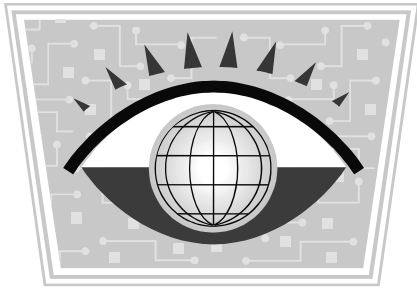


## DISTINCTIVES



The SC WMU growth plan will focus on several areas. Through these specific areas we will try to encourage leaders and members of WMU to look for new ways to be involved and to involve others in missions. The distinctives of this growth plan are:

- Mission Action
- Witnessing
- Age-Level Focus
- Family Emphasis
- Ministers' Spouse Encouragers
- Associational Growth Consultants
- WMU Growth Specialists
- Technology

## Look, I'm Growing!

### Mission Friends Growth Spurt Chart

Materials Needed: Construction Paper, Butcher Paper, Push Pins, or Silly Putty (for attaching growth spurt chart to the wall).

Instructions: Design small silhouette of preschool boy and girl. You can also find these already precut (dye cuts) in most education and school supply stores. Prepare these silhouettes on red and blue construction paper. Assist preschoolers with writing their names on the silhouette. If you have Younger or Middle Mission Friends, you will need to write their names on their silhouettes. Make a chain that is representative of your Mission Friends class. For example, if you have 20 Mission Friends in your class, (12 girls and eight boys), prepare 12 blue silhouettes and 8 red silhouettes. After these are prepared, tape them together as you would a paper prayer chain, except tape them together arm to arm.

Beginning at the bottom of a long sheet of butcher paper draw inch and feet lines up the edge of the paper. Continue to five feet.

Place the chain of preschoolers at the three foot marking on the butcher paper. Each time a new preschooler joins your Mission Friends class, add another silhouette to your preschool chain and move the entire chain up one increment on the growth chart.

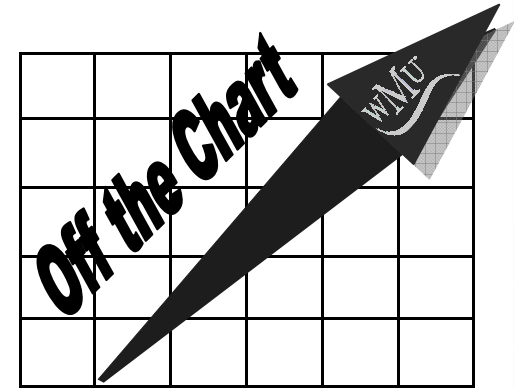
Invite all of the preschoolers to join you in the area where you have placed the growth chart. Indicate to them where the preschool chain originated and to where it has moved. Affirm the new preschoolers who have joined Mission Friends, as well as all other preschoolers for their efforts in helping their Mission Friends class to grow. Discuss the fact that their Mission Friends class is growing, just as they are growing!



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This resource is made possible through the  
Cooperative Program ministry of your local church.



## Missions Growth

[www.scwmu.org](http://www.scwmu.org)

# INGREDIENTS

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## Principles for Growth

Growth is to be undergirded with prayer.

To accomplish WMU growth, one must be true to the vision and purpose.

People use their spiritual gifts and strengths through involvement in WMU/missions education.

There must be a commitment to grow that leads to an expectancy of growth.

Growth includes enlistment and enlargement.

Organizations must meet at times and places that people can attend and offer many avenues of missions involvement.

Growth requires adequate resources and appropriate number of leaders.

Growth requires trained leadership.

Growth demands effective communication.

Networking/Linking is important in starting new organizations.

All churches need missions education.

## Key Elements

*Each church and association are asked to use these key elements in planning their work for WMU. These elements will help us to become better leaders and encourage us to involve more people in missions.*

Define Missions Education to the Church

Communicate the Heart of WMU

Leadership Development

Qualitative Growth

Numerical Growth

People

Units/Organizations/Groups

Coaching

Mentoring

Customization-WMU is different in different churches



## Growth Ideas For

### Mission Friends Leadership

- Always carry a “stack” of the preschool missions education leaflets entitled *Change A Preschooler, Change The World* (available from South Carolina WMU office or WMU, SBC). Keep these in an accessible area such as your Bible or purse. White space is provide on the leaflet for you to write in the date, time, and location of your Mission Friends meeting. Watch for families coming into the church who have preschoolers and share a leaflet with them. Invite the preschoolers to Mission Friends.
- Ask for the opportunity to speak to Senior Adult Sunday Classes and other gathering for Senior Adults. about the Mission Friends organization. Many Senior Adults care for preschool grandchildren and need to know that there is preschool missions education available for them.
- Ask for a bulletin board for promoting Mission Friends. Request an area that is heavily traveled by preschoolers and their parents. Remember to keep some items on the bulletin board at eye level so that preschoolers may enjoy them! Remember to post information about Mission Friends meetings (date, time, location) and contact person for further information. Remember to update your bulletin board periodically to reflect what your preschoolers are learning about in Mission Friends.
- Always keep in mind the idea of enlargement (new groups). When leadership is adequate, space is available, and the number of preschoolers exceeds the number for one group, consider adding another Mission Friends class.