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September 2021

Dear Clergy and Laity,

Volunteer in Mission (VIM) Sunday is October 17, 2021.

In order to help your congregation celebrate, I've attached a FAQ bulletin insert as well as a link to a [VIM video](#).

Donations can be made to **Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Advance #4055** to support our Conference VIM Teams or to **VIM Materials Advance #7010** that provides teams with funds for project supplies.

To add a personal touch, ask your congregants who have been involved in mission to stand and be recognized or have a mission moment with personal accounts of service with others. I'd love to celebrate your missions on our [VIM Facebook page](#), our [website](#) or in the *Susquehanna LINK*. Send your photos and stories all year round, even your VIM Sunday celebrations.

The world has been looking differently this past year and a half, but Volunteers in Mission is remaining steadfast by putting their love into action!

This link is straight to the video: <https://youtu.be/DrMtUzQUigA>

This link is to our website where you can download it: <https://www.susmb.org/vim/>

Peace to you,

Michelle

Michelle Y. Schwartzman
Volunteer in Missions Coordinator
Susquehanna Conference United Methodist Church



“Christian Love in Action”

What is United Methodist Volunteers in Mission?

UMVIM exists to promote, encourage and enable Christians to exemplify “Christian Love in Action” through short-term mission service locally, nationally and internationally.

How long has UMVIM been in existence?

The UMVIM movement began in 1976 and is organized by jurisdiction. The General Board of Global Ministries networks with the jurisdictional UMVIM offices, which in turn, coordinate with annual conference offices.

What is the ministry of UMVIM?

UMVIM teams work together to fulfill ongoing missional needs domestically and abroad usually serving for several days to several weeks.

Their work includes construction and renewing of mission facilities, teaching, witnessing, conducting medical clinics, holding Bible studies or Bible School, and serving in disaster relief and recovery efforts around the world.

What is UMVIM Awareness Sunday?

The 2016 General Conference approved United Methodist Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday (UMVIM) at its gathering.



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“UMVIM Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate those who have served in short-term missions and the work of UMVIM throughout the world. If the annual conference so directs, an offering may be received and used by the annual conference Volunteers in Mission program.” -The Book of Discipline, 2016, ¶ 265.5

What can I do to support UMVIM?

- Invite the UMVIM (VIM) Conference Coordinator to speak at your local church during the year.
- Contact the VIM Conference Coordinator about grants available to your volunteers/projects.
- Have volunteers attend a VIM training.
- Have a Sunday celebrating the VIM volunteers in your congregation.
- Create a display in your church reflecting your VIM efforts, send photos to Conference Coordinator, too!
- Pray for VIM volunteers.
- Give to the Susquehanna Conference VIM Advance #4055 or VIM Materials Advance #7010.

Where do I find out more on UMVIM?

Visit our website at **susmb.org**
Contact **Michelle Schwartzman**,
Susquehanna Conference
Volunteers in Mission Coordinator
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