

## MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 4

Copies of this report and resolution be sent to all local churches, Associations and Conferences;

Recognizing that

- a. corporations have a responsibility to shareholders to make a profit,
- b. corporations should have a humane concern for the welfare of their employees,
- c. corporations have a responsibility for the human and environmental impact of their presence,
- d. corporations have a responsibility to be concerned with the developmental goals of their host community and country.

The General Synod calls upon the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. or other appropriate ecumenical agencies to bring together representative business and church leaders in a continuing dialogue:

- a. to examine the moral bases of current corporate business practice;
- b. to weight the ethical criticisms levelled at corporations in 1976-77 federal government investigations of questionable payments and political actions of corporations whether at home or abroad;
- c. to evaluate the ability and willingness of corporations to fulfill the above recognized responsibilities;
- d. to appraise the positive and negative effects of transnational business on the development of a more just international economic order.

### Background

The Seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ named a Committee on Financial Investments to study the social and ethical dimensions of church-held investments.

The Executive Council of the United Church of Christ in 1970 received the study prepared by this Committee, "Investing Church Funds for Maximum Social Impact," commending its recommendations to the four national Instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ that hold investments in support of the national work of the denomination, asking them to make reports to the General Synod from time to time on their ministry in the area of corporate social responsibility.

### 13. WORLD PEACE TAX FUND

Ms. Kear was recognized by the Moderator and referred the delegates to the Advance Materials, Section II, page 118-119. She then moved the adoption of the resolution on the "World Peace Tax Fund" as proposed by Division D. The motion was seconded and there was discussion.

Arthur W. Christofersen (ILL) moved the following amendment to the resolution:

The motion was seconded. There was discussion and it was

77-GS-48a VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod amends the motion as follows: WHEREAS, the Friends Church of the Brethren, Mennonites, and the United

Methodist Church has acted in support of this World Peace Tax;

Walter Brueggemann (MO) moved the following amendment to the resolution. The motion was seconded, there was discussion and it was

77-GS-48b VOTED: WHEREAS, we look for guidance from the life, teaching, and suffering of Jesus—his passion for human well-being; his solidarity with the vulnerable against the false order of the day, his embodiment of peaceableness and courage in his ministry, his readiness to stand against the imperialism of his day with the whole of his life, and

There being no further discussion, it was

77-GS-48 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod adopts the Resolution on the World Peace Tax Fund as amended.

### World Peace Tax Fund

WHEREAS, we look for guidance from the life, teaching and suffering of Jesus—his passion for human well-being; his solidarity with the vulnerable against the false order of the day, his embodiment of peaceableness and courage in his ministry, his readiness to stand against the imperialism of his day with the whole of his life, and

WHEREAS, we must look for alternatives to war to settle international conflicts and;

WHEREAS, a bill to establish a World Peace tax fund, i.e. H.R. 4897 and S. 880, has been introduced in Congress which would amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide that taxpayers conscientiously opposed to participation in war may elect to have their income, estate, or gift tax payments spent for non-military purposes, and;

WHEREAS, we recognize the dilemma of conscientious objectors who wish to pay their full share of taxes but cannot accede to thus participating in war which is against their beliefs;

WHEREAS, the Friends Church of the Brethren, Mennonites, and the United Methodist Church has acted in support of this World Peace Tax;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Eleventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ joins with the Quaker, Brethren, Mennonite and United Methodist Churches, who have already acted in this area, to give full support to the swift passage of legislation establishing a World Peace Tax Fund and urges individual members of the UCC to write their appropriate legislators.

### 14. DISARMAMENT

Ms. Kear was recognized by the Moderator and referred the delegates to the Advance Material, Section II, page 117-118. She then moved for the adoption of the "Resolution on Disarmament" from Division D. The motion was seconded and there was discussion. The Reverend Wayne A. Strever spoke to this issue on behalf of the Division. There was some discussion. A motion was made to invert items 7 and 8 in the resolved section of the resolution. The motion was seconded and when put to a vote it passed.

There being no further discussion, it was

77-GS-49 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod adopts the "Resolution on Disarmament" as amended.

