

1 **Resolution on Worker Justice at Smithfield**

2 *Resolution of Witness*

3
4 **RESOLUTION**

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6 **WHEREAS**, the Smithfield Packing plant in Tar Heel, North Carolina has a history of
7 intimidating, threatening and harassing workers who engage in organizing activities to defend
8 their rights, improve their working conditions and ensure their wellbeing in the workplace;
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10 **WHEREAS**, Smithfield Packing continues to delay and deny justice for Smithfield workers;
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12 **WHEREAS**, the efforts of consumers, community organizations, faith-based organizations,
13 labor organizations and legislators will continue to be critically important in bringing justice to
14 Smithfield;
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16 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the 26th General Synod of the United Church of
17 Christ supports justice for workers at Smithfield Packing and, in particular, the national and local
18 campaign, in which Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ participates,
19 that is designed to bring worker justice to Smithfield employees and their families;
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21 **WE FURTHER RESOLVE**, that the 26th General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges
22 | members of churches in the United Church of Christ to become informed about working
23 conditions at Smithfield by examining the extensive background at
24 www.ucc.org/justice/smithfield;
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26 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the 26th General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls
27 upon members of churches of the United Church of Christ, having been informed, to advocate
28 for worker justice at Smithfield, specifically to contact the parent company, Smithfield Foods,
29 and request that management in the Smithfield plant in Tar Heel, North Carolina, be instructed to
30 stop, and refrain from further, abuse, intimidation and violence against their workers and to
31 provide their workers with the same rights that other Smithfield employees enjoy in union plants:
32 a safe place to work, essential dignity and respect, and the protection of a union contract to
33 encourage a culture of safety and respect in the workplace.
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35 **FUNDING**

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37 Funding for the implementation of this resolution will be made in accordance with the overall
38 mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.
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40 **IMPLEMENTATION**

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42 Justice and Witness Ministries is requested to be the primary implementer of this resolution.
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