



Rock Hill District UMW March 1, 2022

Informer



Virtuous Woman of God

May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and anoint you as He has anointed women who have gone before you.

Be blessed with the **patience** of Sarah, who learned through trial and testing to submit to God’s plan and His authority.

Be blessed with the **balance** of Martha’s heart of servanthood and the heart of genuine love and worship shown by Mary.

Be blessed with **joy**, just as Mary, the mother of Jesus, joyfully received God’s word, as well as her high calling to be a mother for our Savior.

Be blessed with the **faith** of Lois and Eunice who raised the young child Timothy, with the word of God. They knew the importance of preparing the next generation to serve Jesus.

Be blessed, Child of God, and know that the Lord sees you as a beautiful rose.

May you grow in knowledge and wisdom as you gracefully blossom into the character of a Proverbs 31 woman.

Jesus gave His life for you.

Walk in His righteousness and the unfailing love of your eternal Father.

Author Unknown

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Informer is the quarterly newsletter of the Rock Hill District UMW. It is published in December, March, June, and August and sent via email to UMW Unit Presidents who then share it with their circles and members. If you wish to be added to our *Informer* email list, please send your request to rockhillumw@gmail.com. News items, photos, and event announcements for the *Informer* can be sent to your Cluster Leader or sent to rockhillumw@gmail.com. Keep in mind we are published only 4 times a year.

President—Crystal Barrs



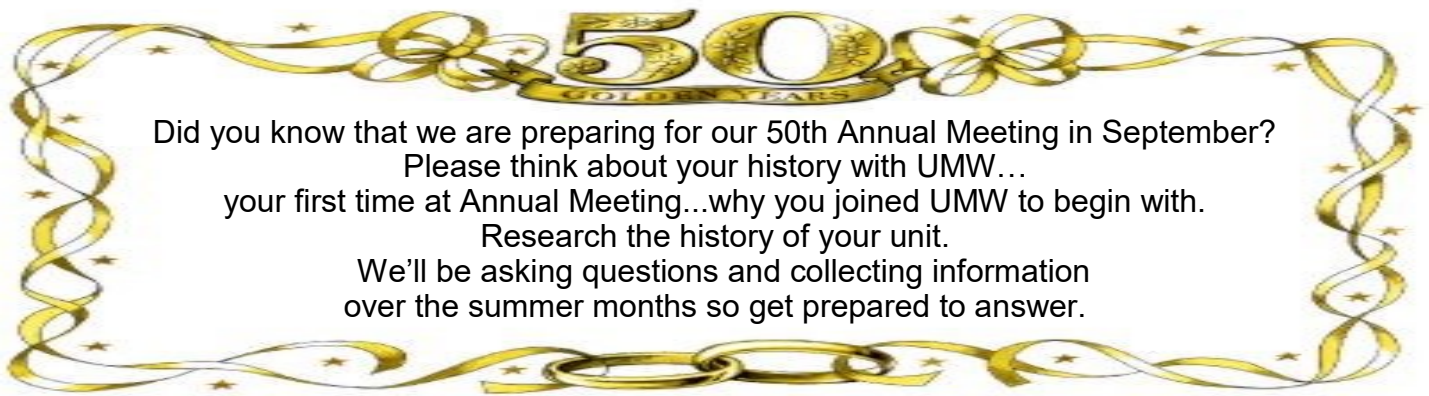
In 2012, I received a call from Pat Gilliam with a request to serve on the District UMW. When I got that call my heart sank. I had been praying that God would lead me where He wanted me to be, but this seemed daunting. Still, God was calling so I answered. I have been serving since 2012 and can not explain the fulfillment I feel for being part of this District Leadership Team.

This year seems to be passing at an incredible speed. I can't believe we are in March already. I know many of you attended one or more of the Legislative Advocacy Day programs that were held throughout the month of February. Because of work I could only attend one but I plan on watching the others on YouTube when they come out. We'll send out a separate email when they are available.

Your local officer training took place at El Bethel UMC in Fort Lawn on February 5. We had 16 churches represented and at least 34 attendees (Zoom + in person). It is hard to get an accurate count when we don't know if those on Zoom have more than 1 person watching. I suggest that you list additional attendees by name in the chat so every attendee is counted.

