A RESOLUTION OF IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE RIGHT OF ALL ADULT ADOPTEES
TO ACCESS THEIR ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATES
AND TRUE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT THEIR ORIGINS

Submitted by Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
For more information on this issue please visit http://rhccucc.org/adoptee

WHEREAS justice, compassion and care are at the very heart of the life and ministry of Jesus, extended
to all without distinction; and

WHEREAS our Biblical tradition reflects this inclusiveness through the voice of the Apostle Paul:
“There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or
female; for all of you are one in Jesus Christ” (Galatians 3:28, NRSV); and

WHEREAS national and conference settings of the United Church of Christ have addressed situations
and structures of exclusion and injustice, encouraging equal justice, equal civil rights, and equal
standing before the law for all people, as a matter of moral witness; and

WHEREAS in the state of Connecticut, adult adoptees who were adopted before October 1, 1983, do
don not have legal access to their original birth certificates and are therefore denied from gaining true
and accurate information about their biological origins; and

WHEREAS all non-adopted adult citizens of Connecticut have the right to receive a copy of their
original birth certificate, and (as of July 1, 2015) this right has been restored to adult adoptees
who were adopted on or after October 1, 1983; and

WHEREAS adoptees unable to access their original birth certificates may be unable to gain fuller
knowledge of their ancestry and ethnicity, denying them a basic part of their human story and
identity; and

WHEREAS adoptees unable to access their original birth certificates may be unable to gain fuller
knowledge of their medical histories and genetic information in order to make decisions about
their health care throughout their lives, including care needed to save their lives; and

WHEREAS we affirm that providing for the physical, psychological, and emotional welfare of all
persons, adoptees and non-adoptees without distinction, is the moral obligation of a just and
compassionate society; and

WHEREAS the law currently makes distinction in rights between adopted and non-adopted persons as
regards access to original birth information, therefore adoptees are not treated equally under the
law;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates of the 148th Annual Meeting of the
Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, call upon the congregations of the
Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, the Board of Directors of the
Connecticut Conference, and the staff of the Connecticut Conference to explore, collaborate and
cooperate in every way possible with the many and various interfaith efforts in Connecticut to
persuade Connecticut legislators to pass legislation ensuring restoration of the right of all
adoptees to access information about their origins; and
BE IT FURTHR RESOLVED that we, the delegates to the 148th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ in Connecticut do hereby resolve and urge that the Legislative and Executive branches of the Connecticut and United States governments, through their agencies and commissions, shall grant to all adult adoptees access to their original birth certificates; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED: that this resolution, if affirmed, be put into proper form for submission to General Synod.