

UNITED ^{IN} IMPACT

2026

THE UNITED METHODIST Special Sundays Planning Calendar



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

PROMOTION MADE SIMPLE

The United Methodist Church sets aside several Special Sundays each year to highlight ministries that embody our shared mission and witness as a denomination.

Giving is more than a financial act — it's a bold expression of faith. It fuels ministry across borders, languages, and cultures, becoming a powerful witness to God's expansive love. Through generosity, more people are able to use their gifts, live out their calling, and take part in something greater through The United Methodist connection.

As faithful United Methodists, we have the opportunity to help our communities understand the purpose of each Special Sunday — and how their support makes a real and lasting impact through these shared ministries.

This planning calendar is designed to support that work. Inside, you'll find key tasks, timely reminders, promotional tips, and helpful links to keep your efforts organized and your ministry inspired all year long.

We're praying with you as you inspire others to learn, serve, and give with joy.

The Promotion of Giving Team at UMCom

Photo by Shane Hoving on Unsplash

DEC2026

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REAL CHANGE STARTS HERE

The Community Developers Program [CDP] empowers racial-ethnic minority congregations to thrive. Rooted in local United Methodist Churches, CDP responds to real community needs to inspire strong sustainable ministries. Fifty-seven percent of your Human Relations Day donation make this work possible.

[Learn more about this.](#)

JAN2026

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DECEMBER

DEC 8

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Human Relations Day is January 18—now is the time to prepare. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. Use the resources to shape your message and begin planning how your congregation will engage.

DEC 10

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind the ministry, it's time to bring your congregation into the story. [Download](#) the free promotional bundle to help them connect with the mission, respond with compassion, and be part of the impact.

DEC 14

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Connect with leaders and volunteers to share the message. Use the promotional resources and encourage everyone to understand the ministry so they can personalize it for your church.

DEC 17

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

[Equip](#) your staff and volunteers with age-level and worship resources. Use these tools in classes, groups, and worship to deepen understanding and inspire meaningful participation across all ages.

JANUARY

JAN 4

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Announce Human Relations Day in worship. Print and place pew cards and posters in high-traffic areas and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

SERVING TOGETHER

United Methodist Voluntary Services (UMVS) supports grassroot ministries that confront injustice and uplift communities. Through United Methodist churches and volunteer-led groups, UMVS provides resources and grants for short-term, community-based outreach. Thirty-three percent of your Human Relations Day gift helps make this work possible. [Learn more about the program.](#)

UNITED IN
IMPACT
EXPLORE THE CAMPAIGN

JAN 2026

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JANUARY

JAN 5

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Extend the message beyond your church walls. Connect with your conference office about local Community Developers Programs. Invite a speaker or share their stories at appropriate times.

JAN 7

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Use every channel to share the message of Human Relations Day. Post social graphics, infographics, or videos on your church's website, newsletters, and social media. Include both your church and [GCFA donation](#) links. If digital engagement isn't the best fit for your church, post printed materials around the building and prepare labeled envelopes.

JAN 9

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Encourage your volunteers to get creative with the available resources. Rotate materials for visibility in different spaces to keep the ministry in the spotlight leading up to the celebration.

JAN 11

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Make one final announcement during worship before Human Relations Day. Keep posters and pew cards visible so your congregation is reminded and ready to take part in the ministry.

JAN 14

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Keep the momentum going by sharing a story of impact. If your church has a personal connection to Human Relations Day, highlight it during small groups, worship, classes and announcements. If not, reach out to your conference office or share an article or video from [our website](#) to help your congregation see the ministry in action.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

JAN 2026

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THE VISION OF THE UMC

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, **love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously** in local communities and worldwide connections. [Learn more about the new vision.](#)

FEB 2026

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JANUARY

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

JAN 18

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Celebrate Human Relations Day during worship. Use the worship resources provided—bulletins, prayers, children’s messages, and a call to worship—to highlight our shared mission. Remind your congregation that through their gifts, they are part of an impact that extends far beyond our walls.