We are prayerfully asking for ladies who feel the calling to become part of our Leadership Team. Please contact Frances Bratton our Nominations Chair if you are interested. A potential Leader Form is on page 13 of this issue for your convenience. Here are our open positions: Cluster Leaders for Chester and Lancaster/Kershaw; Communications; Historian; and Membership, Nurture, & Outreach. A brief explanation of these positions is on page 8.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our Day Apart on March 26th at Cornerstone UMC, Rock Hill.



Did you know that we are preparing for our 50th Annual Meeting in September?
Please think about your history with UMW...
your first time at Annual Meeting...why you joined UMW to begin with.
Research the history of your unit.
We'll be asking questions and collecting information
over the summer months so get prepared to answer.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I am honored to serve the Rock Hill District UMW. Thank you.

Blessings to all, *Crystal Barrs*

barrs.crystal@yahoo.com

803 804-4061

**We who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith
the righteousness God has promised to us. Galatians 5:5**

Vice President—Lynne Chandler



Six and a half years ago, I felt God was calling me to serve in a new way. I filled out a Potential Leader Form, turned it in and waited to be contacted. Program Resources is where I was asked to serve. I had no idea what that meant but I learned. Serving on the District UMW changed my life in good ways. I gained dear friends from all parts of the district, met avid UMW members across our state, traveled to enriching events, and received inspiration from a multitude of speakers. I love this group of hardworking, God-loving women and look forward to getting to know others who answer the call to serve.

Thank you to El Bethel UMW for hosting our Officer's Training in January. You were gracious hosts and we appreciate you. This was the first time El Bethel hosted a district event. If your church would like host an event in the coming years please contact me and let's talk about it. We need churches to host the following events in 2023 and 2024: Officer Training in January, Day Apart in March, and Annual Meeting in September. Please consider hosting.



I recently visited Philadelphia UMC-Fort Mill for a Call to Prayer and Self-Denial Program hosted jointly with St John's UMC-Fort Mill. They had a wonderful program and delicious refreshments. See page 10 for their report and photos. Hosting a program jointly doubles the fun and divides the work.

This year's Day Apart is being hosted by Cornerstone UMC. More information can be found in Jackie Hick's report on page 6. The pre-registration form is on page 12. I hope to see you there, either in person or on Zoom.



Our online reading group will begin a new book in April. I will announce the title of the new book on our Facebook page (Rock Hill District UMW) the last week in March. If you would like to join us, let me know and I will send you the Zoom link. We meet on Thursday evenings at 8 pm for about an hour. We are meant to be in community with others and would love to have you join us.

Do you need help using email, Facebook, or Zoom? I would be glad to help you become more comfortable with technology. Send me your questions and I will answer or find the answer for you. Or call me and let's get together. Technology can be confusing but the more you use it the easier it gets.



Here's a tip: Email addresses are not case-sensitive. That means it doesn't matter if you use capital letters or lower case letters. Sometimes in the newsletter I will use some uppercase letters in an email address so you can better see what the letters are. I did that on one of the email addresses in this newsletter. Look through the pages to see if you can spot it. You don't need to use the capital letters when you type the address in an email but you can.

Joyfully,

Lynne

call/text: 864 426-3501

email: mrs.lynnchandler@gmail.com

Treasurer—Elaine Cryderman



I started my 5th year as District Treasurer in September 2021 and I can say I have enjoyed it. It has been fun to put a face with a name that I know. I also enjoy seeing all the special stamps you put on your envelopes as I am a past stamp collector.

Our 46 churches in the Rock Hill District donated \$20,193.80 to Pledge in 2021. You also donated an additional \$18,786.00 to our SC Mission projects, World Thank Offering, Prayer and Self-Denial, gifts in memory and honor, and SMR.

We are now in the **second** quarter which ends **May 31**. **Treasurers**, please have your remittances to me by then.

If your UMW unit has not made a pledge yet, you may send me your amount and I will save it for our records. Remember that only the amount on line one counts as your pledge amount. Making and meeting your unit pledge is one of the requirements for a *Mission Today Award*.

Continue your good work for Missions and thank you very much.

Elaine Cryderman
1885 Oak Briar Circle
Fort Mill, SC 29715
803-431-1267
kcryderman@comporium.net



Secretary—Barbara Gaither



The Secretary is a key communicator for her unit. Whether you are taking minutes, writing and receiving letters on the unit's behalf, or keeping a record of your membership, you are vital to your unit's success. Remember, it's your responsibility to keep a file of all minutes and pass them to your successor when you move to another position, as I hope you will.

