

MISSION MOMENTS & MORE

These mission moments demonstrate the connectional mission of the United Methodist Church. Each one highlights a specific ministry and the real impact it's making in the world. Consider using these in personal prayer time, in small groups or during worship.

July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost – Rural Life Sunday

MISSION MOMENT

"I don't know what I'm doing, because I don't do what I want to do. Instead, I do the thing that I hate. But if I'm doing the thing that I don't want to do, I'm agreeing that the Law is right. But now I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it's sin that lives in me. I know that good doesn't live in me—that is, in my body. The desire to do good is inside of me, but I can't do it. I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do. But if I do the very thing that I don't want to do, then I'm not the one doing it anymore. Instead, it is sin that lives in me that is doing it. So, I find that, as a rule, when I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me. I gladly agree with the Law on the inside, but I see a different law at work in my body. It wages a war against the law of my mind and takes me prisoner with the law of sin that is in my body. I'm a miserable human being. Who will deliver me from this dead corpse? Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So, then I'm a slave to God's Law in my mind, but I'm a slave to sin's law in my body."—**Romans 7:15-25a (CEB)**

In Epistle to the Romans 7:15–25a (Common English Bible), Paul speaks with deep honesty: *"I don't do the good that I want to do, but I do the evil that I don't want to do."* He names a struggle we all recognize—the space between what we hope for and what we are able to do on our own.

Around the world, July 6 marks World Rural Development Day, a time to recognize the importance of rural communities and the systems that sustain life. In The United Methodist Church, [Rural Life Sunday](#) echoes that same truth—lifting the people, places, and ministries rooted in rural life.

In many rural communities, Paul's words feel close to home. There is a deep desire to care for the land, to provide for families, and to build a future—but there are also real challenges. Limited resources, economic pressures, and uncertainty can create that same tension Paul describes: wanting to do good yet facing barriers that make it difficult.

But Paul does not leave us in that struggle. He asks, *"Who will rescue me?"* and answers, *"Thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"* (CEB). The answer is not found in striving alone, but in grace—and in the way Christ brings us together.

This is the heart of Rural Life Sunday. United Methodists observe annual conference Sundays to support and strengthen ministries within local communities. On this Sunday, we support outreach, education, and leadership development in rural areas, along with agricultural ministries and partnerships across the annual conference.

This is one of the ways our connection in The United Methodist Church comes to life. Giving is not just an individual act—it is a covenant to walk together. Through connectional giving, our gifts are joined with others across the Church. No congregation carries ministry alone. When we give through our apportionments, we support general agencies that provide missions, advocacy, and resources—strengthening ministries that serve people we may never meet, but whom God deeply loves.

Every gift tells a story. And every story can begin with the impact we make through our giving. A rural pastor is supported. A young leader is equipped. A farming community is sustained. These stories reflect the grace Paul points us toward—not perfection, but a shared life shaped by Christ.

Rural Life Sunday, alongside World Rural Development Day, reminds us of our blessings and the faith that unites us—not only in what we believe, but in how we live, give, and serve together.

Reflection Question:

Where is God inviting you to move from striving alone toward living and giving as part of Christ's connected community?

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Title: Stronger Together

Materials: One stick or pencil and a bundle of sticks or pencils tied together

Good morning, friends! I'm so glad to see you today! Look what I brought today! (Hold up one stick.) What happens if I try to break this? (Snap it.) Pretty easy, right? Now look at this! (Hold up bundle.) What if I try to break all of these together? (Pretend to struggle.) That's much harder! How about each of us take one of these and snap it? (Let each child break a pencil or stick). Now that works much better!

Sometimes we try to do things all by ourselves. In today's Bible story, Paul says, "I want to do good things, but sometimes I don't." Have you ever felt that way? Maybe you wanted to be kind—but got upset. Or you wanted to share—but didn't. That happens to everyone.

But here's the good news: God didn't make us to do everything alone. That is why he created so many people so we could work together.

This week, we remember something special called World Rural Development Day. It's a day when we think about people who live in the places we call rural areas – or a better way most of us understand it "in the country"—in places where farmers and families have room to grow food and take care of the land.

