

and Saturday to explain to all members in attendance their regrets that a black was not serving on the Committee.

"Many thanks to all for accepting this observation. God Bless us all."

21. PROPOSAL FOR ACTION ON UCC FULL DIVESTMENT OF ALL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FROM ALL CORPORATIONS DOING BUSINESS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. Ted Goble, Chairperson of Committee #5, moved that the Fifteenth General Synod adopt the Proposal for Action, on UCC full Divestment of All Financial Resources From All Corporations Doing Business with South Africa. He explained the reasons for the committee's action and there was open discussion. During the discussion, a question was raised as to how we would know what companies to divest from.

The debate was closed and it was adopted.

85-GS-66 VOTED: The Fifteenth General Synod adopts the Proposal for Action "UCC Full Divestment of All Financial Resources from All Corporations Doing Business with South Africa."

PROPOSAL FOR ACTION ON UCC FULL DIVESTMENT OF ALL FINANCIAL RESOURCES FROM ALL CORPORATIONS DOING BUSINESS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

WHEREAS, the Fifteenth General Synod has adopted the pronouncement on United Church of Christ Full Divestment of All Financial Resources from All Corporations Doing Business with South Africa, and whereas this pronouncement calls the Church to fulfill our Statement of Faith through this action; therefore the Fifteenth General Synod:

1. Calls upon all instrumentalities, agencies, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations and members of the United Church of Christ to begin immediately the process of divestment, and to complete divestment within two years.
2. Defines as entities to be divested those corporations with direct investments in South Africa and banks and other financial service institutions engaging in loans, credits or services to the Government of South Africa or its instrumentalities or agencies.
3. Calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ to inform the major corporations involved and investing in South Africa of the passage and implementation of this pronouncement and proposal for action, and to encourage the withdrawal of these corporations and their financial resources from South Africa.
4. Calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ to call upon the President and the Congress of the United States to terminate all U.S. government economic, scientific and military support of the apartheid regime of South Africa.
5. Calls upon the United Church of Christ, in cooperation with the National Council of Churches, the World Council of Churches, and other denominations to encourage this nation and other nations of the world to participate in full divestment of financial resources from South Africa.

6. Calls upon agencies, instrumentalities, national bodies, conferences, associations, congregations and members of the United Church of Christ to combine divestment with other forms of economic pressure to maximize our effectiveness as instruments of change by:
 - a. Engaging in acts of public witness directed at corporations supportive of the apartheid system such as prayer vigils, demonstrations and letter and postcard writing campaigns;
 - b. Withdrawing bank accounts and investment funds from financial institutions which continue to lend to the Government of South Africa or its agencies or instrumentalities or which make strategic loans to the private sector for the provision of products, services or technology that helps maintain the apartheid system;
 - c. Abstaining from buying gold, Krugerrands (South African gold coins), diamonds and other products from South Africa;
 - d. Supporting the campaign of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility to bring pressure on key corporations assisting the apartheid system in their demands that these corporations cease immediately all sales and service relationships with the South African Government and government-owned corporations and inform the South African government that the dismantling of the apartheid system is a prerequisite for their remaining in South Africa.
7. Calls for a major effort to educate members of the UCC regarding the role of the U.S. investment in South Africa in supporting the apartheid system.
8. Calls for action by the Congress of the United States to limit economic relations between the U.S. and South Africa and impose economic sanctions on the apartheid regime.
9. Calls for members, congregations, and agencies of the United Church of Christ to support state and municipal legislation limiting investment and business relations with corporations with direct investments in South Africa and financial institutions making loans to the public sector or strategic loans to the private sector in South Africa.
10. Asks that individuals, congregations, agencies and instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ take into account whether corporations have direct investments in South Africa as they make consumer decisions and whenever possible abstain from the purchase of products manufactured by corporations continuing to do business in South Africa.
11. Calls for the development of a United Church of Christ pastoral letter, "South African Apartheid and Full Divestment and other forms of Economic Pressure" by a drafting committee representing the United Church Board for World Ministries, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, Pension Board, Office for Church in Society, Commission for Racial Justice and Council of Conference Ministers, and to widely circulate the document throughout the United Church of Christ and the nation for discussion and theological reflection.

