CPC Healthcare Ministry Team

In 2009 the United Church of Christ General Synod passed a resolution urging the US move quickly to make affordable, quality health care available to all in this country. But today one in three Americans remain without adequate health care, and medical bills remain the leading cause of bankruptcy in America. In Oregon, currently almost 300,000 residents are living without healthcare insurance coverage, and they are often more reluctant to seek needed health care because of the cost. In a situation like we face now with the COVID-19 pandemic, this situation puts them, and us all, at greater risk.

The COVID-19 pandemic reminds us that we're in this together. When our communities are healthier, we and our families are healthier. Even if our neighbors don't look like we do, talk like we do, or vote like we do, we share the same air, the same oxygen, the same metabolism. Creating a healthcare system that cares for all of us, all the time, means a better and stronger society.

Many faith-based groups consider universal healthcare a major unreached goal of the civil rights movement. The Central Pacific Conference Justice and Witness has formed a Healthcare Ministry Network to consider this issue, and invites you to join its discussions and actions. Contact Mike Huntington at mchuntington@gmail.com and 541-829-1182. Clergy members of the Network are Rev. Deb Patterson of Smyrna UCC and Rev. Adam Ericksen of Clackamas UCC.

Learn about Healthcare for All Oregon at hcao.org.

Mike Huntington M.D.
Chair, Healthcare Network