

A Litany of Thanks and Appreciation for Volunteers

Leader: Today, we acknowledge and express our heartfelt appreciation to the many women and men, lay and clergy, of The United Methodist Church, who have answered the call to show their love for Christ through active service to others. You are awesome!

People: We celebrate your courage, dedication and willingness to allow God to use you in this special ministry.

Leader: You are members of a strong network of more than 62.6 million* volunteers in the United States who worked 7.9 billion hours with an estimated value of \$184 billion in 2015. You share your passion for serving with the poor; building churches; and assisting in disaster response, community health, and leadership training each year. You are among thousands of United Methodist volunteers who serve the church faithfully.

People: We celebrate your commitment, dedication and ongoing willingness to make sacrifices for the benefit of others.

Leader: There is evidence of your Christian love through the construction and renewing of mission facilities and the teaching, witnessing and conducting of medical clinics. We experience your deeds and the restoration of hope you give following the devastation of disaster; our faith is strengthened.

People: We celebrate the relationships you build and sustain, and your value for providing the highest standard of educating, equipping and empowering volunteers to serve.

Leader: For many years, you have served throughout the world, inspiring change, informing, connecting and interacting as servants of Christ, and transforming the world through Christian love in action.

All: We celebrate you and your good works, short-term and around the world, and pray you are empowered to take the love and light of God to even higher heights. To God be the glory!

* 2015 data retrieved from <https://www.nationalservice.gov/vcla/national>

