

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Twenty-ninth General Synod of the United Church of Christ challenges the members and local churches of the United Church of Christ to serve veterans with healing care beyond established medical and military protocols and seek ways to welcome our veterans home, through worship, fellowship, pastoral care and advocacy to reintegrate them in our communities, and help to bring peace to veterans, their families and the world.

FUNDING

The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

IMPLEMENTATION

The Collegium of Officers, in consultation with the appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ will determine the implementing body.

11. RESOLUTION ON ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Assistant Moderator Dale Bonds called on Ms. Brittni Badger, Chairperson of Committee 14 to present the next item of business.

Ms. Badger moved the adoption of the Resolution on Ecumenical Relationship Between the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada. She then spoke to the motion.

Discussion:

Ron Nicholas (FLA) urged support and said his home church is an unofficial southern home for Canadians during the winter months.

Bill Thwing (PW) strongly supports the resolution.

Mike Denton (JWM) is very excited about this resolution and urges support.

Jake Joseph (JWM) also supports the resolution.

Paul Clay (CA NV,S) also supports the resolution.

Hyo-Jung Kim (EC) urged support.

13-GS-17 VOTED: The Twenty-ninth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Ecumenical Relationship between the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada.

RESOLUTION ON ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

WHEREAS, the gospel of Jesus Christ unites the followers of Christ in a single community of faith and compels us to make our unity visible so “that the world may believe...” John 17:21;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada are united and uniting churches with multiple denominational streams which identify them and shape their Christian self-understanding;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ have common commitment to the visible unity of the church of Jesus Christ and to the one ecumenical movement;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ have common Congregational and Reformed heritage and sit in common witness to mission, worship, theological conversation and commitment to justice;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada have engaged in dialogue and have identified similarities and differences that can commonly strengthen who they are and their witness in North America as united and uniting churches;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the twenty-ninth General Synod United Church of Christ recognize the United Church of Canada as an ecumenical partner;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ mutually commit to forming the United Church Ecumenical Partnership Committee, an ecumenical partnership committee of ten (10) persons – five from each communion;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the United Church Ecumenical Partnership Committee brings back to the thirtieth General Synod recommendations for further steps and activities to bring the two communions toward full communion and visible unity.

FUNDING

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

IMPLEMENTATION

The Collegium of Officers, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.

12. RESOLUTION ON RESTRUCTURING OF CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES

Assistant Moderator Bonds called on Mr. Darryl Cruz, Chairperson of Committee 11, to present the committee's resolution.

Mr. Cruz moved the adoption of the resolution Restructuring of Conference Boundaries and spoke to the motion.

Discussion:

Geoff Brace (JWM) spoke in support of the resolution, stating we are at a critical point in our middle judicatories.

Dan Furman (MICH) spoke against the resolution and disapproved of the word “sustainable” future in Line 1369. He prefers a thriving future.

George Peters (RI) believes there needs to be a conversation among covenant partners involved and this action invites that conversation.