



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Partnership Churches Celebrate MLK with Preaching & Service** Cooperative Forged in Civil Rights Era is Alive and Well

**San Diego—** The civil rights movement mobilized urban churches in profound ways as congregations rallied, planned and stood together. San Diego is home to the only remaining urban church partnership in the United Church of Christ, and the collaborative will be active this weekend with activities honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Sunday, Jan. 15, the Partnership churches will participate in their annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Pulpit Exchange. Ministers from the churches will preach at other services within the Partnership. "It's a wonderful way to expose our congregations to the diversity of our city and of the United Church of Christ," says Curt Fuller, the minister at University City UCC and the convener of the Partnership. In addition to UCUC, the Partnership churches include: Christian Fellowship UCC, Kensington Community Church UCC, La Mesa UCC, Mission Hills UCC, and Pioneer Ocean View UCC.

Monday, Jan. 16, the congregation members from the Partnership will gather at Mission Hills UCC, 4070 Jackdaw, 92103, at 10 AM to assemble lunches and hygiene kits for the homeless clients who are staying at Alpha Project's Winter Shelter in Barrio Logan. More than 75 people took part in last year's Partnership service project, some of whom delivered the packages and stayed to wish shelter residents well on Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

The United Church of Christ has a long history of social justice and civil rights activism, dating back to the abolition movement and the rights of those imprisoned on the Amistad slave transport ship.

For more information about the UCC Partnership churches or the MLK events, call Marg Stark at 619.284-1129, or 619.246.4497.