

after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth . . ." (Genesis 1:25-31, KJV).

As Christians, it is clear that we have a responsibility for the well-being of the earth and its resources and for the betterment of humankind. With this privileged responsibility, we cannot tolerate toxic aggression against our earth or any person. "As you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

IV. The Statement of Christian Conviction

The Fourteenth General Synod affirms the following:

1. God gave humankind dominion over all living things and responsibility for the earth and the stewardship of it.
2. As Christians, it is clear that we have a responsibility for the earth and its resources, for the betterment of humankind, for the proper use and conservation of its resources and for the maintenance of a viable ecology in the face of inevitable change. It is up to us, as Christians, to use and to maintain these resources as good stewards.
3. Under the perceived or real threats of toxic and hazardous waste facilities, the church must support citizens who are entering into bonds of mutual protection, forming alliances at the local, state, and national levels, and looking to people committed to the environment and to civil and human rights for direction and leadership.
4. We are not free to mistreat the earth and its resources because they do not belong to us; they belong to God. Thus, Christians must address these issues in the churches, in the media of communications, and in the halls of government.

13. PROPOSAL FOR ACTION RELATED TO THE PRONOUNCEMENT ON TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS WASTE

Mr. Matthews continued with the report and moved the adoption of the Proposal for Action related to the Pronouncement on Toxic and Hazardous Waste. He moved the adoption of the Proposal for Action.

The Moderator recognized Robert Lane (CT) who moved to amend the motion by changing the word "offices" to "bodies" in the last line of the first indented paragraph, by adding the words "and instrumentalities" after the word "association" in the first line of the fifth indented paragraph, by adding the words "and environmental issues" to the end of the sixth indented paragraph, by adding at the end of the last indented paragraph the words "and air, land, and water pollutants;" and by adding a new paragraph at the end of the indented paragraphs to read "Urges the Office for Social Responsibility in Investments of the United Church Boards to encourage policies and develop guidelines for church agencies and churches that will consider the by-products of the corporations in which they invest, and will help them monitor their existing investment as to corporate responsibility." There was discussion, and upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was adopted.

The Moderator recognized Daniel Caplan (CAC) who moved to amend the motion by deleting the words "Black, other minority and" from the second indented paragraph

and by deleting the words "the EPA in particular" from the last indented paragraph. There was discussion, and upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was lost.

The Moderator recognized Lorin Cope (OH) who moved to amend the motion by deleting all of the eighth indented paragraph and by substituting the words "Calls upon all levels of government and industry to work together in developing sane and effective means of eliminating hazardous waste by chemical neutralization and/or incineration. There was discussion, and upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was lost.

A motion to terminate debate was adopted, and it was 83 GS 38 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts as amended the Proposal for Action related to the Pronouncement on Toxic and Hazardous Waste.

PROPOSAL FOR ACTION RELATED TO THE PRONOUNCEMENT ON TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS WASTE

Whereas the Fourteenth General Synod has adopted the pronouncement on Toxic and Hazardous Waste, and whereas this pronouncement calls the church to expand its education and active involvement in the ecological needs of God's earth and the empowerment needs of our sisters and brothers who live in potentially life-threatening situations; therefore, the Fourteenth General Synod:

- Calls upon the United Church of Christ to affirm the commitment of stewardship of our natural resources and the disposal of toxic and hazardous waste. Action policies should be formed at every level of its work; national bodies, Conferences, Associations, and local churches;
- Calls upon the whole Church to call upon other denominations to work with us to assist in organizing Black, other minority and politically disempowered communities to prevent them from becoming dump sites for toxic and hazardous waste;
- Urges advocacy at all levels of the Church to be coordinated by the Office for Church in Society;
- Urges the Office for Church in Society to utilize the initial programs of the Commission for Racial Justice Environmental Justice Program;
- Urges local churches, Conferences, and Associations and Instrumentalities to participate in the development of local sermons, Christian education and programs around the education of people about toxic and hazardous waste;
- Calls upon the whole Church to call upon other denominations to work with us in eliminating the problems of toxic and hazardous waste and environmental issues;
- Mandates the President of the United Church of Christ to communicate the concerns of this pronouncement to the President of the United States.
- Calls upon the President and the Congress of the United States to propose and to develop feasible programs to deal with the problems of toxic and hazardous waste; namely that all toxic chemical compounds must be chemically modified so that they are no more toxic than the substances naturally occurring from

which they were originally produced;