JAN 25

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total given and remind them gifts for Human Relations Day are welcome year-round [online](#) or through your church. Thank them for supporting ministries that reach across the connection of the Church.

JAN 28

SCOUTING SUNDAY

Scouting Sunday is February 1. Consider inviting a local troop to take part in the service and [explore resources](#) that highlight the United Methodist Church’s involvement in Scouting ministry.

JAN 30

APPORTIONMENT GIVING

February is Black History Month — use this time to celebrate ministries supported through apportionment giving in The United Methodist Church. Without this vital support, programs like [The Black College Fund](#) and [Africa University Fund](#) could not provide education, leadership development, and opportunities that shape the future of the Church. Your faithful giving fuels these ministries, equipping students and leaders to carry out Christ’s mission around the world.

[EXPLORE THE NEW VISION FOR THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH](#)

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

The United Methodist Church offers scholarships—funded through donations, annuities, endowments, and wills—to empower students at every level. Guided by our belief that education is a God-given right, these scholarships remove barriers and nurture each student's unique gifts. Applications are open through March—encourage your students to take the next step toward their future and [apply today!](#)

FEB 2026

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FEBRUARY

SCOUTING SUNDAY

FEB 1

SCOUTING
SUNDAY

Celebrate Scouting Sunday by including a local troop or incorporating Scouting resources into worship. If your church isn't connected to a troop, consider inviting a representative to share.

FEB 3

UMCOR SUNDAY

UMCOR Sunday is March 15—now is the time to prepare. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. Explore the resources to shape your message and begin planning meaningful ways for your congregation to engage.

FEB 5

UMCOR SUNDAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind the ministry it's time to bring your congregation into the story. [Download](#) the free promotional bundle to help them connect with the mission, respond with compassion, and be part of the impact.

FEB 9

UMCOR SUNDAY

Connect with leaders and volunteers to share the message. Use the promotional resources to help them understand the ministry and speak about it in ways that resonate with your church community.

FEB 16

UMCOR SUNDAY

[Equip](#) your staff and volunteers with age-level and worship resources. Use the tools in classes, small groups, and worship to deepen understanding and inspire meaningful participation across all ages.

[DOWNLOAD UMCOR SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

REAL CHANGE STARTS HERE

Donations on UMCOR Sunday cover the operating costs of The United Methodist Committee on Relief, allowing UMCOR to honor its promise that 100% of gifts to specific projects go directly to those efforts—not administrative expenses. Giving is an act of faith that fuels ministries offering relief, recovery, and hope. Through UMCOR, your generosity responds to disasters, supports communities in crisis, and helps rebuild lives around the world. **Give today.**

FEB 2026

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FEBRUARY

FEB 19

UMCOR SUNDAY

Extend the message beyond your church walls. Connect with your conference office disaster response coordinator to understand how your congregation can get **involved**. Invite a speaker to share more about this ministry.

FEB 22

UMCOR SUNDAY

Announce UMCOR Sunday in worship. Print and place pew cards and posters in high-traffic areas and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

FEB 25

UMCOR SUNDAY

Use every channel to share the message of UMCOR Sunday. Post social graphics, infographics, or videos on your church's website, newsletters, and social media. Include both your church and **GCFA donation** links. If digital engagement isn't the best fit for your church, post printed materials around the building and prepare labeled envelopes for giving.

FEB 27

WOMEN'S
MINISTRY
AWARENESS
SUNDAY

March is Women's History Month — a powerful opportunity to honor the leadership and legacy of women in the church and community. Celebrate Women's Ministry Sunday by uplifting their stories, gifts, and impact. Consider planning a special service or event and inviting a woman in ministry to speak or share her journey. Help your congregation reflect on why we celebrate and affirm women in ministry. **Explore** more about why we celebrate.

[DOWNLOAD UMCOR SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

EVERY GIFT TELLS A STORY.
EVERY STORY CREATES IMPACT.



MARCH

EMPOWERING EDUCATION

UMC scholarships empower students at every stage to pursue their calling, develop their gifts, and achieve their goals. Applications close in March—encourage your students to apply. Your generosity not only invests in individual lives but also strengthens the future of our church. Give today.

