

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 4

related institutions (educational, welfare, health, etc.) to recognize further and support the arts;

RESOLVED, That we urge local churches to:

1. Encourage the expression of all forms of art.
2. Examine their use of physical space in order to consider sharing space available with the community's artists.
3. Support and expand the number of artists in residence both in the Church and in the community.
4. Struggle for justice for the artists in our society.
5. Support arts agencies and councils, municipal governments, school districts, at state and local levels, to the end that no one be denied opportunities to create and experience art, because of barriers, e.g., circumstance, class, race, sex, income, or remoteness;

RESOLVED, That we encourage all members of the Church, laity and clergy, to open themselves to the power and dynamics of the contemporary arts.

We encourage seminaries and colleges related to the Church to take seriously aesthetic ways of knowing and communicating through art the judgment and grace of God in their curricula and degree programs.

We encourage the judicatories of the Church to recognize and support certain churches as having special ministries to and with artists.

We support and urge membership in the United Church of Christ Fellowship in the Arts.

25. RESOLUTION ON POLITICAL EDUCATION AND SENSITIVITY

Mr. Rath was recognized by Assistant Moderator Bryant and referred the delegates to the Advance Materials, Section II, pages 134-135. Mr. Rath called attention to items 1, 2, and 3 in the resolved section of the resolution indicating that the Division felt these were the issues which agencies are or should be involved. He moved for the adoption of the "Resolution on Political Education and Sensitivity" as amended by the Division. The motion was seconded and there was discussion.

Robert Johnston moved, it was seconded and it was

77-GS-57a VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod amends the motion to insert ecclesiastical in the paragraph two of the resolved section.

Discussion around the question of financial implications of this resolution followed. Various instrumentality executives spoke to the issue and it was clarified that there was no additional financial implications. Upon being put to a vote it was:

77-GS-57 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod adopts the "Resolution on Political Education and Sensitivity" as amended.

Resolution on Political Education and Sensitivity

WHEREAS, many people have committed to memory John 3:16 — "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son . . ." — and though this verse has

become one of the best-known and often-quoted verses in the Scripture, we have often failed to take cognizance of one of the key words of that verse — "world". We have believed, rather, that God so loved the church, or the well-behaved people or the Christians, but not really the world; i.e. the whole people.

The church is people; people who are called in every time and every place to the task of continuing the essential ministry of Christ. We in the U.C.C. need to understand that ministry and responsibly appropriate it in the world.

A single resolution cannot but explore all the dimensions of Christ's ministry, nor examine thoroughly even one of these but suffice it to indicate that no systematic presentation of this ministry could fail to take cognizance of how Jesus stood "within" the tradition of the prophets. And, therefore, any reasonable formulation of that essential ministry must provide for a prophetic ministry. We seek to reflect upon that prophetic ministry and draw out some of its implications for urgent implementation in today's church.

1. Moses is recorded as crying out, "Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that the Lord would put the Spirit upon them" (Numbers 11:29b). That understanding of prophetic responsibility is echoed in the teachings of Jesus and throughout the New Testament. We, in the United Church of Christ, have "owned" that view; namely, that ministry is the calling of the whole people of God—not just the ordained.
2. As the Old and New Testament traditions proclaimed the essential unity of life, as the pivotal figures of the Reformation period affirmed this unity, and as our ancestral forebears with roots in many cultures believed in and taught that essential unity, we would be significantly departing from our traditions, heritage and roots if we act in a manner as to neglect or deny this unity.
3. Reaffirming the theological import of the New Testament concept of the "Body of Christ," we must again and again understand and shape our actions as a corporate body—not just individual Christians. Implied in that understanding is the imperative that we so organize ourselves to effectively perform a prophetic ministry. That is to say, marshalling our resources to maximize the proclamation of the Word (as defined in Luke 4:16-21) including the empowerment of people to impact public policy determinations. No longer can we afford or in good faith allow it to be true that politics is the prerogative of one race or class of people.

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has historically sought:

1. To raise the level of sensitivity, conscience and consciousness of our churches to the political realities of the world
2. To "equip the saints" for the task of prophetic ministry within the Biblical tradition
3. To call upon the whole Church to faithfully exercise a prophetic ministry of empowerment and

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liberation through its local congregations, judicatories, boards, instrumentalities, and indeed its General Synods.