- Calls upon the Office for Church in Society to monitor national legislative and administrative efforts to meet the objectives of this pronouncement and to share this information with other bodies of the United Church of Christ working to eliminate the problems of toxic and hazardous waste;
- Calls upon elected and appointed governmental officials, the EPA in particular, to enforce existing legislation with regards to toxic and hazardous waste and air, land, and water pollutants;
- Urges the Office for Social Responsibility in Investments of the United Church Boards to encourage policies and develop guidelines for church agencies and churches that will consider the by-products of the corporations in which they invest, and will help them monitor their existing investments as to corporate responsibility;
- Requests the Office for Church in Society to make a progress report to the Fifteenth General Synod.

14. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSED PRONOUNCEMENT ON CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

The Moderator called on the Rev. Ronald M. Patterson (NY) Chairperson for the report of the Committee on Christian Marriage and Family Life. Mr. Patterson moved the adoption of the Resolution on the proposed pronouncement on Christian Marriage and Family Life noting that a resolution on the proposed pronouncement is being proposed and the reasons for the Committee's conclusions and recommendation. There was discussion.

The Moderator recognized Martha Yoder (PSE) who deferred to Stephen Disher (SOC) who moved to amend the motion by substituting the original proposed pronouncement with certain changes in place of the resolution of the Committee. There was discussion and upon being put to a vote, the motion to substitute the original proposed pronouncement was lost.

The Moderator recognized Don Edgerton (WI) who moved to amend the motion by deleting the word "consult" and substituting in its place the words "be expanded to include" in the last paragraph of the resolution. There was discussion and upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was lost. A motion to terminate debate was adopted, and it was

83 GS 39 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the resolution on the proposed pronouncement on Christian Marriage and Family Life.

RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED PRONOUNCEMENT ON CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

WHEREAS the Committee on the Proposed Pronouncement on Christian Marriage and Family Life considered the Proposed Pronouncement and responses from individuals, local churches, Associations and Conferences and unanimously agreed that it could not recommend that the Fourteenth General Synod affirm the Proposed Pronouncement, and

WHEREAS we recognize that the issues raised in this Pro-

posed Pronouncement together with other relational and family issues must be addressed by the United Church of Christ, including such issues as:

1. How is the Bible authoritative in defining the nature of marriage, family life and single life?
2. How are we to understand the theological nature of human sexuality and male and female relationships?
3. How are we to understand the meaning of covenantal relationships? and WHEREAS we also recognize that a broader range of issues related to marriage and family life need to be addressed such as:
 - the parent/child relationship,
 - the treatment of children and older adults by our society,
 - the changes in family style from hierarchical to egalitarian, and
 - recognition of the full range of sexuality rather than sexuality limited to genital sex;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ refers the concerns expressed in the Proposed Pronouncement on Christian Marriage and Family Life to the Family Life Priority Working Group, encouraging it to prepare a statement and study materials on the meaning of Christian marriage, family life, the single life and other covenantal relationships and to report to the Fifteenth General Synod.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that since such a treatment will reflect the work of the Family Life Priority Working Group already begun, the Fourteenth General Synod suggests that the Working Group consult Christian theologians and ethicists, and further suggests that the Working Group consult with the United Church People for Biblical Witness and the United Church of Christ Coalition for Lesbian/Gay Concerns, and consider the findings and work of the Task Force for the Study of Human Sexuality and other appropriate resources.

15. RESULTS OF VOTING ON THE PRIORITIES

The Moderator called on Secretary Evans for the results of the voting on the Priorities. Mr. Evans reported the voting results: Christian Education—125, Evangelism and Church Growth—205, Spiritual Growth—148, Youth and Young Adult Ministries—225. The Moderator declared that the one additional priority is the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Priority.

16. RESULTS OF ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Mr. Evans reported the results of the elections to the Executive Council, Class of 1989:

Clergy—David Yoshito Hirano	509
David W. Rees	357
Lawrence A. Washburn	404
Laywomen—Dale Susan Edmonds	444
Ruth W. Evans	502
Charlene K. Mason	511
Marjorie S. Ramp	517
Susan S. Virgulak	423