

**SPECIAL
SUNDAY**



2022 - 2023 SPECIAL SUNDAYS PLANNING CALENDAR



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



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

2023 Planning Calendar

SPECIAL SUNDAY

Have you ever wondered how to integrate the United Methodist Special Sunday offerings into the rhythm of your congregational planning?

Each year the denomination sets aside six Sundays as part of the liturgical year to support and celebrate the work of the local, national, and global church. Taking the time to educate and prepare your congregation to give generously allows them to participate more fully in the United Methodist connection. These Special Sundays empower them to have a greater impact through shared ministries than they can as a single congregation.

This planning calendar outlines a strategy that you can adapt for your context in 2023. From small groups to social media to sermon and other worship planning, this tool provides guidance to coordinate a successful campaign.

You have been called on to lead in new ways through these unprecedented times. The planning calendar is designed to clarify and simplify tasks, opportunities, publicity, and celebrations for each Special Sunday. We are in prayer with you as you mobilize your community to learn, serve, and give generously.

JAN

FEB

SUNDAY

DEC 2022

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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Make sure your Special Sunday envelopes and Human Relations Day pew cards are ordered! Call 1-800-991-6011 or click here to order online.

DID YOU KNOW?

We offer Human Relations Day worship resources, age-level discussion questions, music, videos, and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/HRD.

JAN 2023

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2 0 2 2 WEEK 5

12/26
HRD

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise Human Relations Day. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/HRD.

12/28
HRD

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos and prewritten communication emails. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize church messaging.

12/30
HRD

Send out an email, write a letter, or make a call to members of your congregation to announce the upcoming Special Sunday. Post once a week on social channels.

33% of your gifts on Human Relations Day Sunday help support United Methodist Voluntary programs. One of these programs is the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. This network offers guidance, organization and training for more than 125,000 volunteers annually. Connect with your conference office for volunteer opportunities or visit [UMVIM](https://UMVIM.org).

DID YOU KNOW?

WEEK 1

1/1
HRD

Announce the Special Sunday during worship and use the social media graphics. Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include them in your visitor or new-member packets.

DID YOU KNOW?

The UMC denomination supports the largest number of HBCUs. Encourage your church to support the Black College Fund and Africa University through apportionments.

JAN 2023

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MORE IDEAS



Use the **Did You Know questions and answers** about Human Relations Day to educate your congregation. Post one question and answer a day leading up to the Special Sunday celebration on January 15. Show the video during gatherings or print and share the bulletin to explore the questions and answers.

WEEK 1

1/4
HRD

Send an email, write a letter, or make team calls to your congregation to remind them about this Special Sunday celebration! Share an [impact article](#) to raise awareness on how your church is changing the world!

Make your youth team aware of the youth resource guide, mobile wallpapers, social media graphics, videos and devotional podcast.

WEEK 2

1/9
HRD

Download the offering talk and liturgy, and print the bulletin insert or cover for worship. Include your children in the Special Sunday by using the children's message and bulletin.

1/11
HRD

Post several times on social media and include the [Human Relations Day Give Now](#) or [Did You Know ads](#) in newsletters or on your website. Send one more email to your congregation. Include a donation link if they will not be able to attend a service.

WEEK 3

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY

1/15
HRD

CELEBRATE Human Relations Day! Set aside time to announce to your congregation the donation amount collected. Thank them for giving toward this ministry. This is a time to concentrate on how generosity is impacting and changing lives.

JAN 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

We offer UMCOR Sunday worship resources, age-level discussion questions, music, videos, and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/UMCOR.

FEB 2023

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WEEK 5

1/30 UMCOR

It's time to order your [Special Sunday envelopes](#) and your [UMCOR Sunday pew cards](#)! Call 1-800-991-6011 or [click here to order online](#). Download the UMCOR Sunday poster and place in high-traffic areas.

WEEK 2

2/10 UMCOR

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos and prewritten communication emails. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize the messaging.

WEEK 3

2/15 UMCOR

Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include these resources in your visitor or new-member packets.

2/17 UMCOR

Encourage your team to learn about UMCOR Sunday. Consider watching one video a week together and answering questions that might arise. This will help them promote and discuss the Special Sunday in your church and community.

