

4. Calls upon all nations to reject any policy or weapons program which rests on the assumption that a nuclear war can be controlled or "limited," and the assumption that it could be "prolonged" beyond an initial and decisive exchange and ultimately be "won;"
5. Calls upon all nations, and particularly the United States and the Soviet Union, to adopt immediately a mutual and verifiable freeze on the testing, production and deployment of nuclear weapons and delivery systems;
6. Calls upon all nations to take unilateral initiatives in stopping all testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons;
7. Calls upon Congress to stop all funding for first strike nuclear weapons including the MX, the Pershing II, and the Trident II (D5);
8. Calls upon the United States government not to deploy the Cruise and Pershing II missiles in Western Europe;
9. Calls upon the United States administration to negotiate with the Soviet Union reduction of nuclear warheads and the elimination of MIRVd weapons;
10. Calls upon the United States administration to negotiate a ban on all weapons in space, meanwhile not funding production of defensive or offensive space weapons;
11. Calls upon Congress to reject all funds for chemical and biological weapons production, research and development;
12. Calls upon members and churches of the United Church of Christ to work for these policies and especially endorse an immediate comprehensive mutual, verifiable freeze on the testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons;
13. Requests the President of the United Church of Christ to communicate this resolution to the President of the United States and members of Congress.

5. RESOLUTION ON PEACE AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE IMPERATIVE

Ms. Riebling continued the report of the Committee on Peace Resolutions and called on the Rev. Patricia Ross (CPC), Chairperson of a sub-committee for the report on two resolutions. Ms. Ross moved the adoption of the resolution on Peace and Economic Justice Imperative indicating that this is a consolidation of several resolutions. There was discussion.

The Moderator recognized Catherine Wanner (PSE), who moved to refer the resolution on Peace and Economic Justice Imperative to the Executive Council with instructions that Peace and Economic Justice Imperative be considered a part of the Priorities Process for the Fifteenth General Synod. There was discussion. A motion to terminate debate on the motion to refer was adopted and upon being put to a vote, the motion to refer was lost.

The Moderator recognized William Laurie (OH), Business Committee, who moved to amend the motion by deleting the first resolved paragraph and substituting the words: "Now therefore be it resolved that the United Church of Christ enlarge the Peace Priority to become Peace with

Justice. There was discussion. The Moderator asked the General Synod to indicate whether this motion should be considered by the Synod. The General Synod indicated that it did not wish to consider the motion.

A motion to terminate debate was offered and when the Moderator declared the debate closed, a call for a division of the house was made. The delegates were counted and on a division of 463-yes and 165-no or 73.7%, the Moderator declared debate closed.

The Moderator called for the vote on the resolution on Peace and Economic Justice Imperative. A call for a division of the house was made. The delegates were counted and on a vote of 252-yes and 367-no, the Moderator declared the motion was lost.

6. REPORT OF SECTION IV

The Moderator indicated that time for considering the report of the Committee on Peace Resolutions had expired. Moderator Helen I. Barnhill assumed the chair and called on Mrs. Mary Ann Cope (PSE), Chairperson for the report of Section IV.

7. RESOLUTION ON OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO CHANGES IN FEDERAL FUNDING

Ms. Cope referred to the report and moved the adoption of the resolution on Our Christian Response to Changes in Federal Funding and called on Richard Mann (IS), Chairperson of the small group that had considered the resolution, to speak to the motion. He described the work of the small group and indicated that the four recommended resolved paragraphs are substituted for the original resolve paragraphs. There was discussion.

The Moderator recognized the Rev. James Kvetko (IA) who moved to amend the motion by deleting the words "and votes" in the fourth line of the third resolved paragraph. There was discussion, and upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was lost.

The Moderator called for a vote, and it was

83 GS 45 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Our Christian Response to Changes in Federal Funding.

RESOLUTION ON OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO FEDERAL FUNDING

WHEREAS, love is exemplified in the compassion of the Christ; and

WHEREAS, Jesus said; "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25:35-36, Today's English Version); and

WHEREAS, our whole Christian heritage bears a strong concern for the just social ordering of humanity; and

WHEREAS, the role of the Church has even been to stand with those in the midst of suffering and injustice; and

WHEREAS, the prophetic task of the Church is to expose the suffering, and challenge the injustices so long as they continue; and

