

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®



UMCOR SUNDAY
OFFERING TALK

IF POSSIBLE, INVITE SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN PART OF A VOLUNTEER IN MISSION TEAM OR A MISSIONARY TO OFFER A TESTIMONY ABOUT HIS OR HER EXPERIENCE. THE SPEAKER CAN MAKE THE CONNECTION WITH HOW UMCOR SUNDAY MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THAT WORK TO HAPPEN. IF YOUR COMMUNITY HAS BEEN IMPACTED BY A DISASTER TO WHICH UMCOR RESPONDED, BE SURE TO HIGHLIGHT THAT EXPERIENCE. THE OFFERING TALK CAN BE USED ON ITS OWN OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE UMCOR SUNDAY SERMON STARTER AND LITURGY, "EXTRAVAGANT GRACE."

The United Methodist Committee on Relief lives out signs of Christ's extravagant grace in the world by prayerfully working with communities that are overwhelmed by disasters. UMCOR builds on the strengths of what is already available in a community and actively involves the people affected in recovery efforts. UMCOR has been doing this for 80 years.

By mobilizing trained volunteers who are already living in the community, purchasing emergency supplies and food from local merchants and channeling funds through trusted partners who are already on the ground, UMCOR is uniquely positioned to respond quickly after a disaster and to remain invested in rebuilding, even after these needs are no longer in the news. Recovery is a long-process for individuals and communities. UMCOR also works with communities to train leaders to address infrastructure concerns, climate change and environmental degradation.

Today's offering helps support the small but impactful UMCOR staff who are specialists in disaster response and recovery. Funds also ensure adequate training for emergency response coordinators, construction volunteers, and case managers who assist victims of disasters, chain saw gangs, sheetrock installers. Because we join our church's offerings with those of United Methodist congregations around the world, UMCOR remains strong in its day-to-day operations. When a disaster happens, UMCOR can respond quickly and efficiently with signs of extravagant grace and expert assistance.

Whether it is a hurricane in Puerto Rico or the Bahamas, an earthquake in the Philippians, wildfires in California, a cyclone in Zimbabwe, communities lacking clean water, or persons displaced after war or famine, UMCOR is there on your behalf, working and walking with those who are most vulnerable. Your gift to UMCOR is an example of extravagant grace.

In John 9:3-4, CEB, Jesus invites the disciples to enter into God's extravagant grace by responding to the needs of others. "While it's daytime, we must do the works of him who sent me." Please give generously and continue God's mighty work of extending extravagant grace through UMCOR.