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 2

12. Calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ to strengthen our ecumenical partnership with the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa and to initiate planning for a Day of Prayer for the people of South Africa, inviting church bodies in South Africa to join us in that solemn observance, in faith and hope that repentance and redemption might be revealed through the healing love of God in Jesus Christ.
13. Requests the United Church Board for World Ministries and Commission for Racial Justice to coordinate this Proposal for Action and calls upon the instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ to make a detailed report to the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

Financial Implications: Implementation of this Proposal for Action is subject to the availability of funds.

22. RECOGNITION

The Moderator called on Rev. Charles Shelby Rooks, Executive Director of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, who called Ms. Helen Webber, a staff member of the Board who is retiring at the end of her term in 1986. Ms. Webber was thanked for her work by Rev. M. Dosia Carlson and Mr. Daniel Caplan. She was presented with a banner.

23. REQUEST FOR A POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Rev. David Finster requested a point of personal privilege,

which was granted. His statement is quoted below:

"At this Synod we have adopted positions supporting the family farmer and we have resolved to affirm a boycott of table grapes. These two initiatives must be tied together. To accomplish this, the Northern California and Nebraska delegations (which met last night) ask that:

"The President of the United Church of Christ, Rev. Avery Post, and the Executive Vice President of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, Rev. Charles Shelby Rooks, prepare a pastoral letter and take other initiatives directed to the California UCC congregations and possibly others which interpret these actions of the Fifteenth General Synod.

Furthermore, we request that the pastoral letter invite input from small family table grape growers as to how the United Church of Christ might best offer resources which visibly and concretely express the Synod's caring and concern for any inadvertent harm which might come to them from the boycott."

24. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Moderator called upon Secretary Carol Joyce Brun to give the announcements. Among the announcements, it was mentioned that the divestment list asked for is available from Ms. Audrey Smock's office.

25. RECESS

The Moderator declared the Fifteenth General Synod in recess at 11:35 a.m. until the afternoon session.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 2

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Assistant Moderator, Ms. Janeece L. Dent called the Fifteenth General Synod to order. At this time, Ms. Dent called on Rev. Carol Joyce Brun to conduct Speak Out.

2. SPEAK OUT

The one minute presentations during this Speak Out session were: Special thanks to Worship Committee, and to those responsible for planning the Bible studies; Challenge OCLL to strategize to help newly ordained clergy with placement; Seating of non-UCC delegates should be looked into; Encourage local churches to use the UCC Desk Calendar; Introduction of "youth delegate", Mr. Owen Fox, 84 years young; Concern of parents of children, particularly aged 3-10 years, about toys on the market (mostly at Christmas time), that help children play at war (particularly guns, hand grenades and billy clubs); BHM is on the verge of new policy about domestic disasters; Churches and Conferences need to be at work with BHM on this—think ahead—be prepared; Request that the powers that be, be consistent in their efforts to seek justice, and peace; Keep open the doors to local church people; What about the hostages held by the Israelis, where is our concern?

3. HELPING THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM CHRONIC MENTAL ILLNESS

Rev. Sandra Graham, Wisconsin Conference, on behalf of Committee #24, moved that the Fifteenth General Synod adopt the resolution, "For Helping Those Who Suffer From

Chronic Mental Illness." A friendly amendment was made and incorporated into the resolution to strike "this illness" at the end of the first paragraph under THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, and substitute, "from these disorders."

After discussion,

85-GS-67 VOTED: The Fifteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "For Helping Those Who Suffer From Chronic Mental Illness."

FOR HELPING THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM CHRONIC MENTAL ILLNESS

WHEREAS, Jesus' ministry of healing extended to those afflicted in mind and spirit, we believe Christ's example should be followed in bringing "fullness of life" to all. Those who suffer from chronic mental illness are often people society forgets about or against whom society discriminates. They are certainly people we don't know well because they usually live outside the mainstream of life. Within regular church life, we have few models of how to meet the needs of these persons. As Christians, we need to be better informed and to find ways to help; and

WHEREAS, there are perhaps 10 million persons in this country who are afflicted with chronic mental illness; and

WHEREAS, often, many are without the proper support in the community to adequately care for themselves because