

1 **A RESOLUTION OF IMPLEMENTATION RECOMMENDING CHURCHES OF THE**
2 **CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE MARK TRANSGENDER REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**
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4 Submitted by the congregational meeting of The United Church on the Green, UCC, New Haven
5 to the 150th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ
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7 WHEREAS Jesus proclaims: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to
8 proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
9 and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free; (Luke 4:18)”; and
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11 WHEREAS the apostle Paul writes: “for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through
12 faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.
13 There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male
14 and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you
15 are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise. (Galatians 3:26-29)”; and
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17 WHEREAS we affirm all persons as created equal in the image and likeness of God (Gen, 1:27);
18 and
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20 WHEREAS transgender people are a minority who are victims of verbal and physical abuse
21 which has resulted in cases of murder (1200 transgender people, more than 200 each year
22 have been reported killed over the last five yearsⁱ) and suicide (41 percent of transgender
23 people living in the United States have attempted suicideⁱⁱ) out of proportion to their
24 numbers due to ignorance, prejudice, and a lack of understanding or education among the
25 majority; and
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27 WHEREAS the General Synod of the United Church of Christ in 1985 encouraged all settings of
28 the church to adopt policies of non-discrimination regarding sexual orientation and
29 covenants of openness and affirmation toward lesbian, gay, bisexual persons in all
30 settings of the church, and in 1989 the Connecticut Conference UCC declared itself open
31 to and affirming of lesbian, gay and bisexual persons; and
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33 WHEREAS in 2003 the General Synod of the United Church of Christ urged all settings of the
34 church to learn about the realities of transgender experience and expression and welcome
35 transgender people into full membership, ministry and participation, as a further
36 embodiment of Open and Affirming commitment; and
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38 WHEREAS in 2013 the Connecticut Conference UCC reaffirmed our commitment to welcoming
39 and including all people in all roles and activities of the Connecticut Conference of the
40 United Church of Christ, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender
41 expression; and
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43 WHEREAS, the General Synod has a precedence for calling on churches to mark special
44 Sundays (i.e. Just Peace Sunday,ⁱⁱⁱ Amistad Sunday^{iv}); and
45

46 WHEREAS November 20th is recognized internationally as Transgender Day of Remembrance;
47 and,
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49 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates to the 150th Annual Meeting of the
50 Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ recommend that the churches of
51 the Connecticut Conference mark annually the Sunday prior to November 20th to be
52 Transgender Remembrance Sunday.
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ⁱ Trans Respect Versus Transphobia, “Trans Murder Monitor,”

<http://transrespect.org/en/research/trans-murder-monitoring/> (Accessed March 7, 2017).

ⁱⁱ “Injustice at Every Turn” A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey Executive Summary, 2011
http://transequality.org/PDFs/Executive_Summary.pdf (Accessed March 7, 2017).

ⁱⁱⁱ United Church of Christ, “Just Peace Sunday,”

http://www.ucc.org/just_peace_sunday_resources (Accessed March 7, 2017).

^{iv} United Church of Christ, “Special – Amistad Sunday,” http://www.ucc.org/worship_worship-ways_nlb_special-occassions_special-amistad-sunday (Accessed March 7, 2017).