THEREFORE, the 11th General Synod calls upon the United Church of Christ to marshal and utilize its resources to help equip our churches to fully and actively engage a prophetic ministry in political education and sensitivity including: a) citizenship education and registration efforts; b) political organizing training workshops; c) public hearings on policy formulation, and d) encourage participation in the political process.

RESOLVED, That

1. The Board for Homeland Ministries, Office for Church in Society, Commission for Racial Justice, Office for Church Life and Leadership and Office of Communication should develop educational and interpretive literature to assist churches, Associations, Conferences and caucuses within the Church to educate and train their people in the skills necessary for effective citizen action and voter registration.
2. The Commission for Racial Justice, Office for Church Life and Leadership, Office of Communication, and Office for Church in Society should provide leadership training models and workshops for effective political action and the impacting of public policy.
3. The United Church Board for Homeland Ministries should support with its resource those efforts at citizen participation, voter registration and organization for action within the public policy arena.
4. The 11th General Synod reaffirms the historical commitment of the United Church of Christ to a prophetic ministry by its entire constituency and calls upon the instrumentalities to encourage and

support Conferences, Associations and local congregations to engage in significant prophetic ministries within the public sector.

26. RESOLUTION FOR FULLER UTILIZATION OF MINORITY CLERGY BY THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mr. Rath was recognized by Assistant Moderator Bryant and referred the delegates to the Advance Material, Section II, pages 136-137. He moved adoption of the resolution as amended by Division C. The motion was seconded and there was considerable discussion which evolved around this issue. The Resolution is printed in the Minutes of Tuesday Afternoon.

A motion was made and seconded to delete the word "minority" from the resolved section of the resolution item 1.

Reuben A. Sheares, Executive Director of the Office for Church Life and Leadership indicated that by deleting the word "minority" from item 1 of the resolution, the financial implications of the task changed considerably. Instead of talking about 400 clergy, the figure increases to 9,000 clergy.

The Order of the Day was moved, therefore, Assistant Moderator Bryant indicated it was necessary to vote on the amendment.

A motion was made and seconded and it was

77-GS-58 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod tables "Fuller Utilization of Minority Clergy by the United Church of Christ."

Charles Lockyear made some announcements and the afternoon session was adjourned at 6:10 P.M. by Assistant Moderator Bryant. The evening session would reconvene at 8:00 P.M.

MONDAY EVENING, JULY 4

1. CALL TO ORDER

Moderator Robert K. Nace called the session to order at 8:10 P.M. noting today was the birthday of Curtis R. Clare, Central Atlantic host Conference Minister. Moderator Nace led those present in singing of "Happy Birthday."

2. INTRODUCTION OF DIVISION A REPORT

Moderator Nace acknowledged Clyde H. Miller, Jr., Chairperson of Division A. William Hulteen was the facilitator for Division A. Mr. Miller explained the process for this report. He would make the motion to adopt the resolution or recommendation; someone would second; and he would ask a small group representative from the division to comment, since those groups had been closely involved in the total process. Mr. Miller asked privilege of voice for three persons to speak on the Recommendation in Regard to Human Sexuality: Edward A. Powers, Division on Evangelism, Church Extension and Education of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries; James B. Nelson, of United Theological Seminary; and Barry Lynn, Office for Church in Society.

Moderator Nace moved that these three persons be granted privilege of voice, and it was

77-GS-59 VOTED: The Eleventh General Synod grants privilege of voice to Edward A. Powers, James B. Nelson and Barry Lynn as appropriate in regard to the discussion on the Human Sexuality study.

3. RESOLUTION CONCERNING HISPANIC MINISTRIES

Mr. Miller referred to page 1 of the Division A report and moved the adoption of the "Resolution Concerning Hispanic Ministries." This was seconded and Mr. Miller deferred to Donald Freeman, (PW). Mr. Freeman explained this resolution as essentially one from a Council for Hispanic Ministries meeting, November-December, 1976, cast in a more suitable resolution format. It closely parallels similar actions at the Tenth General Synod, and the text of this resolution indicates progress made since that Synod. Resolved 2 and 3 parallel action of the June 30, 1977 Executive Council meeting. According to the Chairperson of the Finance and Budget Committee, funds for this resolution would be between \$2-3,000 (this figure is in accordance with Standing Rule 16 and not a guarantee for