

## ISSUE ONE-PAGER: CRIMINAL JUSTICE

### The UCC on Criminal Justice Reform:

- Since 1959 (GS 2), the UCC has committed itself to calling for “better methods of treatment and rehabilitation for those convicted of offenses against the law.”
- In 1969 (GS 7), UCC commits to “ecumenical legislative and political action seeking abolition of the death penalty.”
- 1997 (GS 21)- expresses opposition to the prison industrial complex and encourages local churches to learn about, participate in, and advocate for alternatives to incarceration.
- 2015 (GS 30)- recognizes mass incarceration as a critical human and civil rights issue, and reaffirms commitment to public policy advocacy to turn the tide of institutionalized racism and economic injustice by mass incarceration.
- 2019 (GS 32)- calls the Church to advocate for the abolition of private prisons and divest from corporations that supply and invest in them.

### How We Have Taken Action:

- Supported the Marion Brothers in their opposition to the solitary confinement practices at Marion Federal Penitentiary (GS 10, 1975).
- Ongoing partnership with National Religious Campaign Against Torture to end solitary confinement.
- UCC D.C. Staff Serve on the Interfaith Criminal Justice Coalition to advocate for criminal justice reform and support the policies laid out by the General Synod resolutions.



### Questions for your candidates

- Would you support legislation that would end the practice of solitary confinement in prisons?
- Do you support alternatives to policing and incarceration such as community-based violence intervention programs and investment into social services as a means to promote community safety?