

What does the Bible say?

We find story after story of Jesus encountering persons who were seeking wholeness in their lives, and Jesus intentionally sharing his love and his healing touch with them with few, if any, questions asked. The author of Mark tells us that Jesus healed a man with leprosy (**Mark 1:40-45**) and following the healing told the man not to tell anyone but to show the priest his “wellness” through an act of giving (gratitude), and through that act, people would know the power of Christ.



According to the Gospel of Luke (**4:16-21**), Jesus identified himself and his task with that of the servant Lord, the one who was sent to bring good tidings to the afflicted, hope to the brokenhearted, liberty to the captives, and comfort to all who mourn, giving them the oil of gladness and the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. (**Isaiah 61:1-3**)

What does The United Methodist Church say?

The Social Principles state, “All individuals living with HIV and AIDS should be treated with dignity and respect. We support their rights to employment, appropriate medical care, full participation in public education, and full participation in the Church.” (**Social Principles ¶162.U**)



In response to the HIV/AIDS crisis in the world, The United Methodist Church commits itself to a holistic approach of awareness, education, prevention, treatment, community organizing, public advocacy and abstinence. (**2016 Book of Resolutions, #3243, “The Church and the Global HIV/AIDS Pandemic”**)

“Churches and other United Methodist organizations need to continue or begin compassionate ministry with persons living with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones. In terms of prevention education, United Methodists have an opportunity to teach not only the facts about HIV transmission and how to prevent infection but to relate these facts to Christian values. Congregations can do HIV/AIDS prevention education in broader contexts, such as human sexuality and holistic health, as well as addressing societal problems, such as racism, sexism, addiction, and poverty.” (**2016 Book of Resolutions, #3241, “Covenant to Care: Recognizing and Responding to the Many Faces of AIDS in the U.S.A.”**)



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

Living **FAITH** Seeking **JUSTICE** Pursuing **PEACE**

HIV & AIDS

FAITH & FACTS

HEALTH AND WHOLENESS

What do the facts say?

- As of 2020, 37.7 million people globally were living with HIV; 36 million adults, 1.7 million children (0-14 years).¹
- In 2020, 1.5 million people became newly infected with HIV and 680,000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses.²
- Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, 79.3 million people have become infected with HIV and 36.3 million people have died from AIDS-related illnesses.³
- Globally, infection rates in young women 15-24 years old are twice as high as among men of the same age.⁴



^{1,2,3,4} *United Nations AIDS*

What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...

Support the work of The United Methodist Church's Global AIDS Committee. Visit www.umglobalaidsfund.com for links and resources.

Ask your Member of Congress, if you reside in the United States, to support the highest level of funding for AIDS prevention, care and treatment in the United States and globally.

Learn more about federal spending decisions. Visit the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (www.cbpp.org) for the latest analysis of proposed legislation or the National Priorities Project (www.nationalpriorities.org) to see exactly how your tax dollars are being spent.

Work to end stigma and gender-based violence, and increase protective/prevention factors such as sexuality education and access to health care.



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