



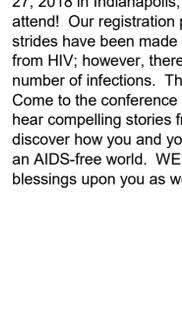
Global AIDS Committee

The United Methodist Church



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Editor: Douglas B. Smith,
Global AIDS Committee



GREETINGS FROM GLOBAL AIDS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Bishop Julius Trimble

Bishop Julius Trimble

Welcome and Register! The United Methodist Church's Global AIDS Committee is sponsoring an exciting AIDS Conference titled "Breaking Barriers...Saving Lives, Reducing Stigma, Increasing Awareness" October 25-27, 2018 in Indianapolis, Indiana and each of you is urged to attend! Our registration page is now open. We know great strides have been made over the years to reduce the deaths from HIV; however, there has not been a decrease in the number of infections. This should be a concern to all of us. Come to the conference to receive the latest news on HIV, hear compelling stories from those living with HIV or AIDS and discover how you and your local congregation can help create an AIDS-free world. WE NEED YOUR VOICE! God's blessings upon you as we journey together. Be encouraged!

[Conference registration](#)

Bishop Julius Trimble



BREAKING BARRIERS AIDS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN!

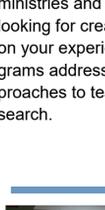
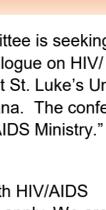
The United Methodist Global AIDS Committee along with its co-sponsoring organizations invite you to attend the October 25-27, 2018 AIDS Conference in Indianapolis, IN USA at St. Luke's UMC. The event will include dynamic speakers such as:

Hydeia Broadbent, HIV positive young person and AIDS activist



Bible study leader Bishop Tracy Smith Malone (East Ohio)

Ambassador Deborah Bix (US Global AIDS Coordinator)



Bishop Julius Trimble and AIDS experts from Indiana and around the country!

The event also features 18 workshops on critical topics including ways HIV and AIDS can be addressed in your local congregation.

Co-sponsoring organizations include:

- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)
- Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
- Indiana Annual Conference
- Indiana University Health
- Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTCO)
- RESULTS
- United Theological Seminary (UTS)
- University of Indianapolis

Scholarships are available as well as CEU's. Registration Fee: \$125. Deadline: October 1, 2018. Hotel: Drury Inn and Suites, 9625 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis. Information available on registration page plus more!

[Register Here](#)

[Scholarship Application](#)

[Call for Papers](#)

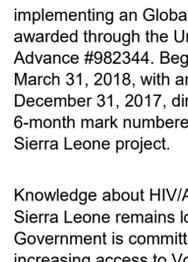


BREAKING BARRIERS AIDS CONFERENCE CALL FOR PAPERS!

The United Methodist Global AIDS Committee is seeking proposals for workshops and scholarly dialogue on HIV/AIDS to take place October 25-27, 2018 at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. The conference theme is "Breaking Barriers, HIV & AIDS Ministry."

United Methodists and others engaged with HIV/AIDS ministries and services are encouraged to apply. We are looking for creativity and imagination in proposals based on your experiences and/or successful HIV/AIDS programs addressing local and global issues, successful approaches to teaching, as well as reports on emerging research.

[Call for Papers Information](#)



Reflections on a Journey to the Philippines by Deaconess Cecelia Williams

The participants taking notes on HIV/AIDS educational tools

The National HIV Conference of the Philippines Central

Conference was held on June 26-28, 2017 at the UCCP Shalom Center on Guerrero Street, Malate Manila. The theme: "Steadfast in Pursuing Shalom: Educate, Prevent, Care, Therefore Go."

The HIV and AIDS Conference was supported by United Methodist Global AIDS Fund, recently renamed United Methodist AIDS Committee (UMGAC).

The conference focused on how the church can be a positive partner in promoting HIV and AIDS education, prevention, care and treatment in the Philippines.

Seventy-five persons attended including youth & young adults from 14-30 years of age, health professionals, medical doctors, community members, United Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service, and women living with HIV (Members of Association of Positive Women Advocates, Inc.), (formerly Babar Plus).

