

this would be referred to the Business Committee to determine a time for it to be considered by the General Synod.

**15. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
CONTINUED—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE**

The Moderator recognized George Wm. Myers, Jr. Chairperson of the Executive Council, who referred the delegates to the provisions of paragraph 224 of the Constitution and By Laws for the election of representatives of the Executive Council, the United Church Board for World Ministries and the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. Mr. Myers moved, and it was

79-GS-57 VOTED: The Twelfth General Synod elects to the Office of Communication Directorate the following persons from the designated Agencies:

Jean M. Edwards (RI)	Executive Council
Daniel M. Filetti (PW)	
David M. Stowe (CAC)	United Church Board
Leroy Calbom (WASH)	for World Ministries
Howard E. Spragg (NH)	United church Board
Jean Fulleman (OH)	for Homeland Ministries

16. EDITORIAL AUTHORIZATION

On behalf of the Business Committee, Mr. Myers moved editorial authorization for the Secretary of the Church, and it was

79-GS-58 VOTED: The General Synod authorizes the Secretary of the Church to make such editorial changes in the enactments of this General Synod as in his judgement do not change the intent but which may be necessary to achieve consistency, continuity and clarity in the completion of the minutes of the Twelfth General Synod. The General Synod further authorizes the Secretary to arrange the sequence of the paragraphs within the Bylaws of the United Church of Christ in the proper order so as to make all numbers consecutive and clear following such amendments to the Bylaws as have been adopted by the Twelfth General Synod.

**17. RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE 200th
ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Mr. Myers indicated that there were several items that the Business Committee would report directly to the General Synod for action. He moved the adoption of the resolution on Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Sunday School, and it was

79-GS-59 VOTED: The Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Sunday School.

**CELEBRATING THE 200th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL**

WHEREAS, the Teaching Ministry of the Church (*didache*) is crucial to the church's faith, witness and mission; and

WHEREAS, we benefit from historical reflection when we use the insights among our guidelines in future planning; and

WHEREAS, the year 1980 will mark the 200th anniversary of the Sunday School movement which has

had vast effect on our churches; and

WHEREAS, the observance of this anniversary could be an opportunity for renewing the teaching ministry, for ecumenical dialogue, stimulating research, direction setting and motivation for the future among our churches,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ celebrates the 200th Anniversary of this historic model of Christian Education by officially commending it to the churches as an occasion for renewal and rededication to the teaching ministry of the Church in our time.

**18. RESOLUTION HONORING THE 90th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DEACONESS SISTERHOOD**

Mr. Myers moved the adoption of the resolution Honoring the 90th Anniversary of the Deaconess Sisterhood, and it was

79-GS-60 VOTED: The Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution Honoring the 90th Anniversary of the Deaconess Sisterhood:

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE 90th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DEACONESS SISTERHOOD**

WHEREAS, the Deaconess Sisterhood, begun in St. Louis, Missouri, and having served for ninety years as pioneer professional women of our church in their work as parish assistants, in the establishment of hospitals and schools of nursing throughout the land, as well as Children's Homes, Homes for the Aged and the Emmaus Homes, and

WHEREAS, the whole church is richer through the gifts and grace of these dedicated women throughout these ninety years, and

WHEREAS, there are twenty-nine Deaconess Sisters still living of the more than two hundred who served full-time in this ministry, and

WHEREAS, the vow of obedience, willingness and faithfulness taken by the Deaconess Sisters exemplifies and honors the high calling and commitment of professional women in the church today,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Twelfth General Synod on this 90th Anniversary commends the Deaconess Sisterhood for its outstanding leadership, dedication and service to the mission of the church and requests the office of the President to convey the gratitude of the whole United Church of Christ.

**19. AFFIRMATION OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES**

Mr. Myers referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section II, page 145, to the resolution submitted by the Congregational Church of Goffstown, New Hampshire that the Twelfth General Synod suspend its membership and support of the World Council of Churches. Mr. Myers reported that the Executive Council recommends that the Twelfth General Synod affirm the United Church of Christ membership in and support of the World Council of Churches, moved the adoption of the recommendation, and it was

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 26

79-GS-61 VOTED: The Twelfth General Synod affirms the membership of the United Church of Christ in and support of the World Council of Churches.

20. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Moderator recognized Secretary Evans for the announcements.

