



**LAKE EDGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
ECONOMIC JUSTICE COVENANT OF LAKE EDGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Since Lake Edge UCC was founded in 1947, it has sustained a rich history of being a “mission” church. We, as a congregation, are inspired by words in Matthew 25:35-36 that states:

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Likewise, the Apostle John wrote:

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? ... let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. [1 John 3:17-18]

As members of the United Church of Christ, in accord with the lead of the National UCC, we believe that God is still speaking and wants us to apply the inspired words of Matthew and John to present day reality. For example, it has never been more evident to people of faith that every person deserves a safe and secure home.

Lake Edge UCC seeks to be intentional in the way we think and act in response to the causes and effects of economic inequality and injustice wherever it exists.

Therefore, we, the congregation of Lake Edge UCC covenant with God and with one another to:

- Continue providing service and care for brothers and sisters in need.
- Educate ourselves on the root causes of poverty.
- Collaborate with those in poverty and those with economic means to work toward economic fairness for all.
- Stand against injustices that cause and perpetuate economic inequality and injustice.
- Strive for economic justice in all policies and activities associated with our church.
- Support economic justice for workers and for those in poverty with one voice as Lake Edge UCC.
- Encourage and support one another in our own stewardship of God's earth and its bounty.
- Partner with other faith based organizations and churches to work toward greater economic justice.

Lake Edge UCC members and the Board of Christian Outreach (BOCO) will work together to advance the above principles. This Covenant and our supportive actions will be reviewed for successes and challenges each year with findings included in the BOCO annual report to the congregation. The intent is to maintain this Covenant as a living and contemporary commitment. Any changes to the Covenant will be reauthorized by Lake Edge members at future congregational meetings. Recognizing that without God's help we are inadequate to these tasks, we pray for strength, courage, humility, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the work ahead.

Approved on May 22nd, 2016 by Congregational vote.