

Among 550 Korean immigrant churches in the New York/New Jersey area, there is not one progressive Korean church. That makes The Least of These UCC, a daughter church of Judson Memorial UCC in Manhattan, another UCC First.

Newly formed in 2010, The Least of These UCC held its opening service on the 65th Anniversary of Division of the Korean Peninsula, the 30th Anniversary of the Kwangju People's Uprising against military dictatorship, and the 10th Anniversary of the Joint Declaration for Korean Reunification. Thus it proclaimed its mission to engage in social justice and God's liberation movement for and with the 'least of these:' "people who are suffering, marginalized, exploited and oppressed, racial and sexual minorities, and the little people who seek to live for justice and truth." Members identify with their Confession of Faith in this liberating God, which is "an open-ended Confession because God is still speaking."

Founding pastor Tong-Kyun Kim offers, "Like the small amount of leaven that makes the entire loaf rise, small and common people can be the moving force in the Movement of the Kingdom of God."