

2016 All-Star Church Application

Please see the "Instructions and Qualifiers" section on pages 3 – 6 of this document for full details and requirements for each Star before beginning the application.

DATE ____/____/____ Avg. 2015 Worship Attendance _____ 2015 Membership _____

NAME OF CHURCH (as it should appear on Certificate) _____

CHURCH ADDRESS _____

CHURCH TELEPHONE NUMBER (____) _____ PASTOR _____

DISTRICT & NAME OF SUPERINTENDENT _____

NAME OF APPLICATION CONTACT PERSON: _____

CONTACT'S EMAIL AND/OR PHONE _____

Prerequisite: Has your church paid all of its Conference and District Apportionments? Yes _____ No _____
(Please be aware that your 2016 apportionments must be paid in full before applying.)

Stars 1 - 5

Star One: Support of a Global Ministries missionary. Please list the name of the GBGM missionary, his or her Advance number, and the amount of donation made. _____

Star Two: Start or renew a Covenant Relationship with Global Ministries missionary. List the name of the GBGM missionary, his or her Advance number, and the dates of the covenant. *If possible, please attach a copy of the covenant form.*

Star Three: Local mission or short-term VIM mission. Please describe ONE mission project undertaken by your church. Include **total number of hours** worked by all church participants. (Additional projects can be listed on next page.) _____

Star Four: Indicate the date of the offering opportunity for each Special Sunday:

1. Human Relations Day _____
2. UMCOR Sunday _____
3. Native American Ministries _____
4. Peace With Justice _____
5. World Communion _____
6. United Methodist Student Day _____

Star Five: One (1) Conference, General or UMCOR Advance support. Please indicate the Advance project's number, name and amount given *(If your church has donated to more than one Advance, please indicate these in the appropriate "Other Star" section)*: _____

Additional Stars

If your church has completed any of the criteria for additional stars, please provide the information in the space provided as explained in the "Qualification Instructions" page. Attach additional pages if necessary.

• **UM-sponsored disaster relief effort** _____

• **Local Church Missions Sunday or Missions Festival** _____

• **Participation in Mission U or a GBGM Study Tour** _____

• **Additional Conference, General or UMCOR Advances** _____

• **Additional Covenant Relationships with GBGM missionaries** _____

• **How did your church cultivate a relationship with your covenant missionary?** _____

• **Other mission work** _____

2016 All-Star Church Application Instructions and Qualifier Prerequisites For All Star Levels

- To apply for the All-Star Program, a local church must first pay in full its conference and district apportionments. Please indicate by checking the appropriate box.
- These criteria apply for mission service and outreach completed during the calendar year 2016.
- Attendance and membership numbers are those that were reported in the last published Journal, which is from the 2015 Annual Conference.

Star One: Support a United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries' missionary. Your missionary must be listed on the website <https://www.umcmision.org/Explore-Our-Work/Missionaries-in-Service/Missionary-Landing>. Please indicate the name of the GBGM missionary, his or her Advance number, and the amount of the donation.

Star Two: Establish a Covenant Relationship with a United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries missionary. Churches can accomplish this by prayerfully determining what amount to contribute to a missionary's support, and then filling out a covenant relationship form. This can be done online or on paper. Find it on the Global Ministries website: www.umcmision.org/forms/Covenant-Relationship/The-Advance-Covenant-Relationship. *(The suggested amount is \$5/member of your church, but any amount that your church gives is very much appreciated and will be faithfully used to share the Good News around the world.)*

Star Three: Involve your church in a local area service or short-term mission project, which can include Oklahoma Conference Volunteers In Mission projects. To qualify, a church must accumulate work-hours equal to at least ½ of its average 2015 worship attendance as reported in the 2015 Conference Journal. Please provide the dates and location of your mission project, the number of people from your church that participated and the total number of hours worked.

STAR TWO WORKSHEET:

- A. Your average worship attendance _____ x ½ = _____.
- B. Number of days for all projects _____ x 10 hours = _____ Base Work-Hours.
- C. Base Work-Hours _____ x _____ # of persons involved in all projects = _____ Total Work-Hours

DO YOU QUALIFY? If C. is equal to or greater than A., you qualify! Hurray!

