

RESOLUTION ENDORSING MEDICAID ELIGIBILIY EXPANSION

WHEREAS, St. John's Church Evangelical Protestant Church of the United Church of Christ has served the greater Columbus community from its downtown location for more than 140 years; and

WHEREAS, as we head toward our second century as a faith community, the members of St. John's remain a politically, philosophically, and socially diverse group of individuals; and

WHEREAS, one of St. John's most vital missions is *The Largest Table*, which every Wednesday at noon nourishes the body and soul of more than 250 community members, including many who are uninsured and face daily struggles to survive; and

WHEREAS, non-disabled adults up to age 65 without dependent children, including many of the disadvantaged Ohioans currently served by St. John's *Largest Table* mission, would become eligible for health care coverage under Medicaid expansion; and

WHEREAS, Medicaid expansion would provide coverage for an estimated 500,000 individuals with incomes up to 138% of the federal poverty level (\$15,415 for an individual, \$26,344 for a family of three); and

WHEREAS, Medicaid expansion would enable the state of Ohio to also extend much needed mental health services to those in need; and

WHEREAS, the federal government promises to pay most of the Medicaid expansion costs and studies show the state of Ohio will save money with the expansion;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Consistory of St. John's endorses Ohio's proposed Medicaid eligibility expansion and encourages support by members of the Ohio General Assembly.

March 11, 2013

Barbara McClure, President