



H.O.P.E.

HOLMAN ORGANIZING FOR PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT

H.O.P.E. MISSION STATEMENT

“My body is the temple of the Living God.
God’s Spirit breathes life in and through me.
God’s life restores my health.
God’s joy gives me strength.
God’s energy renews me.”

The present mission of H.O.P.E. is to reach out to the Holman family and community at large by addressing issues that affect the well being of individuals. Our task is to offer an HIV / AIDS ministry that will raise awareness, educate the people as to the facts and empower them to join in the work at hand, and offer programs that will nurture and support individuals as they move forward in healing, thereby strengthening their hope and faith for the journey. As we commit ourselves to each other, let us remember the promise of God in Jeremiah 29:10-11, ...
But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and bring you home again. For I know the plans I have for you, saith the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

MEETING TIME:

Second Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. at Holman

Goal of H.O.P.E.

Since 2001, Holman’s H.O.P.E. ministry has been diligent in its work to bring awareness and education to the Holman congregation and the community-at-large on the issues of HIV / AIDS, and to help to create dialogue and action on the issues in order to reduce the spread of the Epidemic in the Black Community.

H.O.P.E. Relationship with OUTREACH MINISTRIES

H.O.P.E. is one of fourteen (14) ministry areas under the Outreach Ministries umbrella. The Outreach Ministries at Holman exist “to bring to the people of Los Angeles community hope-filled, Christ-inspired responses with passion to urban needs.” H.O.P.E. is committed to that mission.

H.O.P.E. Activities

- a. First Sunday of the month – H.O.P.E. display table set up with educational and informational material regarding HIV / AIDS. H.O.P.E. committee members available to answer questions and/or provide resources that can address issues and concerns related to HIV / AIDS.

- b. Provide announcements for church Sunday bulletin regarding current HIV/AIDS statistics / facts – done primarily on HIV/AIDS awareness days, and intermittently.
- c. H.O.P.E. spearheads observation at Holman of HIV/AIDS awareness days

HIV / AIDS AWARENESS DAYS

February 7	National Black HIV / AIDS Awareness Day
March	The Black Church Week of Prayer for the Healing of AIDS <i>(first week in March)</i>
March 10	National Women and Girls HIV / AIDS Awareness Day
June 27	National HIV Testing Day
December 1	World AIDS Day

- d. H.O.P.E. sponsors the H.O.P.E. Coffee House, second Saturday in September, an evening of coffee, tea, dessert, fellowship and wonderful entertainment. This event is our major fundraiser for the year. Proceeds raised benefit H.O.P.E. committee outreach to raise awareness and support designated families and organizations in their fight against HIV / AIDS. This event has allowed us to make an end of year financial donation to five community agencies that work directly with persons infected and/or affected by HIV / AIDS. We were also able to give a Christmas gift to three families associated with the agencies we have assisted.

United Methodist Church Stand on HIV / AIDS

In the United Methodist Church, “*the **HIV / AIDS Ministries Network** and **Covenant to Care** program were launched in 1989 by Health and Welfare Ministries, General Board of Global Ministries.*”

HIV / AIDS poses one of the most significant health risks of our time. Many United Methodists have been in the forefront of ministry with persons living with HIV and AIDS in the United States and around the world.

*A **Covenant to Care congregation** publicly declares that people with HIV / AIDS and their loved ones are welcome in all facets of the church's life, leadership and ministry. We show Christian hospitality. Hospitality to all of God's children is the message of the Good News which Jesus brought and challenged the church to live.”*

Additionally, the UMC Social Principles, 162.S states: *All individuals living with HIV and AIDS should be treated with dignity and respect . . . We urge the church to be actively involved in the prevention of the spread of AIDS by providing educational opportunities to the congregation and the community. What greater testimony can we have than to point out in our Annual Conference reports in June that the Holman congregation sponsored an HIV / AIDS Testing Sunday.*