

support efforts to heal those wounds.

- C. Supporting efforts to assist divided families to be reunited with their loved ones while this generation is still alive; sporadic contacts with North Korea who have had extremely limited exposure to the Christian community there.
- (2) We call for renewed efforts to work for peace and justice in Korea by
- A. Recognizing that the barriers of decades of division and hostility can only be overcome through the full, open participation of the Korean people, North and South, in the process of reunification, not merely through negotiation at high levels of government.
  - B. Continuing to press for progress in direct negotiations between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. in order to reduce tensions between the two superpowers whose bilateral relations directly affect the political climate of the world and of this region. The agreement signed at the Geneva Summit meeting in November 1985, regarding air safety in North East Asia is a recognition of a degree of mutual responsibility and could provide some basis for further agreements regarding peace and security in the area.
  - C. Urging the United States Government to respect the Peace Constitution of Japan and to refrain from applying pressures on Japan to assume a regional military role.
  - D. Pressing for the negotiated withdrawal of all U.S. and U.S.S.R. nuclear weapons in or targeted on Korea; and press for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in North East Asia.
  - E. Calling for the suspension or substantial reduction in scale of military exercises in both sides of Korea and their eventual cessation as a way of eliminating gestures which may be interpreted as provocative.
  - F. Calling for a mutually balanced reduction of the military forces of both the D.P.R.K. and the R.O.K. and a commitment by all parties not to introduce new levels of weaponry into the peninsula in order to enhance peace and security and to allow for a phase withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea.
- (3) We call upon the United States Government to affirm formally that it is a policy goal of the United States to support the peaceful reunification of Korea.
- (4) We urge the United States Government to
- A. Refrain from hostile and inflammatory rhetoric about the D.P.R.K., with the hope that this would reduce the use of hostile and inflammatory rhetoric by both parties in Korea.
  - B. End restrictions on direct people-to-people contacts between the D.P.R.K. and the U.S.A., to enable increased contacts between church, cultural, and academic sectors of the two societies.
  - C. Help facilitate contact and reunion of Koreans resident in the U.S.A. with separated family members in the D.P.R.K.
  - D. Create a U.S. interests section in a friendly neutral nation's embassy in Pyongyang and to invite an equivalent to D.P.R.K. representation in Washington, with the hope that this would lead to similar steps between the R.O.K. and the D.P.R.K.
  - E. Extricate itself from its commanding role in R.O.K. military affairs and its dominance over the political and economic life of the nation in order to achieve a climate in which productive talks could take place on the basis of mutual respect for the independence of the other.
  - F. Withdraw from commanding the U.N. peace-keeping operation at the Demilitarized Zone in Korea in favor of

mutually acceptable neutral nations, in order to free that world body more adequately to fulfill its current mandate and explore appropriate alternative roles.

- (5) End the war and to negotiate a comprehensive peace settlement in Korea as a step toward the reunification of the peninsula.

#### 10. RESOLUTION "OPPOSITION TO DECLARING ENGLISH AS THE EXCLUSIVE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE UNITED STATES"

The Moderator introduced Ms. Patricia Eggleston who moved The Sixteenth General Synod adopt the committee's Resolution "Opposition to Declaring English as the Exclusive Official Language of the United States." Following discussion it was

87-GS-76 VOTED: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "Opposition to Declaring English as the Exclusive Official Language of the United States."

#### Opposition to Declaring English as the Exclusive Official Language of the United States

WHEREAS, in Christ, the United Church of Christ is called to the ministry of reconciliation;

WHEREAS, our Christian faith compels us to practice inclusiveness/hospitality in the laws and practices of the American society;

WHEREAS, our prophetic faith mandates justice for all. Justice involves equal access to services necessary to a safe and healthy life, including adequate and speedy police and fire protection and emergency medical services;

WHEREAS, many communities are currently proposing propositions on English only as the "official language" even though English language is already the language of the United States of America. The status of English as the primary language is secure and will not change by these propositions. The danger is that they will change English from a primary to an only language;

WHEREAS, the American spirit historically has allowed for cultural transitions into the mainstream of our society. Historically, it has proven that, given time, immigrants and their children do learn the English language;

WHEREAS, the movement to introduce a proposition declaring English only as the "official language" is increasing throughout the country, and while such a declaration seems harmless and innocent its effect could be to eliminate the public use of any non-English language and lead to discriminatory legislation;

WHEREAS, the divisiveness of this movement has already been felt in the states of California, Florida, and Texas. Before its passing in California, a member of the California branch of "The U.S. English Only Movement" requested the Public Utilities Commission to prevent telephone companies from providing bilingual services, except in cases of emergencies at the expense of the general ratepayers;

