

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

## MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 27

will, of a needed journey into consciousness-raising. The study is inspired by the fact that double jeopardy has been an unbroken thematic thread. This tribute is not meant to suggest that a study of Black women in fiction can substitute for an historical analysis of Black women in real life. Fiction never equals fact. However, fiction mirrors fact and in a profound way "is an interpretation and compilation of history, anthropology, sociology, and a host of other areas, that put us in touch with the sound and sense of real life.

Mr. Spragg indicated that it was a particular honor for him to present the Second Pilgrim Press Manuscript Award to Dr. Gloria Wade-Gayles, Associate Professor of English, Talladega College, Alabama, author of "The Narrow Space

and The Dark Enclosure: Interpretations of Selected Black Womens' Novels, 1946-1976."

Dr. Wade-Gayles graciously accepted the award and received the applause of the General Synod.

### 25. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Moderator called on Secretary Evans who announced that the Sunday, June 26, offering totalled \$5,808.59 and 1,000 Japanese yen. Mr. Evans also made the usual announcements.

### 26. RECESS

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

## MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 27

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND REPORT OF THE AGENDA COMMITTEE

The General Synod was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by the Assistant Moderator, Mr. Richard F. Boyer. The Moderator called on the Rev. Cally Rogers-Witte, Chairperson of the Agenda Committee, who indicated the items of business to be considered at this evening's session.

### 2. RECONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTION ON CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

The Moderator recognized Keith VonderOhe (MI) who moved reconsideration of the Resolution on Christian Marriage and Family Life adopted by the Fourteenth General Synod. The Moderator ruled this action on the Motion to reconsider would take place later in the agenda this evening.

### 3. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PEACE RESOLUTIONS

The Moderator called on Ms. Leona Riebling (MI), Chairperson of the Committee on Peace Resolutions, for the report. Ms. Riebling described the work of the Committee and indicated that it had been assigned 25 items of business and that 10 resolutions would be proposed to the General Synod.

### 4. RESOLUTION ON WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Ms. Riebling referred to the resolution on Weapons of Mass Destruction, moved its adoption, and noted that many resolutions had been received expressing concern for nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction and that this resolution on Weapons of Mass Destruction is a consolidation of the other resolutions.

The Moderator recognized Michael Mothersead (WI) who moved to amend the motion by deleting the words in paragraph 13 and substituting: "Requests the members of the United Church of Christ and the 14th General Synod to express their concern on the issue of nuclear weapons. There was discussion. A motion to terminate debate on the motion to amend and the main motion was adopted and upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend the motion was lost. It was

83 GS 44 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Weapons of Mass Destruction.

### RESOLUTION ON WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

WHEREAS, our Christian faith leads us to believe that the Biblical vision of shalom, in which all people enjoy peace, security, and well-being, is God's will for the world; and

WHEREAS, Jesus has called us to be peacemakers and agents of reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, the development of nuclear weapons is putting human existence at the crossroads, threatening God's created order, with time running out to develop new structures and possibilities for peace; and

WHEREAS, the arms race uses increasing amounts of resources while basic human needs such as food, housing, health care and education are unmet; and

WHEREAS, the United States and the Soviet Union are in the midst of a dangerous escalation of the arms race, moving into producing nuclear weapons not designed to deter, but designed as first strike weapons, tempting nations to consider pre-emptive attacks and forcing nations to develop quick response launch of warning computer capabilities that make accidental war more probable and plans to begin this escalation with the deployment of Pershing II missiles in West Germany in December, 1983; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has asked Congress to fund production of other weapons of mass destruction, namely lethal chemical weapons, and to extend the arms race to space;

WHEREAS, around the world the church has been taking leadership in the call for world peace;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

1. Calls upon all nations to set as policy that they will not use nuclear weapons in a pre-emptive first strike against any other nation, and they will not develop the capacity for such a first strike;
2. Calls upon all nations to set as policy that they will not be the first nation to use nuclear weapons in any conventional war;
3. Calls upon all nations to set as policy that they will not use nuclear weapons against primarily civilian targets;

we then involve ourselves in the problems of our society. One such problem is the serious consequences of driving while intoxicated.

As yeast influences the whole loaf, Christians acting in concert, out of conviction, and led by the Holy Spirit, can significantly influence what happens in our society.

