



AUGUST 2025



2025 GENERAL
SYNOD
UPDATE!

The 35th General Synod of the United Church of Christ was held in Kansas City, Missouri from July 11 – 15, 2025. There was worship, workshops, elections, adoption of resolutions, speeches, and more! The UCC news team has provided great coverage of General Synod. Learn what's going on in our wider church — check out the news at generalsynod.org/news-listings.

12 resolutions, including the following **Resolutions of Witness** which call us all to act, came out of committees and most were adopted:

- (1) A Declaration of Support for Philippine Human Rights, (2) Faithful Stewardship of Our Whole Lives and Advocacy for Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Faith Communities Through Interfaith Collaboration,
- (3) Recognition of the Continually-Evolving Language of Mental Health,
- (4) A Response to Christian Persecution in India, (5) Responding to the Federal Government's Attack on Immigrants, Migrants, and Refugees,
- (6) Calling The UCC to Oppose the 2025 Immigration Rollbacks and Support Immigrants, Refugees, and Pacific Island Communities, while Amplifying Antiracist Work On Behalf of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in Response to the Current Socio-Political Backlash, (7) In Support of Restoration of Full Funding for the United States Agency for International Development, (8) In Support of Restoration of Full Funding and Autonomy for the Voice of America, (9) Declaration for an End to Genocide in Palestine

Learn more: generalsynod.org/resolutions

RESOURCE: A TOOLKIT FOR FAITHFUL ADVOCACY

How can we take action on all of the issues we are facing? The UCC Washington D.C. Office has released a brand new digital (and printable) resource. Whether you're new to advocacy or looking to refine your approach, this resource will help you navigate the advocacy process with confidence and faith: ucc.org/advocacy-101-resources



THIS MONTH'S EMERGING THOUGHT

"The church of tomorrow must be **bold** in its authenticity, **relevant** as it is mission-focused, **accessible** in its flexibility, **innovative** in its creativity, and it must be **diverse** as it is expansive enough to make room for all who desire to encounter God here."

—Phiwa Langeni, Associate Conference Minister,
Southern California Nevada Conference UCC,
summarizing his model of the BRAID Church of Tomorrow.

REMINDERS

July 21 – August 21
David Popham will be **OUT OF OFFICE**
on sabbatical leave

HAPPY RETIREMENT!

Our Conference Office Ambassador of Aloha, **Vivian Maunakea**, will be retiring effective **August 31, 2025**. She has brought joy, a sense of humor, a warm smile, and grace to our office for the past 36 years, when she started as a bookkeeper for our accounting department and has continued to serve in various roles ever since. We give thanks for her many years of service and wish her much happiness and peace in her retirement.

Mahalo!



Prayers of Aloha

We encourage you to pray for any or all of these churches listed for the month of **August**, in whatever way you are moved.



Hokuloa UCC, Hawai'i Kai UCC, Cup of Freedom UCC, Makiki Christian Church, Olowalu Lanakila Hawaiian Church, First Marshallese UCC, Ola'a First Hawaiian Church, Kaua'i Marshallese Ministry, Central Christian Church, 'Ohana Ni'ihau O Waimea Church, Filipino UCC, Nu'uano Congregational Church, Kauaha'ao Church



We also encourage you to pray for our **Kaua'i Association**, our partners in the **Protestant Churches of Japan and Okinawa**, and the **UCC's Global Advocacy and Education** this month.

"Sent forth by the Spirit, we walk humbly in Christ's footsteps pursuing peace, justice and the renewal of all creation."

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Mahalo!



Prayers of Aloha

Praying for & with each church
of the Hawai'i Conference UCC

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Website: hcucc.org

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