Send out an email, write a letter, or make a call to members of your congregation to announce the upcoming Special Sunday.

FEB 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

March is National Disabilities Awareness Month. Do you ask those with disabilities to be involved in worship and other aspects of church life? Disability Awareness Sunday calls United Methodists to celebrate the gifts and graces of people with disabilities and to include them fully in the congregation and the community. [Download this pew card](#) and post to raise awareness in your church.

MAR 2023

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WEEK 4

2/22 UMCOR

Consider hosting an event for small-group leaders to inform them further about this Special Sunday. Make sure they are aware of the youth resource guide, videos, discussion questions, and worship playlist so they can use them in their groups.

Print some of your favorite social graphics and post them around the church in high-traffic areas. Make sure the worship leader is aware of all the worship resources to incorporate into the service.

WEEK 5

Your generosity on UMCOR Sunday underwrites the “costs of doing business,” allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift to a specific UMCOR project will go toward that project, not administrative costs.

DID YOU KNOW?

2/28 UMCOR

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise the Special Sunday. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/UMCOR.

WEEK 2

3/5 UMCOR

Make an announcement before worship and use social graphics during worship. Begin posting a social media image once a day to make sure everyone knows the celebration is coming.

MAR 2023

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WEEK 2

3/8 UMCOR

Begin posting some social media images or [UMCOR Sunday Did You Know facts](#) on all social feeds two or three times per week. If you don't have social media accounts, include the graphics or content in your newsletter or weekly worship bulletins. Don't forget to use the prewritten emails created just for you!

3/10 UMCOR

Distribute the children's message, activities, and bulletins to your children's teaching team. Encourage them to use them in class or during worship.

WEEK 3

3/12 UMCOR

Announce the Special Sunday during worship again. Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Share how and why we support this Special Sunday from the pew card to gain interest and understanding.

3/13 UMCOR

Send an email, write a letter, or make team calls to your congregation to remind them about this Special Sunday celebration! Share an impact article to raise awareness on how your church is changing the world!

Make your youth team aware of the youth resource guide, mobile wallpapers, social media graphics, videos and devotional podcast.

DID YOU KNOW?

March is Women's History Month. Celebrate the women in your congregation by recognizing the achievements and ministry they provide within and beyond the local church. In The United Methodist Church, we celebrate five Special Sundays that do not include a special offering. One of those Special Sundays is Women's Ministry Sunday. On this Special Sunday, we celebrate women's history, ministry and contributions. [Download this pew card](#) and share to raise awareness.

DID YOU KNOW?

When a natural or human-caused disaster strikes inside or outside the U.S., your gift helps UMCOR stay until recovery is complete, which establishes hope. UMCOR works with local Annual Conference disaster response ministries to provide financial and physical support.

MAR 2023

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MORE IDEAS



Learn more about the new [Special Sunday envelope and pew cards here](#). A How-to Guide and FAQ have been created to answer all of your questions.

WEEK 3

3/15
UMCOR

Post several times on social media and include the [UMCOR Sunday Give Now or Learn More ads](#) in newsletters or on your website. Send one more email to your congregation. Include a donation link if they will not be able to attend a service.

3/16
UMCOR

Download the offering talk and liturgy and print the bulletin insert or cover for worship. Include your children in the Special Sunday by using the children's message and bulletin.

WEEK 4

UMCOR SUNDAY

3/19
UMCOR

CELEBRATE UMCOR Sunday! Set aside time to announce to your congregation the donation amount collected. Thank them for giving toward this ministry. This is a time to concentrate on how generosity is impacting and changing lives.

WEEK 5

3/27
NAMS

Order your [Special Sunday envelopes](#) and [NAMS Sunday pew cards](#)! Call 1-800-991-6011 or [click here to order online](#). Download the Native American Ministries poster and place in high-traffic areas.

MAR 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

We offer Native American Ministries Sunday worship resources, age-level material and activities, adult discussion questions, music, videos and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/NAMS.

APR 2023

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WEEK 5

3/29 NAMS

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos, and prewritten communication emails. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize the messaging.

WEEK 2

4/2 NAMS

Make an announcement before worship and use social graphics during worship to make sure everyone knows the celebration is coming.

4/3 NAMS

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise the Special Sunday. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/NAMS.