WHEREAS, approximately half of all motor vehicle related deaths in the United States involve alcohol; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25,000 deaths are due to motor vehicle accidents involving alcohol each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 950,000 disabling injuries result from the same cause; and

WHEREAS, these deaths and disabling injuries impose tremendous pain and suffering upon the families affected and upon the community; and

WHEREAS, more deaths each year are due to motor vehicle accidents than any other cause for persons between the ages of 10 to 34; and

WHEREAS, we believe that Christians acting in concert can significantly influence what is happening in our society;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod urges each individual, each Conference and congregation, all concerned civic organizations, and all levels of Government to take whatever actions possible within their purview to decrease the number of deaths and disabling injuries due to motor vehicle accidents involving alcohol; and

... calls on the Board for Homeland Ministries, together with the Office for Church in Society, to create a Task Force to determine specific ways the United Church of Christ membership, as individuals and as an organization, could actively participate in decreasing the number of deaths and disabling injuries due to motor vehicle accidents involving alcohol; and

... requests the President of the United Church of Christ to communicate to the President of the United States, appropriate members of Congress, and the Governors of the States, our concern about motor vehicle accidents involving alcohol and our support for actions which they may take in reducing the number of deaths and disabling injuries.

#### **11. WORSHIP REFLECTION**

The Moderator called on the Rev. Sarah Bentley who led the Synod in worship reflection.

#### **12. RECONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTION ON CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE**

The Moderator reminded the General Synod that at the beginning of this evening's session, a motion was made to reconsider the Resolution on Christian Marriage and Family Life that had been adopted by the General Synod. The Moderator indicated that discussion was now in order on the motion to reconsider this action of the General Synod. There was extended discussion. A motion to terminate debate was adopted, and upon being put to a vote, the motion to reconsider was lost.

#### **13. REPORT OF SECTION II**

The Moderator called on the Rev. Robert Curry (ME), Chairperson for the report of Section II.

#### **14. 1984/85 YOUTH BIENNIUM**

Mr. Curry referred to the report of the Section and made

several corrections in the first item, 1984/1985 Youth Biennium, moved its adoption and called on Debora Dockstader (CAC), Chairperson of the small group that considered this resolution, to speak to the motion. There was discussion.

The Moderator recognized Dan Felson (IL) who moved to amend the motion by deleting from the fifth paragraph of the resolved section the words "under 21" and substituting the words "between the ages of 14 and 21." There was discussion. A motion to terminate debate was adopted. Upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend the motion was lost.

The Moderator recognized Eric Wirth (IS), who moved to amend the motion by adding at the end of the fifth paragraph of the resolved section the words "including full voting participation on local church, Association, Conference, national boards, Instrumentalities and other national bodies." A motion to terminate debate on the motion to amend and the main motion was adopted. Upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend the motion was lost. It was

83 GS 48 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on the 1984/1985 Youth Biennium.

#### **RESOLUTION ON THE 1984/1985 YOUTH BIENNIUM**

The United Church of Christ needs emphasis on involvement and empowerment of youth in ministry at all levels of the Church. This encouragement of youth ministries captures a concern and a vision that the Body of Christ includes young people as well as adults.

WHEREAS, the United Nations has declared 1985 as the International Year of Youth; and

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth and Fourteenth General Synods considered youth as a priority; and

WHEREAS, the youth of today are in need of guidance, caught in the struggle of media suggestions and peer influence which often obscure the religious life offered by the Church; and

WHEREAS, the Apostle Paul suggested that youth training should include the enabling of youth to fulfill their spiritual needs; and

WHEREAS, a lack of spiritual guidance and communications has caused some youth to turn to cults and other pseudo-religious groups; and

WHEREAS, a focus should be applied to bring closer understanding, communication and fellowship between adults and youth of the Church;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ designates 1984-85 as the youth biennium of the United Church of Christ; and

1. requests that the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, in concert with youth, plan opportunities and experiences that will enable our youth to make Christian faith decisions;
2. designates the 1984 National Youth Event of the United Church of Christ as the beginning of these opportunities and experiences;
3. urges the Conferences, Associations, plus local churches to plan events to complement United Nations activities of the International Year of Youth;
4. urges the Executive Council to dedicate one day of the