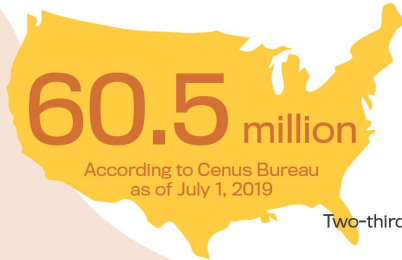


HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated from September 15 – October 15 each year in the United States. The celebration begins in the middle of the month because September 15 marks the anniversary of the independence of five countries: Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. It is followed by Mexico's Independence Day, September 16, and Chile's, September 18.

DID YOU KNOW?

U.S. Hispanic population is the 2nd fastest growing ethnic group after Asians (Pew Research Center)



Hispanics/Latinos make up 18.5% of the total population in the US, highlighting they are the largest ethnic group

The median age of the Hispanic/Latino population is 29.8 as of July 2019 compared to 28.4 of the US median age

Two-thirds of the Hispanic/Latino population are U.S. born



284

United Methodist Hispanic/Latino congregation and faith communities in the US

2.45%

Largest increase of ethnic group lay membership

The First Hispanic-Latino Bishop of the United Methodist Church is Bishop Elias Galvan who was elected in 1984 and retired in 2004. He served in the Western Jurisdiction and continues to serve as the Executive Director of MARCHA, the national Hispanic caucus of the United Methodist Church.



- ✦ Donate to Hispanic/Latino charities or a Hispanic/Latino congregation
- ✦ Support locally owned Hispanic/Latino business or restaurant
- ✦ Explore ways to be in partnership with Hispanic/Latino leaders in the work of advocacy
- ✦ Explore and analyze the barriers for Hispanics/Latinos to be involved in your congregation and community and seek ways to ensure equity

CONSIDER READING

Social Justice:

- ✦ *Harvest of Empire: A History of Latinos in America* by Juan Gonzalez. In his prolific writing, he narrates the untold stories of Latinos' history in the United States, dating back to the early colonial era to the present day discourse. The book addresses the themes of colonialism, American imperialism and foreign policy, race, and politics.
- ✦ Latinx and Latin American title books for all ages on social Justice by *A Teaching for Change* project: <https://socialjusticebooks.org/booklists/latinx/>

Theological:

- ✦ *The Journal of Hispanic / Latino Theology* is the preeminent, peer-reviewed journal for Latinx Christian scholarship in systematic, pastoral and practical theology, scriptures, ethics, religious history, and U.S. Latinx cultures. It showcases the work of thinkers from every religious and ethno-racial background on the religio-cultural condition of Latino/as in the United States.
- ✦ *Apuntes: Theological Reflections from the Hispano-Latino Context*, an online journal providing theological reflection from the Hispanic-Latin@ perspective published by The Hispanic/Latin@ Ministries Program at Southern Methodist University – Perkins School of Theology.



RELIGION & RACE

The United Methodist Church
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