

2027

THE UNITED
METHODIST
SPECIAL
SUNDAY
PLANNING
CALENDAR



UNITED **IN** IMPACT



BUILDING AWARENESS for Shared Ministry

Just as builders rely on blueprints to guide their work, churches often need a clear plan to prepare for and celebrate the shared ministries of the church. Thoughtful planning helps congregations tell the story, invite participation, and connect people to the impact of their giving and service.

Each year, The United Methodist Church celebrates several Special Sundays that highlight ministries reflecting our shared mission and witness as a denomination. These moments invite congregations to learn, pray, serve, and give in ways that strengthen lives and communities around the world.

Giving is more than a financial act — it is a faithful response that supports ministry across cultures, communities, and generations. Through shared generosity, people are empowered to use their gifts, live out their calling, and participate in the wider ministry of The United Methodist Church.

This planning calendar serves as a guide for promoting and preparing for each Special Sunday throughout the year. Inside, you'll find key dates, planning reminders, promotional ideas, and helpful resources to support your congregation's efforts and keep ministry organized and meaningful. It also incorporates the broader giving opportunities and ministries of The United Methodist Church, helping congregations connect their generosity with the church's mission and impact throughout the year.

We are praying for you as you lead your congregation in celebrating these shared ministries with joy and purpose.

The Promotion of Giving Team at UMCom

DEC 2026

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REAL CHANGE STARTS HERE

The Community Developers Program (CDP) supports racial-ethnic minority congregations as they respond to community needs and build sustainable ministries. Fifty-seven percent of your Human Relations Day gift helps make this work possible. [Learn more.](#)

JAN 2027

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DECEMBER

DEC 7

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Human Relations Day is January 17—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 in this celebration.

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 3

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Announce Human Relations Day in worship. Print pew cards, posters, and envelope labels. Prepare and place resources in high-traffic areas for your congregation to prayerfully consider their gifts.

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.

SERVING TOGETHER

United Methodist Voluntary Services (UMVS) equips United Methodists to respond to community needs through hands-on service and grassroots ministry. By supporting volunteer-driven outreach efforts, UMVS helps churches and local groups build relationships, address injustice, and create meaningful change in their communities. Thirty-three percent of your Human Relations Day gift supports this life-changing work. [Learn more about the program.](#)

JAN 2027

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JANUARY

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. Share your church and [GCFA giving links](#), or use printed materials and labeled envelopes to make participation easy for everyone.

JAN 8

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Encourage your volunteers to rotate materials for visibility in different spaces to keep the ministry in the spotlight leading up to the celebration.

JAN 10

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 12

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Keep the momentum going by sharing a story of impact. Highlight your church's connection to Human Relations Day where possible. If you do not have a local story, share an [article or video](#) that helps your congregation see the ministry in action.

JAN 13

KOREAN
AMERICAN DAY

Today is Korean American Day, a time to celebrate and honor the history, contributions, and ongoing impact of Korean Americans in The United Methodist Church and throughout society. It also highlights our commitment to welcoming and supporting diverse communities through ministries such as the [Korean Ministry Plan](#). Explore how The United Methodist Church supports diverse ministries through apportionment giving.

UNITED IN IMPACT

EVERY GIFT TELLS A STORY. EVERY STORY CREATES IMPACT.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

JAN 2027

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JANUARY

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

JAN 18
HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

Celebrate Human Relations Day during worship by highlighting how United Methodists are building stronger communities and creating opportunities for hope and healing. Use the provided [worship resources](#) to help your congregation connect faith with action. Every gift tells a story and every story begins with an impact.

JAN 24
INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF
EDUCATION

Today is International Day of Education. Invite your congregation to reflect on how United Methodists support education around the world. Explore [Africa University](#) and discover how The United Methodist Church helped establish the first fully accredited private university in Zimbabwe, creating opportunities for students from across Africa.

JAN 26
BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

Black History Month provides the opportunity to celebrate the faith, resilience, and contributions of Black people who have shaped the church and society. We are called to build a church where all people can flourish through education, leadership, and service. Ministries such as the [Black College Fund](#) embody this commitment by preparing future leaders for ministry and the world. Through apportionment giving, we support these and other connectional ministries around the world.