4/5 NAMS

Encourage your team to learn about Native American Ministries Sunday. Consider watching one video a week together and answering questions that might arise. This will help them promote and discuss the Special Sunday in your church and community.

Send out an email, write a letter or make a call to members of your congregation to announce the upcoming Special Sunday.

Half of the donations collected on Native American Ministries Sunday remain within the Annual Conference to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in your conference.

DID YOU KNOW?

MORE IDEAS 

Reach out to your conference Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM) to engage in local efforts. This is an opportunity to engage in mission outside the church walls. The Committee has developed a long-range Strategic Plan to offer Native American people a vision. Invite a CONAM member to speak at your church to understand the local ministries.

APR 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

You can find impact stories for each of the Special Sundays and apportionment funds to share with your church! Share a story of unmeasurable impact today.

WEEK 2

4/6 NAMS

Distribute the children’s message, activities, and bulletins to your children’s teaching team. Encourage them to use them in class or during worship.

4/7 NAMS

Consider hosting an event for small-group leaders to inform them further about this Special Sunday. Make sure they are aware of the youth resource guide, videos, discussion questions and worship playlist so they can use them in their groups.

Print some of your favorite social graphics and post them around the church in high-traffic areas. Make sure the worship leader is aware of all the worship resources to incorporate into the service.

WEEK 3

4/10 NAMS

Begin posting some social media images or Native American Ministries Sunday [Did You Know facts](#) on all social feeds two or three times per week. If you don’t have social media accounts, include the graphics or content in your newsletter or weekly worship bulletins. Don’t forget to use the prewritten emails created just for you!

DID YOU KNOW?

Mission Moments and More is a weekly devotion that provides a moment for mission, offertory prayer and bite-sized newsletter copy to be inserted in your church newsletter or bulletin.

[Explore today!](#)

APR 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

April is National Volunteer Month. In a typical year, more than 125,000 volunteers offer their skills for short-term missions locally, nationally and globally. Consider recognizing your volunteers this month. On Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday, we celebrate those who serve in short-term missions throughout the world. [Download this pew card](#) and post to raise awareness in your church.

WEEK 3

4/13 NAMS

Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include these resources in your visitor or new-member packets.

WEEK 4

4/16 NAMS

Announce the Special Sunday during worship again. Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Share how and why we support this Special Sunday from the pew card to gain interest and understanding.

4/18 NAMS

Send an email, write a letter, or make team calls to your congregation to remind them about this Special Sunday celebration! Share an [impact article](#) to raise awareness on how your church is affecting the community and the world.

Make your youth team aware of the youth resource guide, mobile wallpapers, social media graphics, videos and devotional podcast.

With more than 20,000 Native Americans within the denomination, this Special Sunday helps to ensure that Native American United Methodist leaders are valued. The United Methodist Church recognizes the need to equip and empower Native American pastors, congregations and seminary students to do what only they can do: authentically worship and serve Jesus.

DID YOU KNOW?

APR 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

We offer Peace with Justice Sunday worship resources, age-level material and activities, adult discussion questions, music, videos and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/PWJS.

MAY 2023

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WEEK 4

4/20 NAMS

Download the offering talk and liturgy and print the bulletin insert or cover for worship. Include your children in the Special Sunday by using the children’s message and bulletin.

Send one more email to your congregation announcing the celebration. Include a donation link if they will not be able to attend a service.

WEEK 5

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

4/23 NAMS

CELEBRATE Native American Ministries Sunday! Set aside time to announce to your congregation the donation amount collected. Thank them for giving toward this ministry. This is a time to concentrate on how generosity is impacting and changing lives.

WEEK 1

5/1 PWJS

Order your [Special Sunday envelopes](#) and [Peace with Justice Sunday pew cards](#)! Call 1-800-991-6011 or [click here to order online](#). Download the Peace with Justice Sunday poster and place in high-traffic areas.

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise the Special Sunday. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/PWJS.

DID YOU KNOW?

We offer Peace with Justice Sunday worship resources, age-level discussion questions, music, videos, and social content. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/PWJS.

MAY 2023

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MORE IDEAS



Incorporate the [Faith & Fact Cards](#) into your promotion plan. Designed by Church and Society, the cards build awareness by providing facts on issues and then action steps to address the issue. Make sure your adults, children and youth leaders know about these and have access to the resources.

