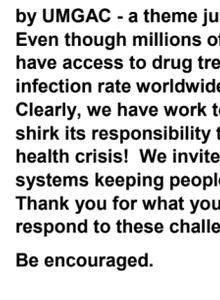


AIDS IS NOT OVER



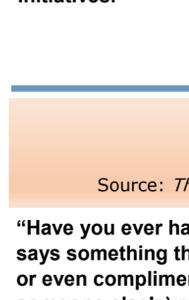
Bishop Julius Trimble

GREETINGS FROM GLOBAL AIDS COMMITTEE CHAIR Bishop Julius Trimble

"AIDS is Not Over" was the theme of the 2016 AIDS Conference sponsored by UMGAC - a theme just as relevant today as it was then. Even though millions of people infected with HIV or AIDS have access to drug treatment, about half still do not. The infection rate worldwide is still as high as it was in 2016. Clearly, we have work to do! The UMC and the world cannot shirk its responsibility to address this ongoing, serious health crisis! We invite you to walk with us to challenge the systems keeping people stigmatized, untreated and unloved. Thank you for what you do in your part of the world to respond to these challenges.

Be encouraged.

Bishop Julius Trimble, UMGAC Chair



Hydeia Broadbent

Young Adult AIDS Activist to Keynote 2018 UMC AIDS Conference

At birth, Hydeia Broadbent was abandoned by the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas where Patricia and Loren Broadbent adopted her as an infant. Although her HIV condition was congenital, she was not diagnosed as HIV-positive with advancement to AIDS until age three. The prognosis was that she would not live past the age of five.

Now at the age of 33, Hydeia spends her time spreading the message of HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention, by promoting abstinence, safe-sex practices (for people who choose to have sex) and national HIV testing initiatives.

[Read More](#)

[Conference Website](#)

Microaggressions and HIV

Source: *The Body: the HIV/AIDS Resource*

"Have you ever had that experience where someone says something that was meant to be neutral, or funny or even complimentary, but it felt like a dig at your (or someone else's) race, gender, HIV status, sexuality or some other part of who they are?"

If so, then you have experienced a microaggression. Microaggressions, according to psychologist Kevin Nadal, Ph.D. and others, are brief and commonplace daily verbal, behavioral, or environmental indignities, whether intentional or unintentional, that communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative slights and insults toward members of oppressed groups.

They're called "micro" because they often happen between people or in intimate groups. But there is nothing small about them. We have seen how LGBT bullying can drive young people to suicide; perceptions of black people being inherently dangerous can lead them to be murdered just for walking or driving down the street; and persistent stigma allows the HIV epidemic to flourish.

[Read More](#)

HIV/AIDS Camps and Retreats in the United States

Each year several annual conferences in The United Methodist Church sponsor camps or retreats for people living with HIV or AIDS and those who care for them. We'd like to pass along [this list](#) to you hoping you might promote these in your annual conference and local church.

These events bring support, affirmation and spiritual nourishment to those living with the virus. If you have any questions, please write UMGAFund@gmail.com or call 703-282-6254. Thank you.

Faith communities demand action to end TB, a major killer in people living with HIV

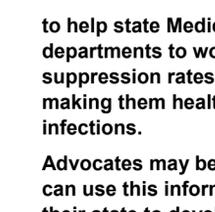
The World Council of Churches – Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (WCC-EAA) is inviting a "letter writing action", encouraging religious leaders and faith communities to speak out for action against Tuberculosis (TB).

"TB and its drug-resistant forms constitute a global health crisis," explains Francesca Merico, coordinator of the WCC-EAA HIV campaign. "TB is airborne and causes the most deaths worldwide of any single communicable disease."

"While preventable and curable, it is among the top ten causes of child mortality globally, and the risk of developing tuberculosis is estimated to be between 16-27 times greater in people living with HIV than among those without HIV infection," Merico adds.

The United Nations General Assembly is to hold a High-Level Meeting on the fight against tuberculosis on 26 September, under the theme of "United to end tuberculosis: an urgent global response to a global epidemic". At the meeting, UN member states are expected to adopt a Political Declaration on Ending TB.

[Read More](#)



DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

- there are more than 1.1 million people living with HIV in the US?
- almost 1 in 7 don't know their HIV status?
- 40% of youth aged 13-24 don't know they're HIV-positive?
- in the U.S., 6,721 people died from HIV and AIDS in 2014? It is the 8th leading cause of death for those aged 25-34 and 9th for those aged 35-44.
- if current HIV diagnoses rates persist, about 1 in 2 black men who have sex with men (MSM) and 1 in 4 Latino MSM in the United States will be diagnosed with HIV during their lifetime?
- HIV remains the #1 health threat for gay and bisexual men?

<https://www.cdc.gov/hiv/statistics/overview/ataqlance.html>

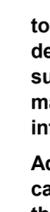
National HIV Testing Day

June 27, 2018

This year's theme, *Test Your Way. Do It Today*, is a call to get tested now and a reminder that there are more ways than ever to get an HIV test — in a clinic, from your health care provider, at a testing event, at home, or from a local organization.

Get tested your way today!

[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. They can use this information to work with officials in their state to develop or adapt programs that have benefitted people living with HIV in other states.

[Read More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 5, 2018 – 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

October 25-27, 2018 – ["Breaking Barriers"](#) AIDS Conference sponsored by the UMC Global AIDS Committee, Indianapolis, IN. Scholarships for registration and housing are available. Registration Deadline: October 1, 2018.



December 11-14, 2018 – [National Ryan White Conference on HIV Care and Treatment](#) - Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center at the National Harbor in Oxon Hill, MD. Theme: *Catalyzing Success: Advancing Innovation. Leveraging Data. Ending the HIV Epidemic.* Registration Deadline: September 28, 2018.

Sign up to be an AIDS Ambassador!

Each of you receiving this newsletter is considered an [AIDS Ambassador](#), and we encourage you to invite others in your local congregation and community to join the network! To join the AIDS Network and serve as an AIDS Ambassador, write to: gbcs@umcjustice.org, and submit your name requesting to be added to the AIDS Network as an AIDS Ambassador. Thank you!

Closing Thought

... "In an age of incredible suffering, let us personally join God's merciful angels in loving and caring and healing.

Doing so will be a way of visiting the sick as Jesus commanded. It will be discovering a 'means of grace' as deeply spiritual and meaningful as partaking in Holy Communion or being baptized.

It will be experiencing anew the splendor of God's grace. Yes, as we do it to 'one of the least' of God's children, we will be doing it to Christ."

John Wesley, "On Visiting the Sick," Sermon 98
As quoted in
"Breaking the Conspiracy of Silence"
By Rev. Dr. Donald Messer

Global AIDS Committee Officers

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

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