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### Resolution on Disarmament

Whereas, we received an overture from the Northern California Conference of the United Church of Christ regarding a position statement on disarmament, and we support their overture in principle; and

Whereas, we affirm the actions of past Synods in terms of the disarmament issue.

Whereas, we affirm the Biblical rationale stated as follows: "Depart from evil and do good. Seek peace and pursue it." (Psalm 34:14) "Let us follow after the things which make for peace." (Romans 14:19) God "makes wars to cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear." (Psalm 46:9, Hosea 2:18) We pray "Hallowed be thy name," we are told that combat against civilians profanes God's name. (Amos 1:9, 13, 2:1) We are told that "all who take the sword will perish by the sword." (Matthew 26:52) Christ Jesus . . . "is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility . . . that he might create in himself one new (person) in place of the two, so making peace; and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near . . ." (Ephesians 2:14-17)

Whereas, the world is spending an estimated \$350 billion on an unresolved arms race while illiteracy, poverty, hunger, disease and unemployment are unresolved.

Whereas, President Jimmy Carter stated that "the ultimate goal of this nation should be the reduction of nuclear weapons in all nations of the world to zero".

Whereas, the increasingly scarce natural resources require a shift to peace use to meet the enormous unmet social and economic needs of all people,

RESOLVED, That the President and the Executive Council, in the name of the 11th General Synod of the United Church of Christ, to call upon our government to take the following steps:

1. That we push for reduction in the number of nuclear weapons by pursuit of the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT) working for a SALT II agreement based on the Vladivostok Accord of 1974 and commitment to early and substantial reductions in SALT III.
2. That there be a halt in development and deployment of new strategic weapons systems to include the cruise missile, the mobile ICBM, and the MARK 12-A warhead.
3. That the US should continue actively toward a comprehensive test ban treaty which would require all nations to halt all underground nuclear weapons tests and commend the President for his announcement at his press conference of June 13, 1977 that our government is "beginning this week to work closely with the Soviet Union on a comprehensive test ban treaty to prohibit all testing of nuclear devices underground or in the atmosphere.
4. That the US should renounce nuclear "first strike" and "first use" of nuclear weapons.
5. That we should ban the export of highly enriched

uranium or plutonium technology which has nuclear weapon potential as one means to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

6. That there should be continued efforts to reach agreement on the draft treaty prohibiting developments, production, and stockpiling of all chemical weapons and provisions for the destruction of existing stockpiles.
7. That the US should promptly adopt and implement policies to facilitate the conversion of production and employment from military purposes to peaceful purposes that meet the enormous accumulated unmet needs of the American people.
8. That we urge the member churches of the United Church of Christ to give strong support to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament in May/June 1978.

A Call for the Order of the Day brought the Report of Division D to a close. Those items not yet dealt with will be handled at another session of the Eleventh General Synod.

Moderator Robert Nace called on Assistant Moderator Bryant to conduct the next session of business. Following a brief break, Assistant Moderator Bryant recalled the afternoon session.

### 15. INTRODUCTION OF REPORT OF DIVISION C

Assistant Moderator Bryant recognized Francis Rath, Chairperson of Division C. The Facilitator for Division C was Ed Brueggemann.

### 16. RESOLUTION OF DUAL-ROLE MINISTRY

Mr. Rath introduced the Resolution on "Dual-Role Ministry" submitted by the New York Conference which was handed to the delegates as printed material. Upon noting the changes from the original resolution, Mr. Rath moved for the adoption of the Resolution as amended by Division C. The motion was seconded. There being no discussion, it was

77-GS-50 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod adopts the "Resolution on Dual-Role Ministry" as amended by Division C.

#### A Resolution on Dual-Role Ministry

An increasing number of ministers are becoming interested and involved in following dual careers, combining a secular occupation with ministerial service to a congregation.

Churches which cannot support a full-time ministry and wish to develop lay leadership to a greater extent, find dual-role clergy a means to continue serving their constituency and community. Large churches can also use dual-role clergy effectively.

In western New York, CODE, (Clergy Occupational Development and Employment) has been working out procedures to assist both clergy and churches as they explore this relatively new field, in cooperation with seven judicatories of the United Church of Christ, Episcopal, Baptist, and Presbyterian Churches.