Please consider and talk to your fellow members about stepping up to a position on the district level. There are several openings and we'd welcome the chance to talk to you about them. God bless you!

Faith Talks I highly recommend taking advantage of UMW's "Faith Talks," a series of webinars recorded as podcasts. Topics range from conversations with workers in the mission field to self-care during these difficult times. Watching or listening to any 2 of the podcasts counts as a book in the Reading Program. To access the podcasts, simply enter "Faith Talks" in the search bar on the United Methodist Women web site (unitedmethodistwomen.org). You will see a listing of many topics to choose from. I'm sure one or more will interest you and could become a program for your unit or circle. Happy watching!

Barbara bgramb@outlook.com 803 548-7859

Education & Interpretation—Margaret Parker



Each quarter my goal is to highlight mission opportunities supported by UMW at local, state and national levels. District and Conference sponsored meetings are a great way to interact with other UMW groups, make new friends, and learn from each other. I would ask that you prayerfully consider all opportunities that are available to you.

One of the requirements for the **Mission Today Award** is “Had at least *two members* to write to *at least 5 people* as listed in the Prayer Guide at least *once* during the year.” It is recommended that we send emails to these individuals instead of snail mail due to the enormous amount of time it takes for missionaries to receive mail. Some of whom may have relocated before receiving same. I’ve chosen at random several names and their email addresses. Other names and addresses can be found in the Prayer Guide (formerly called Prayer Calendar). I encourage all UMW units to send a brief note to these people letting them know you support them with your prayers and giving words of encouragement. Even though the requirement is for “at least 2 people,” it would be very supportive if all your members who utilize email chose to participate. Missionaries on US soil and abroad need our prayers and uplifting in these troublesome days. Let them know you care!

Katelyn Dino: kdino@umcmmission.org

Rafael Ponce de Leon: rponcedeleon@umcmmission.org

Kyeong-ah Woo: kwoo@umcmmission.org

Cheryl Fox-Bender: cbender@woh.rr.com

Patrick Booth: pbooth@umcmmission.org

Celeste Eubanks: ceubanks39406@yahoo.com

Brenda Nguwa: bnguwa@umcmmission.org

Jennifer Phillips: jphillips@umcmmission.org

Benjamin Grayer: bgrayer@umcmmission.org

Susanna Cho: skcho@umcmmission.org



APRIL SPECIAL EMPHASIS MONTH: Bethlehem Community Center, Columbia

Margaret

864 940-0969

parker3384@comporium.net

Nominations—Frances Bratton



We still have several OPEN positions on the District Leadership Team. We have a great team of women and would love to have you join us. Please fill out the Potential Leadership Form on page 13 of this *Informer* and return it to me.

The Leadership Team is praying for God to inspire the right people to join the team. Please join us in praying daily for new team members.

Frances Bratton

803 230-6913

franpenbrat1982@gmail.com

Program Resources—Bette Jean Janicke



I hope all of you are working on your Reading Plan for 2022. If you need a “jump start,” go to our Rock Hill District UMW Facebook page. I have read a book from 4 of the categories and Lynne Chandler read one from Education for Mission last year. Watching those 5 videos will give you Plan 1. These are children’s books that are quick reads but count in the program.

Please encourage your members to READ (or listen) to these books and send their completed form to me by August 15. The form can be found on page 14.

Faith Talks: Listening to 2 of the Faith Talks podcasts counts as 1 book. Listen to 3 of the podcasts and it will count as 2 books. Faith Talks count in the category of Spiritual Growth. They are available on the United Methodist Women website.

Movies: The movies Just Mercy, Pushout, and The Hate You Give each count in the category of Social Action.

List of Books: If you need a list of the Reading Program Books, let me know and I will email you a complete list of all the books that count for this year.

Finding books: Where can you find books? Check your local library, look at your favorite bookstore, order online from Amazon or other book seller, check Kindle or Audible. I have a good many books available that others have read and are willing to share. Let me know if you want to borrow one.



Zoom: Our Zoom Reading Group meets on Thursdays at 8 pm. We will start a new book on Zoom in April. Watch our Facebook page for the title. Contact Lynne Chandler to get the Zoom Link.

