**Sample Email on Redistricting Reform**

On May 8th, Ohioans will have the opportunity to vote on State Issue 1 to pass redistricting reform. The League of Women Voters and other community leaders pushed for Issue 1. The State Legislature finally joined and placed the Constitutional Issue on the ballot.

Currently, legislators elected from non-competitive districts are more loyal to their party activists and ideological stances than the needs of the community. This ballot initiative seeks to create congressional districts that are more competitive and representative of the people of Ohio. When elected officials serve more realistic districts, they will be able to listen to community leaders, including our congregational leaders, and act on the issues that will improve our communities.

This ballot initiative will:

* **Require bipartisan support for new congressional district maps**: Currently, districts are drawn by whichever party is in power to benefit their party. In Ohio this had lead to non-competitive congressional races. The new process will require additional buy-in from the minority party.
* **Keep communities together:** The proposal will prevent counties from needlessly being divided. Currently many counties are divided 3 or 4 times and other districts needlessly incorporate many partial counties, hurting a Representative’s ability to know the district and relate to the needs of the community. Districts will still contain the same number of people, but will be more compact.

For more information please visit <http://www.hungernetohio.com/read-the-latest/2018/3/28/take-action-in-april>