

Proposed Resolution
West Virginia Clean Water Resolution
Submitted by the Southern District Lead Team

Whereas: The decline of heavy industry in general and coal industry in particular and the declining community populations in southern West Virginia have left many communities' infrastructure, once built and supported by coal companies and larger community populations, neglected for many years due to declining tax bases and companies going out of business thus leading to many families without access to clean water and adequate wastewater treatment; and

Whereas: Dig Deep describes itself as "a human rights non-profit working to ensure that every American has clean, running water forever" and has formed partnerships with United Methodists in McDowell County WV and launched the "Appalachian Water Project"; and

Whereas: Dig Deep is currently bringing clean water to families starting in McDowell County, expanding into Wyoming County with ambitions to go even further; and

Whereas: Dig Deep has established a goal of raising \$1.2 million for the "Appalachian Water Project" which they estimate will bring clean water to 400 West Virginia families; and

Whereas: The Southern District of the WVUMC is deeply committed to sharing the love of Christ in both word and deed to all southern West Virginia and sees a powerful opportunity to do this by helping to bring clean water to our neighbors; and

Whereas: The Justice and Advocacy Committee of the West Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church recognizes clean water is an integral part of life, and is deeply committed to advocating for clean water for all; and

Whereas: The United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia, Inc. invests funds in a sustainable manner in alignment with United Methodist values, taking care to avoid investments in enterprises that are contrary to the social principles of The United Methodist Church, and intentionally investing in enterprises with a positive record in terms of their care for the environment and other social values;

Therefore:

Be it resolved: that we as United Methodists in the West Virginia Conference encourage all our congregations to give generously to the fund established by the United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia for the establishment of sustainable potable water systems for rural communities in Southern West Virginia.

Be it further resolved: the Justice and Advocacy Committee supports Dig Deep and the work they are doing to provide clean water in West Virginia communities.

Be it further resolved: we encourage churches, organizations, and individuals across the state of West Virginia to give to the fund established by the United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia for the establishment of sustainable potable water systems for rural communities in southern West Virginia.