And in our church, we celebrate Rural Life Sunday. That's when we remember that these communities are important—and that we can help. We all love food don't we and it is so very important for us to take care of those farmers and those who take care of our land.

When we work together, we are stronger. Remember me trying to snap those sticks in half by myself? I couldn't do it alone, but with more help we all did it! And that is how our church works. We share what we have so we can help others—even people we don't know. When we give, we are helping tell a story—a story about God's love.

Our stories are important. And sometimes they can help others understand the love of God. This week let's remember that we are never alone. God is always with us and loves us so much that He gives us each other so we can be strong together.

Prayer: Dear God, Thank you for loving us and helping us when things feel hard. Thank you for giving us people to help us. Help us to share, to be kind, and to work together. Show us how to care for others every day. Thank you for Jesus. We love you. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of grace, in Romans we hear the struggle between what we long to do and what we are able to do. Yet through Christ, you draw us together in hope. As we remember Rural Life Sunday, receive these gifts as part of our shared covenant. Join our offerings with others across The United Methodist Church, strengthening rural ministries, outreach, and leadership. May every gift tell a story of your love in action. In Christ's name, Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER from [Discipleship Ministries](#)

Gracious Redeemer, you know us completely—our good intentions, our wavering will, our stumbling steps. Like Paul, we confess the war within us: we long to do what is right, yet too often fall short. Still, you meet us not with condemnation, but with mercy and grace. So, we bring these offerings, not to earn your favor, but to respond in gratitude for a Savior who rescues us from sin's grip. Use these gifts, and use us, to offer hope where there is despair, light where there is shadow, and love where there is brokenness. We give because you gave first—and because your Spirit empowers us to live not by our strength, but by your grace. In Christ's name, we pray, Amen.

NEWSLETTER NUGGET

In Romans 7:15–25a (CEB), Paul names the tension between what we hope to do and what we can do alone. As we celebrate Rural Life Sunday, we are reminded that we are not called to serve alone. In The United Methodist Church, our connectional giving supports rural ministries, agricultural partnerships, and leadership development across our annual conference. Every gift tells a story—of lives strengthened through shared mission.

Join us this Sunday for worship as we celebrate Rural Life Sunday and the power of serving together.

July 12, 2026

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost – The Advance Giving Channel

MISSION MOMENT

“So now there isn’t any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and death. God has done what was impossible for the Law, since it was weak because of selfishness. God condemned sin in the body by sending his own Son to deal with sin in the same body as humans, who are controlled by sin. He did this so that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us. Now the way we live is based on the Spirit, not based on selfishness. People whose lives are based on selfishness think about selfish things, but people whose lives are based on the Spirit think about things that are related to the Spirit. The attitude that comes from selfishness leads to death, but the attitude that comes from the Spirit leads to life and peace. So, the attitude that comes from selfishness is hostile to God. It doesn’t submit to God’s Law, because it can’t. People who are self-centered aren’t able to please God. But you aren’t self-centered. Instead, you are in the Spirit, if in fact God’s Spirit lives in you. If anyone doesn’t have the Spirit of Christ, they don’t belong to him. If Christ is in you, the Spirit is your life because of God’s righteousness, but the body is dead because of sin. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your human bodies also, through his Spirit that lives in you.”—Romans 8:1-11 (CEB)

In Romans 8:1-11, we hear a promise that changes everything: *“So now there isn’t any condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”* Paul goes on to speak of life in the Spirit—a life not bound by fear or limitation, but shaped by freedom, hope, and new possibility.

This is not just a personal promise. It is a shared one.

In The United Methodist Church, that shared life in the Spirit takes shape through the way we live, serve, and give together. One expression of that shared calling is [The Advance](#), often called the church’s “second mile” of giving. Through The Advance, United Methodists support specific missions, projects, and ministries through designated gifts. These gifts are personal, intentional, and direct—each one responding to the movement of the Spirit in our lives.

But Paul reminds us that life in the Spirit is never lived alone. It is lived in connection.