JAN 28
SCOUTING
SUNDAY

Scouting Sunday is February 7. United Methodists celebrate this day to recognize youth ministry, build community connections, and honor its historic status as one of the largest chartering organizations for Scouting in the United States. Consider inviting a local troop to take part in the service and [explore resources](#) that highlight our involvement in Scouting ministry.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

THE UMC HANDBOOK

The handbook is designed to help individuals better understand our mission, connection, and structure. [Explore the resource](#)

Free digital downloads are available in multiple languages, and [printed copies](#) can be purchased.

FEB 2027

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INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

The United Methodist Church offers scholarships that help students pursue their educational goals and grow into their God-given calling. Supported through the generosity of United Methodists, these opportunities help remove financial barriers, encourage academic achievement, and invest in future leaders for the church and the world. Applications are open through March—encourage your students to [apply today!](#)

FEB 2027

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FEB 1

UMC MINISTRY PLANS

Black History Month gives us an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of Black leaders, congregations, and communities throughout the life of The United Methodist Church. Through connectional ministries such as [Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century](#), we invest in leadership development, congregational vitality, and community engagement. Explore and share how this ministry helps strengthen the church for today and tomorrow.

FEB 3

UMCOR SUNDAY

UMCOR Sunday is March 7—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.

SCOUTING SUNDAY

FEB 7

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 9

UMCOR SUNDAY

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

FEB 11

UMCOR SUNDAY

Invite leaders and volunteers to help share the message. Use the [resources](#) to equip them to speak about the ministry in meaningful and engaging ways within your church community.

FEBRUARY

[DOWNLOAD UMCOR SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

RECOVERY STARTS HERE

UMCOR Sunday supports the administrative costs of The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), helping ensure that gifts designated for specific relief efforts and projects can go directly to those ministries. Through UMCOR, we are able to respond to disasters, support long-term recovery efforts, assist vulnerable communities, and bring hope to people facing crisis around the world. Your generosity helps make this ministry possible. [Give today.](#)

FEB 2027

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FEBRUARY

FEB 14

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 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.

FEB 18

UMCOR SUNDAY

Extend the impact beyond your church walls by connecting with your conference disaster response coordinator to learn how your congregation can get [involved](#). Consider inviting a speaker to share more about UMCOR's ministry and mission.

FEB 20

WORLD DAY OF
SOCIAL JUSTICE

Today is World Day of Social Justice. Invite your congregation to reflect on how United Methodists work for justice, peace, and compassion around the world. Through your church's apportionment giving, ministries supported by [Church and Society](#) help extend that impact far beyond the local church.

FEB 21

UMCOR SUNDAY

Announce UMCOR Sunday in worship. Print pew cards, posters, and envelope labels. Prepare and place resources in high-traffic areas for your congregation to prayerfully consider their gifts.

FEB 23

UMCOR SUNDAY

Use every channel to share the message of UMCOR Sunday. Post graphics, infographics, or videos on your church's social platforms. Share your church and [GCFA giving links](#), or use printed materials and labeled envelopes to make participation easy for everyone.

[DOWNLOAD UMCOR SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

THE OFFICIAL UMC STORE

The UMC Store is the official online store of United Methodist Communications, offering resources that support churches, leaders, and individuals across The United Methodist Church. From apparel and ministry materials to outreach and event resources, products are designed to help churches share their faith and strengthen ministry. Proceeds support the ongoing mission and ministry of The United Methodist Church.

[Browse the UMCstore!](#)

MAR 2027

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MARCH

FEB 25

NATIONAL
DISABILITY
AWARENESS
MONTH

National Disability Awareness Month in March is an opportunity to affirm the sacred worth, gifts, and full inclusion of people with disabilities in the life of the church. Consider recognizing [Disabilities Awareness Sunday](#) and inviting voices from the disability community to help shape worship, conversation, and understanding around accessibility and disability justice.

MAR 1

ZERO
DISCRIMINATION
DAY

Today is Zero Discrimination Day. Invite your congregation to reflect on how United Methodists work to build a more just and inclusive church and world. Through ministries like the [General Commission on Religion and Race](#), The United Methodist Church helps equip leaders and congregations to address racism, strengthen intercultural relationships, and foster belonging across the connection.

MAR 4

UMCOR SUNDAY

Keep the momentum going by sharing a story of impact. Highlight your church's connection to UMCOR Sunday where possible. If you do not have a local story, share an [article or video](#) that helps your congregation see the ministry in action.

UMCOR SUNDAY

MAR 7

UMCOR SUNDAY

Celebrate UMCOR Sunday during worship by highlighting how United Methodists respond to disasters, support recovery efforts, and bring hope to communities in crisis. Incorporate the worship resources to help your congregation connect faith with action and understand the impact their giving makes at home and around the world.

