

20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World

The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund is working to raise \$5 million through a new initiative, “20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World.”

Persons are asked to make a contribution from \$20 to \$2,020 from now until 2020. The initiative solicits the endorsements of United Methodist leadership from throughout the denomination to contribute at least \$20 and to ask others for contributions of \$20 or more.

“Perfect 20/20 vision requires more than seeing—it requires action,” said the Rev. Don Messer, chairperson of the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund committee. “It means transforming money into medicine and ministry and changing cash into care and compassion. It’s time we cast a vision for creating an AIDS-free world.”

A gift of \$20 can save a life by preventing the transmission of HIV from a mother to a child or providing nursing care for an infant born with AIDS. Twenty dollars can supply nutrients to 20 HIV-positive children suffering from dehydration or feed an HIV-positive person for a month, so they can take their medications. It can be used to teach young people and adults how to prevent HIV or to share biblical readings and prayers to those infected and affected.

Over 33 million people are infected with HIV and AIDS, and more than 26 million individuals have died. About 15 million children are orphaned as a result. In the U.S., more than 1.2 million persons suffer from HIV and someone new is infected every 9 ½ minutes.

United Methodists have so far contributed more than \$3 million for HIV/AIDS ministries. These gifts have funded 175 projects in 37 countries. 100 percent of contributions to the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund go directly to support HIV and AIDS programs.

The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund is designated as UMCOR Advance #982345. Give online at www.givetomission.org, through a local United Methodist church, or by mailing a check to United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), PO Box 9068, New York, New York 10087 Find out more about getting involved with “20/20: Visioning an AIDS-Free World” at <http://2020aidsfreeworld.org/> or e-mail 2020AIDSfreeworld@gmail.com.

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About the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund:

The United Methodist Global AIDS Fund was created by the 2004 General Conference to raise \$8 million to help fight the global HIV/AIDS pandemic and support programs offering HIV and AIDS education, prevention, treatment and care services around the world. The Global AIDS Fund Committee oversees the promotion, use, supervision and distribution of the fund.