MAR 1

UMCOR SUNDAY

Announce UMCOR Sunday in worship. Use the prewritten content and promotional resources to raise awareness and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Sunday.

MAR 3

DISABILITIES
AWARENESS
SUNDAY

March is also National Disability Awareness Month — an ideal time to affirm the sacred worth and full inclusion of people with disabilities. United Methodists celebrate the gifts and graces of all people through ministries like [Disabilities Awareness Sunday](#). Check your conference website to see when it will be observed. Invite someone who navigates life with a disability to help shape your celebration and offer perspective on issues of disability justice.

MAR 5

UMCOR SUNDAY

Encourage your volunteers to be creative with the available resources. Change them up regularly and rotate them through different areas of your church. This variety keeps the message fresh, sparks curiosity, and ensures the ministry stays front and center in the weeks leading up to the celebration.

MAR 8

UMCOR SUNDAY

Make one final announcement during worship before UMCOR Sunday. Keep posters and pew cards visible so your congregation is ready to be a part of the impact.

MAR2026

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[DOWNLOAD UMCOR SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

A FAITHFUL FOUNDATION

The World Service Fund, sustained by the faithful giving of United Methodists, is essential for supporting general agencies like Global Ministries. Without this vital support, ministries such as UMCOR would not exist to provide critical services or coordinate partnerships that extend The Church's mission. Our commitment through apportionments lays the foundation that empowers these agencies to carry out Christ's mission in the world—working together in unity and compassion.

MAR 2026

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MARCH

MAR 11
UMCOR SUNDAY

Keep the momentum going by sharing a story of impact. If your church has a personal connection to UMCOR Sunday, highlight it during small groups, worship, classes and announcements. If not, reach out to your conference office or share an article or video from [our website](#) to help your congregation see the ministry in action.

UMCOR SUNDAY

MAR 15
UMCOR SUNDAY

Celebrate UMCOR Sunday during worship. Use the worship resources provided—bulletins, prayers, children's messages, and a call to worship—to highlight our shared mission. Remind your congregation that through their gifts, they are part of a global impact.

MAR 22
UMCOR SUNDAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total amount given and remind them that gifts for UMCOR Sunday are welcome year-round [online](#) or through your church. Thank them for their generosity and highlight how their giving supports ministries across the connection.

MAR 26
NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Native American Ministries Sunday is April 19—now is the time to prepare. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. Use the resources to shape your message and begin planning how your congregation will engage.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

REAL CHANGE STARTS HERE

Half of the donations collected on Native American Ministries Sunday remain within your Conference to support and strengthen local Native American ministries like **CONAM** (Committees on Native American Ministries). This vital team advocates for the needs of Native communities, oversees the distribution of the offering, and promotes local programs. Our support ensures these ministries continue to grow and serve, honoring the rich heritage and spiritual gifts within Native communities.

APR 2026

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MAR 30

VOLUNTEERS IN
MISSION
AWARENESS
SUNDAY

April is National Volunteer Month — an ideal time to honor those who offer their time and service to the church. United Methodists observe Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday to recognize those who serve in short-term mission. Check your conference website for the observance date, and consider inviting your UMVIM coordinator to speak or help organize a volunteer opportunity for your congregation. [Explore](#) why we celebrate.

APRIL

APR 1

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind the Native American Ministries Sunday, it's time to bring your congregation into the story. [Download](#) the free promotional bundle to help them connect with the mission, respond with compassion, and be part of the impact.

APR 3

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Connect with leaders and volunteers to share the message. Use promotional resources to help them understand the ministry and communicate it in ways that resonate with your church. Encourage volunteers to creatively use and rotate materials in visible areas to keep the ministry in focus leading up to the celebration.

