

Protect the Sacred

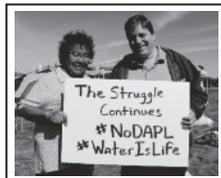
In a Just World, Clean Water is Life.

RISE UP, STAND WITH STANDING ROCK SIOUX!

God spoke: "Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature so they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, Earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth." - Genesis 1:26, the Message

Because climate justice (and racial justice) matters, last fall UCC members, friends, the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM), national staff and many others joined our combined voices to Rise Up against big business interests. Together, we stood in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Native American populations who are rightfully protesting to keep their water protected.

Indigenous peoples understand that *water is life!* So we organized, rallied, and marched to keep it clean and safe for drinking, bathing, fishing, canoeing, and for the animals therein against having the Dakota Access Pipeline built across their sacred lands.



Because our collective voices were heard and valued, an initial victory was attained. A 35-page legal analysis of the pipeline's potential environmental risks as well as the impact on the treaty rights of indigenous peoples seemed enough. The former administration listened and halted plans for having it built. Unfortunately, the current administration is not listening. They authorized an easement for the pipeline to cross a reservoir near the Standing Rock Sioux Nation via executive action.

Thus, our work is not yet over. It is for situations such as this that we, as people of faith, join together to stand alongside our most vulnerable neighbors in their struggle for the sanctity of water whether they reside in Standing Rock, Flint, Michigan, the West Bank or Gaza whenever they are in need. It is what our Christian scripture obliges of us.

But [God's] already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously— take God seriously.

Micah 6:8, the Message

Please join us in supporting the
2017 Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering.

Thank you.

Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy, programming, and grants.
One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM.

www.ucc.org/nin.



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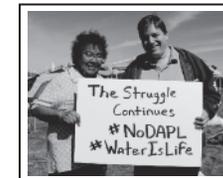
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