

HOW TO TAKE PART IN THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S READING PROGRAM:

You may:

- Get a copy of the Reading Program Report Form either from your local Resources secretary or from online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram. Notice that you need to read books from 5 different categories, to be recognized.
- Get a copy of the Reading Program catalog, or current reading list, available online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram. Each year has a different list of books. You can “go back” for five years of books on the Reading Lists, so there are many books to choose from by looking at the different lists.
- Look over the books to see whether there are any that look particularly interesting.
- Buy or borrow Reading Program books from the local library and/or share books within your group to have more choice at less cost. Online purchasing is frequently the least expensive way to buy; often used copies are available online at discount.
- You also need to be regularly reading *response* Magazine (you can get a subscription for your church and share). (*New World Outlook* is no longer available.) To be recognized in the UMW Reading Program you need to be able to report you have regularly read *response* magazine.
- When you read a book, list it in the applicable category on the Reading Program Form; please add the year of the list where the book can be found.

There are five categories of books:

- Education for Mission,
- Leadership Development,
- Nurturing for Community,
- Social Action and
- Spiritual Growth.

The current list of books for each category can be found online at www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram/plans .

There are four reading plans:

- Plan I: 5 books per year, one book from each category. Selections from all current reading lists can be included if not listed in previous reports. Also required is regular reading of *response* magazine.
- Plan II: 10 books per year, two books from each category. Selections from all current reading lists can be included if not listed in previous reports. Also required is regular reading of *response* magazine.
- Plan III: 15 books per year, two books from each category, plus 5 additional books from any category. The additional books may be listed on the back side of the Reporting Form. Selections from all current reading lists can be included if not listed in previous reports. Regular reading of *response* magazine is required also.

- Plan IV: 20 books per year, two books from each category, plus 10 additional books from any category. Selections from all current reading lists can be included if not listed in previous reports. Also required is regular reading of *response* magazine.

Bonus Books: These count as two books—either as two books in Education for Mission or Social Action, or as one book in each Education for Mission and Social Action. These are found in the Reading Program catalog with a “B” in a red circle or indicated on the lists as a “Bonus Book.”

Mission U Studies: Mission U studies count in the Reading Program for one of the two years they are being used. In Mission U they are classified Spiritual Growth, Geographic, Issue Study or Youth and Children. These classes are not the same terms as are used in the Reading Program, except for Spiritual Growth. Therefore, you use them in the category that is closest to the nature of the book. Also, any current Reading Program titles used in the mission study bibliography that you have read can be reported as well.

Recommended Reading Books: There are additional books that can be read for credit that are included in the yearly catalogues but which are not available from United Methodist Women Mission Resources. Please note on the Report the book’s category, that it is a Recommended Reading and the year of list.

Reading Program Timeline for CA-NV Conference is September 1 to August 31:

The Reading Program Report Forms should be given to the local program secretary before September 1, to be forwarded to the District Program Resources Coordinator or if you have no program secretary, just send them to your District Resources Coordinator. The results will be recognized at the California-Nevada United Methodist Women Annual Celebration and reading groups will be recognized. Recognized groups include New Groups, Plans 3 & 4; Increased Plans and New Readers, which are eligible to win additional credit toward purchase of Reading Program books. Reports may be mailed to the District Coordinator, or scanned and e-mailed (check with your District Coordinator). Please include your e-mail address (if any) and your telephone number. Local secretaries of program resources should include their phone numbers and e-mail addresses (if any), so that the District Coordinator can reach you to verify information.

--10/14/2019 by Ruth Stacy former Program Resources Coordinator

Please Contact the Program Resource Coordinator for 2021, Carol Whitmer, if you need more information.