



**GOD'S MISSION | OUR WORK AND WITNESS**

An overview  
of the work of  
Global Ministries



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## THE GENERAL BOARD OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES

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IS THE GLOBAL MISSION, RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT  
AGENCY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

**As a biblically rooted** and historically informed organization, Global Ministries facilitates engagement in God's mission. As part of Global Ministries, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) seeks to alleviate human suffering around the globe.

Global Ministries is guided and inspired by its theology of mission, which begins with New Testament mandates (most notably Matthew 28 and Acts 1) to spread the good news of God's love and make disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the world. The Holy Spirit called the church into being for mission at Pentecost and continues to call today for fresh forms of witness to Christ in word, ethical treatment of others and service to all in need.

In response to God's call and the leading of the Holy Spirit, women and men, young and old, of all nations, stations and races and in all times and places, unite as the living body of Christ to join God's mission of redemption, bearing witness to God's presence in the world.

— Excerpt from Global Ministries'  
Our Mission Theology

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The transformative power belongs to God. The church bears witness to the transforming power of love through Jesus Christ and connects every expression of the community of faith in the work of increasing love for God and neighbor and making that love manifest, following the *missio Dei* — God's mission.

Cover photo: ODIM  
Inside photo: Mike DuBose, UM News

**Our theology of mission** informs Global Ministries' purpose, vision, goals and mission priorities.

# PURPOSE

Connecting the church in mission

# VISION

To equip and transform people and places for God's mission around the world

# GOALS

Make disciples of Jesus Christ

Strengthen, develop and renew Christian congregations and communities

Alleviate human suffering

Seek justice, freedom and peace

## MISSIONARIES

Training, commissioning, assigning and supporting missionaries in the United States and around the world are at the heart of Methodist mission.



Photo: Mike DuBose, UM News

### **What kinds of missionaries serve today?**

Today, United Methodist missionaries serve in over 60 countries in many types of professional careers, including as pastors, evangelists and church coordinators; teachers and educators; doctors, nurses and other health workers; agriculturists; development specialists; community organizers and peacebuilders.

**Global Missionaries** deepen relationships with partners and commitment to God's mission in long-term, cross-cultural contexts.

**Global Mission Fellows** (international track and US-2 track)

are young adults who engage in community and grow in social and personal holiness through 2-year placements in the United States and around the world.

**Church and Community Workers** bridge church and community in mission within disenfranchised communities in the United States in partnership with United Methodist annual conferences.

**Racial/Ethnic Plan Missionaries** serve in a variety of cultural settings in the United States in partnership with United Methodist annual conference strategies to support and empower ethnic communities.

**Mission Volunteers** are individuals and couples in short-to-midterm partnerships with communities around the world, striving to embody mutuality in

mission. More opportunities for participation in short-term mission team work exists through the **United Methodist Volunteers in Mission** program.



## EVANGELISM AND CHURCH REVITALIZATION

Founding and nurturing new faith communities and supporting existing congregations that seek to increase membership and expand ministries into local communities have historic roots and contemporary implications for Global Ministries.



Photo: Courtesy of Fuxia Wang

### How are evangelism and church revitalization realized?

Ministries of evangelism and church revitalization take place through sustained programs that strive to reach people where they are and through the communities in which they live.

**Mission Initiatives** start new faith communities and develop outreach programs that spread the gospel

and love of Christ in places without Methodist faith communities.

**Missional Connections** provides a broad understanding of the global regions in which The United Methodist Church is engaged. Knowledgeable staff members assigned to different regions around the world supervise missionaries in their places of assignment and coordinate resources to provide leadership development and capacity-building.

The **Community Developers** program is a network of racial-ethnic congregations across the United States committed to advancing the church's capacity to be in mission and in partnership with the communities in which they are located.

The **Multiethnic Ministries** program supports multiethnic and racial/ethnic congregations in the

United States in mission and ministry in their local contexts. Communities are supported through resources and programs focused on vulnerable populations and activities which work to eliminate systems that feed oppression and undermine low-income residents and others on the margins.

Through the General Conference, The United Methodist Church has authorized six **racial-ethnic ministry plans** that focus on building faith in the communities they serve.

- Asian American Language Ministry, Korean Ministry Plan,

National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministry and the Pacific Islander National Plan—are administrated by Global Ministries.

