

nuclear components for nuclear warheads, or which manage United States Government facilities engaged in the production of nuclear weapons, or a substantial portion of whose business consists of military contracts may frustrate a continuing commitment to peace.

3. The Vermont Conference has formally committed itself to not invest in corporations whose practices appear to be in violation of Christian precepts.

AND WHEREAS, the United Church Board for World Ministries, the Northern California Conference, the Massachusetts Conference Congregational Fund, the Hawaii Conference, the New Hampshire Conference and the Connecticut Conference have adopted specific investment guidelines similar to or identical to the following, which exclude investments in corporations that are:

1. Direct contributors to nuclear weapons research and development, the production of key nuclear components for nuclear warheads, or the management of nuclear weapons facilities owned by the United States Government.
2. Direct contributors to biological or chemical weapons production or research and development.
3. Among the one hundred leading military contractors to the Department of Defense and who are dependent on military contracts for more than 20 percent of their sales (as determined by the average ratio of military contracts to sales in the most recent three-year period for which data are available).

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ commends those who have adopted a policy to commit themselves to peace in investment decisions, and especially commends those who have taken the further step of adopting specific guidelines excluding or limiting direct investments in weapons producers, and

FURTHER the Fourteenth General Synod recommends to all United Church of Christ Instrumentalities, Conferences, Associations, congregations and all other investing bodies and individuals the adoption of a policy of commitment to peace in investment decisions and the adoption of specific guidelines excluding or limiting direct investments in weapons producers.

14. RESOLUTION ON DEVELOPING THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AS A PEACE MAKING CHURCH

Mr. Cope as the chairperson of the small group that considered the Resolution on Developing the United Church of Christ as a Peace Church, moved the adoption of the resolution. There was discussion.

The Moderator recognized John Esbenshade (PC) who moved to amend the motion by adding the word "making" to the title of the resolution to be inserted between "Peace" and "Church." Upon being put to a vote the motion to amend was adopted.

The Moderator recognized Merrill Ressler (PSE) who moved to amend the motion by taking the fourth "WHEREAS" from the Resolution for Peace and Economic Justice Imperative and inserting it as the sixth "WHEREAS" in this resolution and by taking the first "Be It Resolved Further" from the Resolution for Peace and Economic Jus-

tice Imperative and inserting it as number 2 in the resolved section of this resolution. Upon being put to a vote the motion to amend was adopted. It was

83 GS 73 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts as amended the Resolution on Developing the United Church of Christ as a Peace Making Church.

RESOLUTION ON DEVELOPING THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AS A PEACE MAKING CHURCH

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth General Synod called upon the United Church of Christ to become a Peace Making Church; and

WHEREAS, the church is in the process of reconsidering and withdrawing moral sanctions for nuclear weapons and the institution of war, and needs to identify the moral and ethical issues which still need to be resolved at this point in history; and

WHEREAS, nuclear war cannot be fought under the criteria for a just war, necessitating many Christians to rethink peace theology; and

WHEREAS, many Christians are considering whether the time has come for Christians to advocate that nations should unilaterally cease to threaten, use or possess nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS, all nations and all Christians are called to recognize the relationship which exists between peace and justice, and to join with fresh dedication in the search for structures of peace and of justice which will move us away from the abyss; and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has opposed the identification of the peace issue with white communities and the justice issue with Third World and "minority" communities and insists that these two goals not compete with each other in the life of the church but rather be pursued in harmony; and

WHEREAS, the church, which has always been called to witness to the peace of God and to the Prince of Peace, needs to examine anew the demands of the Gospel and the demands of this moment in history for a new level of peace-making ministry; and

WHEREAS, new sources of money are needed either from an all-church offering, a capital funds drive, or some other source of major funding, if we are to take seriously the call to be a Peace Church and to offer the effective peace ministry now demanded of us;

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

1. Calls upon the Office for Church in Society to commission a Peace Theology Development Team to bring the Fifteenth General Synod in 1985 a Proposed Pronouncement designed to answer the following questions:
 - a. What is the theological base for considering the United Church of Christ to be a Peace Church?
 - b. What public policy would be consistent with this theological base and provide a coherent framework for the public witness of the United Church of Christ?

- c. What new program capability is needed to give expression to our theological commitments as a Peace Church, and how will effective peace ministries be coordinated, structured and funded?
2. Upholds the right of every person to have food, shelter, health care, education and employment, as well as the right to security and freedom from war, as the minimal elements of justice for all, and thus commits itself to the work of establishing economic systems that are just, democratic and sustainable, making peace the parent of justice and justice the parent of peace;
3. Calls upon Christians everywhere to consider peacemaking as central to their identity as Christians and to their Christian community, joining in a global commitment to end the institution of war.

