

20. RESOLUTION ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FROM AFRO-AMERICAN MULTI-LINGUAL AND MULTI-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

The Moderator indicated that time had expired for considering the report of the Committee on Peace Resolutions and called for the continuation of the report of Section IV.

Ms. Mary Ann Cope (PSE), Chairperson of Section IV, continued the report, referred the delegates to the Section report, pages 8-9, moved the adoption of the Resolution on Christian Education from Afro-American, Multi-Lingual and Multi-Cultural Perspectives, and called on Carol Warnick (PC), Chairperson of the small group that considered this resolution, to speak to the motion. There was no discussion, and it was

83 GS 97 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Christian Education from Afro-American, Multi-Lingual and Multi-Cultural Perspectives.

RESOLUTION ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MATERIALS FROM AFRO-AMERICAN, MULTI-LINGUAL AND MULTI-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ at the Thirteenth General Synod adopted the pronouncement "Christian Education: The Teaching Ministry of the Church"; and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has recognized the need for Christian Educational materials from shared approaches, and is an active participant (as one of the twelve denominations) in the Joint Educational Development group (JED); and

WHEREAS, Black Education Resource Development (BERD), an ecumenical project including the United Church of Christ and endorsed by the Joint Educational Development group, and has developed the "Faith Journey" series, being Christian Educational materials from a Black perspective; and

WHEREAS, both JED and BERD have developed materials which are premised on "Knowing the Word, Living the Word, Doing the Word and Interpreting the Word"; and

WHEREAS, JED has a promotional program for its materials, seeking to educate the participating denominations and member churches on the value of said JED materials, but said promotional program does not adequately include the BERD materials, other than that of tacit mention of the "Faith Journey" series;

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

Urges the Joint Educational Development (JED) group to include promotional material to introduce the Black Educational Resource Development (BERD) Christian Education materials, "Faith Journey," and other multi-lingual and multi-cultural materials as part of its nationwide presentation of its Christian Education Resources to all churches and especially those Afro-American, multi-cultural and multi-lingual congregations.

Urges that the Black Educational Resource Development materials and other appropriate multi-lingual and multi-cultural educational materials become an integral part of any materials produced and promoted.

Urges each Association's or Conference's Committee of Christian Education to support actively its denomination's goal of being a unifying church by providing and promoting

the Black Educational Resource Development materials and other appropriate multi-lingual and multi-cultural educational materials as a positive means of uniting the various United Church of Christ constituencies through acquisition of materials as resources.

21. RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Ms. Cope continued the report of Section IV, referred the delegates to the New Business document, part 1, pages 11 and 23, to the Section report, moved the adoption of the Resolution on Support of the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches and called on Shannon Clarkson (CT), Chairperson of the small group that considered this resolution, to speak to the motion. Ms. Clarkson indicated that the two resolutions had been consolidated into a single resolution as recommended in the Section report. There was no discussion, and it was

83 GS 98 VOTED: The Fourteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Support of the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.

RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Although there has been disagreement with some positions and actions of the National Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches, this resolution affirms the national and international ecumenical ministries of our church through these Councils. It recognizes the limitations and even the fallibility of such endeavors, yet it calls for responsiveness on the part of church leaders to constituent members so that together we might understand and support ecumenical ministries at local, national and international levels;

WHEREAS, the theological and Biblical basis for ecumenical ministry is found in the challenge of the gospel to all of God's church to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothing to the naked and compassion to the prisoner (Matthew 25); and

WHEREAS, the gospel suggests that we can ill afford to allow petty divisions to keep us from implementing that crucial ministry; as the apostle Paul proclaimed, Christ is not divided. Indeed, we are called to be one, both in spirit and labor (I Cor. 1:12); and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ upholds ecumenical ministries as an essential mission of the church; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the need of local churches to know where their money is going and how it is spent, to be informed and to assume ownership of the larger stewardship of the church and to proclaim responsibility for ecumenical ministries.

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses its appreciation for the work and ministry of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches;

Calls upon local churches to become more aware of and involved in the ecumenical work of the United Church of Christ at local, Conference, national and international levels, including denominational participation in the