

TUESDAY EVENING

3. The General Synod recommends that a new title be considered for the Division of Evangelism which would more appropriately describe its functions. There was debate, after which it was voted to delete recommendation 3.

The following substitute recommendation was adopted by vote:

3. The General Synod directs the Division on Evangelism to study the reasons for our decline in membership, the New Testament, and plans and programs of other communions in their evangelistic approach and make available for local churches plans, programs and suggestions in keeping with our changing times that will help and inspire local churches toward a greater and more sincere witness for Christ, both in our society and to individuals in our communities.

69-GS-104 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the foregoing recommendations on Evangelism as amended.

Health and Welfare

Ministry to the health and welfare needs of persons is an historic and continuing imperative for the Church that would be true to the Lordship of Christ.

1. The General Synod affirms anew its commitment to programs and agencies that help people. It looks to the Division of Health and Welfare of the Board for Homeland Ministries for leadership and vision in traditional ministries, and in new and viable ways of caring.

Adopted by common consent.

2. The General Synod recognizes the need for professional persons to direct the Division of Health and Welfare and supports the Board for Homeland Ministries in its commitment to seek out and employ a qualified staff.

Voted after discussion.

3. The General Synod asks the Division of Health and Welfare to direct its staff to engage primarily in the encouragement of and development of non-residential Health and Welfare ministries, giving special attention to the needs of the poor and of minority groups for whom there is a serious lack of needed services.

Adopted by common consent.

4. The General Synod urges the Division of Health and Welfare to undertake increased responsibility in interpreting and affecting public policy in the Health and Welfare sphere; and in developing appropriate styles for church relationship to secular agencies in related services.

Adopted by common consent.

5. The General Synod calls upon churches and Conferences to be supportive of the eighty Health and Welfare agencies related to the United Church of Christ with services to children, services to handicapped adults, health services, settlement houses and services to the aging. It sees in these agencies a significant expression of *diakonia*.

Voted after discussion.

69-GS-105 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the foregoing recommendations on Health and Welfare.