a Project based on a District or Conference Social Action Priority.
- 3c. () Have at least **one (1)** member attend United Methodist Day at General Assembly in February. Member's name: _____.
- 3d. (*) Have at least **one (1)** member sign-up to receive the UMW Action Network (<http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org>) to learn more about justice issues.
- 3e. () Have at least **one (1)** member sign-up for the action alerts from the General Board of Church and Society (<http://www.umc-gbcs.org/>) and share information on Justice Issues with the local organization.
- 3f. () Have at least **one (1)** member sign up to receive Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy alerts (<http://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org>) and use ideas to advocate for justice.
- 3g. (*) Implement the Charter for Racial Justice Policies by having a Racial Justice Program, participating in a District Racial Justice Program or attending a Conference Racial Justice event. (there is a workshop planned for May 15-17, 2015 to be held at Blackstone). Get resources from: <http://new.gbgs-umc.org/umw/media/files/Racial%20Justice%20Manual.pdf>
- 3h. () Have "green" meetings and participate in or develop an Environmental Justice Program. Describe what you did: _____.

4. DEVELOP A CREATIVE/SUPPORTIVE FELLOWSHIP (LOVE)

- 4a. (*) Add at least **two (2)** new members to the roll (**one (1)** new member for local organizations with 15 or fewer members).
- 4b. (*) Have at least **two (2)** members, other than a District or Conference Officer, attend a District or Conference Annual Meeting (if a small organization - 15 or fewer members - you may include **one (1)** District or Conference Officer).
- 4c. () Sponsor a young woman (**18 - 40**) to attend a District or Conference Young Women's Event. Name of attendee: (for your archives)_____.
- 4d. (*) Invite a District or Conference Officer, other than one of your own members, to one of your local organization meetings during the year and/or your United Methodist Women's Sunday.
- 4e. () Write to at least **five (5)** mission workers listed the *Prayer Calendar*.
- 4f. () Have at least **one (1)** member attend UMW Day at Ferrum College.
- 4g. () Submit names of deceased members to District MN & O Coordinators by August 31st. *

5. EXPAND CONCEPTS OF MISSION (LOVE)

- 5a. (*) Have at least **one (1)** subscription to *response Magazine* within the organization to help members stay informed of mission in the world and for help in planning programs. Include a “*response Moment*” where an item from *response Magazine* is lifted up as a way to tell a mission story.
- 5b. (*) Have at least **one (1)** member, other than a District or Conference officer, attend Mission Encounter or a District Mission Celebration/Mission Encounter event. (District or Conference officers who have paid their own way may count toward this blueprint.)
- 5c. (*) Select a Mission Institution or Project which is supported by funds from the **United Methodist Women National Office** (Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth, VA is the only National Institution in Virginia), or the Ministry Grants of Virginia (listed in the Annual Report) and visit and/or contribute needed resources. Name of Project _____.
- 5d. (*) Have or participate in at least **one (1) current** mission study during the year. Which one: _____.

6. PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL MINISTRIES (IN ACTION)

- 6a. () Have **one (1)** or more members participate in hands-on mission such as gleaning, working at a food pantry or clothes closet, Stop Hunger Now event, bagging potatoes, etc.
Describe: _____.
- 6b. (*) Participate in the **Campaign for Children** (public education, mentoring or tutoring programs, visit and support local schools, etc.) Describe what you did:
_____.
- 6c. () Provide at least **ten (10)** UMCOR Mission Kits and funds for shipping for the Virginia Annual Conference (Kits for Conference)
- 6d. () Make a donation of goods (stamps for inmates, etc.), money (to support a Prison Chaplain) or service (Bible study, bell choir) to Prison Ministries.

Local Organization/Church _____

Number of Members in your Local Organization _____

President or Contact Person _____

Phone _____

Email _____

* **No Change** in reporting of Membership or Reading Program Books. Please have your local organization mission coordinators of Membership Nurture & Outreach (MN&O) and Secretary of Program Resources (SPR) mail reports to the District MN&O and SPR.