- The Native American Comprehensive Plan and Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century—reside with Discipleship Ministries.

The **Leadership Development and Scholarship** program provides scholarship resources and study opportunities for individuals and mission partners to increase expertise and skills critical for the mission needs of the church.



## GLOBAL HEALTH

Methodism's focus on health as a part of mission stems from John Wesley's emphasis on spiritual as well as physical health and dates to the 19th and 20th centuries, when missionaries expanded the options for health care in underserved communities.

### How are health ministries carried out today?

Through United Methodist episcopal areas and health boards, particularly in Africa, Global Ministries works to strengthen whole networks of health responses, from revitalization of facilities and staff training to building better water sources, developing sanitation facilities and promoting nutrition.



Photo: FIEA - Ecuador

Global Health concentrates on eradicating preventable diseases, such as malaria, HIV and AIDS and COVID-19, and supports the most vulnerable populations, especially mothers, newborns and children.

**Health Systems Strengthening** improves the quality of health services and health care facilities in low-resource settings.

**Imagine No Malaria** works to prevent the spread of malaria and

provide resources for diagnosis and treatment.

**Maternal, Newborn and Child Health** increases access to quality maternal, newborn and child health services to reduce morbidity and mortality rates.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)** provides clean and safe water sources and revitalizes sanitation facilities.



## HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND RECOVERY

Global Ministries seeks to strengthen the ability of the church and communities to respond to natural and human-created disasters and provides humanitarian relief both near and far.

### How does Global Ministries respond to disaster?

The core of this work is accomplished through disaster relief and recovery, risk-reduction programming, addressing the needs and rights of migrants worldwide and improving livelihoods and food security. The intentional care of creation and advancing environmental sustainability also reduces the impact of disasters.

**UMCOR International Disaster Response and Recovery** works with partners around the world to

provide immediate relief with food, water, shelter and other necessities as well as long-term recovery, reconstruction and risk reduction.

**UMCOR U.S. Disaster Response and Recovery** works in partnership with annual conferences, local partners and national agencies, like FEMA, to prepare for disasters, provide immediate relief following a disaster and extend long-term support, such as case management, for those lacking the resources for full recovery.

As a part of Global Ministries, the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) works globally to alleviate human suffering and advance hope and healing.