[DOWNLOAD UMCOR SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

EMPOWERING EDUCATION

United Methodist scholarships empower students at every stage to pursue their calling, develop their gifts, and achieve their goals. These opportunities help remove financial barriers while nurturing future leaders for the church and the world. Applications close in March—encourage the students in your church to apply and explore these opportunities. Your generosity impacts individual lives and strengthens the future of our church. [Give today.](#)

MAR 2027

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MAR 8
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY

Today is International Women's Day, and March is Women's History Month—a time to celebrate the leadership, faith, and impact of women in the church and community. Consider recognizing Women's Ministry Sunday by sharing stories, inviting a speaker, or highlighting the importance of supporting and affirming women in ministry. [Explore](#) more about why we celebrate.

MAR 14
UMCOR SUNDAY

Share the results and celebrate the impact. Let your congregation know the total received and remind them that gifts for UMCOR Sunday can be made throughout the year [online](#) or through the church. Thank them for supporting ministries that offer hope, healing, relief and extend the connectional mission of The United Methodist Church into the world.

MAR 16
APPORTIONMENT
GIVING

In March, we recognize Spiritual Wellness Month—a time to reflect on how faith calls us to care for others and grow in discipleship. Through the World Service Fund, United Methodists support agencies like [Discipleship Ministries](#) which equips churches and leaders with resources that nurture faith, strengthen discipleship, and support spiritual growth around the world. Learn more about this impact.

MAR 18
NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Native American Ministries Sunday is April 11—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](#)

MARCH

SUPPORTING GROWTH

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

MAR 2027

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MARCH

MAR 21

NATIVE AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Announce Native American Ministries Sunday in worship. Use the ready-to-use resources to raise awareness and give your congregation time to prepare their hearts and gifts for this celebration.

MAR 23

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.

MAR 25

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Invite leaders and volunteers to help share the message of Native American Ministries Sunday. Use the [resources](#) to equip them to speak about the ministry in meaningful and engaging ways within your church community.

MAR 26

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.

MAR 28

NATIVE AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Encourage your volunteers to rotate materials for visibility in different spaces to keep the ministry in the spotlight leading up to the celebration.

MAR 30

NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER
MONTH

April is National Volunteer Month. [Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday](#) (UMVIM) celebrates United Methodists who share their time and gifts through mission service and outreach opportunities. Check your conference website for the observance date, and consider organizing a volunteer opportunity for your congregation.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

DEVELOPING MINISTRY

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.](#)

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APRIL

APR 4

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Announce Native American Ministries Sunday in worship. Print pew cards, posters, and envelope labels. Prepare and place resources in high-traffic areas for your congregation to prayerfully consider their gifts.

APR 6

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 7

WORLD
HEALTH DAY

Today is World Health Day—a reminder that caring for others is part of our Christian calling. Through Golden Cross Sunday, United Methodists support health and welfare ministries that provide care and assistance for clergy, church workers, and those in need. Your gifts help extend Christ's healing love through ministries of compassion and hope. [Explore why we celebrate.](#)

APR 9

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. Share your church and [GCFA giving links](#), or use printed materials and labeled envelopes to simplify giving for all.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

APR 11

NATIVE
AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday during worship by highlighting the vibrant ministries and leadership of Native American United Methodists. [Use the worship resources](#) to help your congregation learn how this Special Sunday supports Native American ministries, strengthens communities, and nurtures future leaders. Together, we honor Native cultures, traditions, and contributions to the life of the church.

POWERING MINISTRY

The World Service Fund is the foundation of connectional ministry in The United Methodist Church. It supports the general agencies that equip congregations, develop leaders, and strengthen ministries worldwide. Through apportionment giving, the World Service Fund provides essential support to general agencies that equip congregations, develop leaders, strengthen ministries and extend the Church's mission around the world.

APR 2027

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APRIL

APR 18

NATIVE AMERICAN
MINISTRIES
SUNDAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total received and remind them that gifts for Native American Ministries Sunday can be made throughout the year [online](#) or through the church. Thank them for supporting ministries that honor Native cultures, traditions, and contributions to the life of the church.

APR 20

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

United Methodist Student Day is celebrated on a Sunday in May, aligning with graduation season and offering a meaningful opportunity to recognize students in your congregation. Start preparing by downloading the free starter bundle to learn more about this Special Sunday and its impact. [Explore the free resources](#) and begin planning how your congregation can participate.

