

A Call  
to Prayer  
& Self-Denial

Llamado  
a la Oración  
y el Sacrificio

기도와  
절제의 날

2022

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR  
DEACONESSES AND  
HOME MISSIONERS

OFRENDA ESPECIAL PARA  
LAS DIACONISAS Y  
LOS MISIONEROS LAICOS LOCALES

여선교사역자와  
가정 선교사들을 위한  
특별 헌금



LOVE, JUSTICE AND SERVICE:  
ANSWERING THE CALL

AMOR, JUSTICIA Y SERVICIO:  
RESPONDIENDO AL LLAMADO

사랑, 정의와 섬김: 부르심에 대한 응답

Date/Fecha/날짜

Time/Hora/시간

Location/Lugar/장소



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION



Mujeres  
Metodistas  
Unidas  
FE • ESPERANZA • AMOR EN ACCIÓN



연합감리교회  
여선교회  
실천하는 믿음 • 소망 • 사랑

Creator God, thank you for the multitude of spiritual gifts, skills and talents you have given each of us. Please help us experience these giftings as blessings and work to use them for the good of all. Help us have the courage to answer with a bold cry of affirmation when you call us to serve in love, justice, compassion and truth; and help us to stand with one another, along with deaconesses and home missionaries, in that call, supporting each other to make a difference in our world. In your holy and precious name we pray, Amen.

## You Are Invited

Every year, women are invited to gather in their local units and communities for “A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial,” a faith-filled time to assemble with lifted hearts and hands before our Creator God. Organized by United Methodist Women, the sisterhood observance welcomes all to join in a celebration of selfless giving and spiritual communion with God. Our 2022 theme, “Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call,” honors deaconesses and home missionaries who have said yes to the call God has placed on their lives. You are heartily welcomed into this holy moment as we come together as one in spirit and in faith, on behalf of women, children and youth across the globe.

- **PRAY:** Our souls link in the common bond of unity with the God as together we open our hearts in prayer.
- **LEARN:** As our hearts open, we begin to understand the extraordinary ways this sisterhood observance can make a tangible difference in our world through God at work in God's people.
- **GIVE:** From our gratitude and understanding our generous giving follows, as we honor God's work through love offerings and other blessings.

Come, gather for this set-aside time as we embrace prayer and self-denial while striving to understand the meaning and mercy inherent in God's call.

## Why Give?

For more than 150 years, United Methodist Women members have worked hard to turn faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth in every corner of the world.

When we gather for A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial, we have the opportunity to reflect on important needs with our sisterhood and embrace personal sacrifice. All conferences raised funds for organizations and individuals working in local communities both in the United States and across the globe.

In **2020** there was **100%** conference participation in the Call to Prayer and Self-Denial observance.

This year's offering will support the vital and vibrant ministry of deaconesses and home missionaries, consecrated laity who have dedicated the entirety of their lives to vocations of love, justice and service. These vocations include social work, education, healthcare, advocacy, immigration reform, anti-poverty initiatives, anti-racism efforts, firefighting, legal justice and more. Your thoughtful and intentional participation in A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial will support the training and education of deaconesses and home missionaries, enabling them to do even more in God's Kingdom.

In **2020** United Methodist Women raised **\$434,844** for programs that promote transformation of communities. **100%** of the dollars given through A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial goes directly to fund the work it is designated for that year.

## Your Gift Matters

Your prayers and sacrificial giving make a huge impact in the lives of women, children and youth served through the lay Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner.

As God's people, we are called to give generously to help others. Generosity looks different for everyone, and the apostle Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 8:12 that all gifts are acceptable when given with a willing, eager heart according to what one has.

Your gift, along with those of your sisters across our faith community, has the capacity to help for generations, providing needed training for those on the front lines of love, justice and service now and for many years into the future.

# Then & Now



## Then:

- Only unmarried women younger than 40
- Lived in deaconess homes
- Received no salary, just an \$8/week stipend for living expenses
- Wore a nun-like uniform
- Worked much like local missionaries bringing healing, service and advocacy to areas of extreme poverty

## Now:

- Diverse in age and gender; women are deaconesses and men are home missionaries
- No restriction on marriage, children or residence
- No mandated uniform
- Work around the world in a variety of vocations
- Receive ministry appointment and can receive a salary

## Did You Know?

- Established in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1888 and the United Brethren in Christ Church in 1897, deaconesses predated the United Methodist Church-Deaconesses and home missionaries work in many different ministries, from healthcare and counseling to firefighting and the legal field.
- Today's social worker program evolved out of deaconess training schools.
- Consecrated for a lifetime, deaconesses and home missionaries still serve into retirement. In fact, a popular saying in their community is, "We don't retire. We just retread."
- Deaconesses were once dubbed "loving troublemakers" for their hard work to advocate for "the least of these."
- There are about 400 deaconesses and home missionaries in the U.S. today.

