

**LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN --
DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE GREEN NEW DEAL
AND AFFIRMING THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF CLIMATE JUSTICE
WITH ALL JUSTICE ISSUES**

A Resolution of Witness

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ, in keeping with numerous resolutions passed by previous General Synods, recognizes the scale and immediacy of the climate crisis, the urgent need to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, and the moral obligation to embrace the unprecedented socio-economic changes that we must affect and engage **as opportunities** to create fair paying jobs, secure clean air and water, redress manifestations of environmental racism and pursue a just transition to clean and renewable energy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ joins [the executive leadership of the United Church of Christ](#)¹ and the United Church of Christ Council for Climate Justice in endorsing [the Green New Deal Resolution](#)² (H. Res. 109) as introduced in Congress on February 7, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the whole of the church, understanding the intersectionality of climate change and justice, to accept the moral responsibility that comes with living “at such a time as this” (Esther 4:14) by:

- Bearing witness to the critical role science must play in understanding the challenges that now pose an existential threat to all forms of life on this planet;
- Continuing to learn from scientifically informed sources about the new realities and new solutions that are emerging every day;
- Discussing climate change with increasing frequency at church, at home, at work and in our social encounters, emphasizing how it threatens things we all value while noting that we already have the technology we need³ to achieve the goals of the Green New Deal;
- Incorporating into our worship life and community leadership an awareness of climate change, its consequences especially for the “frontline and vulnerable communities,” and the opportunities we still have to make the changes science says we must and technology says we can;⁴
- Helping all communities be more prepared for extreme weather events and more resilient to the effects of the changing climate;
- Lifting up the reality that the majority of people surveyed, regardless of their political affiliation or allegiance, support a Green New Deal;⁵
- Paying attention as federal, state and local agencies develop and propose new Policies that impact our environment and planet, engaging those agencies as advocates for policies and legislation that advance the goals of the Green New Deal, including its commitment to address the “systemic injustices” that disproportionately affect “frontline and vulnerable communities”;

- Maintaining a commitment to compassion and fairness by advocating for a just transition for those workers and communities most dependent on fossil fuel energy so that they, too, have opportunities for clean, healthful and family-supporting jobs that heal our planet.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the whole of the church to accept that it is up to us to pour ourselves out to bend the moral arc of the universe towards justice, with joy in our hearts, beauty in our sights, and hope for a healthy and sustainable world for all children.

FUNDING

Funding for the implementation of this Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.

¹ https://www.ucc.org/news_the_green_new_deal_legislating_environmental_justice_02082019

² <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-resolution/109/text>

³ <https://web.stanford.edu/group/efmh/jacobson/Articles/I/100Pct-WWS-Papers.pdf>

⁴ In H. Res. 109, the following text supports this point: Whereas climate change, pollution and environmental destruction have exacerbated systemic racial, regional, social, environmental, and economic injustices (referred to in this preamble as “systemic injustices”) by disproportionately affecting indigenous peoples, communities of color; migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth (referred to in this preamble as “frontline and vulnerable communities.”)

⁵ <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/feb/26/green-new-deal-climate-change-democrats>