

SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 28

TITLE	ITEM	PROPOSER	ADVANCE MATERIALS
COMMITTEE ON THE CHURCH AND PERSONS WITH HANDICAPS			
The Church and Persons with Handicaps	Pronouncement	Board for Homeland Ministries	B
The Church and Persons with Handicaps	Proposal for Action	Board for Homeland Ministries	B
The Church and Persons with Disabilities	Other Motion	Council for Health and Welfare Services	II, p.125
COMMITTEE ON PRIORITIES			
Proposed Priorities	Other Motion	Executive Council	Booklet Proposed Priorities and II, 042
Goal Statements of Four Proposed Priorities (Supporting Document)	Other Action	Central Atlantic Conf.	

REFERRALS TO INSTRUMENTALITIES

The General Synod acknowledges the South Central Conference resolution on the UCC Office of Communication, and in light of the work of the Office of Communication's Planning and Correlation Committee which is examining policy and planning for that office, refers this resolution to the Office of Communication Directorate.

(Advance Materials II, page 109)

The Thirteenth General Synod receives with appreciation the "Resolution on Criminal Justice Funding" submitted by the Rev. Jonathon C. Tetherly (GS Delegate), Federated Church of Chicopee, Massachusetts, and refers it to the Commission for Racial Justice and the Office for Church In Society.

(Advance Materials II, page 100)

16. RESOLUTION ON NATIONAL STAFF

Mr. Bracke referred to Advance Materials II, page 110 to the resolution on national staff submitted by the Hartford Association of the Connecticut Conference and on behalf of the Executive Council moved its adoption. It was

81-GS-23 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts the following resolution on national staff:

WHEREAS, decreased economic resources for the national church have resulted in dramatically increased work loads and responsibilities for fewer and fewer national staff; and

WHEREAS, national executive and program staff ministries require extensive travel, often more than 70% of their time, resulting in physical and emotional strain on them and their families; and

WHEREAS, national support and administrative staff often work long hours under difficult and demanding working conditions with low remuneration in high cost of living locations; and

WHEREAS, the commitment, competency, and lively Christian faith of the national staff provide resources and sustenance for the ongoing life and ministries of the United Church of Christ;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Thirteenth Gen-

eral Synod expresses its profound gratitude to the staff for their continuing service and leadership; and FURTHER, encourages conferences, associations, and local churches to hold the staff in their prayers and offer their support and appreciation.

17. RESOLUTION OF THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., FEDERAL HOLIDAY

Mr. Bracke referred to Advance Materials III, page 12 to the recommendation of the Executive Council concerning the resolution on the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday as submitted by the Illinois Conference and on behalf of the Executive Council moved its adoption as a reaffirmation of the Seventh General Synod vote 69-GS-90. It was

81-GS-24 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts the following resolution on the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday as a reaffirmation of the Seventh General Synod vote 69-GS-90:

WHEREAS, The United Church of Christ has historically been an advocate for the poor, the oppressed, the enslaved, and for the equal rights and representation of all people; and

WHEREAS, the President and Congress of the United States of America are authorized to declare Federal Holidays for the commemoration of significant events and great leaders in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, the contribution of Black Americans to this country's development has gone largely unrecognized and unappreciated; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. uniquely calls attention to the exclusion of Black people from their rightful share in the American Dream as promised in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. consistently professed and acted out of Christian conviction and commitment to love and non-violent protest for the freeing of all people, winning the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, for his efforts:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls

upon the President and members of Congress of the United States of America to declare the birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., January 15, a Federal Holiday for the commemoration of his life and for the recognizing of the contribution of Black Americans to this nation.