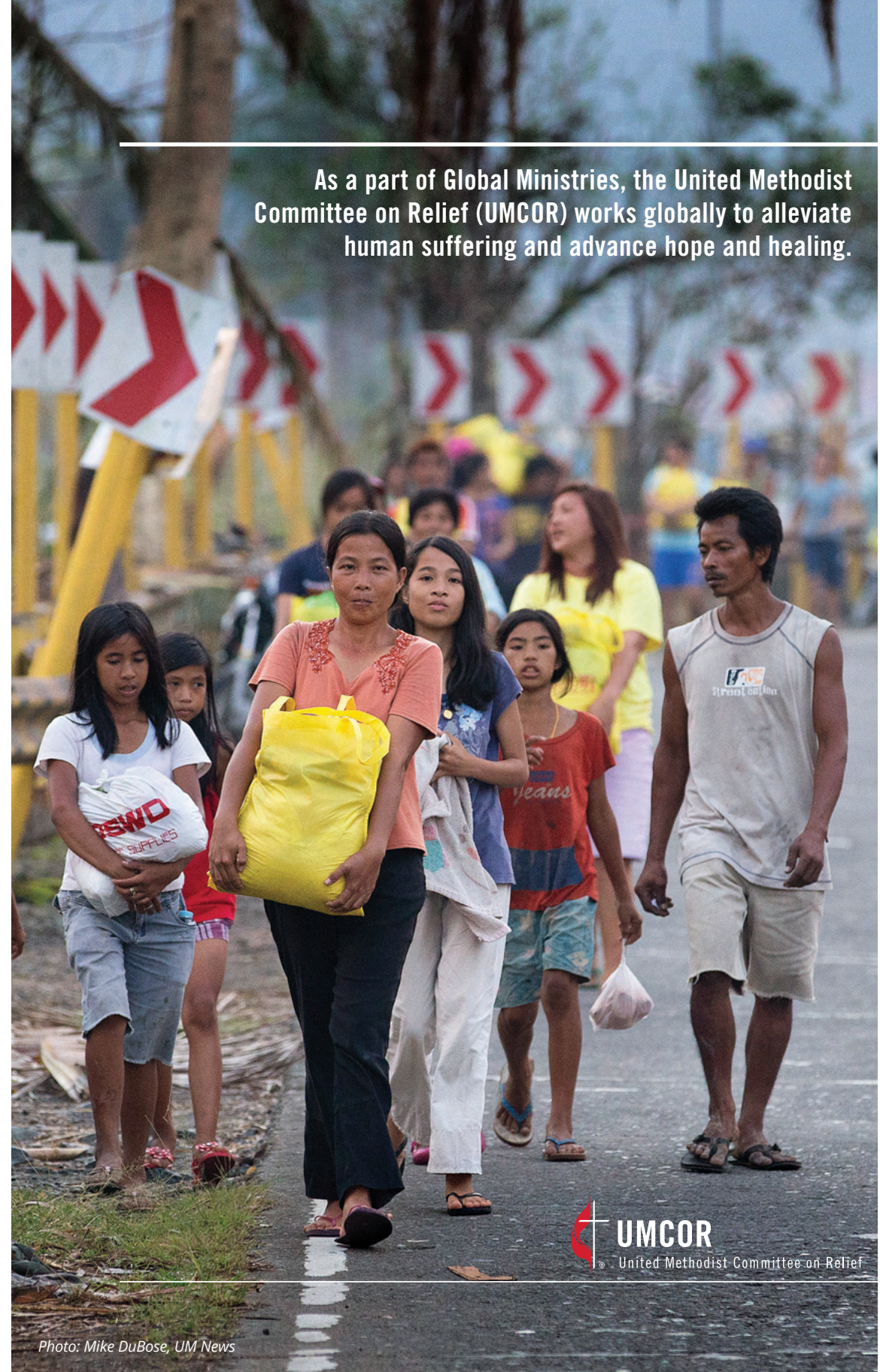




Photo: UMCOR Sager Brown

Relief supply kits provide care for the most vulnerable during times of crisis. School kits, cleaning buckets and hygiene kits are assembled by volunteers and stored at Sager Brown, UMCOR's relief-supply depot in Baldwin, Louisiana, or in partner depots across the United States.

UMCOR works with partners to examine the causes of **Global Migration** and to care for refugees and migrants fleeing violence and poverty. Key partners in this effort are Church World Service (CWS) and National Justice for Our Neighbors (NJFON.)

**The Yambasu Agriculture Initiative** supports episcopal areas and annual conferences in agricultural projects that increase production, enhance food security and generate sustainable income, utilizing United Methodist land holdings. The focus of the current

work is in Africa and honors the late Bishop John K. Yambasu of Sierra Leone.

Global Ministries' **Environmental Sustainability** program fosters the integration of environmental sustainability into every aspect of mission through environment-focused projects, tools and leadership development. Trainings through the EarthKeepers program support clergy and laity in environmentally based projects in the United States.



Photo: Rael Yesan

**Disaster Relief Volunteers** are critical to many aspects of recovery work. UMCOR trains annual conference leaders in Emergency Response who then train Early Response Teams. **The United Methodist Volunteers in Mission** program connects volunteer teams with opportunities for service in communities around the world.

## FUNDING GOD'S MISSION



Global Ministries benefits from the generosity of many and receives support in several ways.

**Giving from individuals, foundations, Sunday school classes, local churches and annual conferences** allows Global Ministries to support missionaries, projects and programs around the world.

Global Ministries is committed to transparency and accountability. Finance Services provides support for the programmatic work of the agency and Monitoring and Evaluation participates in the review of grant proposals before funds are approved and evaluates the effectiveness of grants following their completion. A rigorous system of auditing and accountability ensures that resources are used for their intended purposes.

**The Advance** allows United Methodist annual conferences, districts, local churches, education classes, individuals, families and foundations to support God's mission with financial gifts. In addition to priority Advance projects that support the immediate work of Global Ministries (Global Ministries-Where Most Needed, #01138A and UMCOR-Where Most Needed, #999895) the Advance offers over 500 opportunities to support projects around the world, addressing hunger and poverty, education, sustainable development, racial and ethnic ministries, health care, migration, community development and creation care.

**The Advance** is the accountable, voluntary giving arm of The United Methodist Church.

**100% of gifts** given through the Advance are directed to the designated missionary, project or program.



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