WEEK 1

5/4 PWJS

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos and prewritten communication emails. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize the messaging. Don't forget to use the prewritten emails created just for you!

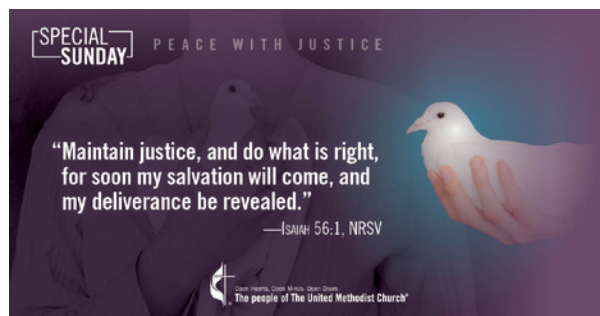
Encourage your team to learn about Peace with Justice Sunday. Consider watching one video a week together. This will help them promote and discuss the Special Sunday in your church and community.

5/5 PWJS

Send out an email, write a letter, or make a call to members of your congregation to announce the upcoming Special Sunday.

Heritage Sunday is May 28. This day provides an opportunity for reflection on heritage, celebration of where the Church has been, how it understands itself as it shapes us today, and the meaning of Christian conferencing. Heritage Sunday calls the Church to remember the past by committing itself to the continuing call of God. [Download this pew card](#) to raise awareness in your church or visit [General Commission on Archives and History](#) for more history about the United Methodist Church.

DID YOU KNOW?



DID YOU KNOW?

Learn more about the Special Sundays envelope and pew cards [here](#). A How-to Guide and FAQ have been created to answer all of your questions.

MAY 2023

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MORE IDEAS

Reach out to your conference Peace with Justice Coordinator to learn more about the peace-building efforts, grants and programs in your conference. This is an opportunity to engage in mission outside the church walls. Your Peace with Justice Coordinator can offer ideas on how your church and community can participate and increase awareness of peaceful efforts.

WEEK 2



5/7 PWJS

Make an announcement before worship and use social graphics during worship. Begin posting a social media image once a day to make sure everyone knows the celebration is coming.

5/9 PWJS

Begin posting some social media images or Peace with Justice Sunday Did You Know facts on all social feeds two or three times per week. If you don't have social media accounts, include the graphics or content in your newsletter or weekly worship bulletins.

5/11 PWJS

Distribute the children's message, activities, and bulletins to your children's teaching team. Encourage them to use them in class or during worship.

Half of the Peace with Justice Sunday collections remain in the local Annual Conferences to create, educate, and support peace-related ministries and efforts within the conference. Most United Methodist Annual Conferences have a Peace with Justice Coordinator. Reach out to your conference office to find opportunities for your congregation.

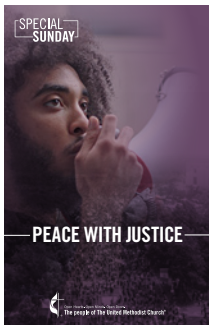
DID YOU KNOW?

DID YOU KNOW?

You can find impact stories for each of the Special Sundays and apportionment funds to share with your church! Share a story of unmeasurable impact today.

MAY 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

Mission Moments and More is a weekly devotion that provides a moment for mission, offertory prayer, and bite-sized newsletter copy to be inserted in your church newsletter or bulletin. **Explore today!**

WEEK 3

5/15
PWJS

Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include these resources in your visitor or new-member packets.

5/17
PWJS

Consider hosting an event for small-group leaders to inform them further about this Special Sunday. Make sure they are aware of the youth resource guide, videos, discussion questions, reading list, or worship playlist to use in their groups.

Print some of your favorite social graphics and post them around the church in high-traffic areas. Make sure the worship leader is aware of all the worship resources to incorporate into the service.

WEEK 4

5/21
PWJS

Announce the Special Sunday during worship again. Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Share the how and why we support this Special Sunday from the pew card to gain interest and understanding.

