



**SPECIAL
SUNDAY**

Native American Ministries



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Native American Ministries

***“You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.”***

—PSALM 30:11, NRSV

These testimonies reflect how our special Sunday offering partners with Native American ministries to repair past harm, support programs and celebrate transformational ministries.

“In order for the church as a whole to meet and understand the challenges of Native people, there must be an awareness and dialogue of past atrocities.”

— REV. DONNA PEWO, DIRECTOR OF CONNECTIONAL MINISTRIES, UNITED METHODIST OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

“This part of history did happen, and . . . there are people that feel invisible, and how do we see them?”

— REV. CHAD JOHNSON, PASTOR, FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH JACKSBORO IN NORTH TEXAS

Native Americans have a history with Methodism that spans more than 180 years. They have persevered in the faith through the ordeal of being removed from their homelands, contending with racism, and dealing with the challenges of unemployment and economic adversity. They are still working for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

— REV. DAVID WILSON, ASSISTANT TO THE BISHOP, UNITED METHODIST OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE (PARAPHRASE)

Each tribe has its own creation story, and each is valid. Colonialism was supported by a white European interpretation of Genesis, emphasizing rights over responsibility for creation.

— DR. HEATHER AHTONE, SENIOR CURATOR, FIRST AMERICANS MUSEUM (PARAPHRASE)

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On Native American Ministries Sunday, we partner with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support United Methodist ministries of Native Americans.

One of denomination's six special offerings, Native American Ministries Sunday equips and empowers Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus. Half of our gifts stay with local ministries in this annual conference and half support the work of Native American United Methodist ministries nationally.

The United Methodist Church, the world and our communities are in a time of transition. Together, God's church is partnering to repair past harm, support programs and celebrate Native American ministries.

Now, perhaps more than ever, United Methodists are called to extend healing and hope that can guide us to transformational ministries. Through our gifts and support, we partner with God and God's creation to strengthen Christ's loving presence in a hurting world.

United Methodist Special Sunday celebrations invest in transforming communities, empowering leaders and building up ministries of peace with justice. Concentrating our resources to support shared ministries equips us to step into a grace-filled new beginning with faithful determination.

Please be part of reparation and celebration through your support of Native American Ministries Sunday.

HOW TO GIVE:

Write a check to your local church with "NAMS" in the memo line.

To give online or set up monthly giving, go to [UMC.org/SSGive](https://www.UMC.org/SSGive).



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