

The Moral Challenge of Our Time: Reforming the Health Care System

Different Messages for a Common Goal

Faith denominations express their desire to improve health care in America in diverse ways. Yet everyone seems to agree on a few things:

- **America's health care system costs too much and covers too few.**
- **Health care is a basic right, not a privilege.**
- **Reforming health care is of the utmost economic urgency.**
- **We have a moral imperative to fix our system, and anything less than covering all Americans would be unjust.**

Different parts of the faith community express these ideas in their own ways:

- Providing health care is not just an obligation for the patient and the doctor, but for society as well. *Union for Reform Judaism*
- The need for change seems evident—it is troubling that so many Americans are without health insurance. *National Association of Evangelicals*
- It is the responsibility of the public—through government—to meet [America's health care needs] in a just, equitable, and compassionate manner. *Unitarian Universalists Association*
- The Bible tells us to do unto others as we would have others do unto us. If I were uninsured, I would want others to come to my aid and demand solutions—with this country's economic prosperity, we can and should find ways to provide health care for everyone. *Richard Land, President of Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, in Christianity Today*
- Health care should be viewed as a right, not a privilege—the basic goal for health care reform should be universal access to comprehensive benefits. *American Baptist Churches USA*

(Excerpted from The Center for American Progress Website)

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