*In The United Methodist Church, we celebrate five Special Sundays that do not include a special offering. One of those Special Sundays is Men's Ministry Sunday. As many celebrate the father figures in our lives this month, consider recognizing men's ministry within and beyond the local church. On this Special Sunday, we encourage and invite men to join for fellowship, nurture, spiritual development, witness and outreach. **Download this pew card** and share to raise awareness.*

DID YOU KNOW?

DID YOU KNOW?

We offer Peace with Justice Sunday worship resources, age-level material and activities, adult discussion questions, music, videos and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/PWJS.

MAY 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

Mission Moments and More is a weekly devotion that provides a moment for mission, offertory prayer, and bite-sized newsletter copy to be inserted in your church newsletter or bulletin. [Explore today!](#)

WEEK 4

5/22
PWJS

Send an email, write a letter, or make team calls to your congregation to remind them about this Special Sunday celebration! Share an impact article to raise awareness on how your church is changing the world!

Make your youth team aware of the youth resource guide, mobile wallpapers, social media graphics, videos and devotional podcast.

5/25
PWJS

Download the offering talk and liturgy and print the bulletin insert or cover for worship. Include your children in the Special Sunday by using the children's message and bulletin.

Special Sunday resources are available in multiple languages. Liturgies, bulletins, offering talks, sermon starters and social graphics are available in English, Korean and Spanish. Some Special Sundays also offer French. Did You Know bulletin inserts are available in English, French, Korean, Portuguese and Spanish.

DID YOU KNOW?

WEEK 5

HERITAGE SUNDAY

5/28

CELEBRATE Heritage Sunday today!

This Special Sunday does not collect offerings. This Sunday is one of five Awareness Special Sundays we recognize and celebrate specific local ministries.

MAY 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

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.

JUN 2023

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WEEK 5

5/29
PWJS

Post several times on social media and include the [Peace with Justice Sunday Give Now or Learn More ads](#) promoting Peace with Justice. Include them in newsletters and on your website. Send one more email to your congregation. Include a donation link if they will not be able to attend a service.

WEEK 2

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

6/4
PWJS

CELEBRATE Peace with Justice Sunday! Set aside time to announce to your congregation the donation amount collected. Thank them for giving toward this ministry. This is a time to concentrate on how generosity impacts and changes lives.

Peace with Justice Sunday offerings support grants for social justice programs and education. Your generosity allows The General Board of Church and Society to award three different grants available to United Methodist congregations and organizations. The grants support Ethnic and Minority Local Church ministries and programs. It also provides Church and Society the ability to connect with conferences, agencies and other networks to educate, equip, and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities.

DID YOU KNOW?

JUL 2023

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During the summer months, nurture the spirit of generosity in your congregation using these tools, kits and resources.

GENEROSITY KITS

MORE THAN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS

Spark new initiatives that reflect gratitude and generosity with this kit. Learn how together we are more than just the sum of our parts. [Explore the kit.](#)

SELAH GENEROSITY KIT

Explore how to PAUSE and REFLECT on God’s presence and the connection we share in The United Methodist Church. [Explore the kit.](#)

RESOURCES TOOLS

DID YOU KNOW MATERIAL

Increase your understanding about The United Methodist Connectional System. Find out why and how we achieve specific ministries. [Explore the material.](#)

GIVING NOTES NEWSLETTER

Get generosity tips, tools, and resources to help you share the connectional ministry of the UMC. Bi-monthly you will receive articles for authentic generous living and resources that explore generosity. [Subscribe now.](#)

IMPACT ARTICLES

Behind each ministry is a story of hope and restoration and the unmeasurable impact of generosity. From local churches to general agencies, impact articles are stories of how we are living into the ministries we support. [Read the stories.](#)

MISSION MOMENTS AND MORE

A weekly devotion that covers every Sunday of the year. Use this to introduce your congregation to giving opportunities. Includes a mission moment, prayer, newsletter copy and scripture. [Explore the material.](#)

AUG 2023

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AUG 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

We offer World Communion Sunday worship resources, age-level material and activities, adult discussion questions, music, videos and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/WCS.

SEP 2023

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WEEK 5

8/28
WCS

Order your [Special Sunday envelopes](#) and your [World Communion Sunday pew cards](#)! Call 1-800-991-6011 or [click here to order online](#). Download your World Communion Sunday posters and hang them in high-traffic areas.

