

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



ECONOMIC JUSTICE COVENANT PROGRAM

Is God Calling your Church to be an Economic Justice Church?

As Christians we sing the hymns of justice, equality, and unity; we pray for the well being of all God's children; and we continue our activities to feed the hungry and house the homeless. But all the while we watch the gap between rich and poor in our own nation and in the world become ever wider, with many millions left in poverty...The United Church of Christ and its predecessor church bodies, along with many Christians around the world, have received Christ's summons to call our churches and our societies toward the blessed vision of God's Realm, including justice in our economic life.

An Economic Justice Covenant, a resolution approved by General Synod 27 in 2009
<http://uccfiles.com/synod/resolutions/economic-justice.pdf>

**Programa Alianza para
la Justicia Económica**
[www.ucc.org/
justice_ejcp-es_index](http://www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp-es_index)

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



The resolution that included the words in the box to the left, approved by General Synod 27 in 2009, established the Economic Justice Covenant Program. The resolution encourages each congregation and setting of the UCC to become an Economic Justice Church or Setting, and to commit to working for economic justice and a world that more closely mirrors God's dream for all God's people and the earth.

God provides abundantly for all. But we live in a world of poverty, extreme inequality, and systemic injustices that block God's vision of abundant life for all. The Economic Justice Covenant Program is a way for congregations to explore issues of economic justice – in the Bible, our faith tradition, our communities and the world, and our personal lives – and then to discern what God is calling us to do.



The Economic Justice Covenant Program provides materials and suggests opportunities that can assist local congregations and other settings of the UCC to explore what their call might mean. The Program provides resources for worship, prayer, study, exploration both within and outside the walls of the church, and personal involvement with issues of economic justice. It also guides the congregation through the process of drafting and adopting an Economic Justice Covenant, expressing its commitment to a new course of action to promote economic justice. Then the Program suggests ways to live out that covenant, engaging in new ministries of economic justice.

The full Economic Justice Covenant Program is available on the UCC website at www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_index. A 50-page booklet with an overview of the Program and numerous resources is available online and in hard copy from Justice and Witness Ministries. Contact JWM at 700 Prospect Ave. East, Cleveland, OH. 44115-1100; by email at jwm@ucc.org; or by calling (toll-free) 1-866-822-8224, ext. 3700.

Becoming an Economic Justice Church

The Economic Justice Covenant Program provides resources for worship, education, exploring our communities, and personal spiritual practices; guides for writing a covenant and leading the process of becoming an Economic Justice Church or Setting; and suggestions for ways to engage in ministries of economic justice.

With a variety of resources and flexible guidelines, congregations and other settings will find it easy to tailor the Economic Justice Covenant Program to meet their particular needs and interests.

Engaging Our Faith

Resources for Sunday worship including sermon seeds, hymns, prayers, and group Bible studies. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_ef

Engaging the Community

Suggestions for engaging with others in community, both within and outside the walls of the church. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_ec

Writing and Approving the Covenant

Guidelines for writing the Economic Justice Covenant and seeking the congregation's approval. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_wac

Living Out the Covenant

Suggestions for implementing the covenant. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_loc

For more information

Contact Edith Rasell, Minister for Economic Justice, Justice and Witness Ministries
1-866-822-8224, ext. 3709, or raselle@ucc.org



Habitat for Humanity wall-raising.
United Church of Chapel Hill (NC)

Engaging the Issues

Information on issues of economic justice including numerous links for more information and suggestions about ways to get engaged. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_ei

Engaging the Spirit

Resources for individuals and families to deepen their personal spiritual journey and commitment to economic justice. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_es

Ways to Engage

Resources on economic issues and ways to engage in ministries of economic justice. www.ucc.org/justice_ejcp_we



No matter how or where God's call for economic justice is heard, the resources, information, and useful tools in the Economic Justice Covenant Program can help faith communities explore and live out their call to do economic justice.