WHEREAS, the change in philosophy of our Federal Government has resulted in a drastic reduction in funding for programs in health, education, nutrition, housing and

other social services, and an increase in spending for armaments; and

WHEREAS, those least able to provide for their own needs as a result of age, sex, disability, or socio-economic deprivation are those most hurt by these Federal reductions in funding; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has challenged private philanthropy to assume a greater share of responsibility for the funding of human services;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ declares its opposition to the Federal Government's shifting of public resources from human services to armaments, and to the assumption that the private sector can adequately underwrite the human services cutback or removed from Federal support;

. . . charges the Office for Church in Society with communicating this resolution to the Federal Government;

. . . urges all members of each local church to express their opposition to this shift in Federal spending from human services to armaments to the President of the United States and to their Congressional Representatives through letters and votes; and

. . . in response to the extreme urgency of human need arising from current Federal cutbacks, encourages all members to covenant with God and their fellow Christians to contribute more to church and other human service agencies from their financial resources according to God's call to love our neighbor as ourselves.

8. AMENDMENT TO THE STANDING RULES

The Moderator recognized David Sandberg (CAL.S) who moved to amend the Standing Rules of the General Synod by adding a paragraph 21h to read: "the introduction of amendments to any motion shall be forbidden for the first ten minutes of debate unless no discussion on the primary motion is forthcoming." A motion to terminate debate on the motion to amend was adopted and when put to a vote, the motion to amend was lost.

9. RESOLUTION ON ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

The Moderator called on Ms. Cope to continue the report of Section IV. Ms. Cope moved the adoption of the Resolution on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and called on the Rev. James Landoc (NE), Chairperson of the small group that had considered the resolution, who indicated that only minor changes were made in the original text of the resolution. There was no discussion, and it was

83 GS 46 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

RESOLUTION ON ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS)

WHEREAS, we are called as contemporary disciples of Jesus Christ, to express our love of God through love of neighbor and through the active pursuit of Justice; and

WHEREAS, we are called individually and corporately, to the ministry of caring concern, advocacy and healing for all who suffer affliction and to the ministry of support and comfort for the dying; and

WHEREAS, there exists in the United States—and in 16 other countries—a documented epidemic of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), an illness of unknown origin which ravages the human immune system causing its victims to be vulnerable to serious, opportunistic, often fatal diseases; and

WHEREAS, the United States Center for Disease Control reports that the number of diagnosed AIDS cases is doubling every six months; that an overall case-mortality rate of 41% is predicted (as of April 1, 1983 the mortality rate was 37.6%); that the 1,500+ cases reported to date represent only the most serious and fatal cases; that it is estimated there are 10,000 to 100,000 unreported or undetected AIDS cases nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the tragedy of this epidemic is intensified by the age of the victims (median age 35 years with 85% below the age of 45 years), the futility of the available treatments, and the prolonged, debilitating, expensive nature of their illnesses (average cost per patient: \$60,000); and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control, responding to the AIDS epidemic as a national health emergency, made \$2.4 million available for AIDS research in fiscal 1982 by re-prioritizing its own budget and by allocating \$500,000 approved by Congress for AIDS research (over a Presidential veto), while adjusting to a 20% cut by the Reagan administration in its total budget; and

WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health invited applications for research funds a year-and-a-half after the onset of the epidemic (and the loss of 200 lives); has yet to make a major grant for AIDS research to a research hospital or university (the largest grant to date was a \$133,000 research subsidy to Houston's M.D. Anderson Hospital); projects the expenditure of 1/5 of 1 percent (approximately \$3 million) of the \$4 billion NIH budget for AIDS-related research in 1983; and faces a Presidential budget request calling for a 25% reduction in NIH funds available for research grants; and

WHEREAS, despite strong leadership from some Congressional leaders, the Congress of the United States has been alarmingly slow in allocating appropriating funds to combat this rapidly spreading, deadly epidemic (only \$2 million has been appropriated for fiscal 1983 which begins October 1st; compared with \$10 million allocated within the first two weeks of the more recent Tylenol scare); and

WHEREAS, this Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome epidemic constitutes a threat to the health of all Americans and to the entire human population worldwide and demands concerted, adequately financed efforts to discover its causes and effective therapies for treatment and cure;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ declares its compassionate concern and support for all who are victims of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and the opportunistic diseases it enables, their lovers, spouses, families and friends:

. . . calls upon all United Church of Christ clergy and laypersons to become knowledgeable about this epidemic and to offer pastoral care and caring concern to its victims;