

SPECIAL
SUNDAY

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

OFFERING TALK



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY OFFERING TALK

The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Together, God's church can be a beacon to navigate the ongoing global trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of a tumultuous political climate in the US and the anxiety of a looming denominational separation. Too often, God's gifts get buried under systems of poverty because of unequal access to healthcare, education and secure housing. When that happens, we all miss out on the gifts of those who are struggling with day-to-day survival.

On Human Relations Day, we recognize the connections we have with our neighbors. We partner with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk youth through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. Our gifts work together for the common good, with life-affirming ministry that shares God's love.

Now, perhaps more than ever, we are called to be part of extending healing and hope that moves us to becoming a new creation in Christ. Through our gifts and support, we partner with God and God's people to strengthen Christ's loving presence in a hurting world.

This congregation has been part of transformational ministry through (give examples). Our annual conference works together to (give examples of conference



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mission projects). And The United Methodist Church as a denomination strengthens relationships around the world, helping to build up opportunities for equality and justice so that God's children can thrive. It is through sharing unique gifts through a network of faithful people that we begin to see glimpses

of what the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. called "Beloved Community."

Please give generously by writing a check to this church and write "Human Relations Day offering" in the memo line or give online or set up monthly giving by going to [UMC.org/SSGive](https://www.UMC.org/SSGive).

BLESSING OVER THE OFFERING

God who has blessed us with so much, activate these gifts as they join together with others' throughout The United Methodist Church. Transform them into community development, educational opportunities and spiritual sustenance that moves through your people. With the power of your Holy Spirit, use this offering to build relationships, invest in human dignity, and form Beloved Community that unleashes Christlike love. Amen.



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