That connection is sustained through shared commitments like the World Service Fund, which supports general agencies such as the General Board of Global Ministries. Through this fund, Global Ministries equips, supports, and administers The Advance. Without it, there would be far less support and hope for those experiencing crisis. Because this work is funded through apportionments, 100% of gifts given to Advance projects can go directly to their intended ministry.

This is what it means to walk together. This is what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ—each of us working together.

At the heart of The UMC structure is something deeply simple: giving is a covenant. Through connectional giving, we ensure that no congregation carries ministry alone. Our gifts—both shared and designated—are joined with others, strengthening ministries that serve people we may never meet, but whom God deeply loves.

On July 12, International Day of Hope invites us to reflect on the power of hope in a hurting world. The Advance is one way that hope becomes tangible. A well is built. A community is restored. A life is changed. These are not distant ideas—they are the fruit of a Church living in the Spirit Paul describes.

Every gift tells a story. And every story can begin with the impact we make through our giving. In Christ, we are set free—not just to believe, but to participate. To give. To connect. To bring hope to life, together.

Reflection Question:

Where is the Spirit inviting you to move from receiving hope to helping create it through your giving?

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Title: Held up by Hope

Materials: A child-sized floatation device (arm floaties or small life ring)

Good morning, friends! I’m so glad to see you today! Do you know what these are? (Hold up floaties or life ring)

That's right—these help you in the water! If you're learning to swim, these help hold you up so you don't sink. They help you feel safe, and they help you keep going. They give you that extra help so you can keep your head above the water and breathe.

Why is that important? (Pause) That's right—we can't breathe underwater like fish can!

Now, listen to this. In today's Bible story, the disciple Paul tells us that God gives us something very special—God's Spirit. And God's Spirit helps us, just like these floaties. Sometimes life can feel a little hard. Maybe we feel unsure, or we don't know what to do. But God doesn't leave us alone. God's Spirit helps hold us up. God's Spirit gives us life, and hope, and makes us strong.

And here's something really important—just like these floaties help us, we can help others.

In our church, we have something called The Advance. It is a special way each of us can help people who need help. When we give to this ministry, it is like helping someone stay above water, just like these floaties help us float on top of the water. And the best part is that our money goes to help people right when they need it. So that would be like throwing a float right at the person in the water that needs it exactly when they need help swimming. When we give, we help someone feel safe, cared for, and full of hope.

This week, remember that God's Spirit is always holding us up. And because God is so good, he can help us to help each other feel safe, cared for and full of hope. Let's share how God loves everyone. You never know that it may help someone stay afloat this week.

Prayer: Dear God, Thank you for holding us up when we need help. Thank you for your Spirit that gives us hope. Help us to care for others and share what we have. Use our gifts to help people feel safe and loved.

We love you. Thank you for Jesus. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of life and hope, in Christ you have set us free and filled us with your Spirit. As we give today, we remember that we do not give alone. Through the Advance Giving Channel, and through the support of the General Board of Global Ministries by the World Service Fund, our gifts become part of a shared covenant. Join what we offer with others across The United Methodist Church, bringing hope to those in need. May every gift tell a story of your love in action. In Christ's name, Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER from [Discipleship Ministries](#)

Living God, you meet us this day with grace that frees and a Spirit that gives life. You tell us there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, and we cling to that good news with grateful hearts. As we bring these gifts, we set our minds on you—not on fear or self-interest, but on the life and peace you promise. Shape us by your Spirit to live generously, to seek the good of our neighbors, and to share in your work of healing and reconciliation. Receive these offerings as signs of our attention being fixed on Christ and our lives opened to your renewing power. We give thanks; we give ourselves, and we trust your Spirit to lead us into abundant life. Amen.

NEWSLETTER NUGGET

Romans 8:1–11 (CEB) reminds us that life in Christ is life in the Spirit—marked by freedom, hope, and connection. In The United Methodist Church, the Advance Giving Channel offers a way to live out that calling through designated giving. Supported by the General Board of Global Ministries—through the World Service Fund—The Advance ensures that 100% of gifts go directly to the ministries they support. Every gift tells a story of hope made real through shared mission.

Join us this Sunday for worship as we explore how giving through The Advance helps us share hope together.

