

Ancient Vision, Modern Imperative

## THE BIBLE AND ADDICTION PREVENTION AND PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY



Presented by the General Board of Church and Society

# SO WHAT IS THE BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL RESPONSE?



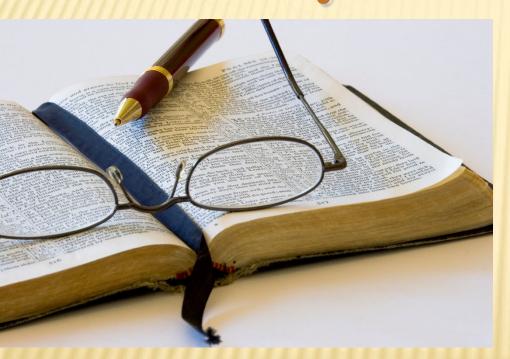
## **Abundance**



"I came that you might have life and have it abundantly." *John 10:10* 



## Community



"For all must carry their own loads...bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2-5



## Humanity



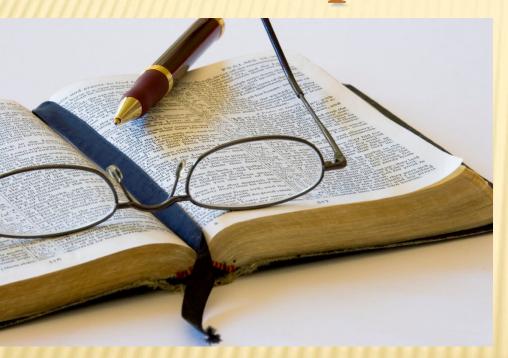
So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them." Genesis

"For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

Ephesians 6:12



## Stewardship



"The sea belongs to God who made it and the dry land because God formed it."

Psalm 95:5

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required." Luke 12:48b

"...Rulers have not healed the sick..." Ezekiel 34:4



## **United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs**



We affirm our long-standing support of abstinence from alcohol as a faithful witness to God's liberating and redeeming love for persons. We support abstinence from the use of any illegal drugs.



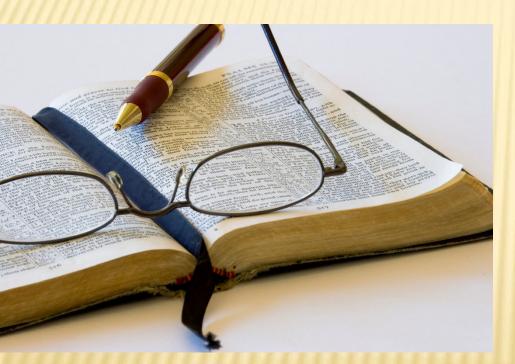
## **United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs**



Since the use of illegal drugs, as well as illegal and problematic use of alcohol, is a major factor in crime, disease, death, and family dysfunction, we support educational programs as well as other prevention strategies encouraging abstinence from illegal drug use and, with regard to those who choose to consume alcoholic beverages, judicious use with deliberate and intentional restraint, with Scripture as a guide.



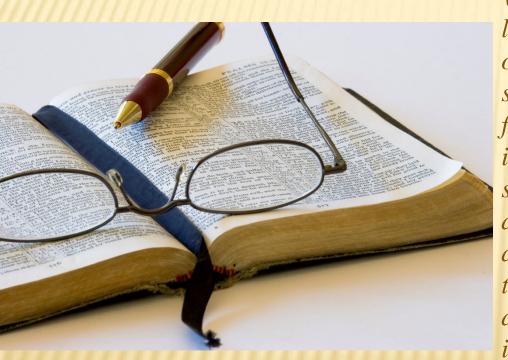
# **United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs**



Millions of living human beings are testimony to the beneficial consequences of therapeutic drug use, and millions of others are testimony to the detrimental consequences of drug misuse. We encourage wise policies relating to the availability of potentially beneficial or potentially damaging prescription and over-the-counter drugs; we urge that complete information about their use and misuse be readily available to both doctor and patient...



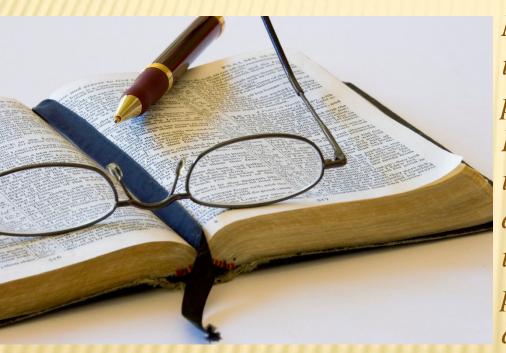
## **United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs**



We support the strict administration of laws regulating the sale and distribution of alcohol and controlled substances. We support regulations that protect society from users of drugs of any kind, including alcohol, where it can be shown that a clear and present social danger exists. Drug-dependent persons and their family members, including those who are assessed or diagnosed as dependent on alcohol, are individuals of infinite human worth deserving of treatment, rehabilitation, and ongoing life-changing recovery ...



## **United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs**



Misuse or abuse may also require intervention, in order to prevent progression into dependence. Because of the frequent interrelationship between alcohol abuse and mental illness, we call upon legislators and health care providers to make available appropriate mental illness treatment and rehabilitation for drug-dependent persons ...



### **United Methodist Social Principle ¶162 L Alcohol and Other Drugs**



We commit ourselves to assisting those who suffer from abuse or dependence, and their families, in finding freedom through Jesus Christ and in finding good opportunities for treatment, for ongoing counseling, and for reintegration into society.

## UNITED METHODIST RESOLUTIONS ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

- "A Call to Action on Alcohol"
- "Alcohol and Other Drugs"
- "Alcohol Advertising"
- "Drinking on Campus"
- And positions/resolutions on tobacco and gambling.

The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church - 2012



## Faithful Reform in Health Care www.faithfulreform.org

Kaiser Family Foundation: <a href="www.kff.org">www.kff.org</a>
Kaiser Family Foundation animated video of the law:

http://healthreform.kff.org/the-animation.aspx



### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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