

during Monday's plenary and asked for prayer on behalf of the family, church and conference.

Makela (ILL) Youth from Chicago, Illinois, regarding gun violence and the trauma they experience. Thank the General Synod for their support.

4. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Assistant Moderator Williams spoke regarding "How Many People Were Shot In Chicago This Weekend: six killed ,53 shot, most under 30, most male, and the youngest was 13. Moderator Williams asked the delegates to pause and asked God's blessing in silence.

5. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Andrea Nicole Lewis on behalf of the Youth at General Synod thank you for giving the youth an opportunity to have a voice and to speak their thoughts. The Youth would like to get in the wheelbarrow and get in the river. The youth presented a time capsule to the moderator with their hopes and suggestions and ideas for the next General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

6. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Assistant Moderator William called Damaris Whittaker for the morning theological reflection.

Damaris Whittaker spoke of the powerful stories being shared and asked the delegates to be in a time of prayer to allow the spirit to become a reality before each vote.

7. CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN IN HOMES AND INSTITUTIONS

Assistant Moderator Williams called on Jody Betten (MICH) to present the resolution on Corporal Punishing of Children in Homes and Institutions.

Jody Betten indicated that the committee had made changes in the resolution and addressed those and made a motion for the General Synod of the United Church of Christ to pass the Resolution on Corporal Punishment of Children in Homes and Institutions.

Cean James (PSW) thanked Jody Betten for chairing the committee, as well as the other committee members and spoke to the resolution.

Discussion:

Amy Duncan (CA NEV, S) Spoke in favor

No Name No Conference: Asked for Clarification: Does the Resolution cover institutions that are run by the state that are not schools, such as juvenile detention centers.

Jody Betten indicated that the language "child care facilities" is intended to cover all facilities where children are kept.

Timothy White (MASS) Spoke against

John Snyder-Samuelson (PNE) Spoke in favor

Tony Dillon-Hansen (IOWA) made an Amendment to Line 12 adding the words: "in schools, juvenile detention centers and child care facilities"

Dixie Laube (IOWA) Seconded the amendment.

Discussion:

There was no discussion on the amendment.

17-GS-40 VOTED: The Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to amend the resolution by adding the words: “in schools, juvenile detention centers and child care facilities” to line 12.
89%; 9%; 2%

Dorian Ortega (CHM) brought a friendly amendment insert “Group Homes and Mental Health Institutions” in lines 12 and 13 as follows: “In schools, juvenile detention centers, group homes and mental health institutions and child care facilities.”

William Wildman (MASS) Seconded

17-GS-41 VOTED: The Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted on a friendly amendment to the amendment changing the amendment to read “in schools, juvenile detention centers, group homes and mental health institutions and child care facilities.”
89%; 8%; 3%

Assistant Moderator Williams indicated the Motion with the amendments would now come before the floor for a vote.

17-GS-42 VOTED: The Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to adopt the resolution On Corporal Punishment of Children in Homes and Institutions.
91%; 7%; 2%

ON CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF CHILDREN IN HOMES AND INSTITUTIONS
A Resolution of Witness

Text of the Motion:

Whereas Jesus called for society to honor children for “of such is the Kingdom of God,” Luke 18:16

Whereas Jesus said that harming “the least of these my brethren” was an offense against Him, Matthew 25:40

Whereas the United Church of Christ has approved the National Council of Churches’ Social Creed for the 21st Century, which states that “we honor the dignity of every person” as created in the divine image and therefore “commit ourselves to a culture of peace and freedom that embraces non-violence” and “nurtures character,”

Whereas the United Church of Christ is committed to working for a “world safe for children” and “free from violence,” 95-GS-56 Resolution of Witness

Whereas corporal punishment model’s aggressive behavior as a solution to conflict and sends a message that hitting smaller and weaker people is acceptable,

Whereas corporal punishment is degrading and traumatizing to children and often leads to physical injury,

Whereas corporal punishment may produce short-term compliance but is subsequently less effective, leading frustrated caretakers to inflict more severe forms of punishment,

Whereas some research has associated corporal punishment with chronic depression and increased crime, violence, substance abuse, anxiety and aggression in children and adults,

Whereas children must eventually develop their own conscience and self-discipline, which are fostered by a home environment of respect, trust, love and self-control,

Whereas schools and child-care centers should inspire children to enjoy learning and feel safe and affirmed,

Whereas corporal punishment in schools is disproportionately used on poor children, minorities, children with disabilities, and boys,

Whereas 19 states, including Indiana and Kentucky, allow corporal punishment in schools and child care facilities,

Whereas in the 2013-2014 school year Indiana had 239 cases of corporal punishment and Kentucky had 823,

Whereas the Churches' Network for Non-violence, Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, United Methodist Church, and Presbyterian Church USA oppose corporal punishment,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls for state and local governments to prohibit corporal punishment in schools, juvenile detention centers, group homes, mental health institutions and child-caring facilities;

Be it further resolved that the Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon member churches to make resources available on Christian parenting that include alternatives to corporal punishment.

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.