

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

--- Isaiah 49:6



**JANUARY 15, 2023** 

## RESTORING COMMUNITY



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



## HUMAN RELATIONS DAY: RESTORING COMMUNITY



n Human Relations Day, we join with other UMC congregations in a special offering to support neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, United Methodist Voluntary Services and Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. Our gifts work together to build community and share God's love. The Human Relations Day offering supports programs like the South Los Angeles Mission Centers which recently launched a Community Computer Lab at Saint Mark UMC, Los Angeles.

The Community Computer Lab provides space for distance learning, internet access, senior assistance, resume building, employment application, government/public benefits, school assignments, copying, faxing, scanning, housing searches and medical care needs.

Volunteers offer a welcoming, clean, peaceful environment for all who enter, and even for those whom it is hard to enter. For example,

a senior visited the community computer lab in need of photocopies. When she arrived at the site she phoned to ask if someone could come out to her car, get the document, and make five copies. After all was done, she suggested the lab could offer a Curbside Copying service.

In a neighborhood with limited economic resources, the community computer lab is providing a space for people of all ages to access technological tools while creating a sense of community and hospitality. Program leadership is thankful for how God

is working through them to provide services and remove obstacles for the community to thrive.

We know how systemic inequality affects the most vulnerable people. As a denomination, our gifts on Human Relations Day work together to empower faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens.

## **HOW TO GIVE:**

Give through your local church or donate online at **UMC.org/SSGive**. Make checks payable to your local church and write "Human Relations Day offering" in the memo line.

