

United Methodist Family Services
Offering Scripts

Following are scripts that help summarize the work of UMFS for your congregation. These can be used in a variety of ways: as a quick summary of UMFS before the offering, as a mission moment during the service, or as copy for your bulletin. You can also download a full color bulletin insert, the 1-minute UMFS video, and other resources at [UMFS.org/church](https://www.umfs.org/get-involved/church-relations/).

UMFS Quick Summary

For over a century, United Methodist Family Services has been a blessing to high-risk children and families throughout Virginia. Your support of UMFS through this offering helps provide foster care and community services, specialized therapeutic education, and residential treatment services for high-risk children and their families. Thank you for supporting this transformative ministry.

UMFS Mission Moment

For over a century, United Methodist Family Services has been a blessing to high-risk children and families throughout Virginia. The mission of UMFS is to be an unwavering champion for high-risk children and families, collaborating with communities to help them reach their full potential. UMFS serves high-risk children & families across Virginia through 3 major programs: foster care and community services, residential treatment programs, and specialized therapeutic education schools.

Our financial gifts to UMFS through this offering provide support to foster children like Mark. Mark had a rough childhood, which included the imprisonment of his father and the death of his mother. He moved through several foster homes and a residential facility before he became part of the UMFS Treatment Foster Care program in 2014. Like many foster children, he was behind in school and struggling with anger and depression.

UMFS matched Mark with a loving foster family, and provided the entire family with unwavering support. As a result, Mark was able to catch up in school, and even more impressive, graduate with honors. His success earned him a college scholarship, making Mark the first in his family to attend college.

There are over 5,000 children like Mark in foster care in Virginia. Nationally only 50% of foster youth complete high school by age 18, and less than 9% graduate from college. Our support of UMFS helps give other foster youth the same love and support that helped Mark shatter these statistics.

Our support of UMFS also helps restore hope for children like Mikey. When he was just 14, Mikey got into trouble and landed in a maximum security juvenile detention facility, separated from his family, his community, and the love and support that kids need to thrive. Alone in an orange jumpsuit in a cell, his future looked bleak.

Thanks to a new partnership with the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice, Mikey came to UMFS and receive the healing he so desperately needed. As he progressed through his counseling, he started to build healthy relationships with his peers and UMFS staff. He did well in the UMFS Charterhouse School. He was able to get a part-time job on campus, and even attended the school prom. In June, Mikey proudly completed his treatment and graduated from high school, ready for the next chapter in his life.

Nearly half the teens released from juvenile detention in Virginia were re-arrested within a year. Our support of UMFS helps transform their cycles of despair into paths of hope.

By supporting the work of United Methodist Family Services, we become unwavering champions for children like Mark and Mikey, and we help restore hope, one child at a time.