APR 22

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

Invite the leaders and volunteers to help share the message of United Methodist Student Day. [Use the resources](#) to equip them to speak about the ministry in meaningful and engaging ways within your church community.

APR 25

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

Announce United Methodist Student Day in worship. Print pew cards, posters, and envelope labels. Prepare and place resources in high-traffic areas to encourage prayerful and joyful giving.

APR 27

UNITED
METHODIST
STUDENT DAY

[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.

VISIT THE UMC STORE

[DOWNLOAD UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY RESOURCES](#)

CELEBRATING STUDENTS

United Methodist Student Day reminds us that investing in students is an investment in the future of the church and the world. Through scholarships and educational support, this Special Sunday helps students pursue their calling and reach their potential. To bring the impact to life, consider inviting someone whose educational journey was shaped by scholarship support to share their story with your congregation. [Learn more](#) about this Special Sunday.

MAY 2027

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MAY

MAY 2

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 4

PEACE WITH
JUSTICE SUNDAY

Peace with Justice Sunday is May 23—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 6

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 9

PEACE WITH
JUSTICE SUNDAY

Announce Peace with Justice Sunday in worship. Print pew cards, posters, and envelope labels. Prepare and place resources in high-traffic areas to encourage prayerful and joyful giving.

MAY 11

HERITAGE MONTH
FOR ASIAN
AMERICAN,
NATIVE HAWAIIAN
AND PACIFIC
ISLANDERS

In May, we recognize Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month—a time to celebrate the rich cultures, histories, and contributions of these communities to our society and to The United Methodist Church. As a global church enriched by diverse voices and experiences, we honor the leadership and faith of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander United Methodists. Through the World Service Fund, we support ministries like the [Asian American Language Ministry Plan and the Pacific Islander Ministry Plan](#), which strengthen, develop, and equip congregations for ministry.

LOCAL MINISTRIES

Half of the funds collected through Peace with Justice Sunday stay within your annual conference to support local ministries that promote peace, justice, reconciliation, and community renewal. These funds help strengthen programs that address the root causes of injustice while creating opportunities for education, advocacy, and action. Many conferences support a Peace with Justice Coordinator to connect congregations with local initiatives and resources.

MAY 2027

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MAY

MAY 13

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 16

HERITAGE SUNDAY

[Heritage Sunday](#) is May 30. Plan ahead to ensure your congregation has time to invite people back for this special day. Consider how your church might celebrate its heritage and the lasting impact it has made in the community. Use this opportunity to celebrate your shared history, honor those who helped shape your church, and welcome others into the story.

MAY 18

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Use every channel to share the message of Peace with Justice Sunday. Post social graphics, videos, or infographics on your church's website, newsletters, and social media. Share your church and [GCFA giving links](#), or use printed materials and labeled envelopes to simplify giving for all.

MAY 19

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 20

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.

[DOWNLOAD PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

PEACEMAKING MINISTRIES

Half of the funds collected on Peace with Justice Sunday support global peacemaking ministries and grants that address the root causes of injustice and conflict. United Methodist congregations, annual conferences, and organizations can apply for three types of grants to support peace with justice programs in their communities and beyond. To learn more about available grants and eligibility, email grants@umcjustice.org or visit umcjustice.org for [more details on grants](#).

MAY 2027

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MAY

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

MAY 23

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Celebrate Peace with Justice Sunday during worship by lifting up the church's commitment to creating a more just and peaceful world. [Use the worship resources](#) to help your congregation learn how this Special Sunday supports ministries and grants that address the root causes of injustice, advocate for peace, and empower communities to create lasting change. Together, we can witness to God's vision of justice, reconciliation, and hope for all people.

MAY 27

APPORTIONMENT GIVING

June is Effective Communications Month—a time to celebrate the ways the church connects people to Christ and one another. Through the World Service Fund, United Methodists support [United Methodist Communications](#) (UMCom), which helps congregations tell their stories, strengthen discipleship, and extend their reach through digital ministry and communication resources. Through your church's apportionment giving, you help support this and other connectional ministries.

MAY 30

HERITAGE SUNDAY

Celebrate Heritage Sunday by honoring your congregation's history, the people who helped shape its ministry, and the impact it continues to make in the community. As you celebrate this legacy of faith in action, share the results from last week's Peace with Justice Sunday celebration and thank your congregation for its generosity in supporting ministries and grants that promote peace, address injustice, and create lasting change. Remind them that gifts for Peace with Justice Sunday can be made throughout the year [online](#) or through the church.