APR 5

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Announce Native American Ministries Sunday Sunday in worship. Print and place pew cards and posters in high-traffic areas to raise awareness and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

EQUIPPING REAL CHANGE

The Episcopal Fund, sustained by the faithful giving of United Methodists, equips bishops to lead, mentor, and strengthen congregations. Without this support, leaders like Bishop David Wilson, the first Native American bishop in The UMC, could not achieve the historic milestones that bring vision, perspective, and transformative leadership to the denomination. Investing in the Episcopal Fund empowers bishops to carry Christ's message of hope, justice, and reconciliation to every corner of the world.



APRIL

APR 7

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Equip your staff and volunteers with age-level and worship resources. Use the tools in classes, small groups, and worship to deepen understanding and inspire meaningful participation across all ages.

APR 9

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Extend the message beyond your church by connecting with your local Committee on Native American Ministries. Invite a representative to share about their work.

APR 10

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Use every channel to share the message of Native American Ministries Sunday. Post social graphics, infographics, or videos on your church's website, newsletters, and social media. Include both your church and GCFA donation links. If digital engagement isn't the best fit for your church, post printed materials around the building and prepare labeled envelopes for giving.

APR 12

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Announce Native American Ministries Sunday in worship. Use the prewritten content and promotional resources to raise awareness and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

APR 15

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Keep momentum by sharing an impact story. Highlight your church's connection during small groups, worship and classes, or use resources from your conference office or find articles on our website to show the ministry in action.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

APR 2026

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DEVELOPING MINISTRIES

Twenty-five percent of donations collected on Native American Ministries Sunday are dedicated to developing impactful programs. These funds allow the UMC to partner with established Native ministries to create new initiatives that serve Native American communities. Efforts include mentoring programs, peer support networks, economic development projects, and the revitalization of traditional practices that nurture the next generation of leaders. [Learn more about the grants.](#)

APR 2026

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APRIL

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

APR 19

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday during worship. Use the worship resources provided—bulletins, prayers, children’s messages, and a call to worship—to highlight our shared mission. Remind your congregation that through their gifts, they are part of a global impact.

APR 23

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

United Methodist Student Day is celebrated on any Sunday in May to better coincide with graduation season, providing a meaningful way to honor your students. Get ready by downloading the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. [Use the resources](#) to shape your message and start planning how your congregation will engage.

APR 26

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total given and remind them gifts for Native American Ministries Sunday are welcome year-round [online](#) or through your church. Thank them for supporting ministries that reach across the connection of the Church.

APR 28

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

Connect with leaders and volunteers to plan United Methodist Student Day celebrations. [Equip](#) them with resources to educate your congregation about this ministry. Encourage creative use and rotation of materials in visible areas to keep the ministry in focus leading up to the celebration.

[DOWNLOAD UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY RESOURCES](#)

CELEBRATING STUDENTS

United Methodist Student Day can be celebrated on any Sunday in May to align with graduation season, offering a meaningful way to honor your students. Expand the impact beyond your congregation by inviting someone whose life has been personally shaped by scholarships to share their story. Use every communication channel—social media, newsletters, bulletin boards—to spread the message, and include a donation link or giving option to support this Special Sunday and the life-changing impact we make together.

MAY 2026

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APR 30

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

In your United Methodist Student Day celebration, highlight [impact stories](#) during classes, small groups or worship services to deepen connection. Use [age-level and worship materials](#) to show how our generosity makes an impact at every level.

MAY

MAY 1

PEACE WITH
JUSTICE SUNDAY

Peace with Justice Sunday is May 31—now is the time to prepare. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. Use the resources to shape your message and begin planning how your church will engage.

MAY 3

PEACE WITH
JUSTICE SUNDAY

Announce Peace with Justice Sunday in worship. Print and place pew cards and posters in high-traffic areas to give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Sunday.

MAY 5

PEACE WITH
JUSTICE SUNDAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind the Peace with Justice Sunday, it's time to bring your congregation into the story. [Download](#) the free promotional bundle to help them connect with the mission and be part of the impact.

MAY 7

PEACE WITH
JUSTICE SUNDAY

[Equip](#) your staff and volunteers with age-level and worship resources. Use the tools in classes, small groups, and worship to deepen understanding and inspire meaningful participation across all ages.

