

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 4

the church needs the school as a tool for its continuing reformation; the school needs the church as a deterrent to intellectual idolatry.

It is critical now that the United Church of Christ reaffirm commitment to church-related higher education and reaffirm support for its related educational institutions. Here lies the greatest promise for humanizing, liberating, and redeeming persons and society.

23. RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO RESOLUTIONS FROM ZION CHURCH, NORTH CANTON, OHIO AND THE UCC OF ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

Mr. Rath was recognized by the Assistant Moderator and referred the delegates to the Advance Material, Section II, page 128 and the printed materials hand-out "Resolution in Regard to Statements and Actions of General Synod and Denominational Representatives" which should be before them. Mr. Rath spoke to the Division C resolution and moved its adoption by the General Synod. The motion was seconded and there was discussion.

Rowland Kech (ILL) moved an amendment to the resolution by adding a fifth paragraph. It was recorded. After discussion it was

77-GS-55a VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod amends the motion by adding "Asks the Executive Council and our national instrumentalities through such means as they can devise, seek to deepen, broaden and express at every possible opportunity the Biblical and theological dimensions of the issues they address, whether those issues pertain to public policy or to program proposals for the United Church of Christ."

It was

77-GS-55 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod adopts the "Resolution in Response to Resolutions from Zion Church, North Canton, Ohio and the UCC of Annapolis, Maryland" as amended.

A Resolution in Response to Resolutions from Zion Church, North Canton, Ohio and the UCC of Annapolis, Md.

General Synod 11 gratefully hears the statements and petitions of Zion UCC of North Canton, Ohio and of the UCC of Annapolis, MD and celebrates their desire to be faithful to the gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

General Synod 11

1. *affirms* that the General Synod and national staff are also attempting to act faithfully as they seek to be informed by, and faithful to, the Word made flesh in the Lord Jesus Christ, and attested to in the Scriptures;
2. *acknowledges* that it is often difficult to make clear the theological rationale for an action or program, and that people of good-will can differ on the accuracy/adequacy of any particular theological or biblical rationale;
3. *encourages* the national staff to continue the serious task of informing and nurturing the church both in faith and responsible action;
4. also *encourages* members and congregations and

GS 11 delegates to dialogue with each other on concerns and programs of the United Church of Christ;

5. *asks* the Executive Council and our national instrumentalities through such means as they can devise, seek to deepen, broaden and express at every possible opportunity the Biblical and theological dimensions of the issues they address, whether those issues pertain to public policy or to program proposals for the United Church of Christ.

24. RESOLUTION ON THE CHURCH AND THE ARTS

Mr. Rath was recognized by the Assistant Moderator, introduced the resolution, and referred the delegates to the printed material before them. He moved adoption of the "Resolution on the Church and the Arts." The motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, it was

77-GS-56 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod adopts the "Resolution on the Church and the Arts."

Resolution on the Church and the Arts

WHEREAS, we are heirs of the Biblical inheritance of art, of the God who created form out of chaos and who put life and breath into the dust of the earth, of David who danced before the ark and sang songs of the faith, of Miriam who sang songs of joy, of Jesus who drew pictures in parables and raised the common elements of our lives to a symbolic and sacred use, and of John who revealed a new vision of heaven coming to earth;

WHEREAS, the Church through the ages has been a patron and preserver of the arts and the artists;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ firmly believes in the development of the whole person as a cultural, social and political being;

WHEREAS, the potential for magnificent creative activity exists within and among each of us;

WHEREAS, we believe that the arts are a prophetic and effective channel for the mediation of God's judgment and grace for the redemption of the world; we are drawn into a work of art, we experience its transforming power; the arts open us to new ways of understanding both personal and public life and give us insight and energy to act in love and justice for the sake of the Holy.

RESOLVED, That the 11th General Synod of the United Church of Christ affirms the contributions of arts and artists that enrich the quality and the vitality of life in our Church and world. We recognize that artists illuminate the symbols by which the religious dimensions of life and experience are made known. Also, that they enable the people of God to experience and express the living and liberating power of God, and to renew, sustain, and transform people in a new sense of themselves as persons and in relation to each other in community;

RESOLVED, That we encourage freedom to bring to creative expression the religious dimension of our life which nurtures community;

RESOLVED, That we urge the United Church of Christ, through its instrumentalities, publications, and church-