



September 16, 2018

Observe Just Peace Sunday on September 16, 2018: Wisdom Cries Out!

The Thirtieth General Synod called on the congregations of the United Church of Christ to mark the Sunday preceding September 21 (which the United Nation recognizes as the "International Day of Prayer for Peace") as *Just Peace Sunday*.

Just Peace is not a destination, but a path requiring awareness and constant vigilance to resolve existing and developing conflict in ourselves, our families, our communities, our institutions, and our world. This path requires non-violence when possible and even when impossible to engage in love and restraint. Just Peace envisions a renewed, vibrant, diverse, and sustainable world free of violence.

Just Peace is grounded in God's activity in creation; God's covenant patience and provision in the wilderness; in the reconciling activity of Jesus Christ; in the presence of the Holy Spirit; and in the community of reconciliation. Shalom is the vision that pulls all creation toward a time when weapons are made into ploughs and all creatures lie down together without fear; where all have their own vine, fig tree, and dwell secure from want. As Christians, we offer this conviction to the world:

Peace is possible!



Bookkeeper/Treasurer Training

November 3, 2018
@ Calvary UCC, Barto
9:00 am—12:00 noon

Register at: psecbookkeeper.eventbrite.com

Neighbors in Need—Special Mission Offering Grants Available

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

The 2018 theme for the NIN offering is "Love of Neighbor." Most churches will celebrate this special offering on October 7th, however any Sunday is appropriate.



One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. Only UCC congregations and organizations are eligible to submit proposals. These requests must relate to work supported by General Synod actions in one of the following programmatic areas:

- The Rights and Freedoms of all Persons
- Environmental Justice
- Economic Justice.

These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities.

Apply now for a Neighbors in Need Grant

Applications are being accepted through September 30, 2018. The online application process includes a short prequalifying assessment, a grant application, and FAQ's to assist you along the way. First time project grants range from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

Apply for a grant at this web address:

<https://app.smarterselect.com/programs/40323-United-Church-Of-Christ>