

Be it further resolved, that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges all members, congregations, and ministry settings of the UCC to engage in reflection, learning, self-examination, and repentance for the ways in which white supremacy has influenced, and continues to influence, our personal, interpersonal, institutional, and cultural lives; and to seek out opportunities for transformative dialogue and relationship with people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives, including both targets and supporters of white supremacist rhetoric and action, with special attention to assisting congregants of white and/or European descent to acknowledge their responsibility to use their privilege to disrupt bigotry rooted in whiteness; and

Be it finally resolved, that the Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ encourages each congregation of the United Church of Christ to join with other communities of faith to proclaim our shared commitment to Racial Justice.

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

**7. ESTABLISHING AN ACTION TEAM TO CONDUCT A LISTENING CAMPAIGN AND BRING RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FUTURE OF CHRISTIAN WITNESS AT GENERAL SYNOD.**

Assistant Moderator called on David Bahr of the Connecticut Conference to present the recommended action from Committee #4.

David Bahr moved on behalf of Committee #4 that the Thirty-second General Synod adopt the resolution Establishing an Action Team to Conduct a Listening Campaign and Bring Recommendations on the Future of Christian Witness at General Synod as amended by committee, and David Bahr spoke to the Motion.

Discussion:

Three spoke in favor.

**19-GS-24 VOTED:** The Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopts the resolution Establishing an Action Team to Conduct a Listening Campaign and Bring Recommendations on the Future of Christian Witness at General Synod.

(Vote: 372 yes; 228 No; 93 Abstentions – 693 electronic submissions registered)

**Establishing an Action Team to Conduct a Listening Campaign and Bring  
Recommendations on the Future of Christian Witness at General Synod  
A Prudential Resolution**

**Text of the Resolution**

Whereas, Resolutions of Witness are a means for the General Synod of the United Church of Christ to speak to the Church and to the world on matters moral, ethical, or religious, from a place of Christian conviction;

Whereas, the polity of the United Church of Christ is such that General Synod may *urge, call upon, or ask* the varied settings primarily encountered – that is, the Local Church, the Association, and the Conference – to abide by the aspirations of a Resolution of Witness, the entity of General Synod has no Constitutional authority to do anything more;

Whereas, God calls us to tremendous and abundant things, and so the missional priorities of the wider church does not infringe upon the autonomy of the local churches' works of mercy and justice, nor does the discernment of General Synod interfere with the adjudication of the Holy Spirit leading the varied settings of the United Church of Christ to specific acts of mission and witness;

Whereas, the attendees of General Synod, whether Delegates or Visitors, collectively hold tremendous power, as they are organizers, activists, and community leaders in their various settings and have the capacity to bear and launch the mission of the wider church, as determined by General Synod, in their local settings;

Whereas, the material deprivation and moral crises of our communities and world require powerful responses, and in a time such as this, there is a need for Christian witness in the form of concerted action that goes beyond declarations of our Christian conviction;

Whereas, deeper engagement with the charge to discern the mission of the United Church of Christ requires more fully knowing one another as followers of Christ, learning from one another as leaders in our various settings, and trusting one another as the body of the Church;

Whereas, General Synod is a body of over 700 voting members of the United Church of Christ, and the work and ministry of General Synod is ongoing; additionally, General Synod is an event that marks the moment of transition between bienniums, and as such, it is both the genesis and culmination of the symbiotic, relational, and covenantal life cycle of the wider church;

Therefore be it resolved that the Thirty-second General Synod create a listening campaign throughout the denomination in all of its expressions including for example, youth and other HUGS (historically under-represented groups), to ask how the various settings most energetically and thoroughly carry out Christian mission and witness, and prayerfully listen to the concerns of the Church, formulating the eventual recommendation about the future form of General Synod's Christian witness.

Be it resolved that the UCC Board in consultation with the Council of Conference Ministers consider an effective implementation plan for this listening campaign, to be reported to and by General Synod 33.

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

**8. CALLING UPON THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD TO BRING BYLAWS REVISIONS THAT INCLUDE NON-BINARY GENDER LANGUAGE**

Assistant Moderator Lowes called on Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference to present the recommended action from Committee 12.

Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan moved that the Thirty-second General Synod adopt the Resolution Calling Upon the United Church of Christ Board to bring Bylaws Revisions that Include Non-Binary Gender Language as amended by Committee. Sarah Frische-Mouri Hannigan spoke to the motion.

Discussion:

One person spoke in favor.

**19-GS-25 VOTED:** The Thirty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopts the resolution Calling Upon the United Church of Christ Board to Bring Bylaws Revisions that Include Non-binary Gender Language.

(Vote: 636 yes; 51 No; 14 Abstentions – 693 electronic submissions registered)

**RESOLUTION CALLING UPON THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD TO BRING BYLAWS REVISIONS THAT INCLUDE NON-BINARY GENDER LANGUAGE**  
**A Resolution of Witness**

**Text of the Resolution**

Whereas, God has brought forth human beings as creatures who are male, female, sometimes dramatically or subtly a complex mix of male and female in their bodies and/or psyches, and sometimes who psychologically experience both and female identification and/or neither male nor female identification; and

Whereas, human cultures have created a broad diversity of roles for men and women, and have sometimes created roles for people named as neither man nor woman often revered and respected