



## SPOTLIGHT: How a small church doubled its membership

The Monterey United Church of Christ is a small church in a rural community in Berkshire County that thrives on being small. They have technically 12 members, but soon they will be taking in 11 more—virtually doubling their membership in one fell swoop.

Despite its small size, Monterey has managed to make a big impact in people's lives. It is an active congregation, and credits responsiveness and empowerment for its vitality.



Read more at: [macucc.org/montereyucc](http://macucc.org/montereyucc)

## UCC sends aid to Nepal

UCC Disaster Ministries has sent \$40,000 to support immediate disaster assistance in Nepal following the 7.8 Magnitude earthquake there that killed more than 7,000 people and destroyed over a quarter million homes. The aid was aimed at helping to stabilize the situation through provisions of food, water, medicine and temporary shelter. 100% of funds designated for disaster relief to the United Church of Christ are used for disaster relief and rehabilitation programming.

Read more at: [www.ucc.org/disaster\\_nepal\\_earthquake](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_nepal_earthquake)

May 15, 2015 This & other versions available at: [macucc.org/download](http://macucc.org/download).

## 216th Annual Meeting to tackle justice issues

Delegates to the Massachusetts Conference's 216th Annual Meeting will be asked to vote on two resolutions focused on justice issues.

Christ's Community Church of Chicopee is asking delegates to approve a resolution that calls for action "Dismantling Discriminatory Systems of Mass Incarceration in Massachusetts." The resolution in part calls on Conference leaders, local churches and members to take actions in support of proposed MA legislation which will come before the Legislature this year.



**216<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**June 12 - 13, 2015**  
**UMass, Amherst**

The Conference's Israel Palestine Task Team is asking delegates to endorse a resolution that will be going to the national United Church of Christ General Synod this summer. The resolution in part calls on all UCC entities to divest any holdings in companies that "profit from the occupation of the Palestinian territories by the state of Israel" and calls for a boycott of goods produced in "illegal settlements located in the occupied Palestinian territories."

Find our more at: [macucc.org/2015AM](http://macucc.org/2015AM)



Rooted in the grace of God, the mission of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ is to nurture local church vitality and the covenant among our churches to make God's love and justice real.