



# United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network

## About UMAMN

### Vision

We envision a society where all people in Appalachia are valued. One in which all are offered discipleship for Jesus Christ and where all have the opportunity to realize God-centered spiritual, social, and economic potential.

### Mission

The mission of the United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network is to advocate for Appalachia within the structure of the United Methodist Church and to empower social justice through leadership development and collaboration with ministries and organizations that serve the region.

### Goals

To support ministries that address systemic causes of poverty and other social issues in Appalachia. (General Church Focus Area (GCFA): Engaging in ministry with the poor.)

To provide education and training for ministries and local church leaders, lay and clergy, in an Appalachian context. (GCFA: Developing principled Christian leaders for the church and the world.)

To provide education and awareness for advocacy on issues that impact Appalachia. (GCFA: Stamping out killer diseases by improving health globally.)

To improve the capacity and effectiveness of UMAMN through consistent communication, efficient structure, and financial development.

## Support of UMAMN

UMAMN receives funding from the conferences in Appalachia and from churches and individuals who support ministry in Appalachia. You can support UMAMN in a variety of ways, including prayer, financial support, and volunteering. If you are interested in working with UMAMN, please contact us using the information below.

Donations may be made to UMAMN by mailing a check, through our website, or through the Advance. To support the operation of UMAMN, Hunger and Poverty Grants, and our education and advocacy ministries, please give to Appalachian Ministry Network (Advance #982041).

You can learn about additional ministries and ways to support UMAMN on our website. Thank you for supporting United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network!

## Contact

United Methodist Appalachian Ministry Network

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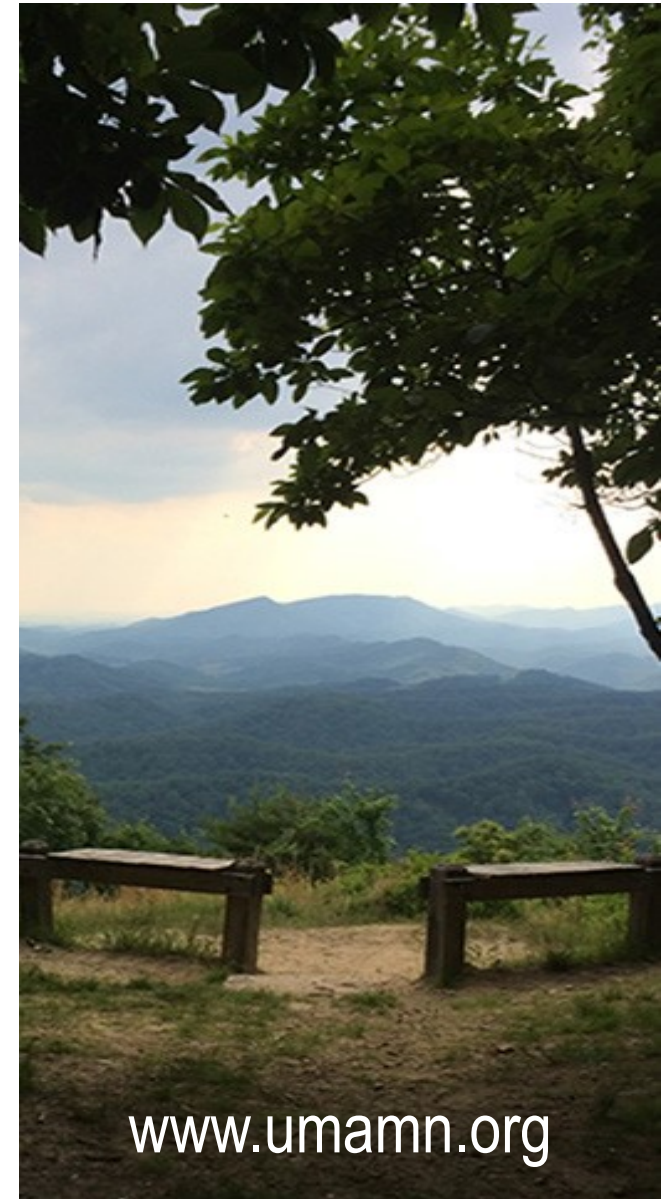
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Be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!



[www.umamn.org](http://www.umamn.org)



Solar Samaritans, Somerset, PA



The House of the Carpenter, Wheeling, WV



Downtown Welcome Table, Asheville, NC

## HUNGER & POVERTY GRANTS

The Hunger & Poverty Grant Program is funded through the Appalachia Hunger and Poverty General Advance Special (#982039). The goals of the program are to assist with and encourage the development of new ministries or the expansion of current ministries that are working to eradicate hunger and poverty in Appalachia and to help meet the emergency needs of ongoing ministries dealing with mounting client populations and decreasing or diminishing resources. UMAMN strives to award up to 15 grants of \$2,500 per year, but we need your help. In 2014, UMAMN was able to award 11 grants totaling \$17,500 to ministries across Appalachia. We need support from local churches, UMW groups, and other partners to reach the annual goal of \$37,500 to award through the grant program.

## ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

UMAMN advocates for Appalachia and the people living in Appalachia. In fall 2014, UMAMN selected Children's Issues and Water Quality as the key focus areas for our work. UMAMN is currently collaborating with partners to develop an educational seminar and several one-page briefs on these topics to be available in 2015. UMAMN members are available to provide information on these and other Appalachian-specific issues, as well as assist local pastors, rural churches, ministries, and other working in the region.



## THE APPALACHIAN REGION

Appalachia is a 205,000 square-mile region that extends from New York to Mississippi. All or a portion of 20 United Methodist conferences fall within Appalachia, and the region contains over 8,500 United Methodist churches. Appalachia has a population of over 25 million people, of which over 40 percent are classified as rural. In comparison, only 20 percent of the total population of the United States is classified as rural. The Appalachian region generally follows the Appalachian mountain chain, which has been a foundation for the culture, history, and heritage of the Appalachian people. Coal mining, agriculture, and manufacturing are the traditional economic drivers in the region; however, all three industries have experienced major declines, resulting in rollercoaster unemployment, low per capita income (82% of the U.S. average), and a 16.6% poverty rate.