MAY 11

HERITAGE
SUNDAY

[Heritage Sunday](#) is May 24. Consider hosting a celebration that honors your church's heritage and the lasting impact it has made in the community.

[DOWNLOAD PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

EVERY VOICE MATTERS

The General Administration Fund, sustained by the faithful giving of United Methodists, ensures that everyone has a voice at the table. Without this support, delegates from around the world could not attend General Conference or fully participate in shaping decisions that affect the global Church, from education policies to the work of the Judicial Council, the Church's highest court. This is the real impact of your generosity—this isn't theory. This is happening now, because of you.



MAY

MAY 11

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Extend the message beyond your church walls. Connect with your conference office Peace with Justice Coordinator to understand how your congregation can get [involved](#). Invite the coordinator to share more about this ministry.

MAY 13

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Use every channel to share the message of Peace with Justice Sunday. Post social graphics, infographics, or videos on your church's website, newsletters, and social media. Include both your church and [GCFA donation](#) links. If digital engagement isn't the best fit for your church, post printed materials around the building and prepare labeled envelopes for giving.

MAY 16

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Keep momentum by sharing an impact story. Highlight your church's connection during small groups, worship and classes, or use resources from your conference office or find articles on our [website](#) to show the ministry in action.

MAY 17

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Announce Peace with Justice Sunday in worship. Use the prewritten content and promotional resources to raise awareness and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Sunday.

HERITAGE SUNDAY

MAY 24

HERITAGE SUNDAY

Celebrate Heritage Sunday by sharing stories and honoring the rich legacy of The United Methodist Church. [Explore](#) more about this Special Sunday.

[DOWNLOAD PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

MAY 2026

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PEACEMAKING MINISTRIES

Half of the funds collected on Peace with Justice Sunday support global peacemaking ministries and grants. United Methodist congregations and organizations can apply for three types of grants to support peace with justice programs. To learn more about grants, email grants@umcjustice.org.

JUN 2026

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MAY

MAY 27

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Make one final announcement this week so your congregation is reminded and ready to take part in the Peace with Justice Sunday celebration. Use the prewritten content to share on your church's website, newsletters, and social media platforms.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

MAY 31

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Celebrate Peace with Justice Sunday during worship. Use the worship resources provided—bulletins, prayers, children's messages, and a call to worship—to highlight our shared mission. Remind your congregation that through their gifts, they are part of an international impact.

JUNE

JUN 7

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total given and remind them gifts for Peace with Justice Sunday are welcome year-round [online](#) or through your church. Thank them for supporting ministries that reach across the connection of the Church.

UNITED IN IMPACT

IT ISN'T ABOUT MONEY. IT'S ABOUT IMPACT.

[UNITED IN IMPACT: LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN](#)

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JUNE

JUN 10
MEN'S MINISTRY
SUNDAY

With Father's Day at the center, June naturally invites us to celebrate fathers and men—a meaningful time to honor their leadership and legacy in the church and community. Celebrate Men's Ministry Sunday by uplifting their stories, gifts, and impact. Encourage your congregation to reflect on the importance of men in ministry. [Explore](#) more about why we celebrate.

JULY

JUL 1
UNITED IN
IMPACT GIVING
CAMPAIGN

July, at the height of summer, is a season of growth, abundance, and inner illumination. It's a time of transformation, creativity, and the full ripening of intentions planted earlier in the year. This month, reflect on how those intentions—when rooted in faith and joined with action—can bear powerful fruit. Join the [United in Impact campaign](#) and help nurture life-changing ministries around the world.

AUGUST

AUG 5
GOLDEN CROSS
SUNDAY

August is Wellness Month—a time to promote well-being and remember our role in healing. Across every annual conference, health and welfare ministries bring hope daily. The Golden Cross Sunday offering supports ministries for older adults, children and families, and hospital pastoral care. Celebrate by uplifting the ministries your conference supports and [explore](#) why we observe this special day.

