

16. SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Moderator called on Rev. Gary Bryant, Chairperson of the Business Committee, who moved that the Fifteenth General Synod recognize the Special Interest Groups identified in the Report of the Executive Council to the Fifteenth General Synod of actions taken at the June 27, 1985 meeting of the Executive Council.

85-GS-7 VOTED: The Fifteenth General Synod recognizes the following Special Interest Groups at the Fifteenth General Synod and grants voice without vote to their designated representatives:

- Council for Hispanic Ministries: Ms. Nidza Lopez and Mr. Abraham Reyes;
- Youth and Young Adult Ministries: Ms. Alanna S. Tyler and Ms. Kathryn Thurber;
- United Church of Christ Ministers for Higher Education: Rev. Dennis Haas and Ms. Patricia DeJong;
- Racial and Ethnic Youth Involvement Project: Ms. Georgette Greenlee and Ms. Trina Wong;
- Ministers for Racial and Social Justice: Rev. Marvin Morgan and Rev. Luther Holland;
- Marriage Encounter: Rev. Roland Turnbach and Mrs. Jackie Turnbach;
- Friends for Life: Rev. Susan Ellis and Rev. Robert Sandham;
- Pacific Asian and American Ministries: Rev. Ben Junasa and Rev. Grant S. C. Lee;
- United Coalition for Lesbian/Gay Concerns: Rev. Ken South and Rev. Jan Griesinger;
- Persons with Disabilities: Rev. David Johnston and Rev. Richard F. Pulling;
- UCC Military Chaplains Fellowship: Rev. Jerry Rhyme and Rev. Janell Nickols;
- The Council for Health and Human Services: Rev. Richard Ellerbrake and Rev. Carroll Olm;
- United Black Christians: Mr. Sam Allen and Ms. Alease Brickers;
- United Church of Christ Peace Fellowship: Mr. Jim Antal and Rev. Don Christensen.

17. INTRODUCTION OF YOUTH STEWARDS, PAGES, RECORDERS AND PLATFORM PERSONNEL

The Moderator introduced Rev. Carol Joyce Brun, Secretary of the United Church of Christ and Administrator of the Fifteenth General Synod, who introduced the Youth Stewards and explained their duties. They are Messrs. and Mss. Kristie Brown, Mark Cunningham, James Dean, Susan Dunker, Wendy Eckhoff, Chris Forbes, Ann Handyside, Lisa Heineking, Heidi Hofland, Sarah Holmes, Karee Kellogg, Clinton Korver, Steffany Kreimeyer, Kirk Loving, Sharie Prestemon, Carrie Price, Peter Tubbs, Sherry Vansice, Sandra Voss and Greg Wessel. Ms. Brun introduced the Recorders, they are Ms. Adrienne Nichols, Ms. Betty Stein, Ms. Florence Hand and Ms. Phyllis Miner. She introduced Ms. Patricia DeLeon, secretary to the Secretary and staff to the recorders. Ms. Brun also introduced Rev. Margaret Beretz, who served as stage manager.

18. INTRODUCTION OF STAFF OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND TREASURER

The moderator introduced Mr. Charles Lockyear, Director of Finance & Treasurer, who in turn introduced his assistant, Ms. Lorraine Fells.

19. PRESIDENT'S STAFF INTRODUCED

The Moderator called upon President Post to complete the introductions of the Executive Office staff. President Post in-

roduced the staff as follows: Ms. Nana Christmas, Ms. Ven-trice Grant, Ms. Mary Griffith, Ms. Jennifer Henry, Ms. Ruth Radcliffe (not present at Synod), Ms. Florence Coppola, Mr. Jesse Alexander, Rev. Robert Noble and Rev. Norman Jack-son.

20. INITIAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Moderator explained that the Executive Council func-tions as the General Synod ad interim between the meetings of the General Synod, and their reports would be inter-spersed throughout the five days of Synod. He called on Rev. Gary Bryant, Chairperson of the Executive Council, to begin the Council's report to the Fifteenth General Synod.

21. RESOLUTION ON THE CLOSING OF YANKTON COLLEGE

Mr. Bryant moved the Executive Council recommendation that the Fifteenth General Synod adopt the resolution enti-tled, "Resolution on the Closing of Yankton College." The following persons spoke to the resolution: President Avery Post; Rev. Charles Shelby Rooks, Executive Vice President, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries; Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook, Chairperson, Council for Higher Education; and Rev. Jack Batten, Conference Minister, South Dakota.

85-GS-8 VOTED: The Fifteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution entitled, "The Closing of Yankton College."

WHEREAS, Yankton College of Yankton, South Dakota, founded in 1881, closed in December of 1984; and

WHEREAS, Yankton College, the oldest college in the Da-kotas, served for over one hundred years as a distinguished college of arts and sciences and conservatory of music; and

WHEREAS, Yankton College was a monument to the vision of Joseph Ward, founder and Congregational leader, and of his wife, Sarah Wood Ward, and throughout its history educated leaders for church, region, nation, and the world; and

WHEREAS, Yankton College, in keeping with its deep sense of mission, provided educational opportunity for men and women of all backgrounds, including students of Native America, Black and other heritages; and

WHEREAS, Yankton College, always faithful in its relation-ship with the Congregational Churches, the Congregational Christian Churches, and their successor, the United Church of Christ, was an active and responsible participant in the life and work of the Council for Higher Education of the United Church of Christ;

THEREFORE, the Fifteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses its deep sense of loss at the de-mise of Yankton College and its equally deep sense of grat-itude and appreciation for the contributions of Yankton College, remembering the words of the Apostle Paul:

"Finally, . . . whatever is true,
whatever is
honorable, whatever is just,
whatever is pure,
whatever is lovely, whatever is
gracious, if there is any
excellence, if there is anything
worthy of praise, think about these
things."

