

South Carolina Woman's Missionary Union

Purpose, Missions Focus Areas,
and
Organization

Missions is ...

- What churches do in keeping with the commission of their sovereign Lord to extend their ministry and witness beyond themselves to bring all persons to Christ and to glorify God
- What a person does to take the love of Jesus Christ to a person who is not related to the church or its programs

Missionu Vs. Missionsu

- Missionu is all that the church does.
- Missionsu is part of a church work in fulfilling the total work of the church. It is what the church does to take the love of Jesus Christ to people who are not already related to the church. Missions is done in two ways – direct and by representatives.

Purpose

- The purpose of Woman's Missionary Union in the church is to help a church involve its members, especially women, girls, and preschoolers, in missions
- To recognize and provide for the role of the individual in learning about and participating in missions

Missions Focus Areas

- Pray For Missions
- Engage in Mission Action and Witnessing
- Learn About Missions
- Support Missions
- Develop Spiritually Toward A Missions Lifestyle
- Participate in the Work of the Church and Denomination

Pray for Missions

- Missions praying is communicating with God on behalf of missions work and the persons involved in it
- Missions praying is the church or an individual reaching beyond itself to the whole world
- To pray, one needs to be informed about biblical principles of prayer and missions needs in one's own community, association, state, nation, and world

Opportunities For Missions Praying

- Daily Praying
 - Prayer Calendar
 - Newspaper And Other News Sources
 - Through Organizations
- Through Prayer Emphases
 - Week of Prayer for International Missions
 - Week of Prayer for North American Missions
 - Season of Prayer for State Missions, Missions Education, and Experience Kingdom Life
 - Associational Missions
 - Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

Engage in Mission Action and Witnessing

- Two target audiences and actions in a single focus area

Mission Action is ...

- Performing redemptive, loving service for people in the name and spirit of Christ
- Working to correct social and moral problems which victimize people
- Meeting the needs of the whole person
- Barrier-crossing
 - Racial
 - Cultural
 - Social
 - Physical
 - Linguistic

Mission Action. . .

- Always includes a verbal (oral or written) witness of Jesus Christ
- To persons who are not related to the church or its programs
- For preschoolers or younger children, primarily a learning experience. They help others

Witnessing is ...

- A Christian sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with another person and giving that person an opportunity to confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord

Targets For Witnessing

- People with whom you work
- Neighbors
- Friends
- Family
- Organization members (especially children and youth) who are not Christians

How Is Witnessing Done?

- Personal testimony
- Scripture/Tract distribution
- Marketplace or lifestyle evangelism
- Mass evangelism
- Door-To-Door visitation

Learn About Missions

- Designed to involve persons in learning experiences to increase awareness of, knowledge of, and involvement in missions
- This motivates people to pray, give, and do missions.

Content

- Biblical basis
- Contemporary missions
- Progress of Christian missions

Opportunities for Missions Learning

- Organizations
- Emphasis book each year
- Study on the Biblical basis of missions
- North American mission study
- International mission study
- Other books

Support Missions

- providing financial support of missions work being conducted by members of a church and through cooperative missions efforts with other churches and missions entities
- Provide personal ministries for missionaries and their families means to give words of encouragement and acts of human kindness. It also may mean providing homes for stateside assignments and/or vacation housing and/or transportation.

Support Missions

- Create an environment for people to hear and respond to God's call to mission service means to provide information and opportunities for people to understand the need for people to be involved in mission service and that God calls people to serve Him in volunteer and career missions.

Support Missions

- Nurture individuals who respond to God's call to mission service means to provide support, information, and encouragement to help them follow God's leadership into mission service

Support Missions

- In this focus area, missions is representative. Someone else is doing the work.
- Within your church, it may also be direct.

Support Missions

- Avenues for supporting missions:
 - Cooperative Program
 - Special Offerings
 - Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
 - Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
 - Janie Chapman Offering For State Missions, Missions Education, and Experience Kingdom Life
 - Associational Offering
 - World Hunger
 - Mother's Day Offering for SC Baptist Ministries for the Aging

- Special Offerings (Continued)
 - Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer Offering
- Other Avenues Of Support
 - Prisoner Packets
 - Migrant Kits
 - Duffel Bags and Bibles
 - World Crafts
 - Pure Water, Pure Love
 - Visit and meet needs of missionaries' aging parent(s) living in a nursing home
 - Invite missionary kids going to college near you to visit in your home.

Develop Spiritually Toward A Missions Lifestyle

- Includes a person's growth in their understanding of who God is and what He calls them to do in fulfilling the Great Commission. Includes their relationship to God and to other people
- How one responds to ministry and witness opportunities
- How often one prays for missions
- The use of one's resources to support missions

Develop Spiritually Toward A Missions Lifestyle

- Opportunities for fulfilling this focus area:
 - Volunteering for missions
 - Making people aware of the needs of the world and the various skills needed in missions
 - Talk with Acteens and Youth on Mission about career missions
 - Conduct a study for the church on “living the call”

Participate In The Work Of The Church and The Denomination

- Stay informed about and participate in the activities and ministries of the local church
- Lead and support the work of the local church
- Stay informed about the work of the denomination in the association, state and national conventions, and internationally
- Attend meetings and conferences sponsored by denominational entities

How Do We Accomplish Missions?

- Individually
- Collectively through small groups, families, and total church

Strategy

- Organizations for every age-level:
 - Mission Friends (Birth – Pre-First)
 - Girls in Action (Grades 1-6)
 - Children in Action (Coed, Grades 1-6)
 - Acteens (Grades 7-12)
 - Youth on Mission (Co-ed, Grades 7-12)
 - Women on Mission (Adults 18 and Above)
 - Adults on Mission (Coed, Adults 18 and Above)
 - General WMU Officers (WMU Director, Assistant WMU Director, and WMU Missions Leaders – prayer, mission action, witnessing, missions awareness, mission support)

South Carolina Woman's Missionary Union

- 190 Stoneridge Drive
Columbia, South Carolina 29210-8239
- Telephone: (800) 723-7242, ext. 8500
- E-Mail: wmu@scbaptist.org
- Web Address: www.scwmu.org