

**POSITION STATEMENT
ANNUAL MEETING, ASILOMAR, MAY, 2003**

**REAFFIRMING THE NCNC-UCC AS A
JUST PEACE CONFERENCE**

The 2003 Annual Meeting of the Northern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ confirms our identity as a Just Peace Conference, and reaffirms our understanding that the foundation of living in a global community is the interrelation of friendship, justice, and common security from violence for all its members, and a commitment to wage peace and work to end the institution of war.

We call upon our member churches to be intentional in developing an increased awareness of what it means to be a Just Peace Church, and especially to do so in light of current violent events that plague our world in many locations. We further call upon each church in our Conference to develop a relationship with the Justice and Peace Network of the United Church of Christ as a way of moving from awareness to action.

We also call upon our national government leaders to commit to the full use of all diplomatic and humanitarian tools at our disposal to resolve international disputes; listen carefully and sensitively to all viewpoints to any given international dispute, ensuring that each nation of the international community is treated with respect and dignity, and as equal partners in that global community; always hold the pursuit of peace and global equity as primary goals in all foreign policy decisions; and to oppose the use of war and violence as a means of resolving conflict.

We call upon the leaders of all nations in conflict to always hold the faces and hearts of all the nations' innocent children and adults foremost in mind when seeking resolution to conflict both within nations and between nations; to recognize and embrace the critical importance of global interdependence as a primary consideration in the resolution of conflict; and to hold the goal of peaceful international cooperation as a primary goal in the resolution of all international conflict.