

First Congregational UCC
440 East 12th Street
Crete, Nebraska 68333
Nebraska Conference
411 members - 4,872 in city

Dear Friends:

As a congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ, we recognize that God is calling us to be about the work of bringing justice and making peace in our world, in our community and in our own lives. Confessing that this call challenges our individual and corporate lives, we covenant among ourselves and with God, to seek the way of justice and peace, so as to make a difference in our lives and in the lives of all who experience injustice and violence in our community, nation, and the world, and to reach out to those people and to understand those problems and issues which are often overlooked. Specifically, we covenant with ourselves as a Just Peace Church to journey in these areas:

* Personal Spiritual Renewal

- prayers for justice and peace will be offered in worship
- sermons on just peace will be preached in our pulpit
- worship that focuses on justice and peace concern will be celebrated
- Bible study of God's call to justice and peace
- prayer for God's fulfillment of that call will be offered
- congregational life that expresses justice and peace will be sought

* Education and Theology

- create a just peace display and library
- study the UCC book, **A Just Peace Church**, and other texts
- church school units on just peace will be held
- just peace themes during Advent and Lent will be offered
- public forums on local issues will be organized

* Stewardship of Resources

- participation in offerings for Just Peace, OGHS, NIN
- be certain our investments reflect just peace concerns
- consider our personal purchases in light of just peace needs
- communicate our commitment to others

* Community Witness

- address needs in our community and beyond
- volunteer time and talents for local programs
- participate in ecumenical activities
- seek local press coverage of our church's work and witness
- develop projects where our community has need

* Organization

- write our representatives on state and national levels
- sponsor community forums
- participate in community projects
- appoint a local contact person for legislative issues

In order to fulfill this covenant, we have appointed a Just Peace Task Force in our congregation to encourage our faithfulness in keeping this covenant.

We, the members of the United Church of Christ, First Congregational, of Crete, Nebraska, recognize God calls us to bring about justice and to make peace in our world, community, and life together. We covenant together and with God to seek the ways of justice and peace so as to make a difference in our lives and the lives of all who experience injustice and violence. We will strive for a new world and renewed church built on the love we see in Jesus Christ our Savior.

This we covenant to do, in our effort to be faithful to God's call in Jesus Christ to seek the ways of justice and peace as a congregation together.

By vote of the congregation on Sunday, January 28, 1990, at Crete, Nebraska.