

THURSDAY EVENING

Presentation by the Stewardship Council followed by Evening Prayer conducted by the Rev. Ruben Huenemann (Appendix 18).

Friday Morning, July 7, 1961

Co-Moderator Press called the General Synod to order at 8:45 a. m.

The Morning Prayers were conducted by the Rev. Abraham Akaka. (Appendix 1)

The Co-Moderator then called on Mr. Cain, the Chairman of the Review Committee on the Report of the Executive Council, who presented the "Proposed Schomer Amendment to Executive Council Review Committee Report, Section II."

After considerable discussion Mr. Schomer withdrew the amendment.

The report of the Committee on Permanent Headquarters was then taken up.

61-GS-56 VOTED: To amend section 3e which read "Because certain important criteria have been overlooked by the Committee on Permanent Headquarters in its work, the continuing Committee shall add to the criteria previously considered such matters as (1) population growth trends of the United States, (2) geographical areas of growth and potential growth of United Church of Christ membership, (3) the effect that our current ecumenical conversations might have upon the population center of a potentially larger fellowship," by substituting the words "not been reported" for "been overlooked" in the first phrase.

61-GS-57 VOTED: to amend section 3e by striking the words "in its work" (after the words "Headquarters" and before "the continuing").

61-GS-58 VOTED: To amend section 3e by substituting the word "reported" for the word "considered" between the words "previously" and "such matters as."

61-GS-59 VOTED: To adopt the total report of the Review Committee on the Report of the Executive Council as amended as follows:

Partial Report of the Review Committee on the Report of the Executive Council, as Adopted (Permanent Headquarters)

Having reviewed the report of the Committee on Permanent Headquarters including the recommendations of the Committee as amended by the Executive Council the Review Committee submits the following resolution:

1. The General Synod commends the Committee on Permanent Headquarters for its diligent study and for its recognition and analysis of many factors involved in this problem and further commends it for its objective handling of the items considered.

2. The General Synod approves and accepts as its own the vote of the

Committee on Permanent Headquarters of September 29, 1960, as follows:

“That a national headquarters of the United Church of Christ be established in which the officers of the Church shall be located and that steps be taken to this end, that facilities be chosen with a view of flexibility in the light of future needs and that the instrumentalities be encouraged to consider the advisability of locating their major executive officers in the national headquarters together with such other staff as their program and functions might require.” (White Book pages 57-58).

3. The General Synod directs that:
 - a. The Executive Council establish temporary offices for the Administrative Officers of the United Church of Christ by October 1, 1961.
 - b. The Stewardship Council, in cooperation with the Committee of Nine to Study Realignment of Conference and Synodical Boundaries, consult with the instrumentalities to plan for the establishment of a coordinated system of regional field offices throughout the United States and to report its findings and recommendations to the Fourth General Synod.
 - c. The Executive Council provide a continuing committee on permanent headquarters, its membership to be representative of the entire Church.
 - d. The Committee recommend plans for the precise location, design and proposed financing of headquarters for the United Church of Christ and to make at least a preliminary report to the Fourth General Synod.
 - e. Because certain important criteria have not been reported by the Committee on Permanent Headquarters, the continuing Committee shall add to the criteria previously reported, such matters as (Adopted as amended.)
 1. population growth trends of the United States
 2. geographical areas of growth and potential growth of United Church of Christ membership
 3. the effect of our current ecumenical conversations might have upon the population center of a potentially larger fellowship
 - f. The Committee review the weights assigned to the various criteria so that the weights reflect the needs and life of the totality of our fellowship, a primary concern to be the provision of a location which shall make possible the establishment of wholesome communications between the executive offices and the local churches.
4. The General Synod suggests that, except for reasons of effectiveness of program, there be no premature concentration of offices, lest such procedure prejudice the location of the permanent headquarters.