WEEK 1

9/1
WCS

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise the Special Sunday. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/WCS.

WEEK 2

9/4
WCS

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos and prewritten communication emails. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize the messaging.

9/6
WCS

Encourage your team to learn about World Communion Sunday. Consider watching one video a week together and answering questions that might arise. This will help them promote and discuss the Special Sunday in your church and community.

Send out an email, write a letter, or make a call to members of your congregation to announce the upcoming Special Sunday.

DID YOU KNOW?

Half of the donations collected on World Communion Sunday provide scholarships for racial and ethnic students.

SEP 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

September is Environment Awareness Month. This month we globally recognize the need to protect and conserve the natural environment. United Methodists support this call to action in our celebration of Rural Life Sunday. On a date set by each Annual Conference, we celebrate people and communities who work with and on the land as well as the ongoing crisis occurring in rural areas. An offering is collected that strengthens the nurture, outreach, and witness of congregations in towns and rural areas. [Download this pew card](#) and share to raise awareness.

WEEK 2

9/8
WCS

Begin posting some social media images or World Communion Sunday [Did You Know facts](#) on all social feeds two or three times per week. If you don't have social media accounts, include the graphics or content in your newsletter or weekly worship bulletins. Don't forget to use the prewritten emails!

WEEK 3

9/10
WCS

Make an announcement before worship and use social graphics during worship. Begin posting a social media image once a day to make sure everyone knows the celebration is coming.

9/11
WCS

Distribute the children's message, activities, and bulletins to your children's teaching team. Encourage them to use them in class or during worship.

9/13
WCS

Consider hosting an event for small-group leaders to inform them further about this Special Sunday. Make sure they are aware of the youth resource guide, videos, discussion questions, reading list, or worship playlist to use in their groups.

Print some of your favorite social graphics and post them around the church in high-traffic areas. Make sure the worship leader is aware of all the worship resources to incorporate into the service.

SEP 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

In every United Methodist Annual Conference, health and welfare ministries are hard at work every day, bringing hope and healing. We recognize the need to provide financial support to care for sick persons, older persons, children and youth, and people with disabilities. The Golden Cross Sunday offering assists ministries with older adults, children, and families, as well as hospital pastoral care. Are you aware of the local health and welfare agencies in your community? Find out about the Golden Cross ministries in your conference. [Download this pew card](#) and share to raise awareness.

WEEK 3

9/15
WCS

Send an email, write a letter, or make team calls to your congregation to remind them about this Special Sunday celebration. Share an [impact article](#) to raise awareness on how your church is changing the world!

Make your youth team aware of the youth resource guide, mobile wallpapers, social media graphics, videos and devotional podcast.

World Communion Sunday offerings support racial and ethnic students both locally and globally. Your generosity provides scholarships, grants, mentoring, and training for leadership development. The needs exceed what we can fund, and your gifts can further growth and success. With your generosity, we can invest in talented, qualified students to transform the world as witnesses for Christ!

DID YOU KNOW?

WEEK 4

9/18
WCS

Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include these resources in your visitor or new-member packets.

9/20
WCS

Post several times on social media and include the [World Communion Sunday Give Now or Learn More ads](#) in newsletters or on your website. Send one more email to your congregation. Include a donation link if they will not be able to attend a service.

SEP 2023

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MORE IDEAS



Need ideas to show appreciation for your pastor? Here are over 10 ways to appreciate your pastor this month. [Read the article.](#)

Consider inviting a World Communion scholarship recipient to speak during worship. Find out about scholarships here.

OCT 2023

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WEEK 5

9/24
WCS

Announce the Special Sunday during worship again. Share the how and why we support this Special Sunday from the pew card to gain interest.

Download the offering talk and liturgy and print the bulletin insert or cover for worship. Include your children in the Special Sunday by using the children's message and bulletin.

On World Communion Sunday, United Methodists, in union with other believers and denominations worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ. This universal connection is the foundation for the offering.

DID YOU
KNOW?

WEEK 1

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

10/1
WCS

CELEBRATE World Communion Sunday!

Set aside time to announce to your congregation the donation amount collected. Thank them for giving toward this ministry. This is a time to concentrate on how generosity is impacting and changing lives.