The Moderator indicated that time had expired for considering the Report of the Committee on Peace Resolutions and called on the Rev. Martha Baumer, Chairperson of the Business Committee/Executive Council, to continue the report of the Business Committee.

Ms. Baumer reminded the General Synod that the matter of making the vote on the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Priority unanimous had been referred to and considered by the Business Committee. It is the judgement of the Business Committee that it should not bring a recommendation to make the Youth and Young Adult Ministries Priority unanimous because this Priority is owned and affirmed by this General Synod and will be widely owned by the whole church. The other three proposed priorities not voted by the General Synod nevertheless came through a long process involving many parts of the church. They also received significant numbers of votes at this General and there are significant messages for all parts of the church and that no action should be taken to take these messages away and therefore the Business Committee concluded that no action should be taken on this matter.

Ms. Baumer continued the report of the Executive Council and introduced the Rev. Barbara Brown Zikmund, a member of the Historical Council for the report of the Historical Council.

15. REPORT OF THE HISTORICAL COUNCIL

Ms. Zikmund reported for the Historical Council. The report is printed in the Appendix.

16. AMENDMENT OF BYLAW 171

Ms. Baumer continued the report of the Executive Council and referred the delegates to Advance Materials IV, page 25, to the proposed amendment to Bylaw 171 by deleting the word "less" in the third sentence of the paragraph and by substituting the word "fewer", and by deleting the words in section (b) of the fourth sentence and by substituting the words (b) "the delegation shall reflect the United Church of Christ's commitment to affirmative action; it shall be representative of racial and ethnic persons (Blacks, Hispanics, American Indians, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders), women and youth (at least twenty percent of each delegation shall be under 30 years of age at the time of the commencing of their terms)." She moved the adoption of Bylaw 171 as amended and called on Mrs. Susan Dickerman to speak to the amendment.

The Moderator recognized Edith O'Donnell (CT) who moved to amend the motion by adding the word "Caucasian" after Pacific Islanders in the new section (6). Upon being put to a vote, the motion to amend was adopted. It was

83 GS 74 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts as amended Bylaw 171 so that it will read:

171 Conference delegates. The number of Conference delegates shall be allocated to each Conference by the Executive Council on the basis of the number of persons who have membership in the local churches of the Conference. There shall not, however, be fewer than three delegates allocated to any Conference. The total number of Conference delegates in any biennium shall not be fewer than 675 nor more than 725. Delegates and alternate delegates shall be chosen by their Conferences, which may invite and consider nominations from the Associations. From each Conference, except in Conferences having three delegates, (a) lay persons shall constitute at least fifty percent of the delegates and (b) the delegation shall reflect the United Church of Christ's commitment to affirmative action; it shall be representative of racial and ethnic persons (Blacks, Hispanics, American Indians, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Caucasians), women and youth (at least twenty percent of each delegation shall be under 30 years of age at the time of the commencing of their terms). In Conferences with three delegates, the above requirements for representation are recommended but shall not be mandatory. Despite any lack of exact compliance with these requirements, actions of a General Synod which is constituted in substantial compliance with these representation requirements, as determined by the Executive Council, shall be valid.

17. REPORT OF SECTION IV CONTINUED

The Moderator called on Mrs. Mary Ann Cope (PSE) Chairperson, to continue the report of Section IV.

18. RESOLUTION ON CHILD ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH

Ms. Cope referred the delegates to Advance Materials V, pages 143-144, to the Section report, moved the adoption of the Resolution on Child Abuse and Exploitation of Youth, and called on Prudence Yagmin (NE) Chairperson of the small group that considered this resolution, to speak to the motion. There was discussion. It was

83 GS 75 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Child Abuse and Exploitation of Youth.

RESOLUTION ON CHILD ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION OF YOUTH

Background Statement:

The United Church of Christ is known to be a leader in many social issues that affect our nation. As of this time, no mainline Protestant church has developed a policy statement regarding child abuse and the exploitation of youth.

In Mark 9:36, Jesus told the disciples, "Who receives a child in my name, receives me." If we ignore the abused child, we ignore Jesus. Christ continually shows his love and concern for all children. We as Christians teach and preach justice for all people. We have adopted Peace and Family