## Meet Some of the Deaconesses



**Monica Bartley** serves as community outreach coordinator for the Center for Independence of the Disabled in New York City. She educates and advocates for policy changes relating to accessibility. "I like to address injustice so that I can help others to experience God's love as I have."



**Amanda Mountain** serves as the director of Motown Mission, an urban work mission destination in Detroit. "My calling is and always has been to work with young people in some way as they discern how to live their faith in their daily lives and, as they grow, what this may look like in their future vocations."



**Cecil Bucud-Arceo** serves as the director of children's ministries at Santa Ana United Methodist Church in Santa Ana, California. She also taught at Harris Memorial College, the deaconess training school in the province of Rizal, Philippines. "I heard stories of deaconesses and I was inspired."



**Kady Herr-Yang** serves as a certified Hmong medical interpreter for Advocate Aurora Health, providing translation and interpretation services to Hmong patients and staff throughout Wisconsin. "I help eradicate injustice by making sure that family and providers understand that patients have a voice and an opinion about their own health."



**Tracy Tarver** serves as a special education teacher in Hartford, Connecticut, working with 4th- to 12th-grade students who have been expelled from the public school system. "I hope my work helps to eradicate injustice by bringing awareness to the school-to-prison pipeline, while working to stop the systemic racism that catches so many young people in its web."



**Annette Winston**, a nurse, reviews applications for the Elderly and Disability Waiver of the Alabama Department of Senior Services, which provides home health services to individuals who would otherwise need long-term care facilities. "I have been a caretaker, advocate, teacher, manager, spiritual advisor and so much more. I believe nursing is a ministry."





## How You Can Plan and Promote

Whether you choose to organize a virtual observance of A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial or plan to gather in-person, we hope you will do all you can to organize a meaningful, intentional time of sisterhood where people can pray, learn and give sacrificially around our theme of “Love, Justice and Service: Answering the Call.”

The service can be held anytime in 2022, though most choose to hold theirs early in the year. Be sure to give people plenty of notice.

Resources, listed below, are designed to help you reach out to your group easily and clearly. Distribute/mail the save-the-date prayer cards early, and spread the word in your community, district and conference wherever appropriate. Email marketing campaigns and social media posts can be a big help in drawing attention to your unit's observance.

Event invitations and digital calendars can also serve as helpful and easy reminders.

You might consider joining with other units or circles in your community or district for a larger Call to Prayer service.

Be sure to provide multiple options for giving, including online donations, cash collected at a local church or checks mailed to a treasurer.

Share online resources with your unit or circle as a way of fostering attention for the observance, and encourage them to share, as well.

### Downloads

We have a number of online resources to help you, including this brochure, a poster, prayer cards, PowerPoint, social media graphics and more:

- **This brochure:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2022Brochure.pdf](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2022Brochure.pdf)
- **Poster:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2022Poster.pdf](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2022Poster.pdf)
- **Save-the-date prayer cards:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2022PrayerCard.pdf](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/Worship/CallToPrayer2022PrayerCard.pdf)
- **Program:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/2022-call-to-prayer](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/2022-call-to-prayer)
- **PowerPoint:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PowerPoint/A-Call-to-Prayer-and-Self-Denial-2022-Power-Point-Presentation.ppt](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PowerPoint/A-Call-to-Prayer-and-Self-Denial-2022-Power-Point-Presentation.ppt)
- **Social media graphics:** [flickr.com/photos/umwomen/albums/72157716556681118](https://www.flickr.com/photos/umwomen/albums/72157716556681118)

- **Special music:** [dropbox.com/sh/e4xg5dm0tpeptcm/AABmGDPapDe5XyuN9CtrDHya?dl=0](https://dropbox.com/sh/e4xg5dm0tpeptcm/AABmGDPapDe5XyuN9CtrDHya?dl=0)
- **How to organize a virtual meeting on Zoom:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/HowToHostVirtualEvent.pdf](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/Media/PDF/HowToHostVirtualEvent.pdf)

### Other Helpful Items

- **Online downloads page:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/call-to-prayer](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/call-to-prayer)
- **Online giving:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org/donate](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org/donate)
- **Email:** [calltoprayer@unitedmethodistwomen.org](mailto:calltoprayer@unitedmethodistwomen.org)
- **Website:** [unitedmethodistwomen.org](https://unitedmethodistwomen.org)
- **Facebook:** [facebook.com/UMWomen](https://facebook.com/UMWomen)
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