Happy Reading! Bette Jean bjanicke@comporium.net

Call/text: 803 517-1665

Spiritual Growth—Jackie Hicks



Day Apart for the Rock Hill District will be on Saturday, March 26, 2022 at Cornerstone UMC, 2697 Heckle Blvd (Hwy 901), Rock Hill, SC 29732. Registration and refreshments will be from 9 to 9:45 am. Our Day Apart program will begin at 10:00. We are so pleased to have the director of Killingsworth, Rev. Schrendria Robinson, as our guest speaker. “Blessed with Hope” based on Jeremiah 29:11 is our theme.

Let’s spend our “Day Apart” together, learning more about Killingsworth and sharing our hope and blessings with this special mission for women. A special offering will be taken for Killingsworth.

A Pre-registration Form is on page 12. Registering in advance helps our host church prepare.

Blessings to all,

Jackie B. Hicks

jbhicks9800@aol.com

803 517-0434

“For I know *The plans*
I have for You,”
declares the *Lord,*
“*plans to prosper.*
You and not to harm You,
plans to give You
hope and a *future.*”
Jeremiah 29:11

Social Action—Linda James



Greeting Ladies!

I ask you this question, why are you a United Methodist Woman? Is it because of Missions? Fellowship? Growing in God's grace? It may be because someone in the church reached out and invited you to a meeting or perhaps your mother or grandmother was a member. Whatever the reason; you are part of an organization that nurtures, worships God, grows in God's will, and reaches out to others.

As for me, I was introduced to UMW at a very early age, learning from my mother. As an adult, I have participated in the UMW in every church I was a member, and have found community, spiritual growth, a bigger understanding of the people of the world and their needs and an opportunity to give.

Legislative Advocacy Days: Thank you to those who joined on Zoom for this year's Legislative Advocacy Days. All four sessions were recorded and will be available to view at a later date on our conference YouTube page. Sessions from last year (2021) are available for viewing. These are excellent resources for personal use or to be used as group programs. Attending or viewing one of the current sessions counts toward the Charter for Racial Justice Diamond Unit Award. If you were on the Zoom or watch on YouTube, let your UMW president know so she can mark it on the form. The Unit President's report also asks for the number of members who attended/watched.



Blessings, Linda

linda.james54@gmail.com

803 230-4589 (call/text)

Cluster Leaders/Nominations

<i>Chester</i>	<i>Fort Mill</i>	<i>Lancaster</i>	<i>Rock Hill</i>	<i>York/Clover</i>
<p>In Chester? This could be you!</p>		<p>In Lancaster? This could be you!</p>		
<p>Contact any member of the Leadership Team</p>	<p>Marie Thompson 704 968-4673 marie@ thompson.net</p>	<p>Temporarily: Margaret Parker 864 940-0969 parker3384@ comporium.net</p>	<p>Debbie Blackmon 803-417-0925 bluedog@ comporium.net</p>	<p>Barbara McDonald 704 460-7483 NorBarMcDonald@ aol.com</p>

Open Positions on the Leadership Team

All Leadership Team members are expected to attend quarterly meetings (February, May, August, and November) either in person or on Zoom. They should attend our 3 district events: Officer Training in January; Day Apart in March or April; and Annual Meeting in September. They should attend the Officer Training offered by the Conference (SCCUMW) in November. Attendance at other SCCUMW Events is encouraged: Legislative Advocacy Days in February; Spiritual Growth Event in the Spring; and Conference Annual Meeting in October. Participation in the Reading Program is also encouraged.

Communications

The Communications Director is responsible for putting the Informer newsletter together every quarter with input from the rest of the Leadership Team. Computer skills are needed. Training and assistance are available.

Historian

The Historian collects programs and photos and keeps them in a scrapbook for the district. She is an important member of our Leadership Team. If you like scrapbooking or history, this is the job for you!

Membership, Nurture & Outreach

Our Membership Chair researches and shares strategies for attracting new UMW members, retaining existing members, and caring for members. This position also encourages units to complete the annual census/survey. This year the census/survey will be available in April.

Cluster Leaders Chester & Lancaster

Cluster Leaders stay in contact with the Unit presidents in their clusters, encouraging units to attend events and work toward the various awards. They serve as liasons between the UMW units and the Leadership Team.

