

WATER PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION RESOLUTION

Submitted by the Arvin Congregational United Church of Christ

And the San Marino Congregational United Church of Christ

Whereas, water is the most precious natural resource on Planet Earth;

Whereas, Jesus made numerous references to “Living Water” as a metaphor of water’s value to human life;

Whereas, water is rapidly becoming a scarce commodity in the State of California;

Whereas, the lack of sufficient water supply threatens life in the State of California;

Whereas, every living thing depends on water for its survival;

Whereas, the mismanagement and inappropriate distribution of water has polarized residents in the State of California unnecessarily;

Whereas, there is an urgent need to preserve and protect access to potable water sources that emanate in Northern California and flow through the Sacramento Delta to the Central Valley and Southern California;

Whereas, the State of California and the federal government need to be flexible to get water across the Sacramento Delta via a peripheral canal that will alleviate any environmental impact;

Whereas, the State of California and the federal government have failed to provide adequate water supply to farmers who grow food for public consumption;

Whereas, the failure to increase the flow of clean, safe water to farmers in California’s Central Valley will result in a severe reduction in affordable food to feed residents;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Southern California Nevada Conference of the United Church of Christ will explore and examine the current and emerging water crisis in the State of California;

Be It Further Resolved that the Southern California Nevada Conference will establish a rural ministry as a priority to address rising issues associated with water’s impact on the economy and standard of living in the State of California;

And Be It Further Resolved that the Southern California Nevada Conference will use its resources to promote, advocate, and actively engage in campaigns to increase the public’s awareness about the imminent need to preserve and protect clean, safe water in the State of California.

(Financial implications include development of rural ministries and creation of a water task force)