

**Date:** July 4, 2022

**To:** All Media

**From:** Rev. Paul Sangree, Acting Conference Minister of the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ

**Re:** Christian Leaders Respond to Roe vs Wade Supreme Court Decision

As Christians in the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ, we oppose the Dobbs decision by the Supreme Court to overturn Roe vs. Wade. We believe that God is the Creator of all living beings and things, and that all human beings are created with the gift of free will and are of equal value. We believe that all people have a right to determine what one does with one's own body, recognizing the difficult and painful yet life-supporting and sustaining necessity in making the decision to have an abortion. This is a statement rooted in our Christian faith which opposes any policy, precedent, statement or law that limits a human being's right to bodily autonomy, determination, dignity, and respect.

Therefore, we stand with all women and people who can become pregnant in their right to choose, as we continue as followers of Jesus Christ, children of God, and members and friends of the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ to actively work together to answer our Christian call to love one another.

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