July 19, 2026

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost – General Administration Fund (Judicial Council)

MISSION MOMENT

"So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it isn't an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. If you live on the basis of selfishness, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live. All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters. You didn't receive a spirit of slavery to lead you back again into fear, but you received a Spirit that shows you are adopted as his children. With this Spirit, we cry, "Abba, Father." The same Spirit agrees with our spirit, that we are God's children. But if we are children, we are also heirs. We are God's heirs and fellow heirs with Christ, if we really suffer with him so that we can also be glorified with him. I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us. The

whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. We know that the whole creation is groaning together and suffering labor pains up until now. And it's not only the creation. We ourselves who have the Spirit as the first crop of the harvest also groan inside as we wait to be adopted and for our bodies to be set free. We were saved in hope. If we see what we hope for, that isn't hope. Who hopes for what they already see? But if we hope for what we don't see, we wait for it with patience."—Romans 8:12-25 (CEB)

In Epistle to the Romans 8:12–25 (CEB), Paul reminds us that we are not alone, and we are not without direction: “*All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters.*” We are claimed, guided, and held together as God's family—called not just to believe, but to live in a way that reflects that belonging.

Paul speaks of creation itself groaning, waiting, hoping for what is not yet fully seen. It is a powerful image of a world longing for order, for justice, and for things to be made right. And in that waiting, we are not passive, we are led by the Spirit, living as people shaped by hope and responsibility.

In The United Methodist Church, our shared life is shaped by a covenant to live faithfully, orderly, and justly together. We are not a collection of independent churches, but one connected body seeking to reflect Christ in how we lead, decide, and serve.

That commitment is lived out through the work of the [Judicial Council](#), supported by the [General Administration Fund](#). The Judicial Council interprets church law, ensures constitutional integrity, and helps resolve matters that affect the whole Church. While much of this work happens behind the scenes, it is essential—providing clarity, accountability, and a steady foundation for our shared ministry.

Through connectional giving, we sustain this work together, strengthening the Church's ability to move forward with faithfulness, fairness, and purpose.

On July 25, International Day for Judicial Well-being reminds us that those entrusted with discernment and judgment need wisdom, care, and support. In the life of the Church, the Judicial Council reflects that same need—seeking to interpret, guide, and hold the Church accountable in love.

Every gift tells a story. And every story can begin with the impact we make through our giving. Some stories are visible in hands-on mission. Others are found in the quiet, steady work of discernment and structure—ensuring that the Church remains rooted in its calling and connected in its mission.

Paul reminds us that we wait in hope—not for what we already see, but for what is still unfolding. Through our shared covenant, and through the ways we support one another, we participate in that unfolding story.

We are God's children. We are led by the Spirit. And together, we are shaping a Church that reflects God's justice, order, and love.

Reflection Question:

How might your giving help strengthen the unseen but essential work that keeps the Church faithful, connected, and grounded in hope?

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Title: Playing Fair Together

Materials: A simple game item (like a ball or small toy) and a whistle

Good morning, friends! I'm so glad to see you today! I brought something fun today! (Hold up ball or toy.) What could we do with this? Maybe play a game?

Now, when we play a game, do we just make up rules as we go? (Pause) Sometimes we might try—but what happens if everyone makes different rules?

It gets confusing, right? People might argue, and the game wouldn't feel fair. So, what do we need? (Pause for answers and lead them towards the word rules) We need rules—and someone to help make sure everyone is playing fair.

In the Bible, Paul tells us that we are part of God's family. That means we belong to God, and we belong to each other. And God's Spirit helps guide us so we can live in loving and fair ways.

In our church, we are part of a big family too—The United Methodist Church. And because we are such a big family, we have people who help make sure we are being fair, loving, and doing the right things together.

That group is called the Judicial Council. They help the church understand the rules, make good decisions, and make sure we are treating each other the right way.

Now, how do we help with that? We give. When we give, we help support the people who are helping the whole church stay fair, kind, and strong together. It might not seem like a big thing—but it is! Because when things are fair and clear, everyone can work together better. And when we work together, we can share God's love in bigger ways.

Every gift helps us share our story. Your gift helps the church be a place where people are cared for, and where things are done in the right way. And that helps everyone.

