

Work with partner churches in the development of strategies to address the AIDS crisis.

The Office for Church in Society to address AIDS-related legislative issues at state and national levels to sustain the civil rights of persons with AIDS, increase funding for research, expand preventive education, and expand support services to persons with AIDS;

Provide advocacy within and beyond the United Church of Christ for services, public policies, and legislation which address the needs of persons with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions, their families and friends;

Collaborate with the United Church Board for World Ministries to provide the United Church of Christ with a global connection to AIDS data and research through the United Nations and the World Health Organization;

Call upon the government of the United States to contribute to the World Health Organization campaign against AIDS;

Monitor and advocate for administrative and legislative efforts to support the World Health Organization campaign against AIDS and with the United Church Board for World Ministries, through their Non-Governmental Organization representatives to the United Nations, to monitor the campaign and to keep national bodies and United Church of Christ members informed of the progress of the World Health Organization campaign.

The Office For Church Life and Leadership to provide liturgical and pastoral resources for clergy and churches pertaining to a reconciling and healing ministry related to AIDS within the local congregation and the local interfaith community;

Collaborate with the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries to provide clergy and chaplains with resources to expand their pastoral care and counseling ministries with persons with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions, their families and friends, as well as to others with AIDS-related concerns.

The Commission for Racial Justice to advocate for fair and equitable treatment for all population groups with respect to AIDS screening, treatment and provision of services;

Provide leadership among ethnic and minority churches to deal compassionately with AIDS-related issues at the local church level.

The Coordinating Center for Women in Church and Society to provide information and consciousness-raising to the church on AIDS and AIDS-related conditions and issues particularly as they affect women;

Provide advocacy for the development of resources, services, and public policies which address the needs of persons with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions, their families and friends, particularly women.

The Stewardship Council to collaborate with the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries in providing resources for use in local churches which focus on AIDS ministries.

The Office of Communication to provide media resources which relate to the mission of the church in relationship to AIDS;

Advocate for media to provide public service announcements for preventive education and resource referral.

The Council for Health and Human Service Ministries to acknowledge the selfless commitment of persons engaged in ministries of healing with persons with AIDS and encourage all UCC members to prayerfully support these caregivers;

Acknowledge the potential fear and anxiety of caregivers for persons with AIDS and encourage CHHSM member institutions to hold appropriate educational forums for the discussion of these anxieties;

Provide information on AIDS from the medical community and encourage CHHSM members to make themselves available as resources throughout the UCC.

#### Fiscal Implications

To facilitate existing programs, some of the costs are already provided in the operating budgets of local churches, conferences and national agencies and instrumentalities. Implementation is subject to availability of funds.

At this time, a moment of prayer was offered from the floor.

### 9. RESOLUTION "U.S. PEACE TAX FUND ACT"

The Moderator introduced Ms. Dollie Burwell, Chairperson of Committee 30.

Ms. Burwell moved that the Sixteenth General Synod adopt the Resolution "U.S. Peace Tax Fund Act." Following discussion it was

87-GS-103 Voted: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "U.S. Peace Tax Fund Act."

#### United States Peace Tax Fund Act

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have supported their members and others who conscientiously are opposed to participation in war; and

WHEREAS, the UCC Office for Church in Society and the Disciples of Christ Peace Fellowship support a "Peace Tax Fund;" and

WHEREAS, those who are conscientiously opposed to participation in military action should be provided an opportunity to indicate their opposition by directing their tax payments toward non-military expenditures; and

WHEREAS, General Synod XV called upon the denomination to become a Just Peace Church; and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) adopted peace with justice as a priority at its 1981 General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Peace Tax Fund bills have been introduced in the House (HR 3032) and the Senate (S 1468); and

WHEREAS, these bills are to amend the current Internal Revenue Code in order to provide that a taxpayer conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form may elect to have such taxpayer's income, estate or gift tax payments spent only for non-military purposes, and to create the United States Peace Tax Fund to receive such tax payments to be administered by a United States Peace Tax Fund Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ has voted to support the Peace Tax Fund Bills (HR 3032 and S 1468);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ goes on record in support of a "Peace Tax Fund;" and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod encourages National Offices and Instrumentalities, Conferences, Associations, local churches and members to support the Peace Tax Fund and communicate their support to elected representatives.