WHEREAS, the movement fosters a spirit of xenophobic suspicion of those for whom English is a second language; and,

WHEREAS, on May 15, 1987, the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches of Christ passed a Resolution opposing "English Only as the Official U.S. Language" movement;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

1. Goes on record strongly opposing any proposition that will

lead to discrimination by limiting services in government and commerce through officially barring the use of any language other than English;

2. Calls upon United Church of Christ members and congregations to urge their governors and legislators to oppose any legislation which supports the exclusive use of English as the "official language" of the United States;
3. Directs the Executive Council to designate the appropriate national boards, agencies and instrumentalities to give encouragement, support, and guidance to local churches and their members in efforts to oppose any legislation which promotes the exclusive use of English as the official language of the United States; and,
4. Calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ to express to the President and Congress of the United States by written letter, its opposition to the exclusive use of English as the official language of the United States.

Financial implications: None.

## 11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF VOTE TALLY FOR OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The results of the number of votes in the election for the Office of Secretary were announced as follows:

- 170 Rev. Cynthia Ikuta
- 540 Rev. Carol Joyce Brun

## 12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Carol Joyce Brun made the announcements.

## 13. RECESS

The Moderator declared the meeting in recess at 9:50 p.m. to reconvene at 8:40 a.m. Tuesday, June 30.

## 14. WORSHIP

Evening worship was held in the Music Hall with a meditation given by Ms. Lilia Enriquez, Congregational UCC, Pomona, California.

# TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 30

## 1. WORSHIP

The Sixteenth General Synod worshipped at 8:00 a.m. with a meditation led by Rev. John W. Townsend, the Federated Church, Chagrin Falls, Ohio.

## 2. CALL TO ORDER

Following the worship service, the Moderator Mr. Kenneth P. Stewart called the session to order at 8:40 a.m.

## 3. BIBLICAL REFLECTION

Rev. Eugene S. Wehrli led the plenary body in reflection on Psalm 139:7-12, John 14:15-27, 15:26-27 — Called by the Spirit: Who Guides Our Way.

## 4. OPENING COMMENTS FROM AGENDA COMMITTEE

Rev. Hector Lopez, Chairperson of the Agenda Committee reminded delegates that there were 19 items of business to complete before the end of the General Synod.

The Assistant Moderator, Rev. G. Melvin Palmer took the microphone and called for the report of Committee 23.

## 5. YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Ms. Ruth Mojica-Hammer (ILL), Chairperson of Committee 23 regarding Youth and Young Adult Ministry, described the good work of their group. She believes the committee process was useful to get all concerns aired. The committee's work on the Bylaws led the Iowa Conference to withdraw its Resolution.

Ms. Susan Dunker (IOWA) spoke to why they withdrew. They felt the need for a united effort and that new Bylaw amendments will be good for the Youth and Young Adult Ministry and for the church. In the spirit of the Nebraska Conference, regarding the Coordinating Center for Women, they felt it was fitting, after due deliberation, to withdraw the alternate proposal.

Ms. Mojica-Hammer moved on behalf of the committee, and after discussion,

87-GS-77 VOTED: The Sixteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "Young Adult Ministry."

## Young Adult Ministry

WHEREAS, historically young adults have been called to and have provided significant leadership in the growth and shaping of the church; leadership which was exhibited in the lives and works of Biblical young adults such as: Ruth, Daniel, Mary, the Mother of Jesus, Jesus, Peter, Timothy and early church leaders such as: Martin Luther, John Calvin, and Soren Kierkegaard; and

WHEREAS, young adults continue to provide active and vital leadership in the growth and shaping of the church today, which is exhibited by their participation in the local church as Christian educators, youth leaders, church board and consistency members, committee members and chairpersons, pastors, and in the association and conference as members and chairpersons of committees, task forces and commissions, leaders in Outdoor Ministry, representatives to annual meetings, and in the national church as delegates to General Synod, members of UCC boards and instrumentalities, missionaries, and national staff; and

WHEREAS, most young adults serving the church on the conference and national level were elected as youth delegates, whose purpose is to voice and represent the needs, concerns, and feelings of youth;

WHEREAS, the needs, concerns, and feelings of youth and young adults are uniquely different, making it difficult for young adults to adequately represent youth and equally difficult for youth to represent young adults;

WHEREAS, according to The Alban Institute\* " . . . studies have shown that the primary age of return (to the church) runs from the early 20s' to the mid-30s'. The ten years between age 25 and 36 are the years in which people are most likely to become active in congregational life;"

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls on its boards and instrumentalities to recognize and affirm that the needs and gifts of young adults are distinct and unique; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Sixteenth General Synod asks that these gifts and needs should continue to be reflected in future programming for Christian Education, Evangelism,