The chair of the National HIV and AIDS Conference was Dr. Gladys P. Mangiduyos supported by Rev. Dr. Donald Messer, Rev. Dr. Youngsook Kang and Deaconess Cecelia Williams – UMGAC members.

[Read More](#)

HIV PROJECT IN SIERRA LEONE, SUPPORTED BY GLOBAL MINISTRIES THROUGH THE UNITED METHODIST GLOBAL AIDS FUND

Sierra Leone Annual Conference Health Office has been implementing a Global Ministries grant that was awarded through the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund Advance #982344. Begun April 1, 2017 the grant runs to March 31, 2018, with an option to renew. As of December 31, 2017, direct beneficiaries of the grant at its 6-month mark numbered 7,570. Congratulations to the Sierra Leone project.

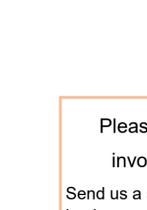


Knowledge about HIV/AIDS in Sierra Leone remains low. The Government is committed to increasing access to Voluntary Confidential Counselling Services, but the response has been poor. People are reluctant to know their HIV status when treatment may not be available are unavailable, and discrimination is overwhelming. This funded program has been running since 2010 in partnership with the Government. It is aimed specifically at youth, young adults, pregnant and breast-feeding women. Young, people, especially young women, are the global face of HIV at this time.

The goal of the program is to reduce HIV transmission from mother to child, and among youth and young adults, through counseling and testing, referral, and the continuum of care at the UMC's Mercy and Kissy Hospitals and four of their target communities. The key activities are:

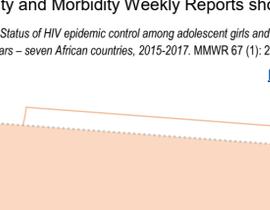
Awareness and Education:

- Increase community knowledge of HIV transmission and prevention through awareness campaigns, home visits, health talks, radio programs, outreaches at schools, daily health education at the hospitals, and at World AIDS Day celebrations. All the work is done with the support of community leaders, high school headmasters, teachers, parents, and health facility staff.
- Voluntary Counseling and Testing Services: Increase voluntary testing among youth and adolescents, pregnant and lactating women, and their newborns by providing mobile and fixed counselling and testing services.
- Support Services for People Living with HIV/AIDS: Provide health services, HIV treatment and follow-up, actively work against stigma.
- Health Facility Support: Facilitate and provide training for professional health workers, peer educators, HIV counselors and community health care workers to provide quality humanized services.



DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

- teens and young adults comprise a significant portion of new HIV diagnoses in the United States? 22% of all new HIV diagnoses in 2015 were among individuals aged 13 to 24. (Source: CDC)
- many teens and young adults in the United States fail to treat their HIV infection? Of those aged 13 to 24 who were diagnosed, only 68% received care within one month? This is the lowest percentage of all age groups. (Source: CDC)
- the UNAIDS 90-90-90 target calls on countries to reach the following goals:
 - 90% of people living with HIV diagnosed by 2020
 - 90% of diagnosed people on antiretroviral treatment by 2020
 - 90% of people in treatment with fully suppressed viral load by 2020
- according to a 2017 analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation, 4 in 10 people living with HIV receive Medicaid?