Star Four: Provide opportunity for all of UMC's church-wide Six Special Sunday offerings. Please list the dates that the offering opportunity was presented to your congregation. **No minimum offering required.** ***We are mostly concerned that your congregations are aware of the programs these offerings support.***

Star Five: Support a Conference, General or UMCOR Advance. *(If your church supports more than one Advance, please see "Qualifying for Additional Stars" section.)*

Qualifying **Conference** Advance projects are found on #460 through #469 on your church treasurer's contribution form. For 2016 these are:

- Congregational Development
- Prison Ministry (CJAMM)
- Urban Ministry (Skyline Urban Ministry & Restore Hope Ministry)
- Cookson Hills Center
- Neighborhood Services Organization
- Hispanic Ministries
- Oklahoma Volunteers in Mission
- VIM Disaster Response
- Project Transformation

*Please note: Support of one of the Conference Advances listed above for the All-Star program must be **in addition to** your church's apportionment payments. Apportionment payments do not count toward Star Four qualification.*

Most qualifying **General or UMCOR** Advance projects are listed at <https://www.umcmission.org/Give-to-Mission/Search-for-Projects/Advance-Project-Search>. Dollar support for any Advance must be equal to at least *the average 2015 worship attendance* as reported in the 2015 Conference Journal. Please indicate the Advance number, the project name or title, and the amount given.

STAR FOUR WORKSHEET:

A. Your average worship attendance _____

B. Your total Conference, General and/or UMCOR Advance support in 2016 = \$_____

DO YOU QUALIFY? If B. is equal to or greater than A., you qualify! Congratulations!

QUALIFYING FOR ADDITIONAL STARS

After completing Stars One through Five, churches may continue to add stars to their award by choosing any of the following:

- **Participating in a UM-sponsored disaster relief effort** Please indicate the date and location of the disaster relief effort in which your church participated, and how many church members participated. Explain what kinds of activities they performed (i.e. kits, teams, etc.).
- **Sponsoring a local church Missions Sunday or missions festival** Provide the dates and details about your event.
- **Participating in a Conference School of Missions or a GBGM Study Tour** Provide dates of the event, location and the number of people from your church attending.

- **Supporting additional Conference, General or UMCOR Advances** Please indicate the Advance number, the project name or title, and the amount given. Dollar support must be equal to at least the average worship attendance as reported in the 2015 Conference Journal. Please use the Star Four information and worksheet for each additional Advance donation. One star will be given for each additional qualifying Advance.
- **Establishing additional Covenant Relationships with GBGM missionary** Indicate the name of the GBGM missionary, his or her Advance number, and the amount of the donation. Please use the Star Five information and worksheet for each additional Covenant Relationship. One star will be given for each additional qualifying Covenant Relationship.
- **Cultivating a relationship with your missionary** Besides financial support, how has your church extended hospitality and generosity to your mission partner? Perhaps your church has regularly prayed for your missionary and her/his ministry. Have you sent birthday greetings? Have you hosted the missionary at your church whenever possible? Tell us how you have reached out to your missionary as a member of your church family during the year.
- **Doing something through your local church that is not listed here to further United Methodist missions** Share your creativity with the rest of the conference! Explain what your church did, how the whole church was involved, and what impact it had either on your church or your community. Please write a separate paragraph for each project or program your church undertook in 2016.

Submitting your application:

This form is in a fillable PDF format. You can either print the blank form, fill in by hand, and mail pages 1 and 2. Or, complete the form on your computer, print out pages 1 and 2, and mail them to:

Karen Distefano
 Conference Secretary of Global Ministries
 126 Ramblewood
 Bartlesville, OK 74003

You may also save the completed form on your computer and send as an attachment in an email to kdistefano@okcsgm.org. Applications must be postmarked by February 28, 2017. Recognition will be made during the Missions Breakfast at Annual Conference.

If you have questions about any of the items on the application, please contact Karen Distefano at kdistefano@okcsgm.org or by calling (918) 440-9213.

On behalf of the General Board of Global Ministries and the Mission and Service Ministry Team of the Oklahoma Annual Conference, please accept my heartfelt thanks for your dedication to mission work that shares the love of Jesus Christ with people in your community and around the world!

*Grace and peace,
 Karen Distefano*