Laitry Sunday is October 15. Methodism, in all its roots, has a long history celebrating and recognizing the ministry of the laity. In the early years, laity served and maintained congregations between visits of the circuit riders. This Special Sunday is a time to recognize the work and mission of all laity — not only within the walls of the church but in everyday lives. To raise awareness in your church, [download this pew card](#) or visit [Discipleship Ministries](#) for more about this Special Sunday.

DID YOU
KNOW?

OCT2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

October is clergy appreciation month. United Methodists invest in the vital development of our pastoral leadership. The Ministerial Education Fund equips our Annual Conferences with local pastor courses of study, continuing education, and many other efforts to recruit, educate, and support people called to ordained and licensed ministry. Local churches are encouraged to nurture candidates for licensed or ordained ministry. Your church apportionment funds support the education of effective pastoral leadership. **Download this pew card** and share with your congregation to raise awareness.

WEEK 2

10/11
UMSD

Order your Special Sunday envelopes and United Methodist Student Day pew cards! Call 1-800-991-6011 or click here to order online. Download the United Methodist Student Day poster and place in high-traffic areas.

WEEK 3

LAITY SUNDAY

10/15

CELEBRATE Laity Sunday today!

This Special Sunday does not collect offerings. This Sunday is one of five Awareness Special Sundays we recognize and celebrate specific local ministries.

10/18
UMSD

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos and prewritten communication emails for United Methodist Student Day. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize the messaging. Consider students who are approaching graduation and how to include them.

Encourage your team to learn about United Methodist Student Day. Consider watching one video a week together and answering questions that might arise. This will help them promote and discuss this Special Sunday in your church and community.

Send out an email, write a letter, or make a call to members of your congregation to announce the upcoming Special Sunday.

NOV2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

United Methodist Student Day was the original Special Sunday. Dating back to 1872, this fund was the first collection taken in United Methodist Church Sunday school classes to advance the education of their children. The United Methodist Church recognizes educating their children was and still is today a strong investment in the future of the church. The special Sunday was established as a Children's Fund and in 1940 was renamed as Student Day. Initially this Sunday was observed in June, but since 1968 it is celebrated on the last Sunday in November.

WEEK 1

11/1 UMSD

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise the Special Sunday. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/UMSD.

11/2 UMSD

Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include these resources in your visitor or new-member packets.

WEEK 2

11/5 UMSD

Make an announcement before worship and use social graphics during worship. Begin posting a social media image once a day to make sure everyone knows the celebration is coming.

11/8 UMSD

Begin posting some social media images or United Methodist Student Day Did You Know facts on all social feeds two or three times per week. If you don't have social media accounts, include the graphics or content in your newsletter or weekly worship bulletins. Don't forget to use the prewritten emails!

Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday is November 12. United Methodists believe that organ donation and organ transplantation are acts of charity, agape, love and self-sacrifice. We recognize the life-giving benefits of organ and tissue donation and encourage all congregations to support this Special Sunday. We celebrate this Sunday in the month that celebrates life and gratitude. Consider this life-saving ministry and [download this pew card](#) to raise awareness in your church.

DID YOU KNOW?

DID YOU KNOW?

November is Native American Heritage Month. Consider using resources from the Native American Ministries pastor and leader kit to celebrate the rich and diverse culture, traditions, and history of Native people. Use prayers, liturgies, or social graphics in worship or classes. ResourceUMC.org/NAMS

NOV 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

We offer United Methodist Student Day worship resources, age-level material and activities, adult discussion questions, music, videos, and social content. All resources are easy to use including a How-to Guide with suggestions on how to use the material. Visit our website ResourceUMC.org/UMSD.

WEEK 2

11/10
UMSD

Distribute the children’s message, activities, and bulletins to your children’s teaching team. Encourage them to use them in class or during worship.

Send an email, write a letter, or make team calls to your congregation to remind them about this Special Sunday celebration. Share an impact article to raise awareness on how your church is changing the world!

Make your youth team aware of the youth resource guide, mobile wallpapers, social media graphics, videos and devotional podcast.



WEEK 3

ORGAN & TISSUE DONOR SUNDAY

11/12

CELEBRATE Organ and Tissue Donor Sunday! This Sunday is one of five Awareness Special Sundays on which we recognize and celebrate specific local ministries and does not collect a special offering.

