

MONDAY MORNING

lization of compassionate ministries, effective public policy, and preventive education" in the fight against AIDS, and

WHEREAS, the "Ten Principles for the Workplace" developed by the Citizen's Commission on AIDS for New York City and Northern New Jersey, are principles which reflect the existing social policy on AIDS of the United Church of Christ, and

WHEREAS, endorsement of the "Ten Principles for the Workplace" affords an opportunity for the United Church of Christ to join with for-profit and non-profit corporations and organizations across the country in offering affirmation and support for persons with AIDS/HIV in the workplace and their co-workers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

- 1) reaffirms the Pronouncement on Health and Wholeness in the Midst of a Pandemic of General Synod XVI, and
- 2) endorses the "Ten Principles for the Workplace" (appended to the resolution) and directs the United Church of Christ Executive Council to enact said principles in ways appropriate to its responsibilities, and
- 3) directs the President of the United Church of Christ to communicate the "Ten Principles for the Workplace," together with this resolution, to all United Church of Christ conferences, instrumentalities, and United Church of Christ related institutions, agencies, colleges and seminaries, commending the "Ten Principles for the Workplace" for endorsement and enactment by those bodies and institutions, and
- 4) calls upon each congregation of the United Church of Christ to study and reflect upon the "Ten Principles for the Workplace," and urges endorsement and enactment of 1) the "Ten Principles for the Workplace" or 2) AIDS/HIV - specific principles for the workplace developed by the congregation that express the full intent of the "Ten Principles for the Workplace" in language appropriate to the congregation's life and ministry.

RESPONDING TO AIDS: TEN PRINCIPLES FOR THE WORKPLACE

1. People with AIDS or HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infection are entitled to the same rights and opportunities as people with other serious or life-threatening illnesses.
2. Employment policies must, at a minimum, comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
3. Employment policies should be based on the scientific and epidemiological evidence that people with AIDS or HIV infection do not pose a risk of transmission of the virus to coworkers through ordinary workplace contact.
4. The highest levels of management and union leadership should unequivocally endorse nondiscriminatory employment policies and educational programs about AIDS.
5. Employers and unions should communicate their support of these policies to workers in simple, clear, and unambiguous terms.
6. Employers should provide employees with sensitive, accurate, and up-to-date education about risk reduction in their personal lives.
7. Employers have a duty to protect the confidentiality of employees' medical information.

8. To prevent work disruption and rejection by co-workers of an employee with AIDS or HIV infection, employers and unions should undertake education for all employees before such an incident occurs and as needed thereafter.
9. Employers should not require HIV screening as part of general pre-employment or workplace physical examinations.
10. In those special occupational settings where there may be a potential risk of exposure to HIV (for example, in health care, where workers may be exposed to blood or blood products), employers should provide specific, ongoing education and training, as well as the necessary equipment, to reinforce appropriate infection control procedures and ensure that they are implemented.

10. DIALOGUE WITH NATIONAL EXECUTIVES AND CHAIRPERSONS OF INSTRUMENTALITIES

Moderator Sherard introduced the Rev. David Y. Hirano, member of the Business Committee, who was chair of a small committee of delegates who had received and screened the questions submitted for one half of the question and answer period with national executives. Mr. Hirano led the period of questions and response of national executives. National executives and chairs of instrumentalities were on stage to answer written questions selected by the members of the Question Selection Committee and questions from the floor. One hour was spent in the asking and answering of these questions.

11. SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

The Rev. James David Audlin (CONN) moved to suspend the rules of the meeting temporarily in order to consider a Resolution "Reaffirmation of United Church of Christ Support for Freedom of Choice."

89-GS-53 VOTED: The 17th General Synod suspends the rules of the meeting to consider the Resolution "Reaffirmation of United Church of Christ Support for Freedom of Choice."

12. RESOLUTION "REAFFIRMATION OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SUPPORT FOR FREEDOM OF CHOICE"

The Moderator recognized Mr. Audlin, who read the resolution and spoke to it. There was some confusion as to whether the previous suspension of the rules was to refer the resolution to the Business Committee or to deal with it directly. It was moved and adopted to suspend the rules to deal with the resolution immediately.

89-GS-54 VOTED: The 17th General Synod suspends the rules in order to deal immediately with the Resolution "Reaffirmation of United Church of Christ Support for Freedom of Choice."

The Moderator called for the vote on the Resolution, which was adopted.

