

## ISSUE ONE-PAGER: ECONOMIC JUSTICE

### The UCC on Economic Justice:

Since its inception in 1957, the United Church of Christ has been committed to economic justice. In 2009, the UCC committed to an Economic Justice covenant, stating: “Too often Christians and congregations engage only in works of charity (direct action) without moving into the works of justice that could reduce the need for charity... Justice and love cannot be divorced from one another.” As Christian witnesses, we fight locally and nationally to end economic evils like:

- The Racial Wealth Gap - The net worth of a typical Black family is nearly ten times less than that of a White family because of the effects of accumulated inequality and discrimination
- Worker Exploitation - Farm workers are overworked and abused, caretakers are forced to choose between their loved ones and a paycheck because they are not allowed paid leave, and low-wage workers are forced to survive on unlivable wages
- Predatory Lending - Payday loans, which target the poor and people of color, trapping them in 300% interest loans which snowball into impossible debt burdens
- Outrageous Medical Debt - Medical debt can strike anyone and wipe them out because the cost of healthcare in the U.S. is astronomical
- Unjust Tax Laws - When those who hold the nation’s wealth don’t pay their fair share, everyone suffers for it

### How the UCC has Taken Action:

- Sign on letter regarding predatory debt collection
- Advocate for Paid Leave for All to be included in the next COVID-19 relief bill
- UCC Medical Debt Buy wiped out \$12.9 million in debt in St. Louis



### Questions for your candidates

- Do you support paid family leave, INCLUDING elder and bereavement care? How are you advocating for paid leave for all?
- Will you work to create reparatory justice for the national sin of slavery? Do you support HR-40 and SB-1083, which call for reparation proposals?
- Payday loans trap people in an unending cycle of debt. Do you support a 36% rate cap for everyone so that no lender can charge extortionate rates?
- How are you advocating for a guaranteed livable wage for all workers?