[DOWNLOAD THE UMC HANDBOOK AND CONVERSATION GUIDE](#)

THE UNITED METHODIST HANDBOOK

Whether you are new to the church or helping others grow in their understanding, this handbook is a practical tool for learning how we live out our faith together. [Explore the resource](#)

Download free digital copies in English, French, Portuguese, Korean, Spanish, and Kiswahili, or purchase printed copies through the [UMC Store](#).

JUN 2027

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JUNE

JUN 2

MEN'S MINISTRY

With Father's Day celebrated in June, this month offers a natural opportunity to recognize the contributions of men in the life of the church and community. Men's Ministry Sunday invites congregations to celebrate the leadership, service, faith, and witness of men who help shape disciples, strengthen ministries, and build relationships across generations. Encourage your congregation to honor their stories, affirm their gifts, and reflect on the important role men play in ministry. [Explore](#) more about why we celebrate.

JUN 9

INTERNATIONAL ARCHIVES DAY

Today is International Archives Day—a time to celebrate the stories and history that connect us as United Methodists. Through the World Service Fund, United Methodists support the [General Commission on Archives and History](#) (GCAH), which preserves the records, memories, and milestones of our shared ministry. By safeguarding our past, this ministry helps the church learn from its history and carry its mission forward. Through your church's apportionment giving, you help support this and other connectional ministries.

JUN 21

APPORTIONMENT GIVING

The [General Commission on United Methodist Men](#) helps men grow as disciples of Jesus Christ and equips them for leadership, service, and ministry in their local churches and communities. Supported through the World Service Fund, this ministry provides resources, training, and opportunities that nurture faith and strengthen congregations. Take time to learn how United Methodist Men are making a difference, encourage participation in local men's ministries, and celebrate the impact of faithful leadership across the connection.

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

SUMMER LEARNING

Summer is a great time to build connections within your congregation. Consider offering a new member class to teach about your church's mission, ministries, and opportunities. If your church hosts Vacation Bible School, consider providing a class for parents and other adults at the same time. [Use the UMC Handbook and companion conversation guide](#) to teach and introduce participants to the beliefs, practices, and connectional ministries of The United Methodist Church.

JUL 2027

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JULY

JUL 6

WORLD RURAL
DEVELOPMENT
DAY

Today is World Rural Development Day, a time to recognize the strength and contributions of rural communities. It also offers an opportunity to celebrate Rural Life Sunday, which highlights the important role rural churches play in sharing God's love and nurturing faith. Consider recognizing local farmers, agricultural workers, and community leaders, and learn more about the unique ministries and mission opportunities found in rural settings. [Explore](#) more about why we celebrate.

JUL 12

INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF HOPE

On International Day of Hope, we are reminded that hope grows when people come together to serve others. Through The Advance, The United Methodist Church's designated giving program, 100% of each gift supports the ministry, missionary, or project selected by the donor. Through giving, The Advance connects the church in mission. [Learn how you can get involved.](#)

JUL 25

INTERNATIONAL
DAY FOR
JUDICIAL WELL
BEING

On International Day for Judicial Well-being, we recognize the importance of fair and accountable decision-making. The Judicial Council, The United Methodist Church's highest judicial body, interprets church law and ensures alignment with The Book of Discipline. Funded through the General Administration Fund, it helps maintain integrity, consistency, and order across the denomination. [Learn more](#) about its role in the church.

JUL 30

WORLD DAY OF
FRIENDSHIP

On World Day of Friendship, we celebrate the relationships that bring people together across communities and cultures. In The United Methodist Church, we also strengthen relationships with other Christian denominations through the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund. This fund supports shared ministry, witness, and service, helping churches work together. [Learn more.](#)

UNITED IN IMPACT

The United in Impact campaign is an invitation to engage more deeply in the ministry of The United Methodist Church. While generosity is part of the story, the campaign is about much more than money. It encourages United Methodists to learn, share, pray, serve, and participate in the connectional ministries that transform lives around the world. Together, we are united by a shared mission and strengthened through our collective impact. [Find out more about the campaign.](#)

AUG 2027

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AUGUST

AUG 12

INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH DAY

On International Youth Day, we celebrate the gifts, leadership, and potential of young people. The Youth Service Fund supports youth-led ministries across The UMC, empowering young people to identify needs, develop solutions, and serve their communities. By investing in youth leadership, the church helps nurture disciples who are already making a difference today while preparing for the future. [Explore more](#) about this fund and how you can participate in our future.

