

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 26

metropolitan center and in an area bereft of existing social service resources, employment training or re-entry possibilities; and

WHEREAS, athlete housing for a permanent Olympic training site, a youth hostel, a school, a job training center (among others) are all preferable alternative uses which would benefit the local community and benefit the users; and

WHEREAS, the mixing of an event deeply rooted in a heritage of sharing and achievement with a social policy rooted in a heritage of repression, brutality and failure is unconscionable:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ specifically and strongly opposes the use of the Olympic Village as a federal prison and joins with the other religious and secular groups in STOP (Stop The Olympic Prison) seeking a more humanitarian afteruse for the facility.

### 15. RESOLUTION ON RACISM IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mr. Fogal referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section V, page 8, and moved the adoption of the substitute resolution on Racism in the United Church of Christ. Mr. Fogal called on Mr. Dennis Schwab (IA) to speak to the resolution. Mr. Schwab said that adoption of the Overture will be a way in which the Pacific and Asian American Ministries can add their colorfulness to the United Church of Christ with the hope that it will truly be a rainbow in all aspects of life. There was discussion, and it was

79-GS-73 VOTED: the Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Racism in the United Church of Christ:

#### **Resolution on Racism in The United Church of Christ**

WHEREAS, the Pacific and Asian American Ministry celebrates four years as a recognized Special Interest Group in the structure of the United Church of Christ, and,

WHEREAS, the four years have been exciting, struggling, painful, spiritual and growing years, and

WHEREAS, Pacific Islander and Asian American churches have been looked upon in many respects as "mission" or "specialized ministries" by the United Church of Christ, whereby Pacific Islanders and Asian Americans are often not looked upon or often not taken seriously as active partners, and

WHEREAS, Pacific Islanders and Asian American people continue to be victims of racism in the life and in the structure through token representation and/or by neglecting the needs of Pacific Island and Asian American people and/or by fostering situations in which special interest groups are forced to compete with each other for recognition and limited funds, and

WHEREAS, Pacific Islander and Asian American churches, rich in their own cultural and ethnic heritages, in worshiping, celebrating, and serving have not been affirmed, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is struggling to become a truly multi-cultural church in accordance with the mandate of the gospel,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges all Boards, Instrumentalities, Agencies, Conferences and Local Churches of the United Church of Christ to make deliberate efforts to:

examine their inferior/superior attitudes based upon ethnic and cultural differences, and resulting from our incomplete understanding and implementation of the gospel of Jesus Christ,

explore, experience, and express other ethnic and cultural forms of worship and theology,

implement representation that enables the structure to meet the needs, frustrations and aspirations of the people, thus ending token representation.

### 16. RESOLUTION ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

Mr. Fogal referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section IV, page 30, and moved the adoption of the substitute Resolution on Constitutional Conventions. Mr. Fogal called on Mr. Fred Kohler (PSE) to speak to the resolution. Mr. Kohler reminded the delegates that 192 years ago the United States held its only Constitutional Convention. It was clear in its responsibility and there was little confusion about its task. Now almost 200 years later the situation is exceedingly complex and there is great uncertainty whether a Constitutional Convention is the reasonable facility for bringing about governmental change.

There was discussion, and it was

79-GS-74 VOTED: the Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Constitutional Conventions:

#### **Resolution on Constitutional Conventions**

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has consistently supported the preservation of the constitutional framework upon which this nation has been built, and

WHEREAS, we believe the basic freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution reflect God-given freedoms, and

WHEREAS, there is growing support for a new Constitutional Convention, to be called initially either for the purpose of amending the Constitution to require a balanced Federal budget or to prohibit the termination of pregnancies, and

WHEREAS, no Convention has been held since 1787 and no clear provisions for call, composition, powers and procedures for such a Convention are provided, and

WHEREAS, there is a great likelihood that a Convention, once convened, could suggest alterations in any sections of the present Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the convening of a Convention could therefore begin to jeopardize or compromise the protections presently granted to citizens by the Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the generally used method of amending the Constitution has proven an adequate and often impressive method to permit the Constitution to grow with changing social realities,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges that states not request a new Constitutional Convention, and encourages Instrumentalities, Conferences, Associations and Local Churches to oppose efforts to convene such a Convention.