SPECIAL SUNDAY

## Peace with Justice



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors. The people of The United Methodist Church $^\circ$ 

hen you support Peace with Justice Sunday, your gift becomes a voice for advocacy around the world. Together we strengthen God's family with ministries that challenge structures of inequality and empower people and communities through systemic change.

For example, in Washington, DC, Peace with Justice funds, through the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference, support Hughes Memorial United Methodist Church's Community Anti-violence Project (C.A.P.).

To help address a long litany of violence in the community, Hughes UMC joined with Howard University School of Law to begin an after-school program to help at-risk children and youth who live in the community surrounding the church.

The District of Columbia Public School system "has historically been defined by sometimes stark racial and class divides. Poverty, food insecurity, housing insecurity and rampant violence are just some of the factors that negatively impact the academic performance of the children who live near Hughes Memorial UMC," the Rev. Paul Johnson said. "It is unfair and unrealistic to expect impoverished children who are hungry, cold and scared to excel in school."

The after-school program seeks to help the children who live near the church to dream big dreams and to achieve their dreams by preparing them holistically—physically, mentally, emotionally and intellectually.

Students participating in the Community Anti-violence Project have shown improved reading scores and other advancements. But Johnson is also convinced that "in our community there is no peace because there is no justice, and there is no justice because there is no peace." C.A.P. is committed to peace with justice.

Peace with Justice is a faithful expression of shalom in the Bible. It calls the church to strengthen its capacity to advocate publicly in communities and nations throughout the world. The offering is administered by the General Board of Church and Society and benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conferences and around the world.

Please give online at UMC.org/SSGive or mail checks to Peace with Justice Sunday, GCFA, P.O. Box 340029, Nashville, TN 37203. Checks can also be directed to your local church. Be sure to write "PWJS" in the memo line.

