



## Secretary, Program Resources Training 2019

**The Gifts of Wisdom – “...for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.” Proverbs 8:11**

The Reading Program encourages members to think critically about current issues through an annual selection of member-reviewed books. It offers an excellent opportunity to deepen your spirituality and to broaden your understanding of our mission work. The Reading Program does not intend that readers accept each word or idea contained within each book.

The 2019 Reading Program catalog is available on the United Methodist Women website and is longer being printed. The December, 2018, issue of **response magazine** has a brief write-up of each of the books listed in the catalog. Each of the five categories feature books regarding our current mission studies and more.

### **The Reading Program Leads to Action!**

For 150 years, United Methodist Women have been involved in mission that includes prayer, study and action. The Reading Program is a study opportunity, but it should also lead to action. The purpose of the program is to encourage United Methodist Women members to:

- Expand understanding of and participation in God's mission.
- Increase sensitivity to all human beings—their needs, interests and concerns.
- Encourage critical thinking about issues facing humanity today.
- Grow in understanding of Scripture as it relates to Christian faith in contemporary life.
- Enhance self-knowledge and act from that knowledge.
- Strengthen involvement in local and global Christian mission.

### **2019 Action suggestions to assist you:**

**Pray.** Books often raise concerns about people, countries and issues. Bring these concerns to God during your prayer time at home and at group meetings. Pray for those concerns. Read “*Spoken into Being*” and think about creating and telling your story.

**Host a program.** Read “*We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now*” and continue the discussion on economic injustice around the world.

**Teach a Sunday School Class.** Read titles from the children's list with a Sunday School class. Read “*No One Else Like You*” and celebrate diversity and tolerance. Read “*Red*” and continue your discussion around bullying.

**Be Inclusive.** Continue your action on the Charter for Racial Justice Policies of The United Methodist Church. Read “*Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*”.

## **Other Suggestions:**

**Post a “Book Blurb.”** You can place a recommended reading selection from the Reading Program in your church Newsletter that would coincide with a current mission or topic of your church.

**Start, and/or enhance, a section in your church library for the United Methodist Women’s Reading Program books.** By keeping the reading program books in one area, it makes it more convenient and encourages someone to make other selections for the Reading Plans. Also giving a different color coding for each year lets you know if a particular book falls into the current range – Reading Program Books from 2014 to 2019.

**Inform Sunday school teachers, parents and grandparents** that books for children and youth are available through the Reading Program. Consider a Children/Youth separate library. The books are great gift suggestions!

**Present book reviews** at United Methodist Women group meetings. Submit a book review for publication in our South West District newsletter, the **Sojourner**. Highlight large print books and book listings available for the visually impaired.

**Utilize Audio Visual Aids.** There are free DVD’s on Mission Giving and United Methodist Women. You can purchase DVD’s that correspond to our Mission Studies and other mission topics. To place an order, go online or call the Resource Center.

**Honor those who participate in the Reading Program.** Submit a listing of the United Methodist Women of your unit who diligently read the Reading Program books and indicate the Plan they completed to the District Secretary, Program Resources by **August 15<sup>th</sup>**. Each participant will then be presented a *CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION* at our South West District Annual Meeting, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Starting January, 2019, **response moves to a bimonthly publication schedule of six issues per year.** The award-winning quality and content of the magazine will remain the same, as will the subscription price [U.S. Print Subscription – includes complimentary digital subscription] 1 year (6 issues) \$24.00, 2 year (12 issues) \$45.00] which has remained low and unchanged for more than 10 years. You can subscribe on line at [www.umwmissionresources.org/response](http://www.umwmissionresources.org/response) or call 1-877-881-2385.