21. SECTION REPORTS CONTINUED

The Moderator recognized the Rev. John Bracke, Chairperson of the Agenda Committee, who indicated the

order in which the Sections would be reporting in the afternoon.

22. WORSHIP

The Moderator recognized the Chaplain who led the General Synod in Worship.

23. RECESS

The Moderator declared the General Synod in recess at 12:05 P.M. until 1:30 P.M.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 26

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WORSHIP

The General Synod was called to order at 1:30 P.M. by the Assistant Moderator, Dorothy Shimer, who called on Moderator Milton Hurst to lead the Synod in Worship.

2. BIBLE STUDY

The Moderator recognized Dr. Walter Brueggemann to lead the General Synod in Bible Study. Dr. Brueggemann referred the delegates to the Bibles Studies, number 10, page 25, which had been mailed to the delegates in the first General Synod mailing and to I Corinthians 15:3-8, 56-58 indicating that he wanted to talk about "going home."

... "In this Synod I sense that Someone powerful beyond us has been at work here, healing. I sense that fractured as we are we have done some covenant keeping. I sense that flawed as our discernment is, we have together discerned something of the mind of Christ. I sense that we have drawn courage and energy for faithfulness out of our being together here. I sense that our ears have been at work as much as our tongues . . . but now we must go home very soon."

"How would you like to go home? All of us have high callings out of this meeting, and burdens. How you go home depends on who you are, for some in this Synod have won some things and some have lost some things . . . The text from I Corinthians 15 suggests that those who think they have won something should not go home with the triumphs and those who think they have lost something should not go home chagrined, because together we may all affirm that our actions here are all penultimate. Our actions here are less than decisive. They are all short of life and death for Satan has not fallen from the sky and the new age has not come. All of our actions and the ways we resonate with them must be kept in perspective" . . . and he read from I Corinthians 15:3-11, 56-58 . . . saying "the text is to ground our future not in ourselves, not in our mechanizations, not in our competence, but in this One who will have His way, we know not how . . ." At the conclusion of the Bible study there was standing applause of appreciation to Dr. Brueggemann.

3. REPORT OF SECTION E—REPRESENTING THE CONCERNS OF THE WOMEN SEMINARIANS

The Moderator recognized the Rev. W. Orin Whitaker (CT). Chairperson, for the report of Section E. Mr. Whitaker referred the delegates to the Section report. He moved the adoption of the Overture: Representing the Con-

cerns of the Women Seminarians and called on the Rev. Gordon Forbes (MN) to speak to the Overture.

Mr. Forbes said that the Overture seeks to raise to our awareness some concerns and needs that face UCC women seminarians in UCC related seminaries and other seminaries that serve our Church involving the need for more full time women faculty members in the seminaries and the need for evaluating and enriching curriculum so as to integrate the perspectives of women in the curriculum, and he urged the delegates to approve the Overture.

The Rev. Max Stackhouse (MA) was recognized and moved to amend the Overture by referring it with approval to the Coordinating Center for Women already voted by the Twelfth General Synod. There was discussion and upon being put to a vote the Moderator declared the motion lost.

The Rev. George E. Peters (VT) was recognized and moved to amend the Overture by deleting in paragraph 5 the phrase "and to alter any negative attitudes" and "toward" and substituting the following "and to all for the elimination of negative attitudes in local churches, search committees, and Conference and Association placement staff which inhibit the placement of women." There was discussion and it was agreed to accept this change in paragraph 5 of the Overture.

The Rev. Gretchen Sterrett (MO) was recognized and moved to amend the Overture by adding the word "men" in the fourth paragraph in the 13th and 18th lines, at the beginning of each sentence in those lines. There was discussion and upon being put to a vote the Moderator declared the motion adopted. It was

79-GS-62 VOTED: The Twelfth General Synod adopts the Overture: Representing the Concerns of the Women Seminarians as amended.

Overture: Representing the Concerns of The Women Seminarians

Summary: The intent of the overture is to gain awareness and support of General Synod to deal with the crisis the seminaries are facing in their attempts to meet the needs of a rapidly increasing number of women in seminary, the meager percent of full time women faculty members and the attendant economic and educational conflicts, curriculum perspective, and placement issues surrounding women in ministry.

Background: Previous actions by General Synod supporting this are: 1973-GS-41: Statement on Women in