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### Word from Bishop Trimble *The Ribbon Project*

In 1991, a group of artists came together to create a meaningful symbol at the height of the AIDS crisis—to show support and compassion for those with AIDS and their caregivers. These artists were a part of the Visual AIDS Artists' Caucus and what they created was titled "**The Ribbon Project**", better known today simply as the **Red Ribbon**.

This simple symbol stands in honor of the over 30 million who have died from HIV/AIDS, the 37 million who currently are living with HIV or AIDS and more than thirty years of work to end this virus. Like those artists in 1991, we, as people of faith, are called to care for those living with HIV or AIDS and to advocate for just, transforming policies and practices that will bring healing and wholeness. This is a faith journey! Please join us...your voice is needed and so important!



Be encouraged,  
Bishop Julius C. Trimble,  
UMGAC Chair



### Someone Cares HIV Prevention Outreach Team

Someone Cares HIV Prevention Outreach Team is a project partially funded by the UMC Board of Global Ministries. Someone Cares Inc. is a registered nonprofit 501 (c) 3 committed to addressing the growing number of HIV and AIDS diagnoses reported among men of color, men who have sex with men (MSM) and Transgender communities.

The organization was established in Florida in 1996 and moved to the Atlanta Metropolitan area in 1998. It provides holistic support and interventions to the LGBTQ, and underserved, marginalized, homeless populations. Services include HIV and STI prevention education and intervention, counseling and testing, advocacy, support services, mental health care, primary care, and research.

It is the largest Transgender service organization in the southeastern United States, and the only one to be awarded funds by the State of Georgia. It partners with local and state health departments to extend the reach of HIV prevention efforts among Young Transgender Persons of Color (YTGPOC) specifically in the Metro Atlanta area.

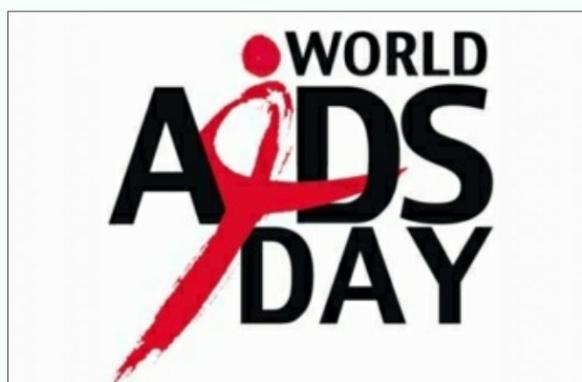
[More info...](#)



### Research Breakthrough: on Cure for AIDS

Researchers at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Temple University announced progress towards a cure for HIV. The team of scientists say they removed HIV from the DNA of infected mice using a combination of laser and gene-editing technology.

[More info...](#)



### World AIDS Day

Typically, World AIDS Day (WAD) is commemorated December 1st; however, there is no set rule that the commemoration must be on that day. The important thing is for each of us in our respective spheres take some action to lift up the issues of HIV & AIDS by educating people as well as providing current resources to those living with HIV or AIDS. We invite you to check out the United Methodist Global AIDS Committee's Resource page for helpful tools and resources! Let us know what you're planning!

[Resource Page](#)

## Ten Facts About HIV: Did You Know that..

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infects cells of the immune system? Infection results in the progressive deterioration of the immune system, breaking down the body's ability to fend off some infections and other diseases.

More than 110 000 children die each year from AIDS-related causes and over 15 000 children are newly infected with HIV every month?

HIV is the greatest risk factor for developing active TB disease?

Transmission of HIV from mother to child is preventable?

[Read More](#)

## SAVE the DATE!

UMGAC is sponsoring a one-day HIV/AIDS conference May 4, 2020 at Hennepin United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, MN which is the day prior to the 2020 UMC General Conference.

This event is open to all. More info will be released in the coming months! If you will be attending the 2020 General Conference, plan to come a day early for this event!

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## Upcoming 2019 AIDS Retreats

Several UMC Annual Conferences sponsor annual HIV/AIDS retreats. Please check out this resource for information about those coming up this year! These events offer education, recreation and spiritual and psychic renewal for people living with HIV. We celebrate those who organize and sponsor these retreats!

[More info...](#)

## Prayers for those living with HIV or AIDS

### 2018 United Methodist Breaking Barriers Conference



### United Church of Christ



## The United Methodist Global AIDS Committee

faithfully works to engage annual conferences and local churches in HIV/AIDS education and advocacy and loving and compassionate outreach by raising awareness and providing faith-based resources and training.

By doing this, we aim to eliminate deaths from HIV and AIDS, reduce stigma and advocate for and affirm persons living with and affected by HIV and AIDS around the world.

Adopted by UMGAC, April 23, 2019

The United Methodist Global AIDS Committee is funded through The United Methodist Church. We are grateful for its support as well as the various UMC agencies that support our work: The Council of Bishops, General Board of Global Ministries, General Board of Church & Society, United Methodist Women, Division on Ministries with Young People, General Commission on Communication.



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