



WORLD **COMMUNION** SUNDAY

Sunday, October 7th

SPECIAL SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

On Sunday, October 7th, we will share in World Communion Sunday with over 1 billion Christians all over the world sharing in this Holy Meal together. These Christians come from and live in every continent and nation on Earth. And we have the opportunity to share in a special way through this communion service.

Communion is one of the most powerful times for all of us in worship. Connecting to Christ as One Body together, celebrating our unique gifts and our common love for God and one another is a powerful time. The Grace we receive is powerful and sustaining.

Here are some ways you can participate in this special service...

- If you speak another language (other than English), please let me know. We will be looking for opportunities to include other languages throughout the service.
- If you have a flag (can be full size for the Fellowship Hall or smaller size for the sanctuary) or another decoration that represents a country of ethnicity for you, please bring it to the church either Friday or Saturday for early set up if possible. Otherwise, feel free to bring it to church on Sunday.
- Also, we will be celebrating in a special fellowship luncheon following service. Please bring a dish to share (for approx. 8 people, again representing a country of your ethnicity).

Please let me know if you have any questions or other ideas for this special worship service and time of celebration.

Please remember to give as we celebrate Holy Communion with Christians around the world!

World Communion Sunday for The United Methodist Church is also one of the six Special Sundays when we take up a special offering. On World Communion Sunday, our gifts go toward scholarships around the world. One half of our of the giving goes toward funding World Communion Scholars and the other half is given to Ethnic Scholarships and In-Service Training Programs.

These scholarships give students opportunities for an education that may not have been obtainable otherwise. Many of these recipients have gone on to become doctors, teachers, church leaders and ambassadors.

When we give on World Communion Sunday, we give students around the world opportunities to study and then use that knowledge to serve as leaders in their professions and faith communities.

World Communion Sunday is the first Sunday in October. On World Communion Sunday, The United Methodist Church will take communion in unity with churches from many denominations around the world. It is a powerful reminder of our common faith in Christ.

The World Service Scholars program was originally called the Crusaders Scholarship Program. It began after World War II with the hope of educating students from around the world so that they could return to their home countries as leaders in their communities and churches. Many did return as doctors, psychologists, teachers, rural developers and ambassadors.

Through the years, the program has been able to support more than 4,000 students from all over the world. Our gifts on World Communion Sunday will help continue to promote the peace and unity of Christ.