

SPECIAL  
SUNDAY

# WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

## Sustained by Love: Reflecting Glorious Being

*“He is the reflection of God’s glory  
and the exact imprint of God’s  
very being, and he sustains all  
things by his powerful word.”*

—HEBREWS 1:3, NRSVUE



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**

# WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sustained by Love: Reflecting Glorious Being



The Rev. Claudine Leary was one of a few children in her Rwandan village to attend primary school through high school. But the year she entered Rwanda National University, civil war engulfed the country and a time of horrific genocide ensued. Leary survived by fleeing the country and residing in different refugee camps for years. There was no opportunity to complete her education in the camps, but she found a way.



The Rev. Claudine Leary (wearing white T-shirt) with youth at a refugee camp where her nonprofit, Watoto Reads, built a new school. (Photo: Courtesy Claudine Leary)

Claudine is one of the average 50 scholars who receive United Methodist scholarships for higher education through the World Communion Sunday offering each year. The lives these scholarships impact and the dreams and aspirations they fulfill are not just those of the scholars but of the many people reached by them as they complete their studies and develop ways to fulfill God's calling in their lives.

Jesuits Refugee Services sponsored her first year of undergraduate studies at Africa University in Zimbabwe and she then received additional scholarships from The UMC to complete her degree. From there, she was able to secure a visa to the U.S., completed her MBA and later received a scholarship to study at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, earning her master of divinity, and is ordained as an elder in the West Ohio Conference.

Today, Leary serves as the director of development at Methodist Theological School in Ohio and is also involved with a nonprofit she cofounded to resource and advocate for the education of children living in refugee camps in sub-Saharan Africa.

Your gifts on World Communion Sunday benefit World Communion scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students from the U.S. and other countries and provide grants to support training for worldwide inclusion, diversity, equity and access. These funds are administered by the United Methodist general boards of Global Ministries and Higher Education to equip gifted, qualified students from around the globe to become the world changers God created them to be.

## HOW TO GIVE:

Write a check to your local church and write "World Communion Sunday" 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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