(Philippians 4:8);

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FURTHER, the Fifteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses its concern, appreciation, and tribute to alumni/ae and to former trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and students of Yankton College, and to the churches and individuals of the United Church of Christ, especially of the South Dakota Conference and the North Dakota Conference, which have supported Yankton College throughout its history; and

FURTHER, the Fifteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ directs that this Resolution be published abroad within the United Church of Christ and to the wider community.

22. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS BY TITLE ONLY

The Moderator called for the introduction of New Business, explaining that New Business needs to be introduced by title only and must be introduced by three delegates from two or more conferences (Standing Rule 13.C.3.b.2.). The items will be referred to the Business Committee and its Committee of Reference which will report to the Synod on Saturday morning. The Committee of Reference will make recommendations to the Synod regarding each item, and those recommendations will be acted upon by the Synod as specified in the Standing Rules (13.C.3.b.2, page 18 in the General Synod Handbook). The following items were proposed:

Hungry and Homeless People Everywhere submitted by Thomas B. Cox (CAC), Theodore Hass (CAC) and Leslie Allen (CAL.S);

A Resolution on Helping Those who Suffer from Chronic Mental Illness proposed by Thomas Cox (CAC), Theodore Hass (CAC) and Leslie Allen (CAL.S)

A Resolution on the Discriminatory Treatment to Prisoners of Conscience proposed by Charles F. Mayer (ILL), seconded by Christine Barton (ILL) and Horace Besecker (MASS);

A Resolution on Hispanic Concerns submitted by Robert Kyte (MASS), Celsa Ayala-Coloma (MASS) and Edwin Ayala (CONN)

A Resolution on the Full Participation of Persons with Disabilities in the Life of the Church, submitted by Daniel Caplan (CAC), Susan E. Davis (ME), Sarah Colegrove (CONN) and Valerie Stiteler (MASS);

Overture to Fifteenth General Synod from Hawaii Conference, United Church of Christ The Pacific Basin Initiative, submitted by Donald Asman (HI), Dorothy Wong (CAL.N) and Carol Fujita (CAL.S);

Resolution in Support of Responsible Peace Making submitted by Olivia White (SC), Bob Tucker (SC), and Lorin W. Cope (OHIO);

Resolution on the Family Farm submitted by Audrey Burnett (IA), Robert Brauning (NEB) and Charles Allen (SD);

Enabling Resolution In Search of a Mechanism for a Mutual Support of Sparsely Populated and Under-funded Conferences, submitted by Jessica Stickney (MONT. NO. WYO), Glover Wagner (MONT. NO. WYO) and James Begg, (ND)

Resolution on The Church and Termination of Treatment submitted by David E. Stephens (SC), Olivia White (SC); George Busicroft (ILL)

Resolution in Support of Making the Charitable Contributions Law Permanent submitted by Jodie Jiles (SC), John Towley (SC); C. E. Dolginer (IK)

Resolution on the Teaching Ministry of the Church submitted by Keith VonderOhe (MICH), Jann Weaver (WIS) and James Bramer (MICH);

Resolution on Asian and Pacific Islander Population submitted by Donald Asman (HI), Dorothy Wong (CAL.N) and Carol Fujita (CAL.S);

Resolution on the Inclusive Language Lectionary: A Case of Censoring Holy Scriptures submitted by David R. Goode (MASS), A. Mark Friz (ILL), David Kimberly (NY) and C. R. McClellan (MO);

Resolution on the Twentieth Anniversary of the Commission on Religion in Appalachia submitted by H. Raymond Woodruff (OHIO), Louis Dorsch (OHIO), and Theodore C. Haas (CAC)

23. ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the conclusion of the Introduction of New Business, The Moderator called on Rev. Carol Joyce Brun, Secretary of the United Church of Christ for announcements.

24. RECESS

The Moderator declared the General Synod in recess at 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 28

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by the Assistant Moderator, Ms. Janeece L. Dent.

2. BIBLICAL REFLECTION

Ms. Dent introduced Rev. Gail Hendrix, Biblical Reflection Coordinator for the Fifteenth General Synod. Rev. Hendrix gave an interpretation of "Jesus Christ: The Word Made Flesh," from Luke 1:26-56.

3. INTRODUCTION TO PRESENTATIONS OF WORK OF INSTRUMENTALITIES AND NATIONAL BODIES

An audio/visual presentation introducing the mission and

work of the Instrumentalities and National Bodies of the United Church of Christ was given.

4. INTRODUCTION TO MISSION ISSUES OF REGION

The Moderator introduced Rev. Don Gall of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, who then introduced Rev. David O. Ostendorf, Director of Prairiefire Rural Action, a rural education, organizing and advocacy organization based in Des Moines, Iowa. Mr. Ostendorf made the following statement.

"From the Great Lakes to the Great Plains; from the Southeast to the Northwest; from border to border, Ameri-