

Living Into Our Purpose (LIOP): Mission Today Units
VIRGINIA CONFERENCE UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Our Purpose – We are 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.

Deadline: September 1

Submit to District E & I Coordinator:

Local Organization/Church	
Number of Members	
President or Contact Person	
Phone	
Email	

The purpose of becoming a Mission Today Unit is to invigorate UWFaith members' involvement in Mission. This is achieved by:

- **Energizing engagement** through **prayer, study, and action**.
- **Increasing transparency** by connecting units, coordinators, and projects so members **understand the impact of their financial contributions**.
- **Promoting the use of UWFaith mission resources**.
- **Broadening the scope of mission** to include concepts like **social justice**.

Our UNIT's GOAL for the coming year is to be a _____ level Unit.

A unit is any organized group of UWFaith within a church or district. Some units are composed of several circles or members from different churches which periodically meet as a unit.

Level	Total Items to Complete Units of 20+ members	Total Items to Complete Units of 11-19 members	Total Items to Complete for 10 and under members
VISIONARY	Completed 1a.	Completed 1a.	Completed 1a.
BRONZE	12 total items including 6 ★ items	6 total items including 3 ★ items	4 total items including 2 ★ items
SILVER	14 total items including 7 ★ items	8 total items including 4 ★ items	6 total items including 3 ★ items
GOLD	16 total items including 8 ★ items	10 total items including 5 ★ items	8 total items including 4 ★ items

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1. **Our Purpose** — *Strengthen Your Commitment and Impact*



* 1a. **Elevate your giving!** Don't just make and meet a **Pledge to Mission Giving** ; challenge your local organization to **increase** that Pledge this year. (*Send funds to your District Treasurer.*)

How did fulfilling your Pledge to Mission connect your unit's work to the global ministries of United Women in Faith?



* 1b. **Go for the Gold (or Six Stars!)**: Strive to qualify as a **Five- or Six-Star Organization** by contributing through all **six channels of Mission Giving**:

- Pledge to Mission Special Mission Recognition Gift to Mission
 Gift in Memory World Thank Offering Candle Burning

What other mission areas were you able to financially support with your gifts?



* 1c. **Invest in the Future**: Ensure your organization **participates in the United Women in Faith 150th Legacy Fund** to secure the next century of mission work (**\$186.90 or more**).



* 1d. **Inspire Individually**: Encourage at least **one member to become a Rainbow Giver** – A truly special way to deepen their personal commitment.



* 1e. **Remember Your Purpose**: Start every single meeting, whether in-person or virtual, by sharing the **UWF Purpose**. Let it guide your discussions and actions.

How has reciting the UWF Purpose at each meeting strengthened your unit's shared vision and sense of mission?



1f. **Deepen Your Faith**: Honor and participate in "**A Call to Prayer and Self Denial**" by holding a dedicated program and collecting the offering.

2. **Know God** — *Deepen Your Faith and Action*

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2a. **Elevate Your Practice:** Encourage every member to **practice spiritual disciplines daily** (like reading **Scripture**, **prayer**, or **fasting**) to enrich their personal connection to the mission.



* 2b. **Become Prayer Warriors:** Designate at least one **Prayer Guide** to lead focused, intentional prayer at every meeting— in-person or virtual —for the specific mission projects and workers supporting women, children, and youth.



2c. **Invest in Inspiration:** Ensure at least one member **attends a District or Conference Spiritual Life Event**. These powerful events revitalize our purpose and connect us to a broader community of faith.



2d. **Champion Our Youth:** Host or participate in a **Children’s Defense Fund Children’s Sabbath**. Use this special observance to highlight and address the critical needs of children in your community and beyond.



* 2e. **Spark Dynamic Programs:** Utilize the **Program Resource** manual to inject fresh ideas and relevant content into your meetings. **Commit to using at least two programs** from this resource this year to inform and inspire your members.

What Programs did you use and how did the programs inspire/grow your unit spiritually?

3. Experience Freedom as Whole Persons — *Be the Voice: Action & Advocacy*



* 3a. **Own an Issue & Turn Talk into Action:** Select one **District or Conference Social Action Priority** and launch a project or present a compelling program that directly addresses your chosen Social Action Priority. Educate, inspire, and mobilize your unit!