We will also need a new treasurer in September when Elaine Cryderman retires her position. Other positions may come available in September. If you are interested in these or any other position, fill out the Potential Leadership Form on page 12 and return it to Frances Bratton, Nominations Chair, your Cluster Leader, or any one on the Leadership Team.

If you would like to visit a Leadership Team meeting or meet with other officers to get a feel for our work, contact Lynne Chandler or Crystal Barrs to make arrangements.

Other Items of Interest

response: Magazine for Women in Mission

response is the official magazine of United Methodist Women. Its goals are to educate for mission, to interpret the Purpose of United Methodist Women, and to strengthen the organization. It is published 6 times a year in both print and digital formats. Reading response is part of the Reading Program.

Subscribe by mail:
response
PO Box 395
Congers, NY 10920-0395

Subscribe by phone:
1-877-881-2385 (toll free)

Subscribe by fax:
1-845-267-3478

Subscribe Online
unitedmethodistwomen.org/response

Subscription Rates:

Digital Only Subscription	
1 year (6 issues)	\$20
2 year (12 issues)	\$38

US Print Subscription (includes complimentary digital subscription)	
1 year (6 issues)	\$24
2 year (12 issues)	\$45

Meals for Winthrop Wesley



Winthrop Wesley is back with a small group of students. They currently have 5 to 10 students show up for supper on Monday nights. If your unit is interested in feeding these hungry Christians, sign up to deliver a meal at <http://winwes.org/dinner-servers>. Please share this information with other groups in your church that may desire to prepare a meal.

If you have trouble with the website just email their pastor/director, Rev. Charlie Farnum Charlie@winwes.org

Looking Ahead: 🙄🙄 Upcoming Dates

March 23 Day of Giving “Embracing the Future” special live event on Facebook 10 am to 4 pm
For more information visit unitedmethodistwomen.org Information will be on our “Rock Hill District UMW” facebook page when it becomes available.

March 26 Day Apart at Cornerstone UMC

April 23 Conference UMW Spiritual Growth Event Information will be emailed to unit presidents.

May 14 District Leadership Team Meeting 9 am Winthrop Wesley

May 23 Articles and photos due for June newsletter

Around the District



Call to Prayer & Self-Denial in Fort Mill



On Sunday, February 20, two Fort Mill churches joined together for their annual Prayer and Self-Denial program. Philadelphia UMW served as host and St. John's UMW provided the program titled "Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call" which focused on the Deaconesses and Missioners of the global UMW. A love offering was taken to support active and retired Deaconesses and Missioners.



Additionally, representatives of Epworth Rock Hill Foster Care Program, Children's Attention Home and Safe Passage (an agency to help abused women and children) were available to provide information about their services and answer questions.

Being able to fellowship and sing beautiful hymns together provided a warming worship experience for all attendees. Special thanks to the ladies who prepared the refreshments, those who presented the program, and the representatives of the service organizations. Thank you, also, to Nic Gold for his technology work.



Right: Leslie Kelly and Linda Honeycutt

Above: Barbara Gaither, Joy Honeycutt, Sherrie Bivens, Brenda Ervin, & Janet Tracey



Top photo: Representatives from Safe Passage

Middle: Haley Tullish and Haley Huff from Epworth Foster Care

Above: Ellie Davies, Susan Spencer, Brenda Stowe, Phyllis Starnes, Carla Vowell & Nancy Rivers

Epworth Foster Care Program

Epworth works with United Methodist Churches across the state to develop networks of support for their foster families. Churches step in to help foster families by stocking resource closets, preparing meals, providing items needed for new placements, sponsoring parents night out programs, praying, and helping with birthdays and Christmas.

For more info contact Haley Huff, Director of Foster Care at the Rock Hill Office. 803 540-5800
hhuff@epworthsc.org 1232 Curtis St, Rock Hill, SC 29730

Around the District continued...

