

## Sleep-out to End Malaria

The United Methodist Church is part of a global response to fight malaria. Show your commitment to overcoming malaria's burden by planning and participating in a sleepout at your church. Imagine the attention you can draw by setting on a mosquito net campsite on your church grounds. This is a great opportunity to show your community how we are reaching beyond our church to change lives, both locally and globally.

Don't know where to begin? No problem! Below, we have provided instructions and options to maximize the effectiveness of your event.



## Instructions for making bed nets

**Objective:** to connect with families in Africa as they experience sleeping under a mosquito net for protection against mosquitoes that carry malaria. This can be accomplished indoors or outdoors, depending on weather elements, space availability, etc.

### Items needed:

- Tulle (basically, wedding veil fabric): 108" wide x 4-5 yds in length  
*\*\*retail stores typically carry 54"- or 72"-wide bolts, so you may want to check in advance or order online\*\**

Cost: Typically between \$.99 - \$1.99 per yard....\$50-\$70 per bolt (50 yds)

Resources: check your local craft or fabric store or online (ebay, save-on-crafts.com, prestigelinens.com)

Colors: Mosquito nets are typically white, turquoise, blue or green in color, but any color will work.

- Scissors
- Clothesline
- String/ Twine (option #2)
- An anchor: rocks, weight (something to hold net down)

**\*\*NOTE:** *It's fine to improvise, as your materials, tent size and space needs may be limited. In fact, we'd love to see photos from your sleepout event! Please send to [INMinfo@umcom.org](mailto:INMinfo@umcom.org)*

### Option #1: Triangle

Measurements: 1 piece of tulle (108" wide x 4 yds long)

Instructions:

1. Hang clothesline approximately 5' off the ground
2. Attach the middle of the tulle (lengthwise) to the clothesline, so that it is hanging over (like a sheet drying on a clothesline).
3. Use sticks, stakes or weights to attach/anchor each of the four corners to the ground. Make sure that they are far enough from the middle that the tulle forms a triangle (teepee shape).
4. Repeat with as many pieces of tulle as you need, moving down the clothesline.
5. Keep in mind that both ends of your net will be open, which is more symbolic than authentic. You can clip the open ends together for a more authentic feel.



### Option #2: Rectangle

Slightly smaller than option #1

Measurements: 1 piece of tulle (108" wide x 5 yds long)

Instructions:

1. Lay tulle flat on the ground
2. Measure one yard over and one yard in from a corner. Tie a knot.
3. Repeat for each corner of the tulle. You will have a knot at all four corners.
4. Tie a string/twine to each knot.
5. Hand each string to hold the net in the air.



### Make it a fundraiser!

Step up your support of Imagine No Malaria from awareness to direct impact! Ask participants to find 'sponsors' for each hour they camp out (7pm – 7am). Invite the entire church family to participate. Even if they cannot sleep out in-person, supporting Imagine No Malaria is as easy as visiting [ImagineNoMalaria.org](http://ImagineNoMalaria.org) to share a donation.

### Can't sleep out?

Build a mosquito net display. Set up a mosquito net using the instruction above in a prominent location at your church.

Instructions:

1. Construct bed net as instructed above.
2. Download and print Imagine No Malaria materials, and use images from Africa.
3. Photos, notes from youth, messages of hope can be hung on or around the net.
4. Use a doll bed, mattress and other props to illustrate an authentic usage of a bed net. Have older youth take "shifts" under the net to provide information about church activities in the fight against malaria to passers-by.



### **When The Night Comes - Malaria Documentary**

Host a special screening for church members of the new documentary "When The Night Comes." A powerful and moving journey into a world where malaria devastates families everyday, this film underscores the urgency to fight malaria and help those in need. Request a copy to share with your church: [INMinfo@umcom.org](mailto:INMinfo@umcom.org)

### **Worship Services**

Encourage your church leaders to connect Christ's call to heal the sick and help those in need (Matthew 25:40) to our global fight against malaria. Make it a Sunday To Save Lives by taking a special offering so all church members have the opportunity to participate and make a difference.

To help support our spiritual commitment to the fight against malaria, we have developed support materials to help churches connect Christ's call to heal the sick with support of Imagine No Malaria.

*Support resources are available online at [ImagineNoMalaria.org](http://ImagineNoMalaria.org)*