AUG 19

WORLD
HUMANITARIAN
DAY

Today we celebrate World Humanitarian Day, recognizing those who bring hope, healing, and support to communities in need. Through the World Service Fund, United Methodists support the [General Board of Global Ministries](#), which coordinates mission work, develops leaders, and strengthens ministries around the world. This support also provides the foundation for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Learn how your connectional giving helps extend the church's witness and compassion across the globe.

AUG 26

WOMEN'S
EQUALITY DAY

On Women's Equality Day, we recognize and celebrate the ongoing pursuit of equality and the contributions of women in every area of life. In The United Methodist Church, the [General Commission on the Status and Role of Women](#) helps advance this work by advocating for the full and equal participation of women in the church. Supported through the World Service Fund, this ministry provides education, resources, and leadership development that help create a more just, inclusive, and faithful church for all.

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

CELEBRATING WORLD UNITY

World Communion Sunday celebrates our connection with Christians around the globe and our shared call to learn, serve, and grow in faith. Half of the funds collected on this Special Sunday support scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color in the United States who are pursuing ordained ministry. These scholarships help equip future leaders for ministry and service, ensuring that the church continues to nurture gifts and opportunities for generations to come.

SEP 2027

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SEP 1

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

World Communion Sunday is October 3—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 5

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Announce World Communion Sunday in worship. Print pew cards, posters, and envelope labels. Prepare and place resources in high-traffic areas for your congregation to prayerfully and joyfully consider their gifts.

SEP 7

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Now that you've explored the meaning behind 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 9

CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
MONTH

Many congregations celebrate September as Christian Education Month, a time to focus on growing in faith and discipleship. Christian Education Sunday highlights the importance of Bible study, Sunday school, small groups, and other learning opportunities that help people deepen their relationship with God. Take time to recognize those who teach and mentor others, and consider ways to strengthen Christian education in your congregation. [Learn about why we celebrate.](#)

SEP 12

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Announce World Communion Sunday during worship and share how the offering supports scholarships for students. Consider inviting a scholarship recipient to share how this support has shaped their educational and faith journey.

[DOWNLOAD WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

INVESTING IN OUR LEADERS

World Communion Sunday gifts help nurture the next generation of church leaders. A portion of the offering collected funds scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students of color in the United States who are pursuing ordained ministry. By helping to reduce financial barriers, these scholarships equip gifted students to answer God's call, complete their education, and serve congregations and communities for years to come. To learn more or apply, email scholars@umcmission.org.

SEP 2027

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SEPTEMBER

SEP 14

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Invite leaders and volunteers to help share the message of World Communion Sunday. Use the [resources](#) to equip them to speak about the ministry in personal ways within your church community.

SEP 15

UMC MINISTRY
PLANS

Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the rich cultures, contributions, and leadership of Hispanic and Latine communities. In The United Methodist Church, [El Plan for Hispanic/Latine Ministry](#) helps strengthen congregations, develop leaders, and create new ministry opportunities that engage and support Hispanic and Latine communities. Through faithful apportionment giving, we are able to invest in these ministries to help congregations share Christ's love in culturally relevant and impactful ways. Explore what we do.

SEP 17

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 19

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Highlight [impact stories](#) during classes, small groups or worship services to share the impact that churches are making around the world.

SEP 20

APPORTIONMENT
GIVING

September often marks a season of renewed ministry, planning, and purpose for congregations. Behind many of the systems that support The United Methodist Church is the [General Council on Finance and Administration](#) (GCFA), funded through the General Administration Fund. Explore the role of GCFA and discover how stewardship and administration help The United Methodist Church carry out its mission around the world.

[DOWNLOAD WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

FUELING THE MISSION

Learn more about connectional giving through our United in Impact video series and the shared ministries it makes possible across The United Methodist Church. Hear a simplified explanation of how our generosity makes an impact and discover how Special Sundays and apportioned funds work together to strengthen our shared mission. Visit the [UMC Giving YouTube channel](#) to watch all three videos and [use the reflection questions](#) to spark conversation.

SEP 2027

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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. Share your church and [GCFA giving links](#), or use printed materials and labeled envelopes to simplify giving for all.

