by the United Church of Christ on this important issue. As we continue to strive or a cleaner world and environment, we must also strive to protect those most vulnerable to hurt.

[From Witness for Justice #274, June 26, 2006]

GLOBAL WARMING: HARMFUL TO ALL, BUT SOME MORE THAN OTHERS

(By C.J. Correa Bernier)

The international dimensions of environmental problems are becoming the center of attention as they gain center-stage in debates concerning the future of our planet. The range of issues being discussed is extensive, but global warming seems to be a common subject in most conversations. The coexistence of environmentalism and economic development and the need for cooperation, fairness and equity among countries seems to be one of the major questions.

In the midst of our global environmental conversations we must keep in mind that the activities of human society, on a broad scale, are harmful to all, but to some more than others. In the case of global warming, we suffer along with the planet but for island nations that will disappear, or for indigenous communities, it is not an ''environmental problem,'' it is the literal destruction of their environment, history, legacy and lives.

In the United States, communities of color are also drastically affected. A recent report notes the disproportionate corelation between African Americans in the U.S. and climate change. The report argues that African Americans are less responsible for climate change, but suffer more from the health impacts.

In 1987 the existence of a nationwide pattern of disproportionate environmental risk based on race was demonstrated for the U.S. This evidence challenged the U.S. environmental movement to recognize its tendency to ignore issues of race, class and gender when setting agendas for social action. Today the mainstream environmental community is involved in serious discussions about how to frame the eco-justice issues along with those dealing with environment justice or environmental racism, but, to look at the issue of global warming as one that is in opposition to those confronted by the environmental justice movement will be a mistake.

The global environmental justice movement compels us to rethink our understanding of global environmental problems and existing proposals to solve them. Justice is an essential demand, in the aftermath of historic, systematic discrimination and disproportionate environmental degradation of those on the margins.

If we look at global warming as an issue of human rights and environmental justice we will be able to see the connection between the local and the global. Rising temperatures are already affecting the lives of millions of humans, particularly in people of color, low-income, and indigenous communities. The health of many has been already compromised, their financial reality has become a burden, and their social and cultural lives have been disrupted. As we dialogue, research and seek solutions to our climate and energy problems we must seek to ensure the right of all people to live, work, play, and pray in safe, healthy, and clean environments. We must envision a transition to a future that protects the most vulnerable from the impacts of climate.

CONDEMNING THE ATTACKS ON ISRAEL BY HEZBOLLAH AND HAMAS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to condemn the terrorist groups Hezbollah and Hamas and their continuing brutal attacks against the people of Israel.

Hezbollah took the lives of eight Israeli Defense Forces soldiers and captured two others on the Israel-Lebanon border earlier this week. This is the same terrorist group which took the lives of 257 Americans in the bombing of the U.S. Embassy and Marine barracks in Beirut 26 years ago.

The contrast between Lebanon and Israel is stark. Lebanon not only tolerates terrorists, it harbors and supports them. Lebanon has blatantly and purposefully disregarded U.N. Resolutions and diplomatic requests to disarm Hezbollah and to bring to justice the terrorist leaders. On the other hand, Israel has complied with the U.N. charter, and has had its forces withdrawn from Lebanon since May 2000. This latest attack was completely unprovoked; in fact, Hezbollah leaders claimed that it had been planned for months. Clearly, the purpose of this latest attack is to perpetuate the violence in the region.

An estimated 100 million dollars per year in weaponry and other support is sent from Tehran through Damascus to supply Hezbollah. The government of Lebanon takes a hands-off approach towards this continued violence. The Syrian and Iranian governments should be condemned for their support of the Hezbollah and Hamas terrorist organizations.

It is time for the world community to take action against Hezbollah and the nations that support it. The United States must also not allow the Iranian government to use this latest bloodshed as a diverting tactic against U.S. attention from their unrestricted nuclear program.

With the killing of Israeli soldiers and the kidnapping of Cpl. Gilad Shalit by Hamas, the timing of Hezbollah's incursion and kidnapping raises grave suspicions and increases the existing tension in the region.

Israel is in a difficult position, for it must deal with state-sponsored terrorism involving the Palestinian, Lebanese, Iranian and Syrian governments. In response to these brutal attacks, Israel clearly has the right to defend herself. Like every sovereign nation, Israel is clearly justified in taking the actions necessary to safeguard its territory and its people.

My thoughts are prayers are with the families/and loved ones of the kidnapped Israeli soldiers at this difficult time.

CELEBRATING A LONG AND WONDERFUL LIFE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincerest regards to Ms. Ruth Johns McCluskey in Knoxville, Tennessee. Ms. McCluskey will be celebrating her 100th birthday on July 28, 2006.

Ms. McCluskey, born in Smyrna, Tennessee, attended grade school at the Greenwood School in Old Jefferson Community. After graduating from Smyrna High School she attended Tennessee Normal School for Women—now Middle Tennessee State University. After receiving her degree she embarked upon the field of education and taught grades 1–8 in Crossville, Tennessee. It was during this time that she met her future husband, Rev. Joe McCluskey, a fellow teacher. During their marriage they had two children: Ruth and Joe.

Today, Ms. McCluskey stays active and engaged by reading the daily paper, magazines, and as many books as she can get her hands on. Ever the extrovert she enjoys playing bridge and cards with her friends and family.

I wish Ms. McCluskey the best, and may God continue to bless her.

ABA LAW STUDENT TAX CHALLENGE—NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW STUDENTS PLACE SECOND

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2006

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two Northern Illinois University, NIU, law students, Mary Riley and Cathryn Streeter, who placed second in the Nation at the 2005 Law Student Tax Challenge. This event was sponsored by the Young Lawyers Forum of the American Bar Association's Section of Taxation. Coached by Northern Illinois Law Professor Dan Schneider, the third-year law students researched a real-life, tax-planning problem and submitted their analysis and solution for judging. After being selected as semi-finalists from a pool of 36 entries, Ms. Riley and Ms. Streeter traveled to San Diego to present both oral and written arguments in front of a panel of distinguished tax lawyers, which included the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service.

Established in 1895 by an act of the Illinois General Assembly, Northern Illinois State Normal School opened its doors to students in September 1899. In July 1957, after 58 years of physical growth and expansion in academic programs, Northern Illinois State College became Northern Illinois University by action of the 70th General Assembly. In August of 1979 the university was authorized to acquire the College of Law, which had originally been founded in 1975 by Lewis University.

Today Northern Illinois University offers pro!ams to more than 23,000 students in the basic disciplines, the arts, and the professions through courses conducted on the main campus in DeKalb and at regional sites throughout Northern Illinois. The university's academic work is organized under the College of Business, Education, Engineering and Engineering Technology, Health and Human Sciences, Law, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts, in addition to the Graduate School.

As the only public law school in the greater Chicago area, NIU Law has previously ranked first in the Nation for government placement,