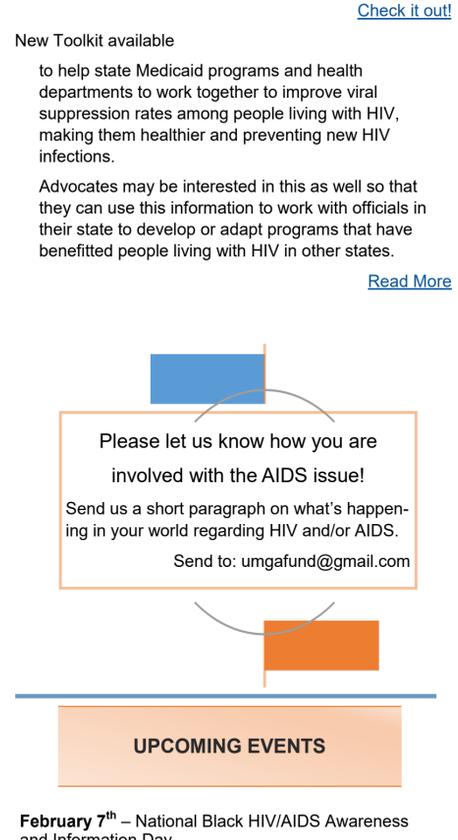


LESS THAN HALF OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN WITH HIV HAVE SUPPRESSED VIRAL LOAD IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Less than half of adolescent girls and young women with HIV in some of the countries with the highest burden of HIV in sub-Saharan Africa have a fully suppressed viral load on antiretroviral treatment, well below the average for the population as a whole, findings from national surveys published this month in Mortality and Morbidity Weekly Reports show.

Brown K et al. Status of HIV epidemic control among adolescent girls and young women aged 15-24 years – seven African countries, 2015-2017. MMWR 67 (1): 29-32, 2018.

[Read More](#)



NEW RESOURCES!

New Resource on HIV and College Students –

Affordable Colleges Online has a new webpage that provides useful information for college students about HIV & AIDS. It provides answers to questions as well as basic information relevant to young adults.

[Check it out!](#)

New Toolkit available

to help state Medicaid programs and health departments to work together to improve viral suppression rates among people living with HIV, making them healthier and preventing new HIV infections.

Advocates may be interested in this as well so that they can use this information to work with officials in their state to develop or adapt programs that have benefited people living with HIV in other states.

[Read More](#)

Please let us know how you are involved with the AIDS issue! Send us a short paragraph on what's happening in your world regarding HIV and/or AIDS. Send to: umgafund@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 7th – National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness and Information Day
<https://aidsinfo.nih.gov/understanding-hiv-aids/hiv-aids-awareness-days/147/national-black-hiv-aids-awareness-day>

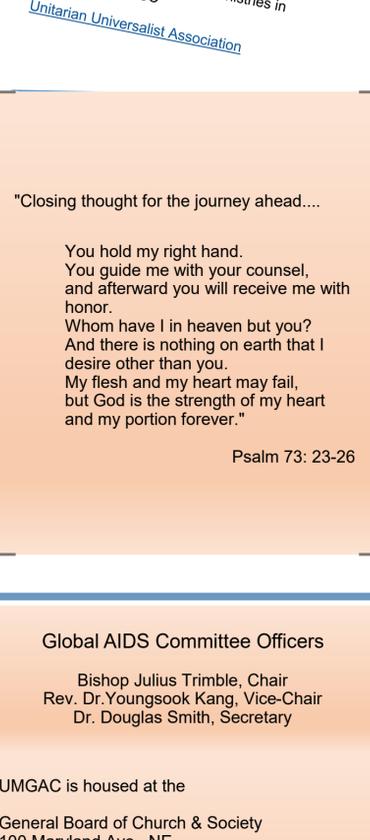
March 10th – National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day -
<https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/women-and-girls>

March 21st – National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
<https://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days/native>

September 5th – Faith Conference on AIDS sponsored by the USCA Faith Coalition. Orlando, Florida. [Stay tuned for more information.](#)

September 6-9, 2018 – United States Conference on AIDS – Orlando, FL
<http://2018usca.org/>

October 25-27, 2018 – "Breaking Barriers" AIDS Conference sponsored by the UMC Global AIDS Committee, Indianapolis, IN (see article above)
[Register Here](#)



AIDS RESOURCES FROM OTHER MAINLINE CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS

[United Church of Christ and HIV & AIDS](#)

[Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – ELCA](#)

[Presbyterian Church in USA and More Light Presbyterians](#)

[Disciples of Christ - Global Ministries in union with the UCC](#)

[Unitarian Universalist Association](#)

"Closing thought for the journey ahead...."

You hold my right hand.
You guide me with your counsel,
and afterward you will receive me with honor.
Whom have I in heaven but you?
And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you.
My flesh and my heart may fail,
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever."

Psalms 73: 23-26

Global AIDS Committee Officers

Bishop Julius Trimble, Chair
Rev. Dr. Youngsook Kang, Vice-Chair
Dr. Douglas Smith, Secretary

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