SEP 24

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Encourage your volunteers to rotate materials for visibility in different spaces to keep the ministry in the spotlight leading up to the celebration.

SEP 26

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Announce World Communion Sunday in worship. This is the final Sunday to announce World Communion Sunday before the celebration. Use the [prewritten content and promotional resources](#) to remind your congregation why this Special Sunday matters and invite them to come ready to participate through prayer, worship, and giving.

SEP 29

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Build on the momentum by sharing stories. Use resources from your conference office or [our website](#) to illustrate the ministry's impact.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

OCT 3

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Celebrate World Communion Sunday during worship by rejoicing in our unity with Christians around the world. [Use the worship resources](#) to help your congregation reflect on our shared faith and learn how this Special Sunday invests in the next generation of church leaders through scholarships, leadership development, and educational opportunities. Together, we celebrate Christ's table, strengthen the global Church, and equip leaders for ministries of hope and transformation.

[DOWNLOAD WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

THE UNITED METHODIST HANDBOOK

Whether you are new to the church or helping others grow in their understanding, this handbook is a practical tool for learning how we live out our faith together. [Explore the resource](#)

Download free digital copies in English, French, Portuguese, Korean, Spanish, and Kiswahili, or purchase printed copies through the [UMC Store](#).

OCT 2027

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OCTOBER

OCT 5

APPORTIONMENT
GIVING

October is a season to give thanks for the clergy who faithfully lead, encourage, and care for our congregations. One meaningful way we support both today's clergy and tomorrow's leaders is through the [Ministerial Education Fund](#) (MEF). This apportioned fund helps prepare those called to ordained and licensed ministry by supporting theological education, providing scholarships, and equipping future pastors, deacons, and other church leaders. Share with your congregation how the Ministerial Education Fund strengthens the future of The United Methodist Church and invites us all to invest in the leaders who will guide the Church for generations to come.

OCT 7

APPORTIONMENT
GIVING

Celebrate the power of education as it shapes lives, strengthens communities, and prepares future leaders. Through the World Service Fund, United Methodists support the [General Board of Higher Education and Ministry](#), which equips lay and clergy leaders through education, ordination, scholarships, and institutional support. This connectional investment strengthens United Methodist-related colleges, universities, theological schools, campus ministries, and Wesley Foundations around the world to help nurture faithful, transformational leaders for generations to come. Discover how your giving helps make this ministry possible.

OCT 10

WORLD
COMMUNION
SUNDAY

Share the results and express gratitude. Let your congregation know the total received and remind them that gifts for World Communion Sunday can be made throughout the year [online](#) or through the church. Thank them for supporting ministries that reach across the connection of the Church.

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

OCT 2027

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THE OFFICIAL UMC STORE

The UMC Store is the official online store of UMC.org, offering resources that equip churches, leaders, and individuals for ministry. Find what you need to share the message of The United Methodist Church. [Browse the store!](#)

NOV 2027

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OCTOBER

OCT 14

LAITY SUNDAY

Laity Sunday, celebrated on the third Sunday in October, recognizes the faithful witness and leadership of laypeople throughout The United Methodist Church. From the earliest Methodist societies to today's congregations, laity have played a vital role in sharing the gospel, strengthening the Church, and serving their communities. This Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate their ministry and the many ways they live out their faith every day.

[Explore](#) why we celebrate.

LAITY SUNDAY

OCT 17

LAITY SUNDAY

Celebrate Laity Sunday by recognizing the many ways laypeople serve in your congregation and community. Honor their faithful witness, encourage every member to live out their calling, and celebrate the shared ministry of the whole Church.

NOVEMBER

NOV 1

NATIVE
AMERICAN
HERITAGE
MONTH

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.

NOV 7

ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day is observed on the first Sunday in November. United Methodists celebrate this day by remembering the faithful who have gone before us, giving thanks for their witness, and proclaiming the hope of the resurrection.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

BUILD SACRED PARTNERSHIPS

Native American Ministries strengthens Native congregations, nurtures Native leadership, and creates opportunities for ministries that reflect the unique cultures, traditions, and contributions of Native communities. Support for Native American Ministries Sunday helps develop and sustain Native ministries, scholarships, and outreach that empower Native leaders and congregations across the connection. Give today and help foster lasting partnerships.

