

1           **Resolution of Implementation to Help Achieve State Mandated Reduction in Greenhouse Gas**  
2           **Emissions and Support the Increase in Renewable Energy Resources in Connecticut**

3 Submitted by the Environmental Ministry Team of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ,  
4 The UCC in Cornwall, Mystic Congregational Church, Church of Christ, Norfolk, First Congregational  
5 Church of Old Lyme and the Mission 4/1 Earth Ministry of Church of Christ in Goshen, Mystic  
6 Congregational Church

7 Whereas, the earth and all on it belongs to God (Ps 24:1) over which humans have been given  
8 stewardship (Ge 1:26) and gifted with the ability to imagine a new vision of a sustainable  
9 Creation, deemed necessary for the survival of the Earth and all the Earth's peoples (Re 21:1);  
10 and

11  
12 Whereas, responsible stewardship of Creation is integral to Christian discipleship (Connecticut  
13 Conference resolutions 1973, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1989, 2008 and General Synod resolutions 2005,  
14 2007, 2013, 2015) and as it calls us with ever increasing urgency to commit to compassionate  
15 action on behalf all Creation for the sake of our generation and of all the generations who follow;  
16 and

17  
18 Whereas, only by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, developing alternative energy sources in  
19 Connecticut and responsibly disposing of waste products, will we provide for a sustainable future  
20 that protects both the climate, the natural environment and the livelihoods of working people in  
21 Connecticut; and

22  
23 Whereas, the state's 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act mandates reduction of greenhouse gas  
24 emissions in the state to 80 percent below 2001 levels by 2050;

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26 Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the delegates to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut  
27 Conference of the UCC, declare it imperative that we encourage congregations, individuals,  
28 businesses and other entities to act to reduce their own levels of greenhouse gas emissions to  
29 assist in achieving the State of Connecticut mandated goal; and

30  
31 Be it further resolved, that we, the delegates to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference  
32 of the UCC, support state legislation to rapidly increase renewable energy resources in  
33 Connecticut to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state and to fund job re-training for  
34 the workers in the oil and gas industry; and

35  
36 Be it further resolved, that we, the delegates to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference  
37 of the UCC, bid our Conference leaders, our Legislative Advocate and churches to support the  
38 effort of the Governor's Council on Climate Change, which has been charged with developing a  
39 plan to meet the state's mandated goal of 10 per cent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions  
40 below 1990 levels by 2020 and 80 percent reduction of greenhouse gas emissions below 2001  
41 levels by 2050; and

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43 Be it finally resolved, that for the furtherance of this goal, we, the delegates to the 149<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
44 of the Connecticut Conference of the UCC, call upon all settings of the church including  
45 conference staff, the Legislative Advocate, the Environmental Ministry Team and congregations  
46 to keep ourselves informed of progress, support the education of clergy and laity, and take every  
47 opportunity to sharpen the focus on what must be our individual and collective vision of a  
48 sustainable Creation for our generation and future generations and the whole fabric of earthly life.  
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50	References
51	Psalm 24:1 “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it...”
52	Genesis 1:26 “Then God said, ‘Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let
53	them have dominion...”
54	Revelation 21:1 “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had
55	passed away...”
56	Connecticut Resolutions
57	1973 - Resolution: Environmental Concerns
58	1977 - Resolution: Confronting the Energy Issue
59	1979 - Resolution: The Energy Crisis
60	1981 – Hazardous Waste and Water Pollution
61	1989 – Solid Waste and Ecologically Sound Lifestyle
62	2008 - Resolution on the Urgency for Action on Climate Change
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64	General Synod Resolutions
65	2005 – Call for Environmental Education and Action
66	2005 – Resolution on Supporting Congregations and Providing Guidance for Stewardship
67	2007 – Resolution on Climate Change
68	2013 - On Making UCC Church Buildings More Carbon Neutral
69	2013 – Resolution Urging Divestment – Along with Other Strategies – from Fossil Fuels Companies to
70	Address Climate Change
71	2015 – Transition for Fossil Fuels to Renewable Energy
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