

September 9, 2018

## Mission Moment

In September, we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. During this time, we make an extra effort to hear the voices of our Hispanic and Latino brothers and sisters.

The term “Hispanic” or “Latino”, refers to Puerto Rican, South or Central America or other Spanish culture or origin regardless of race.

Hispanic Heritage Month, whose roots go back to 1968, begins on September 15, the anniversary of the independence of five Latin American countries.

These people from many nations bring a wide range of rich culture into our churches. Their voices are reflected in our hymnals and heard in dialogue of loving our neighbors. Their presence among us is vital as we seek to engage the changing culture around us.

During Hispanic Heritage Month, United Methodists reflect on the real meaning of open hearts, open minds and open doors and celebrate the generations of Hispanic and Latino Americans who positively influence and enrich our church and community.

God asks us to love all of His people and to open our eyes to see the image of God reflecting in the diversity of His creation.