

United Church of Christ declares racism a public health crisis

by [Emily McFarlan Miller](#) in the [August 11, 2021](#) issue

The United Church of Christ kicked off its “special edition” general synod on July 11 by passing a resolution declaring racism a public health crisis.

Delegates to the denomination’s biennial meeting, held virtually this year, approved “A Resolution to Declare and Respond to Racism as a Public Health Crisis” with 96 percent of the vote during the opening plenary.

The resolution notes that research shows racism “undermines the physical, emotional, spiritual, and relational health and wellbeing of People of African Descent, Indigenous Peoples, and other People of Color.” The resolution also calls on UCC churches to educate their members and to advocate for public policies that work toward health equity. —Religion News Service