PREPARING PASTORS

The [Ministerial Education Fund](#), sustained by the faithful giving of United Methodists, is essential for preparing and equipping our Church's clergy. Without this vital support, many pastors could not access the theological education, training, and resources they need to serve effectively in diverse ministry settings around the world. By investing in pastoral education, we strengthen the Church's mission, cultivate future leaders, and empower pastors to carry Christ's message of hope, compassion, and justice to every corner of the world.

SEP 2026

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SEPTEMBER

SEP 1
WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday is October 4—now is the time to prepare. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. Use the resources to shape your message and begin planning how your congregation will engage.

SEP 3
RURAL LIFE
SUNDAY

September, known as Harvest Month, is a time to gather and share crops. The United Methodist Church began in humble rural settings. Rural Life Sunday honors leaders in these communities who care for God's creation and live out their trust in Divine Providence. This special offering supports outreach, small churches, rural pastors and families, and promotes sustainable living within the conference. Celebrate by uplifting your conference ministries and [explore](#) why we celebrate this day.

SEP 7
WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind the World Communion Sunday, it's time to bring your congregation into the story. [Download](#) the free promotional bundle to help connect the mission, and be part of the impact of this ministry.

SEP 13
WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Announce World Communion Sunday in worship. Print and place pew cards and posters in high-traffic areas to raise awareness and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

[DOWNLOAD WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

UNITED IN IMPACT

At every level of The United Methodist Church, we are connected—and that connection is our strength. The United in Impact campaign is more than a message; it's a movement to raise awareness, celebrate generosity, and share the stories that show how connectional giving makes a difference. It's about recognizing that your church's faithfulness doesn't just sustain ministry—it helps mission flourish. [Explore the campaign.](#)

UNITED IN
IMPACT

SEP 20 26

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SEPTEMBER

SEP 15

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

[Equip](#) your staff and volunteers with age-level and worship resources. Use the tools in classes, small groups, and worship to deepen understanding and inspire meaningful participation across all ages.

SEP 17

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY
SCHOLARSHIP

Extend the message beyond your church by inviting someone personally impacted by World Communion scholarships. Ask a recipient to share how the scholarship has shaped their life and spiritual journey.

SEP 20

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Announce World Communion Sunday in worship. Use the prewritten content and promotional resources to raise awareness and prepare hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

SEP 22

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Use every channel to share the message of World Communion Sunday. Post social graphics, infographics, or videos on your church's website, newsletters, and social media. Include both your church and [GCFA donation](#) links. If digital engagement isn't the best fit for your church, post printed materials around the building and prepare labeled envelopes for giving.

SEP 24

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Encourage your volunteers to be creative with the available resources. Rotate materials and make them visible in different spaces to keep the ministry visible leading up to the celebration.

[DOWNLOAD WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

SEP 2026

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REAL CHANGE STARTS HERE

On World Communion Sunday, half of all donations fund scholarships for students of color pursuing ordained ministry, while the rest support leadership development and training that advance inclusion, diversity, equity, and access worldwide. [Explore more about this Special Sunday.](#)

OCT 2026

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SEPTEMBER

SEP 27

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Make one final announcement this week so your congregation is reminded and ready to take part in the World Communion Sunday celebration.

SEP 30

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Keep momentum by sharing an impact story. Highlight your church's connection during small groups, worship and classes, or use resources from your conference office or find articles on [our website](#) to show the ministry in action.

OCTOBER

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

OCT 4

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Celebrate World Communion Sunday during worship. Use the worship resources provided—bulletins, prayers, children's messages, and a call to worship—to highlight our shared mission. Remind your congregation that through their gifts, they are part of changing lives around the world.

OCT 7

LAITY SUNDAY

[Laity Sunday](#) is October 18. Consider recognizing the leadership and impact your laity provide.

OCT 11

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total given and remind them gifts for World Communion Sunday are welcome year-round [online](#) or through your church. Thank them for supporting ministries that reach across the connection of the Church.