NOV2023

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WEEK 3

11/15 UMSD

Consider hosting an event for small-group leaders to inform them further about this Special Sunday. Make sure they are aware of the youth resource guide, videos, discussion questions, reading list or worship playlist to use in their groups.

Print some of your favorite social graphics and post them around the church in high-traffic areas. Make sure the worship leader is aware of all the worship resources to incorporate into the service

WEEK 4

11/19 UMSD

Announce the Special Sunday during worship again. Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Share the how and why we support this Special Sunday from the pew card to gain interest and understanding.

11/20 UMSD

Post several times on social media and include the [United Methodist Student Day Give Now or Learn More ads](#) in newsletters or on your website. Send one more email to your congregation. Include a donation link if they will not be able to attend a service.



United Methodists recognize the life-giving benefits of organ and tissue donation and encourage all to become donors. For some, a transplant is often the only hope. A single donor can save the lives of up to eight people and enhance the lives of at least seventy-five others. Consider inviting someone who has experienced a transplant to speak during the service. You can also invite a professional to speak or visit organdonor.gov for information.

NOV2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

UM Student Day offering supports scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral UM students.



WEEK 4

11/22
UMSD

Download the offering talk and liturgy and print the bulletin insert or cover for worship. Include your children in the Special Sunday by using the children's message and bulletin.

Funds received from the United Methodist Student Day offering go into the UMC Student Loan Fund to underwrite scholarships for United Methodist students. Currently, there are over 70 scholarships available. Your contribution is an acknowledgment that the church has confidence in them and in their abilities. The needs exceed what we can fund, and your gifts can further growth and success. Consider providing specific scholarship links to your congregation. Remind them our students depend on their generosity.

DID YOU KNOW?

WEEK 5

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

11/26
UMSD

CELEBRATE United Methodist Student Day! Set aside time to announce to your congregation the donation amount collected. Thank them for giving toward this ministry. This is a time to concentrate on how generosity impacts and changes lives. Consider having a graduating student speak during worship.

DEC 2023

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DID YOU KNOW?

***Mission Moments and More** is a weekly devotion that provides a moment for mission, offertory prayer, and bite-sized newsletter copy to be inserted in your church newsletter or bulletin. Explore resources at ResourceUMC.org!*

JAN 2024

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WEEK 1

12/1
HRD

Order your [Special Sunday envelopes](#) and [Human Relations Day pew cards](#)! Call 1-800-991-6011 or [click here to order online](#). Download the Human Relations Day poster and place in high-traffic areas.

WEEK 2

12/6
HRD

Email your leadership team and be sure to include a link to the podcasts, videos and prewritten communication emails. Discuss with your team members ideas to personalize the messaging.

You can find impact stories for each of the Special Sundays and apportionment funds to share with your church. Share a story of unmeasurable impact today. UMC.org/YourImpact

DID YOU KNOW?

2 0 2 4

WEEK 1

1/2
HRD

Change your Facebook/Twitter cover images to advertise the Special Sunday. Select from the many social graphics available at ResourceUMC.org/HRD.

1/4
HRD

Make sure the pew cards are in the pew racks or in high-traffic areas. Include these resources in your visitor or new-member packets.

JAN 2024

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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DID YOU KNOW?

You can find impact stories for each of the Special Sundays and apportionment funds to share with your church! Share a story of unmeasurable impact today.

Explore resources at [UMC.org/YourImpact](https://www.UMC.org/YourImpact).

2 0 2 4

WEEK 1

1/5
HRD

Begin posting some social media images or Human Relations Day [Did You Know facts](#) on all social feeds two or three times per week. If you don't have social media accounts, include the graphics or content in your newsletter or weekly worship bulletins. Don't forget to use the prewritten emails created just for you!

WEEK 2

1/7
HRD

Make an announcement before worship and use social graphics during worship. Begin posting a social media image once a day to make sure everyone knows the celebration is coming next week!

Keep an eye out and share
the gift status with your
congregation here.

WE UPDATE IT EVERY MONTH!

You can find Impact Stories for
each of the SPECIAL SUNDAYS and
Apportionment Funds to share
with your church at

UMC.ORG/YOURIMPACT



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®