

who proposed a motion on budget information, and it was

81-GS-75 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod requests that as a means to improve the financial reporting to the delegates of the Fourteenth General Synod and future General Synods, the national Instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ submit the Biennial Budget for the following biennium with the descriptive information and amounts as listed on pages 97-103 of the Minutes of the Twelfth General Synod, and comparative amounts for the two years in the biennium then ending.

#### 5. PUBLICATION OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST EXECUTIVES SALARIES

The Moderator recognized Mr. Potter who proposed a motion on the publication of United Church of Christ Executives' Salaries, and it was

81-GS-76 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod requests that to improve the knowledge of the Fourteenth and future General Synod delegates, the salaries of the officers and executives of the national instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ, as shown on page 15 of Advance Materials III for the Thirteenth General Synod, shall include the annual salaries paid to all officers of the United Church of Christ, and salaries paid by national Instrumentalities to their chief executive officers, and shall include also any staff member or consultant paid in excess of \$50,000 by any national Instrumentality of the United Church of Christ.

#### 6. REQUEST FOR BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

The Moderator recognized Ms. Ann Chisolm (Business Committee) who moved that the Executive Council be instructed to make the necessary adjustments to the 1982-1983 budget to insure that the full Executive Council will continue to meet at least twice each year. There was discussion and upon being put to a vote, the motion was lost.

The Moderator recognized Mr. John Esbenshade (PC) who moved that the Thirteenth General Synod provide an additional offering for the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe at the closing worship service Wednesday evening, July 1, 1981. There was discussion and upon being put to a vote, the motion was lost.

#### 7. REPORT ON SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Clyde Miller, (Business Committee) who called attention to the document entitled "Supplementary Financial Information" prepared in response to Vote 79-GS-96 in which the General Synod requested certain financial reports from the Instrumentalities and the Treasurer of the Church which would apply to future General Synods.

#### 8. RECOGNITION OF THE REV. HARRY W. BREDEWEG

The Moderator indicated that this would be the final General Synod for one of the founding fathers of the United Church of Christ, the Rev. Harry W. Bredeweg as Conference Minister of the Indiana-Kentucky Con-

ference. Mr. Bredeweg served as Chairperson of the Executive Council and in numerous other capacities gave long and distinguished service to the United Church of Christ. Mr. Bredeweg received the standing applause of the General Synod.

#### 9. REPORT OF SECTION B — RESOLUTION ON SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES

The Moderator recognized Mrs. Patricia Ross (CPC), Chairperson of the Section for a continuation of the report. Mrs. Ross moved the adoption of the Resolution on Single Adult Ministries and called on Mr. C. Marshall Munson (RI), Chairperson of the small group that had considered the resolution, to speak to it. Mr. Munson indicated the changes from the original and that in its present form the resolution does not request a task force.

The Moderator recognized Ms. Debora Dockstader (CAC) who moved to amend the motion by adding a fifth paragraph at the bottom of the page to read "The United Church Board for Homeland Ministries is urged to convene three regional single adult gatherings in the near future drawing on support from Associations and Conferences." Upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was lost.

The Moderator recognized Ms. Karen Ernest (PW) who offered a friendly amendment to add "adults of all ages" to paragraph two of the resolution. The friendly amendment was accepted. There was discussion, and it was

81-GS-77 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts as amended the Resolution on Single Adult Ministries.

#### SINGLE ADULT MINISTRIES

WHEREAS, lifestyles are changing drastically, the single lifestyle is a chosen and sometimes a necessary alternative for many persons; and

WHEREAS, this single lifestyle for adults of all ages includes never married, separated, divorced, and widowed persons; and

WHEREAS, many single adults belong to secular singles groups and these groups may not always meet their needs for Christian fellowship, religious growth, and theological exploration; and

WHEREAS, many local church activities are geared to couples and families and single adults may feel alienated within the life of their local congregation; and

WHEREAS, there are single adults who share a Christian concern for the whole mission of the United Church of Christ and are searching for leadership opportunities in their witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, we need to explore ways the United Church of Christ can identify, recruit and utilize the valuable leadership which single adults can offer; and

WHEREAS, the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries has a staff member charged with the responsibilities of Single Adult Ministries and has des-

igned single adults ministry as a need;  
THEREFORE, the Thirteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ affirms the contributions and leadership potential of single adults within the United Church of Christ;

Encourages local churches, associations, and conferences to utilize the talents and skills which single adults bring to the whole mission of the United Church of Christ;

Urges associations and/or conferences to identify the needs of single adults and to coordinate a ministry among single adults;

Urges the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries to lend support and to encourage the exploration and development of ways to meet the needs felt by single adults; and

Urges the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries to serve as a clearing house for ideas and resources for single adults.