[DOWNLOAD WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)



OCT 2026

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FAITH IN EDUCATION

Christian Education Sunday honors the vital role of teaching, learning, and faith formation in the Church. Invite someone to share how Christian education shapes and impacts lives. Contact your conference for observance details. [Explore](#) more about this celebration.

NOV 2026

S M T W T F S

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OCTOBER

LAITY SUNDAY

OCT 18

LAITY SUNDAY

Laity Sunday, observed on the third Sunday in October, honors the ministry and witness of laypersons in the church. In the early days, laypeople sustained churches between visits from circuit riders. Today, they serve on the front lines—in workplaces, homes, and communities—living out their faith daily. [Explore](#) why we celebrate.

OCT 20

LAITY SUNDAY

[Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday](#) is November 8. Celebrate with your congregation by honoring the life-saving impact of organ and tissue donation.

NOVEMBER

ORGAN & TISSUE DONOR SUNDAY

NOV 8

ORGAN & TISSUE
DONOR SUNDAY

Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday celebrates the life-saving gift of donation and encourages United Methodists to consider becoming donors. For many, a transplant is their only hope for survival. [Explore](#) why we celebrate this vital act of generosity.

NOV 11

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

November is Native American Heritage Month, a time to honor the rich culture, traditions, and history of Native peoples. If you weren't able to celebrate earlier in the year, consider using the resources to promote and celebrate Native American Ministries. [Explore](#) the resources.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)



DEC 2026

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THE VISION OF THE UMC

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, **love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously** in local communities and worldwide connections. [Learn more about the new vision.](#)

JAN 2027

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DECEMBER

DEC 10

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Human Relations Day is January 17, 2027—now is the time to prepare. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the meaning and mission of this Special Sunday. Use the resources to shape your message and begin planning how your congregation will engage.

DEC 13

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind the ministry, it's time to bring your congregation into the story. [Download](#) the free promotional bundle to help them connect with the mission, respond with compassion, and be part of the impact.

DEC 15

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Connect with leaders and volunteers to share the message. Use the promotional resources and encourage everyone to understand the ministry so they can personalize it for your church.

DEC 18

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

[Equip](#) your staff and volunteers with age-level and worship resources. Use these tools in classes, groups, and worship to deepen understanding and inspire meaningful participation across all ages.

JANUARY

JAN 3

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Announce Human Relations Day in worship. Print and place pew cards and posters in high-traffic areas and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this Special Sunday.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

CHURCHWIDE SPECIAL SUNDAYS

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Sunday before Martin Luther
King, Jr's birthday

JAN 18, 2026; JAN 17, 2027;
JAN 16, 2028

UMCOR SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday in Lent
MAR 15, 2026; MAR 7, 2027;
MAR 26, 2028

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

Any Sunday in May

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

Third Sunday of Easter
APR 19, 2026; APR 11, 2027;
APR 30, 2028

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Third Sunday of Easter
APR 19, 2026; APR 11, 2027;
APR 30, 2028

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

First Sunday in October
Oct 4, 2026; OCT 3, 2027;
OCT 1, 2028

AWARENESS SPECIAL SUNDAYS

SCOUTING SUNDAY

First Sunday in February
FEB 1, 2026; FEB 7, 2027;
FEB 6, 2028

WOMEN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY

Church selects the date

MEN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY

Church selects the date

HERITAGE SUNDAY

Aldersgate day, or the
Sunday preceding May 24
MAY 24, 2026;
MAY 30, 2027; MAY 28, 2028

LAITY SUNDAY

Third Sunday in October
OCT 18, 2026; OCT 17, 2027;
OCT 15, 2028

ORGAN & TISSUE DONOR SUNDAY

Second Sunday in
November
NOV 8, 2026; NOV 14, 2027;
NOV 12, 2028

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPECIAL SUNDAYS

UNITED METHODIST VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION SUNDAY

Conference selects the date

GOLDEN CROSS SUNDAY

Conference selects the date

DISABILITIES AWARENESS SUNDAY

Conference selects the date

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY

Conference selects the date

RURAL LIFE SUNDAY

Conference selects the date