

THE ADVANCE –

Churches Going the 2nd Mile for Christ

Paying your church's assigned mission share gets your church on the missions road – 1st mile giving for Christ. The advance was started in 1948 to funnel American Methodist resources to a world recovering from World War II. Today, United Methodist churches can choose from over 1500 specific, approved mission projects in the United States and around the world. **Every** dollar given goes to the project, as your World Service part of the mission share covers all support.

September 11th, the tsunami disaster, and the hurricanes of 2005 relief response demonstrated our ability to give generously without impacting our own church's needs. Through *The Advance* we respond to the people who need our gifts that we do not see on the nightly news.

You can now research Advance projects online at www.gb-gm-umc.org/advproj/AdvProj_Search . Churches receive annually a copy of *Partners in Missions*, which also lists all the projects.

SPECIAL SUNDAY OFFERINGS

In addition to our opportunity to contribute through out conference benevolence and the Advance for Christ and His Church, the United Methodist Church has designed six church-wide Special Sundays for special offerings that emphasize 13 ministries of our church.

World Communion Sunday

First Sunday in October

Through our gifts on World Communion Sunday we...

- Provide Crusade scholarships for international and U.S. racial and ethnic minority students to pursue graduate studies in theology, medicine, and education.
- Fund scholarships for racial and ethnic minority persons seeking second careers in church-related vocations.
- Support the Ethnic Scholarship Program for undergraduate students.

Human Relations Day

Sunday before Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday

Through our gifts on Human Relations Day we...

- Enable community workers to provide services such as food banks, job training, building rehabilitation and advocacy for the poor and oppressed.
- Provide community-based mentors and counselors who work with troubled teenagers.

Native American Ministries Sunday

Third Sunday of Easter

Through our gifts on Native American Ministries Sunday we...

- Help Native-American members to establish nee congregations.
- Provide job training, childcare, and cultural education.
- Make possible scholarships for Native-American students pursuing church-related vocations.

One Great Hour of Sharing

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing we...

- Underwrite the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), which mobilizes a network of volunteers to address critical needs in times of disaster, responds to the needs of the hungry, and resettles refugees.

Peace with Justice Sunday

Second Sunday of Pentecost

Through our gifts on Peace with Justice Sunday we...

- Make possible educational opportunities that build awareness of issues of world peace and social justice.
- Fund work to intervene in cycles of spousal and child abuse and violence among urban children and youth.

United Methodist Student Day

Last Sunday in November

Through our gifts on United Methodist Student Day we...

- Provide graduate and undergraduate scholarships and student loans.
- Enable community workers to provide services such as food banks, job training, building rehabilitation and advocacy for the poor and oppressed.