What Social Action Priority did your unit focus on and what was its impact?



* 3b. **Connect to the Core:** Ensure your unit is represented at key events by sending a member to either the **United Methodist Day at General Assembly** (if held) or to a **webinar addressing your chosen Social Action Priority**.

What events was your Unit able to attend: _____

Who was able to attend: _____

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3c. **Become a Justice Hub:** Designate a **Justice Champion** to sign up for **UWF Action Alerts** and **Virginia Interfaith Center alerts** (<http://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org>), gather resources from the **UMC Church and Society website**, (<https://www.umcjustice.org>) and share that vital information at your local organization meetings.

Who is your **Justice Champion**: _____

* 3d. **Live the Charter for Racial Justice:** Implement or continue your commitment to racial justice by hosting a program, or attending a District/Conference event.

Describe what you did—let's make equity a reality!

3e. **Embrace Climate Justice:** Participate in **UWFaith's climate justice work** by adopting the **"Be Just. Be Green. 13 Steps To Sustainability"** principles and participating in **Just Energy 4All** webinars or Virginia Conference Green Church Initiative.

How did your unit go green this year!

4. Develop a Creative, Supportive Fellowship — Grow Community & Deepen Connections

4a. **Expand Our Reach:** Make it a priority to **add new members** to your roll this year. Recruit at least two new members (one new member for units with 15 or fewer). **Let's make room for more women of faith!**

4b. **Invest in Future Leaders: Sponsor a young woman** (age 18-40) to attend a District or Conference Young Women's Event (if held). Check for available scholarships—this is a powerful investment in our future!

* 4c. **Connect Beyond Local:** Ensure your unit is represented at the broader level. Have at least **two members** attend the **District or Conference Annual Meeting** to network, learn, and be inspired.

* 4d. **Strengthen Our Network:** Invite a **District or Conference Officer** to speak at one of your local meetings or your United Women in Faith Sunday. **A fresh perspective strengthens us all!**

* 4e. **Honor the Legacy:** Submit the names of all your deceased members to the District Membership, Nurture & Outreach Coordinator or District President by the deadline to ensure their contribution is formally recognized and celebrated.

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5. Expand Concepts of Mission – Education, Inspiration & Direct Mission Connection

★ 5a. **Make Time for response:** Ensure your unit has at least one subscription to the **response magazine** and commit to having a "**response moment**" at every meeting. Use this time to share a mission story from the magazine and keep members informed of our global impact!

5b. **Deep Dive into Mission:** Invest in knowledge by having at least **two members attend** the **Conference Mission U** in July. These events are **vital for education and spiritual renewal!**

★ 5c. **Commit to Growth:** Challenge your Unit to have at least **two members** complete **Plan I** of the **UW Faith Reading Program**. Don't keep the wisdom to yourselves—**commit to sharing the insights from one of your books with the entire unit!**

★ 5d. **Support a Mission Site:** Select a specific **mission institution or project supported by UW Faith**. The **Wesley Community Service Center** is a **National Mission Institution in Virginia** or by funds through the Ministry Grants of Virginia.

6. Participate in Global Ministries – Hands-On Mission

★ 6a. **Be the Hands of Christ:** Get one or more members out there to **participate in hands-on mission!** Whether it's gleaning, volunteering at a food pantry, working a clothes closet, or tackling a Rise Against Hunger event.

Describe the tangible difference your Unit made.

★ 6b. **Support Our Schools and Children:** Actively **participate in the Campaign for Children** by getting involved in a Children's Sabbath, supporting public education, mentoring or tutoring, or directly supporting local schools.

Tell us how your Unit championed children this year.

6c. **Pack Kits, Change Lives:** Provide at least **10 UMCOR mission kits** and the funds for shipping for the Virginia Annual Conference's "Kits for Conference." **These kits deliver hope during times of crisis!**

6d. **Minister to the Incarcerated:** **Make a donation** (goods, money for a chaplain, etc.) **or offer service** (like a Bible study) to local prison ministries. **Your support is a vital lifeline to those in the prison system.**

Total Items Achieved