NOV 2027

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NOVEMBER

NOV 9

ORGAN &
TISSUE DONOR
SUNDAY

Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday is observed on the second Sunday in November. United Methodists recognize this day to reflect on the gift of life, encourage thoughtful conversations about organ and tissue donation, and celebrate the generosity that brings hope and healing to others. Consider sharing educational resources with your congregation and inviting them to learn more about organ and tissue donation as an expression of compassion and love for neighbor. [Explore](#) why we celebrate this vital act of generosity.

ORGAN & TISSUE DONOR SUNDAY

NOV 14

ORGAN &
TISSUE DONOR
SUNDAY

Celebrate Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday by recognizing the life-saving gift of donation and encouraging thoughtful consideration of becoming a donor.

NOV 16

NATIVE
AMERICAN
COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN

During Native American Heritage Month, take time to deepen your understanding of the histories, experiences, and living traditions of Native peoples. Share with your congregation how the United Methodist Church's [Native American Comprehensive Plan](#) supports Native leadership, congregations, and ministries across the connection. Explore the resources and discover how you can engage with this important work.

UNITED ^{IN} IMPACT

EVERY GIFT TELLS A STORY. EVERY STORY CREATES IMPACT.

[DOWNLOAD NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY RESOURCES](#)

LEADING THE CHURCH

The **Episcopal Fund** supports the ministry of United Methodist bishops as they provide spiritual leadership, strengthen annual conferences, and equip the Church for faithful ministry. Through the Episcopal Fund, this ministry helps bishops guide clergy, encourage congregations, and advance the mission of the Church around the world. Discover how your connectional giving through your local church helps equip leaders to serve worldwide.

DEC 2027

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DEC 3

INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF
PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES

Today is International Day of Persons with Disabilities, providing an opportunity to celebrate the gifts, contributions, and dignity of people with disabilities. As United Methodists, we are called to build communities where everyone is welcomed, valued, and able to fully participate in the life of the Church. Explore resources for Disabilities Awareness Sunday and discover ways your congregation can foster greater accessibility, belonging, and inclusion.

DEC 10

HUMAN RIGHTS
DAY

December 10 is Human Rights Day, a fitting time to reflect on God's call to uphold the dignity and worth of every person. As you observe this day, begin preparing for Human Relations Day on January 17, 2027. [Download](#) the free starter bundle to explore the purpose of this Special Sunday and access resources to help your congregation engage in meaningful ministry.

DEC 14

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

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

DEC 18

INTERNATIONAL
MIGRANTS DAY

December 18 is International Migrants Day, a time to recognize the resilience and dignity of migrants around the world. As you reflect on this worldwide observance, explore [The Advance](#), The United Methodist Church's designated giving channel that connects congregations and individuals with trusted mission projects serving vulnerable communities, including migrants and refugees. Discover how designated gifts through The Advance support life-changing ministries.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

DECEMBER

UNITED IN IMPACT VIDEOS

Learn more about connectional giving through our United in Impact video series. Hear a simplified explanation of how our generosity makes an impact and discover how Special Sundays and apportioned funds work together to strengthen our shared mission. Watch all three videos on the [UMC Giving YouTube channel](#), then visit the [United in Impact page](#) for reflection questions to spark conversation and deepen understanding.

JAN 2028

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JANUARY

JAN 2

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.

JAN 4

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 6

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.

JAN 9

HUMAN
RELATIONS DAY

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

JAN 11

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.

JAN 13

KOREAN
AMERICAN DAY

Today is Korean American Day, a time to celebrate the history, contributions, and vibrant heritage of Korean Americans. As you mark this occasion, learn about the [Korean Ministry Plan](#), which strengthens Korean American congregations, equips leaders, and supports ministries that help Korean communities thrive within The United Methodist Church. Explore the resources and discover how this ministry is building connections across the Church.

[DOWNLOAD HUMAN RELATIONS DAY RESOURCES](#)

CHURCHWIDE SPECIAL SUNDAYS

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

Sunday before the
observance of Martin Luther
King Jr. Day

JAN 17, 2027; JAN 16, 2028

UMCOR SUNDAY

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

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

Any Sunday in May

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

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

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

First Sunday after
Pentecost
MAY 23, 2027; JUN 11, 2028

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

First Sunday in October
OCT 3, 2027; OCT 1, 2028

AWARENESS SPECIAL SUNDAYS

SCOUTING SUNDAY

First Sunday in February
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 30, 2027; MAY 28, 2028

LAITY SUNDAY

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

ORGAN & TISSUE DONOR SUNDAY

Second Sunday in
November
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