

# FROM YOUR CHURCH TO THE WORLD

THE WORLD SERVICE FUND IS THE PRIMARY AVENUE OF SUPPORT FOR THE GLOBAL MISSION AND MINISTRY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. WORLD SERVICE CONNECTS YOUR CHURCH TO A LONG LIST OF CHRISTIAN MISSION AND MINISTRY THROUGHOUT THE DENOMINATION IN THE WORK OF THE GENERAL CHURCH AGENCIES AND OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS.

IT IS THE HEART OF OUR DENOMINATIONAL PRESENCE, EXPRESSING IN THE FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS THE VISION AND YEARNINGS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. DURING THIS QUADRENNIUM, THE CHURCH SEEKS TO FOCUS THE WORK OF MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD AROUND THESE AREAS OF MINISTRY.

## Contact Information

To learn more about how the boards and agencies are expressing the vision of the people of The United Methodist Church through the World Service Fund, go online to:

- Connectional Table—[www.connectionaltable.umc.org](http://www.connectionaltable.umc.org)
- General Council on Finance and Administration—[www.gcfa.org](http://www.gcfa.org)
- General Board of Church and Society—[www.umbcs.org](http://www.umbcs.org)
- General Board of Discipleship—[www.gbod.org](http://www.gbod.org)
- General Board of Global Ministries—[www.gb-gm.org](http://www.gb-gm.org)
- General Board of Higher Education and Ministry—[www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org)
- General Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Concerns—[www.gccuic-umc.org](http://www.gccuic-umc.org)
- General Commission on Communication (United Methodist Communications)—[www.umcom.org](http://www.umcom.org)
- General Commission on Religion and Race—[www.gcorr.org](http://www.gcorr.org)
- General Commission on the Status and Role of Women—[www.gcsrw.org](http://www.gcsrw.org)
- General Commission on United Methodist Men—[www.gcum.org](http://www.gcum.org)

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## World Service Fund

Changing lives in the name of Christ.

Some photos taken by Bishop Minerva Carcaño; Mike DuBose; Cassandra Heller; GBGM; Ronny Perry; and Vern West.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church

DEVELOPING PRINCIPLED CHRISTIAN LEADERS  
FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

CREATING NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE AND  
RENEWING EXISTING CONGREGATIONS

# WORLD SERVICE FUND

CHANGING LIVES IN  
THE NAME OF CHRIST

ENGAGING IN MINISTRY WITH THE POOR

STAMPING OUT KILLER DISEASES OF POVERTY  
BY IMPROVING HEALTH GLOBALLY

"TEND MY SHEEP."  
JOHN 21:16B, NRSV



# FOUR AREAS OF FOCUS

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## DEVELOPING PRINCIPLED CHRISTIAN LEADERS FOR THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD



Jae Haeng Choi first felt called to ministry when teaching and counseling high school girls in her hometown. Choi received support for this calling as a Women of Color scholar through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. In the program, she received funding to study for a doctorate. Help from mentors was vital for Choi, who grew up in Incheon, Korea.

Completing her Ph.D. program at Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley was difficult for Choi in terms of language, culture and gender; but other scholars and mentors became like sisters to her. Learn more about the Women of Color scholarship program at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org).

2

## CREATING NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE AND RENEWING EXISTING CONGREGATIONS

Living Water United Methodist Church in Pearland, Texas, began in 2005 and a year later had 225 people, but attendance gradually declined to about 70.

“I felt like a failure,” said the Rev. Ed Jones.

Jones struggled to understand why people were not attending worship while other area churches were experiencing growth. “We took six months to sort things out, and now we are in a new day,” Jones said. “I realized I was not listening daily to the word of God. We were too caught up in building the church and not enough in connecting the disconnected.” Attendance moved back up to around 200 people by the time the congregation chartered in 2009. Learn about Path 1, The United Methodist Church’s campaign to plant new church starts, at [www.gbod.org](http://www.gbod.org) and Congregational Development at [new.gbom-umc.org](http://new.gbom-umc.org).



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## ENGAGING IN MINISTRY WITH THE POOR

In Ann Arbor, Mich., 17-year-old Guatemalan-American Jasmine watched her mother being taken to jail by immigration agents. After her mother was deported, her father and sister soon returned to Guatemala, too. Jasmine was left alone to take care of herself. Jasmine had to work to pay the rent for the trailer and other family bills. Her school social worker notified a local United Methodist church that offered Hispanic/Latino ministries. They soon began to take Jasmine to church, and she joined the praise choir. Jasmine is living with a family from the church and has also started teaching English as a Second Language classes because she wants to give back to the congregation for all they have done for her. Sonya Luna, a United Methodist missionary, works with Hispanic/Latino Ministries because the World Service Fund provides first-mile giving support for United Methodist missionaries. Learn more about first- and second-mile missionary support at [new.gbom-umc.org](http://new.gbom-umc.org).



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## STAMPING OUT KILLER DISEASES OF POVERTY BY IMPROVING HEALTH GLOBALLY



At age 4, Wilson Marimi contracted malaria—the dreaded disease that causes excruciating headaches, severe diarrhea, high fevers and joint pain, and claims the life of a child every 30 seconds on the continent of Africa. By age 5, he would walk 20 miles to the nearest dispensary in Kenya to receive treatment.

Through treatment, Wilson is healthy and productive and is currently working on his Ph.D. degree.

“This disease can be prevented,” Wilson said. “With the gifts God has given us, with the love God has given us, we can make a small sacrifice to save one more life. It is something that goes eternally. It’s an eternal action. It is really a shame that in the 21st century, people are dying [from malaria]. There are ways they can be taught to overcome this killer disease.”

Not everyone who contracts the disease dies. The fortunate ones get adequate care in time to survive. Thus, The United Methodist Church supports the Global Health Initiative’s campaign Imagine No Malaria. Learn more about what the church is doing to improve health globally at [www.umcom.org](http://www.umcom.org).

World Service goes beyond these projects and church agencies and becomes your voice, expressing your commitment to build a church and a people dedicated to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Encourage your church to remit 100% to its World Service Fund apportionment.