

shall thereby create a vacancy to be filled by election.

7. FULL COMMUNION BETWEEN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA

Assistant Moderator Smith called on Rev. Cecil Prescod (CPC) Chairperson of Committee Eight. Mr. Prescod reported the changes the committee made to the original resolution.

Mr. Prescod, on behalf of the Committee, moved the Twenty-fourth General Synod adopt the resolution "Full Communion between the United Church of Christ and the Church of South India" as amended by the Committee.

03-GS-13 VOTED The Twenty-fourth General Synod adopts the resolution "Full Communion between the United Church of Christ and the Church of South India" as amended by the Committee.

FULL COMMUNION BETWEEN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE CHURCH OF SOUTH INDIA

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the Church of South India are kindred expressions of Christ's one Church, basing their formation on Christ's prayer, "That they may all be one;" and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the Church of South India, both members of the world-wide network of united and uniting churches, have expressed the conviction prominently in their motto and symbol; and

WHEREAS, several United Church of Christ Conferences have received innumerable spiritual riches from contacts with the devoted members of the Church of South India and covet such an experience for all United Church of Christ Conferences; and

WHEREAS, the Church of South India in 1947 has recognized the state of full communion with the United Church of Christ, through one of our parent bodies, the Congregational Christian Churches.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Twenty-fourth General Synod calls on the Office of the General Minister and President, with the assistance of the Council for Ecumenism, and Wider Church Ministries to pursue the steps that are necessary for the United Church of Christ at the Twenty-fifth General Synod to affirm a full communion relationship with the Church of South India.

Funding for the implementation of this resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

8. DIALOGUE WITH ALLIANCE OF BAPTISTS: A PARTNERSHIP IN MISSION AND MINISTRY

Chairperson Cecil Prescod, on behalf of the Committee, moved the Twenty-fourth General Synod adopt the resolution "Dialogue with Alliance of Baptists: A Partnership in Mission and Ministry"

Mr. Prescod spoke on behalf of the resolution

Rev. Ed Roosa (PNE) requested more information, specifically the number of churches that are involved. Rev. Lydia Veliko, Minister for Ecumenical Relations, reported that the Alliance represents approximately one hundred twenty congregations with sixty thousand members primarily in the South East portion of the country.

Rev. David Runnion-Bareford of the Biblical Witness Fellowship spoke in opposition to the resolution stating that the Alliance of Baptists is a dissident group.

Rev. John Thomas, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, spoke about the dialogue process he and Rev. Veliko had been involved in with the Alliance of Baptists over the past years. He stated it is incorrect to refer to the Alliance as a dissident group. Many of their members have suffered for their convictions, including being removed from positions of responsibility in the Southern Baptists Convention. These are convicted