18. ECUMENICAL GREETINGS

Mr. Bracke referred to the document "The report of the Executive Council to the Thirteenth General Synod actions of the meeting of the Executive Council held June 26, 1981" to the recommendation of the Executive Council concerning ecumenical greetings and moved the adoption of the recommendation. Prior to action on the recommendation the Moderator recognized President Post who shared the following message received from the Reformed Church of Poland, a sister/brother church with whom we related through the World Alliance of Reformed Churches:

"We the participants of the Synod of the Reformed Church of Poland greet you and your co-workers and send our fraternal greetings to the American Church which you represent in Geneva and wish you God's abundant blessing in your work. In these days our best thoughts are with all the churches and communities in the United States with whom we are in contact through you.

"We feel a close communion with the churches in the USA. The Synod studied problems related to the theme clergy and laity in diaspora. Our Synod met during a very difficult time for our people. We feel strongly united with our people. We experience together our history and have the hope that all the difficulties can be received through your good will."

It was

81-GS-25 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod requests the President of the Church to send ecumenical greetings from the Thirteenth General Synod to the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting July 31-August 3, 1981, in Anaheim, California, the 27th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Congregational Christian churches now meeting at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the Synod of the Reformed Church in Poland, expressing to each thanksgiving for our bond in Christ, our partnership in the Gospel, and our common mission to labor for peace and justice in the world.

19. GREETINGS FROM THE SECOND NATIONAL GATHERING OF UCC CLERGY

The Moderator recognized President Post who reminded the delegates that just prior to the Thirteenth General Synod the Second National Gathering of UCC Clergy had met in Rochester, N.Y., and call on the Rev. Robert S. Alward (IL) to read a greeting from the Gathering:

To our Sisters and Brothers assembled for the Thirteenth General Synod:

"We want you to know of our joy and gratitude for a very special experience we have just shared. 'We' are five hundred clergy and spouses of the United Church

of Christ who attended the Second National Gathering of UCC Clergy at the University of Rochester, June 24-26, 1981.

"We came together because we wanted to be together. We are not a caucus or separatist group. We are colleagues and peers in the ordained ministry of the United Church of Christ. We share in the faith and practice of ministry in this denomination. We are young and old, male and female, multiple races with diverse talents and tasks. In the moments we have shared together, our individual uniqueness was transcended by a shared commitment and loyalty to Jesus Christ.

"We are ministers, but we too need the ministries of the Church. We who are preachers have heard the word preached. We who are teachers have been taught. We who are celebrants have celebrated. We who are storytellers have been moved by the inspiring stories of others. We who seek the Presence of the Spirit have found the Spirit binding us together in this mutual ministry of professional peers.

"We send this greeting to you in the joy of a renewing experience. We are renewed and refreshed for the task we share with you in the whole church. We go forth proud of our vocation, grateful for the presence of others who shared in this event and intend continuing what has begun among us."

20. ANTOINETTE BROWN AWARD PRESENTATION

The Moderator recognized President Post to present the Antoinette Brown Award to two outstanding women ministers. To share in the presentation he called on Mrs. Harriet McGeehan (PNE), Chairperson of the Coordinating Center for Women who said:

"One of the first decisions that the newly organized Coordinating Center for Women made was to continue the presentation of the Antoinette Brown Award which was begun in 1975. One hundred twenty-eight years ago Antoinette Brown was the first woman to be ordained in the United States, perhaps in the world. In her memory we are proud to present the Award to two women in ministry in the United Church of Christ who exemplify outstanding leadership and the spirit with which Antoinette Brown shared her special gifts to the church in her time. Their ministry exemplifies the contribution that women can make through professional leadership. Both have been sensitive to the problems and the possibilities of women in ministry. President Post, first, I want to present on behalf of the Coordinating Center the Rev. Ansley Coe Throckmorton of Bangor, Maine."

President Post said: "Ansley Coe Throckmorton, leader, administrator, pastor, feminist, ecumenist, educator. This outstanding minister we honor here today is loved, admired, and respected by her parishoners and countless others throughout the Maine Conference and the United Church of Christ. Ordained in 1973 she received her Master of Divinity degree from Bangor Theological Seminary. She began her ministry as the Associate Minister of the Hammond Street