

**AUXILIARY**

**WMU**<sup>®</sup> God's mission.  
Our passion.

**WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION**<sup>®</sup>  
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### *Introduction*

Making disciples of Jesus who live on mission is the focus of WMU<sup>®</sup>. This passion and purpose of WMU is driven by being:

- Biblically-rooted—Scripture guides us in knowing God, His ways, His character, His mission, His redemptive acts, and His purpose for the Church.
- Missions-focused—Jesus commissioned His disciples to proclaim good news, disciple people of all nations, and teach them to live out the truths He taught.
- Church-based—Jesus gave the Church authority to act on His behalf. Teaching all ages prepares the Church to fulfill His mission.
- World-aware—God is always at work among all peoples, and we join Him where we discern He is calling us.
- Denominationally-supportive—No one church can do alone what many churches can do together. Our voluntary cooperation extends the missions reach of a local church.

WMU seeks to cultivate the characteristics of a missional person—one who learns about missions, prays for missions, supports missions, does missions, and tells about Jesus. Avenues for missions involvement include missions discipleship, leadership development, and compassion ministries. Through these three areas collectively, WMU had ministry touchpoints this year in 39 countries.

### *Report of Ministries*

#### **MISSIONS DISCIPLESHIP**

##### **Missions in the Church**

From preschoolers to adults, WMU provides relevant resources to help inform, inspire, and involve those in WMU groups in missions. WMU created and distributed 11 subscription items, including periodicals and resource kits. Ongoing missions discipleship through WMU develops believers who understand God's mission in the world, leading to engaged Christians who are passionate about sharing the love of Christ with others.

WMU's age-level groups include:

- Mission Friends<sup>®</sup> for preschool boys and girls from birth through kindergarten
- Girls in Action<sup>®</sup> (GA<sup>®</sup>) for girls in grades 1–6
- Royal Ambassadors<sup>®</sup> (RA<sup>®</sup>) for boys in grades 1–6
- Children in Action<sup>SM</sup> for boys and girls in grades 1–6
- Acteens<sup>®</sup> for girls in grades 7–12
- Challengers<sup>®</sup> for boys in grades 7–12
- Youth on Mission<sup>SM</sup> for boys and girls in grades 7–12

- myMISSION<sup>SM</sup> for collegiate and young women
- Women on Mission<sup>®</sup> for women
- Adults on Mission<sup>SM</sup> for men and women

### **Mission Boards**

Participants in WMU missions groups learn about North American and international missionaries and their work and readily support them through prayer and giving to the missions offerings.

In 2018\*, WMU helped raise \$157.3 million—the third-highest total in the offering’s 130-year history—for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering<sup>®</sup> for International Missions. Since initiating the first offering in 1888, WMU has helped raise more than \$4.7 billion through this effort. The offering represents more than half of IMB’s total annual support. Every penny given to the offering goes directly to support missionaries, including housing, training, healthcare, and more.

In 2019, WMU helped raise \$61.4 million—the highest total in the offering’s history—for missions work in North America through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering<sup>®</sup>. Since 1907, when official reporting began for the home missions offering started by WMU, receipts totaled more than \$1.9 billion through 2019. All of the funds raised through this offering go directly to NAMB to support field personnel and supplies nearly half of their total annual revenue.

Additionally, national WMU awards a variety of scholarships each year to children of Southern Baptist missionaries and continues to actively promote giving through the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention.

National WMU is not a part of the Cooperative Program allocation budget and receives no funds from the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering or Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. National WMU is supported through the sale of magazines and products, and from investments and charitable contributions.

\*Final 2019 totals for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering were not available at time of print.

### **Missionary Housing**

WMU administers housing for Southern Baptist missionaries while they are on stateside assignment. We maintain a database of more than 600 houses made available by churches, associations, and individuals and make this information available to missionaries on a secure website.

## **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

From online, on-demand courses to print and digital resources to in-person training, WMU offers a variety of opportunities for discovering and expanding one’s leadership skills and spiritual gifts. Through WMU’s Christian Women’s Leadership Center (CWLC), women from all over the world enrolled in our online courses this year. These courses include stand-alone enrichment classes to a full leadership certificate program comprised of nine courses that require approximately 150 hours of coursework. Additional components of CWLC include helpful blogs, monthly luncheons, and college internships.

## **COMPASSION MINISTRIES**

### **Pure Water, Pure Love**

WMU awarded grants to supply clean water resources in Cuba, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Thailand, and Uganda, among others, in 2019. In addition, more than 1,000 filters were given to International Mission Board personnel and missions teams through Pure Water, Pure Love<sup>SM</sup>.

**Christian Women's Job Corps/Christian Men's Job Corps**

Through this ministry, thousands of participants gained life and job skills in a Christian context through nearly 200 registered CWJC® and CMJC<sup>SM</sup> sites around the United States, along with four international sites. CWJC/CMJC offers classes, resources, mentoring, Bible study, and more. Lives are transformed as participants gain self-confidence, purpose, direction, and hope for the future.

**WorldCrafts**

Since 1996, we have worked to develop sustainable, fair-trade businesses among impoverished people around the world through WorldCrafts<sup>SM</sup>. This ministry now works with nearly 60 artisan groups in more than 20 countries to bring their products to market and provide income with dignity.

Our artisan groups seek to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of their workers. Men and women receive job training and enjoy comfort, camaraderie, friendship, and purpose. Some women find a safe haven and receive counseling as they leave the sex industry. Individuals and families discover abundant life and see that life lived out in front of them. WorldCrafts abides by and requires all partnering artisan groups to abide by Fair Trade Federation guidelines, ensuring artisans receive fair wages and the goods purchased were produced in an ethical and environmentally-friendly manner.

**Baptist Nursing Fellowship**

WMU provides administrative support for national Baptist Nursing Fellowship<sup>SM</sup>. WMU facilitates ongoing communication as well as a national event for this group of healthcare professionals.

**Project HELP: Refugees**

Project HELP is a WMU initiative designed to help the church address a current social and moral issue by raising awareness, meeting needs and sharing the gospel. Our current focus is the global refugee crisis, as conflict and persecution around the world cause tens of thousands of people to flee their homes every day and become refugees. They leave behind their entire way of life and face the daily realities of uncertainty and distress.

As Christians, we are uniquely positioned to minister to refugees. Learn more and discover resources at [wmu.com/refugees](http://wmu.com/refugees).

***Supportive Operations*****Executive Board Meetings**

The Executive Board of WMU, which is comprised of women who serve as WMU presidents in their state or multistate territory, gathered twice in 2019 to conduct the business of the organization. These meetings took place January 12–14 and June 9–10 in Birmingham, Alabama.