



MEDIA CONTACT – Bishop Allyson Abrams, MHN Board Chair (248)508-3544
chair@mhn-ucc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 10, 2022 – UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK IS PREPARED TO ASSIST WITH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS THAT MAY ARISE WITH CONGREGANTS AFTER HEARING THE SUPREME COURT DECISION ON ROE V WADE

The National Ministries of the United Church of Christ and the UCC Mental Health Network (MHN) speak out when legal action is primed to occur that will negatively impact our nation's mental health. The anticipated decision from the Supreme Court with respect to Roe v. Wade will impact many women and families in our congregations and communities.

While advocacy efforts appear unlikely to change the decision that the Justices will render and release in June of this year, congregations and their constituent individuals and families can act by attending to their role in faithfully serving others with compassion, support, and mental health resources.

On the other hand, congregations and their constituent individuals and families can examine their potential to serve others in faith with resources and materials in relation to actions of our leaders and institutions or the climate of debate and division which attends them. In particular, persons of faith and communities of faith can be visible manifestations of the divine in support of those whose mental health is adversely affected by the pending Supreme Court decision and the ripple of state-level actions that will follow.

The MHN has resources available on our website at www.mhn-ucc.org and we stand ready to assist pastors and congregations with ways to conduct groups and discussions around the mental health challenges that many may experience in regards to reproductive rights and abortion rights.

Signed:

The National Officers of the United Church of Christ

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General Minister and President

The Rev. Traci A. Blackmon
Associate General Minister

The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson
Associate General Minister

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