**Utilize the Reading Program Report Form for members.** The free Reading Program Report Form enables you to keep track of your chosen Reading Program Plan and additional reading so that you know each year what books you have submitted. The Report Form is available for shipping and handling or as a free download at [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/downloads](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/downloads)

**The Reading Program - 2019: [Titles read from the 2014 list will be credited through December 31, 2019.]**

We hope the 2019 Reading Program challenges and inspires you to put faith, hope and love into action. With the books offered on this years’ list, invite others into the transformative education that comes with being a part of United Methodist Women.\*

Five Categories:



#### Four Reading Program Plans:

**PLAN I** – 5 Books Per Year, One book from each category, *response* magazine

**PLAN II** – 10 Books Per Year, Two from each category, *response* magazine

**PLAN III** – 15 Books Per Year, Two from each category plus five additional books from any category, *response* magazine

**PLAN IV** – 20 Books Per Year, Two from each category plus 10 additional books from any category, *response* magazine

**The Bible undergirds all Christian reading, including that of the Reading Program.** The *response* magazine is essential reading for understanding the mission of United Methodist Women and is part of all four reading plans.

All Plan selections can be from the 2014-2019 reading lists, including Youth Titles, if not included in previous reports. Also, Mission Study books are eligible for the Plan you choose. You can obtain copies of reading lists for each year on the United Methodist Women website. [www.umwonline.org/groups/readingprogram](http://www.umwonline.org/groups/readingprogram)

**Bonus Books:** Bonus Books count as two books in Education for Mission or Social Action, or as one book in either of two categories. For example, *Walking on Lava* and *Nobody Cries When We Die* count as two books in Social Action.

**Large Print Books:** Spiritual Growth - *Lessons To Nourish The Soul: Sermons to Encourage and Challenge You* and Nurturing For Community – *All The Colors We Are: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color*.

**Mission Studies Books:** Look for the 2019 United Methodist Women mission study books to earn credit in the following categories:

- **2019 Spiritual Growth:** *The Gospel of Mark and Radical Discipleship\** (SG)
- **2019 Special Study:** *United Methodist Women in Mission: 150 Years and Beyond\**
- **2019 Issue Study:** *What About Our Money? A Faith Response* [repeat from in 2018] (SA)
- **2019 Youth Study:** *Who do you say that I am? Meeting Jesus through the eyes of Mark* (SA)
- **2019 Children's Study:** *Marked: A Mission Journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark* (SA)

\*Also available in Spanish and Korean

**Purchase the Annual Sampler:** Offered each year ending **April 1<sup>st</sup>** for the bundle and includes Spiritual Growth and Geographic Mission Studies books and the Program Book, Prayer Calendar and Date Book for the next term.

Subscribing to the sampler allows you to order five key resources just once a year and receive them as they become available. This money-saving package includes five resources – all yours for \$40 - a \$5.50 savings. The studies ship in January. The Program Book and calendars will ship in the summer. Please renew each year by submitting the completed form and check to cover your purchase through the South West District Treasurer for processing. The forms are available at the District Events.

2019 Annual Sampler:

Order the print subscription today for \$40 and save \$5.50.

The Annual Sampler includes:

- 2019 Spiritual Growth study (\$10).
- 2019 Special Study (\$10).
- 2019 Prayer Calendar (\$14).
- 2019-20 Program Book (\$10).
- 2020 Date Book (\$1.50).

ORDER TOLL-FREE  
800-305-9857

ORDER BY MAIL  
United Methodist Women  
Mission Resources  
P.O. Box 742349  
Atlanta, GA 30374-2349

**E Store:** [www.umwmissionresources.org](http://www.umwmissionresources.org) The books that are stocked in print at United Methodist Women Mission Resources include a stock number with its listing. The United Methodist Women publications of Mission Study, Membership such as the Handbook, Gifts/Promotional Items, Mission Giving resources, Program Planning Resources {Prayer Calendar, Program Book, etc.} and Assembly 2018 items are all available through the “Shop” tab on the United Methodist Women website.

The Reading Program books are to be purchased through Amazon – [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) for a .5% donation from Amazon, Cokesbury and Barnes & Noble. Books can also be found at your local library, or seek them at a nearby independent bookstore.

**United Methodist Women Mission Resources** distributes United Methodist Women materials and resources. To order: 1-800-305-9857 (phone), 1-770-280-0061 (fax), [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/store](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/store) (e store). Mail to: United Methodist Women Mission Resources, P.O. Box 742349, Atlanta, GA 30374-2349



The Reading Program is phenomenal. The benefits are, without question, an influence on our perception of our culture and our Faith Journey in the choices we make. The program continues to keep us current.

**God bless you as you pray, study, act and organize in Christ’s name.**

Respectfully submitted,

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