

transformation, calling us to renew our commitment to God's mission of reconciliation and unity which is both local and global; and

WHEREAS, both denominations were founders of and still actively participate in bringing leadership to the ecumenical service organizations known as Church World Service and Action by Churches Together, providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in some 80 countries; and

WHEREAS, a local church engaged in ministry globally is a vital and faithful church, one that is dynamic and growing in strong local and global relationships, bringing abundant blessings, creating understanding and building communities of justice and service; and

WHEREAS, Global Ministries seeks to facilitate the engagement of local churches and other settings of the church more intentionally in global mission; and

WHEREAS, God's call to mission is already embodied and celebrated in all settings of the church in myriad expressions of relationship, service, mission presence, justice witness, worship and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, partnership means receiving the gifts and learning from the experiences of others in our world, building greater effectiveness through collective efforts and mutually recognizing and encouraging each other in ministry;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Twenty-seventh General Synod, meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 26-30, 2009, promotes and encourages all settings of the church to claim and implement the Global Mission Church designation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-seventh General Synod invites all settings of the United Church of Christ—National, Conferences, Associations and local churches, and all age groups of the church, especially youth and young adults to utilize assessment and implementation resources, such as *Be a Global Mission Church*; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Twenty-seventh General Synod declares itself a "Global Mission Church," and recognizes such designation as one of the priorities of the church; and, furthermore, the Twenty-seventh General Synod encourages all settings of the United Church of Christ to claim the identity of being a Global Mission Church.

FUNDING

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

IMPLEMENTATION

Local churches, Associations and Conferences of the United Church of Christ, The Office of General Ministries, Wider Church Ministries, Justice & Witness Ministries and Local Church Ministries are requested to implement this resolution.

7. RESOLUTION: A CALL FOR STUDY OF OUR CHURCH'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE EUGENICS MOVEMENT

Moderator Morgan called upon Mr. Tom Hancock, Chair of Committee Thirteen, to present action from that committee.

Mr. Hancock moved the adoption of the resolution “A Call for Study of our Church’s Involvement in the Eugenics Movement.”

Mr. Andrew Smith (WISC) moved to end debate.

09-GS-40 VOTED: The Twenty-seventh General Synod votes to end debate.

09-GS-41 VOTED: The Twenty-seventh General Synod adopts the resolution “A Call for Study of Our Church’s Involvement in the Eugenics Movement.”

A CALL FOR STUDY OF OUR CHURCH’S INVOLVEMENT IN THE EUGENICS MOVEMENT

WHEREAS, current public policy debates center around issues of difference with regard to race, immigration, gender, sexual orientation, genetic therapies, education, etc.;

WHEREAS, the Church should be involved in these debates and conversations;

WHEREAS, the church and society previously debated these issues during the eugenics movement of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries;

WHEREAS, the moral and theological wrongs of the eugenics movement are legion;

WHEREAS, the predecessor denominations of the United Church of Christ, their churches, and clergy were intimately involved in the eugenics movement; and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has claimed in previous resolutions that institutionalized injustices continue to affect contemporary society;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ encourages conferences, associations, congregations, agencies, and ministries of the United Church of Christ to join in active exploration on issues dealing with our history of involvement in the eugenics movement; and the ethical implications on eugenics today and to share their significant findings with Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ is called on to direct the development of a study concerned with the eugenics movement to determine the historical involvement and to propose future actions of the United Church of Christ on this matter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Justice and Witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ is requested to report their findings to the next General Synod, including suggested resources for further study for individual congregations, associations, and conferences of the United Church of Christ.

FUNDING

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

IMPLEMENTATION

Justice and Witness Ministries is requested to implement this resolution.