89-GS-55 VOTED: The 17th General Synod adopts the Resolution "Reaffirmation of United Church of Christ Support for Freedom of Choice."

MONDAY AFTERNOON

REAFFIRMATION OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SUPPORT FOR FREEDOM OF CHOICE

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has, for almost two decades supported a woman's right to choose a safe, legal abortion, and

WHEREAS, we deplore the willingness of many legislators, at all levels, to restrict the access of poor women to safe, comprehensive reproduction health care with a full range of options;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod of the United Church of Christ reaffirms its historic and courageous leadership in support of freedom of choice as legally supported by *Roe v. Wade*, and urges all parts of the church to work toward a society where a full range of reproductive options are available to all women regardless of economic circumstances and to address the root causes that lead to unplanned pregnancies, ignorance, lack of life options, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 17th General Synod deplores the decision handed down today by the United States Supreme Court severely limiting major provisions of *Roe v. Wade* as undermining the spirit of the constitutional freedom of choice of women of this nation and making free-

dom of choice essentially a luxury for those who are not economically disadvantaged.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Secretary Brun's announcements included the results of the elections to the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Ms. Kimberlee R. Cornett (CONN), Mr. Donald Tebeau (MASS), Ms. Amy Ryan (ME), Ms. Melissa Toepke (ND), Mr. Marc Blakesley (MINN), Ms. Patricia Cluts (NEB), Ms. Gretchen Smith (CAL.S), Ms. Khari Hunt (RM), Mr. Peter Franzen (CPC), Mr. Robert Hendricks (CAC), Ms. Julie Nasrani (PNE), Mr. Curtis Zemerick (PC), Mr. Jaime Rivera de Leon (PR), Ms. Linda McCullah (ILL), Mr. Jeffery Hodgson (WIS), Ms. Merre Roude (MICH), Ms. Pauline Brown (SE), Mr. James Rapp (FLA), Mr. Patrick Uyenura (PAAM), Ms. Jody L. Charging Eagle (CAIM), Ms. Christina Morado (UBC), Mr. Jose Abraham de Jesus, Jr. (CHM), and Ms. Mary Long (UCBHM liaison) were elected.

Ms. Brun also announced that Thursday evening's offering was \$5,221.95.

14. RECESS

Moderator Sherard declared the meeting recessed until 2:00 p.m.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 3

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the 17th General Synod was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Assistant Moderator, Ms. Alida Millham.

2. BLOOD DRIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

It was announced that eighty persons had contributed blood and an invitation was extended for all others interested.

3. COUNCIL FOR ECUMENISM REPORT

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Diane Kessler, chairperson of the Council for Ecumenism who presented the report of the Council. Ms. Kessler outlined the three areas in which the Council has mandate to assist the President of the United Church of Christ: determining contributions to ecumenical agencies; preparing ecumenical policies, and keeping the United Church of Christ ecumenical commitment before the church. She then highlighted the work of the Council since the 16th General Synod accordingly.

COUNCIL FOR ECUMENISM REPORT

"The vision of the founders of the United Church of Christ contained four basic assumptions about Christian unity which should be guiding principles in our current quest:

- 1) Authentic Christian unity entails institutional change and requires organizational embodiment, in forms "known or to be made known to us."
- 2) The primary reason for Christian unity is faithfulness to the Gospel "so that the world may believe." Unity and mission are inseparable.

- 3) Unity in essentials does not require uniformity on all matters. Thus, our debate should focus on what, and how much, is necessary to be true to the Gospel, and
- 4) The longing for Christian unity is at the core of our identity. We lose it at our peril.

"This is a remarkable legacy! This is the tradition which formed the United Church of Christ. This is the tradition which should inform our future.

"This treasure, however, will wither unless each of us assumes responsibility for its nurture and growth. In this, as in all other areas, the call to Christian discipleship leaves no room for spectators.

"The Council for Ecumenism tries to facilitate this process. Though the Council is of modest size, its mandate is major.

"This 14 member body acts, according to the United Church of Christ Constitution and Bylaws, "in an advisory capacity to the President," and is called to "assist the President and the Executive Council" in three areas:

- 1) Determining the level of contributions to four ecumenical agencies (World and National Councils of Churches, Consultation on Church Union, and World Alliance of Reformed Churches);
- 2) Preparing ecumenical policies, and
- 3) Keeping the commitment of the United Church of Christ as a united and uniting church before its membership and other denominations.

"The implications of these purposes are enormous, because they affect the degree to which the United Church of Christ