



**Serving the East and West Ohio Conferences of the
United Methodist Church
Enlighten. Educate. Engage.**

March is **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**, and churches may participate in various ways to raise awareness. Use your children's sermon to simply explain developmental disabilities. [How to Talk to Kids About People with Disabilities](#). **Encourage everyone to wear orange.**

An internet search for Biblical theology on disabilities brings up numerous resources. Unfortunately, many of these websites contain pop-ups that make navigation difficult.

- [Developmental Disability Awareness Month \(March 2026\) | Days Of The Year](#)
- [30 Powerful Bible Verses About Disabilities \(With Commentary\) - Bible Study For You](#),
- [6 Passages That Help Us Develop a Theology of Disability | Crossway](#)

Of course, you don't need to limit your focus on disability awareness to just one month of the year. Make it a priority to keep the conversations going! Here are a few ways to share awareness about various disabilities:

- [March Is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month - National Disability Institute](#)
- [Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2026 | March 1, 2026 | Awareness Days](#)
- Sponsor or volunteer at a Night to Shine prom in 2027 through the Tim Tebow Foundation. Learn more here: [2026 Night to Shine](#)
- Observe Worldwide Down Syndrome Day, March 21. Wear colorful socks as conversation starters. [About the 2026 theme - World Down Syndrome Day](#)

A Prayer for Lent

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. When we reach the glorious Celebration of Resurrection, may our rejoicing know no end.

Resources

[Make your church disability-friendly and accessible; earn a badge | ResourceUMC](#)

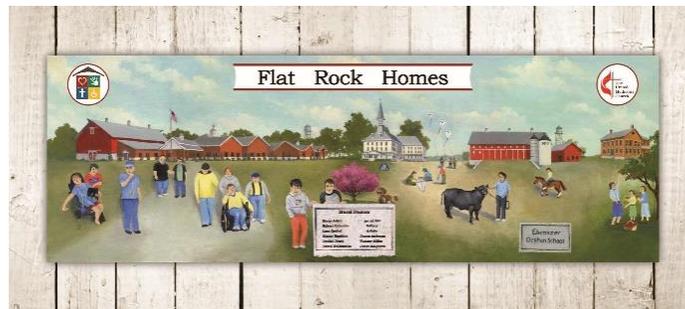
umcdmc.org

<https://www.umdeaf.org/atech/caption.html>

[Faith and Mental Health | UMNews.org](#)

Check out our page on Facebook! We would love to hear from you! [Facebook](#)

160 Years Mission Strong



The aftermath of the Civil War left countless children alone or displaced after the death or injury of a family's primary provider. Moved by the urgent needs of these young lives, a group of compassionate ministers in Tiffin, Ohio, opened a small orphanage. Within its walls, eight children found warmth, protection, and a safe place to grow.

From this humble beginning emerged what we now know as **Flat Rock Homes, Care Center & Community Services**. Over time,, the organization transformed its mission from caring for orphans to serving individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Today, in 2026, we proudly celebrate **160 Years Mission Strong**—honoring a legacy built on compassion, resilience, and dedication to some of society's most vulnerable. Our commitment endures as we continue to provide care, support, and empowerment for those who depend on us.

Visit www.flatrockhomes.org to learn more about our July celebrations. Your prayerful support enables us to meet the needs of our individuals. Flat Rock Homes is a not-for-profit, faith-based organization and a mission of the East Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church.