So remember: God's Spirit helps guide us, and we help each other live and work together in love.

Prayer: Dear God, Thank you for making us part of your family. Help us to be kind, fair, and loving. Thank you for people who help guide your church. Help us to share and care for others. We love you. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of hope, you call us your children and lead us by your Spirit. As we give today, we remember that we are part of something greater than ourselves. Through our connectional giving, we support the work of the Judicial Council through the General Administration Fund, helping The United Methodist Church remain faithful, just, and connected. Join our gifts with others across the Church, strengthening the ministries that guide and sustain our shared life. May every gift tell a story of your love, order, and hope at work among us. In Christ's name, Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER from [Discipleship Ministries](#)

Compassionate Creator, you formed us from the dust of the earth and breathed into us life and purpose. In these gifts we return, we offer more than resources; we offer our hope. Let these gifts, given in trust, be signs of our partnership in the renewal of all creation. Awaken in us a holy longing, as deep as the groaning of the earth itself, for justice, healing, and new life. May our giving participate in your redemption, until the world rejoices in freedom and glory as your children. We offer this with joy, in the name of Christ our Redeemer. Amen

NEWSLETTER NUGGET

Romans 8:12–25 (CEB) reminds us that we are God's children, led by the Spirit, and called to live together in hope. In The United Methodist Church, that shared life is supported through connectional giving. The Judicial Council, funded through the General Administration Fund, helps interpret church law, ensure fairness, and keep the Church grounded in its mission. Though often unseen, this work strengthens our shared covenant.

Join us this Sunday for worship as we reflect on how our giving supports the life and unity of the Church.

July 26, 2026

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost – Interdenominational Cooperation Fund

MISSION MOMENT

"In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness. We don't know what we should pray, but the Spirit himself pleads our case with unexpressed groans. The one who searches hearts knows how the Spirit thinks, because he pleads for the saints, consistent with God's will. We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose. We know this because God knew them in advance, and he decided in advance that they would be conformed to the image of his Son. That way his Son would be the first of many brothers and sisters. Those who God decided in advance would be conformed to his Son, he also called. Those whom he called, he also made righteous. Those whom he made righteous, he also glorified. So, what are we going to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He didn't spare his own Son but gave him up for us all. Won't he also freely give us all things with

him? Who will bring a charge against God's elect people? It is God who acquits them. Who is going to convict them? It is Christ Jesus who died, even more, who was raised, and who also is at God's right side. It is Christ Jesus who also pleads our case for us. Who will separate us from Christ's love? Will we be separated by trouble, or distress, or harassment, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, We are being put to death all day long for your sake. We are treated like sheep for slaughter. But in all these things we win a sweeping victory through the one who loved us. I'm convinced that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus our Lord: not death or life, not angels or rulers, not present things or future things, not powers or height or depth, or any other thing that is created."— **Romans 8:26-39 (CEB)**

In Romans 8:12–25 (CEB) Paul offers a promise that speaks directly to how we live together: *"The Spirit helps our weakness... the Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words."* Even when we do not know what to do or how to move forward, God is already at work—holding us, guiding us, and drawing us together.

Paul goes on to say, *"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God."* This is not a promise of ease, but of connection—that God is actively working through people, through relationships, and through shared effort to bring about something greater than we could accomplish alone.

This is the heart of The United Methodist Church and the ministry of the [Interdenominational Cooperation Fund](#). At first glance, the structure of the church may feel unfamiliar. Yet at its core is something deeply simple: giving is a covenant to walk together. Through connectional giving, we are joined not only with one another, but with other Christian communities—building partnerships rooted in Christ's love.

The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund supports this work by fostering relationships and shared ministry across denominations. It is a reminder that the Body of Christ is wider than any one tradition, and that our calling is not to serve alone, but alongside others who share the same hope.

On July 30, World Day of Friendship invites us to reflect on the power of relationships that cross boundaries. In many ways, this is what the Church is called to embody—not just friendship, but faithful partnership grounded in Christ. Paul's words remind us that nothing can separate us from the love of God—not hardship, not uncertainty, not even the differences that can sometimes divide us. That same love is what draws us together, enabling us to listen, to cooperate, and to serve side by side.