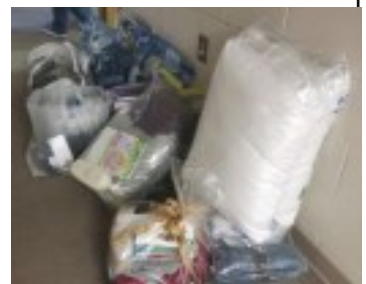
Woodland Christmas

During the Christmas season, Woodland UMW (Rock Hill) hosts a Cookie Walk to raise money for missions. The Covid pandemic forced them to change to a "Cookie-less Walk." They add a paper cookie to the jar on the bulletin board as donations come in. Money raised is donated to the SC UMW Mission projects and to local missions as selected by the UMW members.

Woodland UMC recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Salvation Army for participating in the Salvation Army's annual Angel Tree project. Church members donate gifts for children in need. The Abigail Circle does their part for the "Silver Angels," Circle members select names & purchase gifts for older adults who need help at Christmas.



Above: Abigail Circle Members display the Certificate presented by the Salvation Army. Front row: Sharon Wilson, Bette Jean Janicke, Linda James. Back row: Barb Dill, Lynne Chandler, Debbie Blackmon, Cheryl Hollis, Arleen Fincher.



Top: Linda James works on the Cookie Walk Board.

Above: Silver Angel gifts often include bedding and clothing.

St James UMW Celebrates Women's Day

On the First Sunday in February St James UMC celebrated Women's Day. Their sister church, Wesley UMC, joined them for this event. This year they called upon their own Linda Hughes to bring the message. Linda's theme was "Give A little Right = Big Turnovers from God" in essence, in giving your little, it has to be done right to result in big turnovers from God. The scripture text was Luke 6:38—"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For the measure you give will be the measure you get back."



The unit is committed to the four SC missions and looks for ways to serve and be in mission with their community. Linda said, "Our Faith and Hope in Jesus drive us to His compassionate Agape Love which puts Action into auto pilot."

St. James UMW: Linda Hughes (speaker), Amaritha Whitner, Ernestine Wright (pres.), Ann Alexander, Marlene Spencer, Johnnie Shuler (first lady), Pallie McKnight, Sandra Jeter, Deloris Adams, and Wendy Wright.

Rock Hill District Day Apart

Pre-registration Form

Hosted by Cornerstone UMW
2697 Heckle Blve (Hwy 901) Rock Hill, SC 29732

Date March 26, 2022

9-9:45 Registration/Refreshments

10-11 Program: Rev. Schrendria Robinson, director of Killingsworth
A love offering will be collected for Killingsworth.

Blessed with Hope

You can choose to attend in person or virtually on Zoom.

Church/City	Name	Office	Email	Phone	Check if Zoom

Please send registrations to Lynne Chandler via mail, email, call or text. Use the form or include the requested information. Mailed registrations should be sent early to ensure delivery. Please register by Saturday, March 19, if you plan to attend in-person.

mrs.lynnchandler@gmail.com 864 426-3501

1025 Princeton Rd, Rock Hill, SC 29730

Potential Leader Form
Rock Hill District UMW

Name _____ Date _____
Address _____
Phone _____ cell or home Email _____
Church & City _____ Ethnicity _____
Age: 20s___ 30s___ 40s___ 50s___ 60s___ 70s___ 80s___ Employed? _____
Professional Skills/Job Experience _____

Offices you have held in United Methodist Women:

Local Unit/Circle _____
District _____
Conference _____
Other _____

Additional experience within the church or community other than UMW:

Which offices are of most interest to you?

Secretary___ Treasurer___ Nominations___ Spiritual Growth___
Social Action___ Communications___ Program Resources___
Education & Interpretation (Missions)___ Membership, Nurture, & Outreach___

Are you able to participate in online meetings (Zoom)? _____

Are you able to travel for meetings and events? _____

When would you be able to serve (year)? _____

Please complete this form and send it to

Frances Bratton, Nominations Chair

PO Box 74

Clover, SC 29710

franpenbrat1982@gmail.com

REPORT OF COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

(Send completed form to your secretary of program resources or equivalent according to your conference's schedules.)

NAME:

PLAN CHOSEN:

I

II

III

IV

CURRENT YEAR:

MISSION EMPHASES	
Education for Mission	
Leadership Development	
Nurturing for Community	
Social Action	
Spiritual Growth	

I have completed the required reading for PLAN I . The books I have read are listed on this form.

LOCAL UNIT
DISTRICT
CONFERENCE
PRINT NAME
ADDRESS
CITY, STATE, ZIP

I have also read **response** regularly.

response						
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