

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY

# HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

## OFFERING TALK



This offering talk is part of the Human Relations Day pastor and leader kit and connects with the theme “Listening Hearts: Responding to the Prophetic Call.” It can be adapted for your context and integrated into your worship service with the other material in the kit. It is based on the lectionary reading for January 14, 2024: 1 SAMUEL 3:1-10, (11-20).

Today we respond to the invitation to participate in the Human Relations Day offering – an opportunity to stand with other United Methodist churches to build the beloved community envisioned by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. This denomination-wide Special Sunday is designed to strengthen human relationships and community outreach.

Samuel’s story reminds us of the importance of being attentive to God’s call. Today, as we navigate the world’s complexities, we are invited to listen not only with our ears but also with our hearts. By participating in the Human Relations Day offering, we embrace the power of relationships, the strength of community and the good news that all of God’s children are of sacred value.

Of the funds received, fifty-seven percent supports Community Developers programs, thirty-three percent supports The United Methodist Voluntary Services (UMVS) and ten percent supports Youth Offender Rehabilitation Programs. The bulletin insert offers more specifics about these programs.

In a world that often feels uncertain, embracing God’s love shifts our perspective. Supporting the Human Relations Day offering channels our resources into servant leadership, community building and ministries that embody peace with justice.

Please give generously to this Special Sunday by writing a check to this church and designating “Human Relations Day offering” in the memo line. Or visit [UMC.org/SSGive](https://www.UMC.org/SSGive) to give online or set up monthly giving for sustained impact.

### OFFERING PRAYER

In the midst of chaos, help us to be still and listen to you through the beauty of relationships and the strength of community. As we pause to offer our gifts on this Human Relations Day, empower us to respond to your prophetic call with compassion and love. With grateful hearts, we present this offering, trusting that it will transform into your vision of unity and understanding throughout your beloved community.



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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