#### 10. RESOLUTION ON A STATEMENT OF FAITH

Mrs. Ross moved the adoption of the Resolution on a Statement of Faith.

The Moderator recognized Ms. Alida Millham (NH) who moved to amend the motion by substituting a resolution for the original resolution. It was

81-GS-78 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts the substitute resolution on A Statement of Faith.

#### RESOLUTION ON A STATEMENT OF FAITH

WHEREAS, the Executive Council has requested the President of the Church, through the Consultation on Church Union and other world communions to explore the joint development of a new Statement of Faith;

The Thirteenth General Synod requests the Executive Council to continue work as expeditiously as possible on the collaborative development of a new Statement of Faith; to the end that the United Church of Christ respond faithfully and sensitively to the heartfelt need for a theologically sound and inclusive expression of our faith today.

The Executive Council, in cooperation with the Office of Church Life and Leadership, identify an interim revision of the Statement of Faith for use in the United Church of Christ in celebration of its Twenty-fifth Anniversary; and

That the Executive Council report to the Fourteenth General Synod a plan for the development and completion of a new Statement of Faith. This plan will reflect:

1. A time line for the project to be completed.
2. Appropriate theological background and study.

#### 11. REPORT OF SECTION A — RESOLUTION ON VIOLENCE IN RELATION TO WOMEN

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Robert L. Haertig (WASH), Chairperson for a continuation of the Section report. Mr. Haertig called on Joyce Harmon (ME), Chairperson of the small group that considered the

Resolution on Violence in Relation to Women, who moved the adoption of the resolution as revised. There was discussion, and it was

81-GS-79 VOTED: The Thirteenth General Synod adopts as revised the Resolution on Violence in Relation to Women.

#### RESOLUTION ON VIOLENCE IN RELATION TO WOMEN

##### *Introduction*

Violence and the fear of violence in American society is a fact that affects us all. But we are just beginning to recognize the widespread prevalence of violence in relation to women and children in American homes and on the streets. By the most conservative estimates, more than 1,000,000 children are abused each year; at least 2,000 of them will die annually as a result. Almost 2,000,000 American women are beaten each year, one every eighteen seconds. About one-fourth of the approximately 20,000 people murdered each year in the United States are killed by a family member, usually a spouse.

Further, incidents of rape, child neglect, marital rape, incest and psychological abuse — forms of violence that are more difficult to count because they are so infrequently reported — are phenomena which none of us can escape. Many of our friends, relatives, and acquaintances have been the victims of such violence — even though the painful story usually goes untold.

##### *Theological Basis for Concern*

Persons created in the image of God are not intended to be victimized by violence and abuse, especially as it occurs in the family. An understanding of the profound significance of the sacredness of God's creation in human persons underlies any theological response to violence in relation to women and children.

A God whose creation is called good and who promises abundance of life intends that persons live together free from the fear and the suffering of physical and sexual abuse.

Unfortunately, this fear and suffering are all too common experiences for God's people. The theological source of the suffering of such violence is the alienation from God and self which allows a person to batter a spouse or a child, to sexually abuse a family member, or to sexually assault a stranger. The consequences of the alienation are felt most painfully by the victim of the abuse; the spouse, child or parent who is beaten or abused knows the physical, emotional and spiritual pain which result from the alienated action of the one who abuses. The pain is magnified when the abuse occurs in the family; it is even more devastating than an attack by a stranger. It is a violation not only of one's body and soul but it is also a violation of a covenant, an expectation that within a family relationship, there can be peace, trust, and intimacy. These are all lost when violence and abuse occur. This is a kind of experience that the psalmist was familiar with:

"My heart is in anguish within me, the terrors of death have fallen upon me. Fear and trembling