Guilford Community Church, UCC
Just Peace Covenant

We, the members of the Guilford Community Church, UCC, declare ourselves to be a Just Peace congregation.

In describing the marks of a Just Peace theology, the pronouncement adopted by the Fifteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ affirms that “a Just Peace is a basic gift of God and is the force and vision moving human history. The meaning of a Just Peace and God's activity in human history, especially the life and witness of Jesus, is understood through the Bible, church history, and the voices of the oppressed and those in the struggle for justice and peace. Nonviolent conflict is a normal and healthy reflection of diversity; working through conflict constructively should lead to growth of both individuals and nations.”

As a congregation of the United Church of Christ, we recognize the importance of promoting justice and peace throughout the world, in our nation, in our community, and in ourselves. We therefore covenant among ourselves and with God to seek the ways of justice and peace in order to make a difference in our lives and the lives of all who experience injustice and violence.

As a community and as individuals, we commit ourselves to embodying Just Peace in the following ways:

- Supporting racial equality and indigenous rights
- Standing in solidarity with, and advocating for, the poor, the homeless, and the oppressed
- Embracing people of all backgrounds, abilities, and sexual orientations
- Working to promote the ethical use of environmental resources
- Engaging in self-reflection and honestly confronting our own privilege and shortcomings
- Finding effective ways to work through conflict
- Resisting divisiveness and injustice; rejecting violence
- Serving as witnesses for Just Peace in our community
- Acting as true neighbors to all people

We believe that peace is possible.

For Christ himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, —Ephesians 2:14