



# A JUST MINIMUM WAGE

*Good for Workers, Business and Our Future*

**By Holly Sklar**

**and the Rev. Dr. Paul H. Sherry**

**Foreword by The Rev. Dr. James A. Forbes Jr.**

*A Just Minimum Wage* makes a powerful economic and ethical case for raising the minimum wage and moving the United States from a low-road economy to the high road. It counters all the arguments against raising the minimum wage and offers fresh insight into why the minimum wage is so important.

Shows why raising the minimum wage is an economic imperative for the enduring strength of our workforce, businesses, communities and economy, and a moral imperative for the very soul of our nation.

**Excerpts:**

“The minimum wage is where society draws the line: This low and no lower. Our bottom line is this: **A job should keep you out of poverty, not keep you in it.**”

“The minimum wage buys less today than it did when Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton opened his first Walton’s 5 and 10 in Bentonville, Arkansas in 1951.”

“The minimum wage has become a poverty wage instead of an anti-poverty wage. A low minimum wage gives a green light to employers to pay poverty wages to a growing share of the workforce—not just workers at the minimum, but above it. Workers have not been getting their fair share of the benefits of rising worker productivity.”

“We will not prosper economically or ethically in the global economy relying on low wages, outsourcing and debt in place of innovation and opportunity. We will not prosper in the global economy relying on disinvestment in place of reinvestment. We can’t succeed that way any more than farmers can ‘compete’ by eating their seed corn.”

“Fair wages are good for business.” — Joel Marks, national director of the American Small Business Alliance  
 “Paying your employees well is not only the right thing to do but it makes for good business.” — CEO, Costco

*“Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an overflowing stream.” — Amos 5:24*

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