

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 30

and the agencies of our federal government

1. To begin to exercise the powers of the Federal government to assure that justice prevails in Atlanta.
2. To call for a National Day of Prayer for the victims and families of these senseless killings and call upon all governmental units, federal, state, and local to develop and implement programs designed to alter the plight of Black youth throughout American society.

The Thirteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges every Conference, Association and local church in the United Church of Christ to join in calling for "PRAYER WITHOUT CEASING" until the tragedy in Atlanta has been brought to an end, and until the human rights of all Black youths is fully restored as commanded by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

20. DESIGNATION OF THE SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 1981, OFFERING

The Moderator recognized Nathan P. Adams (CONN) who moved that the offering received at the Sunday, June 28, 1981, worship service be considered a

Directed Gift in aid of the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe. There was discussion.

The Moderator recognized Charles Harper (MASS) who moved to amend the motion by designating 50% of the offering as a Designated Gift and 50% of the offering as a Directed Gift to aid the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe. There was discussion. Upon being put to vote the amendment to the motion was lost on a division of the house — 251 - Yes and 307 - No.

It was

81-GS-46 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod directs that the offering received at the Sunday, June 28, 1981, Worship Service be considered a Directed Gift to aid the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe.

21. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Moderator recognized Secretary Evans for the announcements.

22. RECESS

The Moderator declared the General Synod in recess until 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 30

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WORSHIP

The General Synod was called to order at 7:35 p.m., by the Moderator, the Rev. Nathanael M. Guptill.

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Ann Asper Wilson who led the Synod in worship with the Rev. W. Orin Whitaker (CONN) serving as the liturgist.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ORDER OF THE DAY AT 10:00 P.M.

The Moderator recognized Robert Peterson (MINN) who moved an Order of the Day at 10:00 p.m. for the General Synod to recess, no matter what business is before it, to enable delegates to fully participate in the ERA Vigil, and to reconvene at 8:30 a.m., Wednesday morning, July 1, 1981. Upon being put to a vote the motion was adopted.

3. REPORT OF SECTION F—RESOLUTION ON U.S. MILITARY AID TO EL SALVADOR

The Moderator recognized Mrs. Wilma Richards (IOWA), Chairperson of the Section for the report. Mrs. Richards indicated that the Section had considered eight issues that dealt with international and minority resolutions and reported the order in which they would be presented for action. Mrs. Richards moved the adoption of the Resolution on U.S. Military Aid to El Salvador. It was

81-GS-47 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on U.S. Military Aid to El Salvador:

RESOLUTION ON U.S. MILITARY AID TO EL SALVADOR

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is called by Christ to proclaim the Gospel in spirit and in deed to all people; and

WHEREAS, Jesus calls us to be responsible for what we do or do not do in His name, saying, "Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it unto me;" and

WHEREAS, human rights have been systematically violated under the El Salvadoran military regimes and the people have been subjected to widespread terrorism, indiscriminate arrest, torture, and murder; and

WHEREAS, the Government of El Salvador has not prevented the murders of 12,000 Salvadoran civilians in 1980 and another 7,800 from January through April 1981, has not prosecuted those responsible for the murders and has, in fact, been charged by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Salvador and Amnesty International with responsibility for the bulk of the deaths; and

WHEREAS, the United States Catholic Conference has stated its opposition to renewed military aid to El Salvador "which is based on the conviction that no real evidence exists that the government of El Salvador has brought its security forces under control, and the restoration of military assistance. . .en-

hances the possibility of more violence from security forces and associates the United States with acts of oppression which can only alienate the majority of the people of El Salvador;" and

WHEREAS, the late Archbishop Romero of the Catholic Church of El Salvador has stated, "The church must call for structural changes and accompany the people in their fight for liberation. An authentic church is duty-bound to stand with and among the poor in solidarity with their risks and their fate as victims of persecution; the church must stand ready to bear supreme witness of love and to defend those whom Jesus loved above all others;" and

WHEREAS, the West German, Swedish, French, Dutch, Spanish, Canadian, Mexican, and Venezuelan governments have all called for dialogue and negotiations between the government of El Salvador and all of the groups united in opposition to it; and

WHEREAS, the United States in supplying \$35 million in military aid to El Salvador from January through June 1981 (including 56 military advisors) — the largest military aid program for any Latin American country in the last five years — is contributing to the volume of deaths in that nation; and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ shares with the United States Catholic Conference, the Catholic Church of El Salvador, and the late Archbishop Romero, a deep commitment to social justice and an end to the suffering of the poor and oppressed;

THEREFORE, the Thirteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ endorses the call of the United States Catholic Conference and the Catholic Church of El Salvador for an end to all United States military aid to the Government of El Salvador, and urges members of the United Church of Christ to support legislation in the United States Congress to prohibit further military aid to the Government of El Salvador;

The Thirteenth General Synod urges the President of the United States and members of the United States Congress to use the leverage they have with the Salvadoran government to persuade them to negotiate with the opposition for an internationally mediated political settlement of the Salvadoran conflict.

4. RESOLUTION ON CONTINUATION OF THE INFANT FORMULA CAMPAIGN

Mrs. Richards moved the adoption of the Resolution on Continuation of the Infant Formula Campaign. It was

81-GS-48 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Continuation of the Infant Formula Campaign including the Appendix.

RESOLUTION ON CONTINUATION OF THE INFANT FORMULA CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, Christ calls us to feed the hungry and reminds us that we should not give a child a stone for bread; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding is acknowledged to be the

preferred method of feeding for all infants, and
WHEREAS, responsible medical research has shown that the use of breastmilk substitutes in areas where poverty, illiteracy, impure water and inadequate sanitation prevail, has resulted in infant malnutrition, illness, brain damage and death; and

WHEREAS, manufacturers of breastmilk substitutes have vigorously promoted the use of their products and have continued to resist efforts by church, health, community and consumer groups to appropriately limit company activities; and

WHEREAS, since 1974, through shareholder resolutions to U.S. infant formula manufacturers, and in 1979, through the endorsement of the Nestle boycott by General Synod XII (79-GS48), the UCC has sought to limit promotion of breastmilk substitutes by calling for an end to: 1) public consumer advertising; 2) distribution of free samples; 3) use of company personnel to promote directly to mothers; and 4) gifts and contributions by industry to health personnel and institutions; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, in consultation with industry, national health ministries, non-governmental organizations, and scientific experts, has developed the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes that provides a minimum standard of acceptable practices by the formula industry; and

WHEREAS, by a vote of 118-1, the World Health Assembly adopted the code May 21, 1981, the single dissenting vote being cast by the US delegation on instruction from the White House; and

WHEREAS, the US House of Representatives, by a vote of 301-100, and the US Senate by a vote of 89-2, endorsed the WHO Code in principle and regretted the vote cast by the US delegation at the World Health Assembly; and

WHEREAS, neither Nestle, the Swiss-based company that sells nearly 40% of all breastmilk substitutes marketed in the developing world, nor the U.S. formula companies (Abbott/Ross, American Home Products, and Bristol-Myers) have expressed willingness to voluntarily comply with the code's provisions,

THEREFORE, the Thirteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ,

1. commends the World Health Assembly for its adoption of the code which recommends minimum standards for the promotion of breastmilk substitutes;
2. commends the World Health Organization for the thorough and conscientious process it used in developing the recommended code;
3. condemns the action of the Reagan Administration for isolating the U.S. from the world health community by directing the US delegation to vote against the WHO code, the U.S. vote being the only dissenting vote out of 119 cast;
4. calls on infant formula manufacturers to voluntarily abide by all provisions of the code;