When we give through our apportionments to support the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, our gifts are joined with others across the connection. Together, we strengthen ministries that serve people we may never meet, but whom God deeply loves. No congregation carries this work alone.

Every gift tells a story. And every story can begin with the impact we make through our giving. A partnership is formed. A shared ministry is strengthened. A witness to Christ that is broader, deeper, and more united.

In a world that often pulls people apart, the Church is called to live differently—connected, collaborative, and grounded in love. And through it all, Paul reminds us: *nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Reflection Question:

Where might God be inviting you to trust more deeply in the power of working together, rather than alone?

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Title: We Can Help Together

Materials: A large blanket or bedsheet and several lightweight stuffed animals or soft balls

Good morning, friends! I'm glad to see you here today. I need a few helpers today! (Invite 2–4 children to help hold the edges of the blanket.)

Look at this blanket. If I put something in the middle—like this stuffed animal—what happens when everyone helps hold the blanket together? (Place stuffed animal in center.) It stays up!

Now let's imagine if only one person tried to hold the whole blanket by themselves. Would that be harder? (Pause) Yes! It would be really hard. But when everyone helps together, it works much better.

In today's Bible story, Paul reminds us that God helps us when we are weak or unsure. He says God's Spirit is with us and helps us when we don't even know what to say or do. That's really good news, isn't it? Because sometimes things feel hard. Sometimes people need help, encouragement, or hope. And God doesn't want us to do everything alone. That's why God gives us each other.

Now let's try something together. (Gently bounce stuffed animal on blanket.) Wow! Look what happens when everyone works together! In our church, we do something like this too.

In The United Methodist Church, churches work together to help people. And one way we do that is through something called the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund. That's a really big name, but it means something simple: churches helping other churches work together.

Sometimes different churches join together to help people after storms.

Sometimes they share food.

Sometimes they help families or teach children about Jesus.

When churches work together, they can do even more good things!

It's kind of like holding this blanket together. Everyone has a part to play.

And when we give, we help support that work.

Every gift tells a story.

One gift might help people get food.

Another gift might help churches work together peacefully.

Another gift might help someone learn about God's love for the very first time.

And here's the best part: Paul reminds us that nothing can separate us from God's love. Nothing.

Not fear.

Not hard days.

Not even when we feel small or unsure.

God stays with us, and God helps us care for one another.

So, this week, remember: You don't have to do everything by yourself. God made us to help each other, work together, and share God's love together.

Prayer: Dear God, Thank you for loving us and helping us. Thank you for giving us friends, families, and churches to work together. Help us to care for others and share your love. Use our gifts to help people everywhere. Thank you for always staying with us. We love you. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of love, you remind us in Romans that your Spirit helps us and that nothing can separate us from your love. As we give today, we do so as part of a shared covenant. Through our connectional giving, and through the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund, our gifts are joined with others to build partnerships and strengthen shared ministry. Use what we offer to bring people together in your name, extending hope and love beyond what we could do alone. May every gift tell a story of your love at work through us. In Christ's name, Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER from [Discipleship Ministries](#)

Steadfast God, you search our hearts and know our needs even when we struggle to find the words. In your mercy, you strengthen us in our weakness and bind us together in love that cannot be broken. As we bring these gifts today, may they bear witness to your enduring promise: that nothing—not hardship, nor fear, nor even death itself—can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus. Bless these offerings, that they may bring hope to the weary, peace to the troubled, and joy to the hearts of your people. Through Christ, our Redeemer and Companion, we pray. Amen.

NEWSLETTER NUGGET

Romans 8:26–39 (CEB) reminds us that we are not alone—the Spirit helps us, and nothing can separate us from God’s love. In The United Methodist Church, this promise is lived out through connectional giving. The Interdenominational Cooperation Fund supports partnerships with other Christian communities, strengthening shared ministry and witness. Together, we do more than we could alone.

Every gift tells a story—of connection, cooperation, and Christ’s love at work.

Join us this Sunday for worship as we celebrate how working together strengthens our shared mission and witness.