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WHEREAS, these United States-owned Maquiladoras plants are generally decimating the environment and endangering public health on both sides of the border and the health of workers in the Mexican plants due to violations of Mexican and United States environmental and workplace standards;

WHEREAS, the border communities are overwhelmed from the waves of Mexican families who migrated to shanty towns in search of jobs in Maquiladoras;

WHEREAS, United States transnational corporations exploit the one-half million Mexican Maquiladoras workers by paying them an average of \$5 a day;

WHEREAS, many Maquiladoras workers have virtually no rights on the job, and in some cases are warehoused' in crowded company barracks;

WHEREAS, United States corporations have used the tactic of moving facilities to Mexico in order to avoid social responsibilities to local communities; and

WHEREAS, the Bush Administration's proposed "Free Trade" agreements between Mexico, Canada and the United States fail to include the provision that United States transnationals operate under the environmental, workplace health and fair labor standards of both countries.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod condemns the exploitation of the environment, workers and communities in Maquiladoras plants by United States and other transnationals and any so-called "Free Trade" agreement that fails to address environmental, workplace and fair labor standards;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod endorses the Maquiladora Standards of Conduct as a binational program to address the abuses transnational corporations have imposed on workers, the environment and the communities in which they are located;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod recommends participation in activities and events to publicize and enforce these standards proposed by the Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod requests that the United Church Board for World Ministries work directly with the national Coalition for Justice on Maquiladoras, assigning resources to support the Coalition's work.

Subject to the availability to funds.

13. AGENDA OPTIONS

The Agenda Committee Chairperson explained the options on the order of the day: (1) Call the order of the day, go to Worship, and adjourn. Any unfinished business would be sent to the Executive Council. The delegates would miss several items. (2) Change the order of the day, continue and complete the committee reports, do wrap-up, and conclude with Worship at 11:00 p.m.

The Rev. Dennis Bailey (MASS) moved to change the order of the day. The motion was seconded. The Rev. Paul Flucke, Co-Parliamentarian, offered clarification on the motion which

would allow continuance of debate. The Eighteenth General Synod changed the order of the day to allow continuance of debate. The moderator indicated the motion passed.

At a call for division of the house, the vote was taken a second time and was it was agreed that it passed.

Mr. William Warner (OHIO) moved to change the order of the day to move immediately to Committee Seven's report. The motion was seconded. The balance of Committee 15's report would be referred to the Executive Council. The Eighteenth General Synod changed the order of the day and proceeded to the report of Committee Seven.

14. THANKS EXPRESSED TO THE MODERATOR AND ASSISTANT MODERATORS

The Rev. H. Daehler Hayes (RI) on a point of personal privilege saluted the leadership of the Moderator and Assistant Moderators. The Moderator graciously responded, including thanks to her husband, Chuck.

15. RESOLUTION "YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES"

The Moderator recognized the Chairperson of Committee Seven, Ms. Brenda Barnes Jamieson (NEB), for the presentation of the Report of Committee Seven. After directing the attention of the delegates to Committee Reports, Part IV, page 11, on behalf of the committee, Ms. Jamieson moved that the Eighteenth General Synod adopt the Resolution "Youth and Young Adult Ministries."

Ms. Jamieson spoke on behalf of the committee. Ms. Kimme Cornett, Chair of the Council for Youth/Young Adult Ministries, also spoke in favor of the resolution. There was favorable discussion of the resolution.

91-GS-89 VOTED: The Eighteenth General Synod unanimously adopts the Resolution "Youth and Young Adult Ministries."

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES

Theological Rationale

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews and Greeks, slaves or free and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but many. . . . If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it (1 Cor. 12:12-14, 26 (NRSV)).

Background

Conclusion of the Priority on Youth and Young Adult Ministries has brought mixed outcomes. Many conferences can be lauded for continued commitment to youth and young adult ministries. Yet, while this is so, youth and young adult ministries are waning in a growing number of conferences. Our observations are that conference program staff positions with youth and young adult responsibilities have been cut due to

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decreased budgets and/or restructuring. Additionally, even where portfolio assignments for youth and young adult ministries are still maintained, staff re-alignments have weakened youth and young adult ministry programs. These developments, if allowed to continue their present course, portend serious problems in the United Church of Christ's present ministries to youth and young adults and the future denominational affiliation of these groups.

Text of the Resolution

WHEREAS, Youth and Young Adult Ministries were voted as a Priority by General Synods from 1983 to 1987;

WHEREAS, Youth and Young Adults are in need of spiritual and leadership empowerment;

WHEREAS, Youth and Young Adults have a need to be involved in the ministries and missions of the denomination, and may drop out or seek other faith affiliations if they are not given the opportunities in the United Church of Christ;

WHEREAS, strong and vital Youth and Young Adult programs are found in some conferences and associations, other conference and association Youth and Young Adult programs have dwindled; and

WHEREAS, re-structuring in conferences, due to organizational and budgetary rationale, has resulted in increasing numbers of Youth and Young Adult program staff positions and programs that have been weakened and/or eliminated.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod encourages churches, associations, and conferences to prayerfully strengthen and replenish Youth and Young Adult programs and program staff positions in their conferences and associations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod calls upon conferences and associations to dialogue and work with Youth and Young Adults in order to develop new and creative responses for Youth and Young Adult ministries in times of changing needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod calls upon the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries and the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries to survey, assess, and creatively present to the Nineteenth General Synod patterns, changes, and developments, and recommend implementation models in this issue of concern for youth and young adult ministries.

Subject to the availability of funds.

16. RESOLUTION "ACTIVE NONVIOLENCE"

Ms. Gosselink recognized Ms. Jamieson for the presentation of the Report of Committee Seven. She advised the body to correct the resolution as found in Committee Reports, Part IV, page 11, line 8, to read "associations and local churches." On behalf of the committee, Ms. Jamieson moved that the Eighteenth General Synod adopt the Resolution "Active Nonviolence."

Ms. Jamieson spoke on behalf of the committee. There was discussion of the resolution. The Eighteenth General Synod

terminated debate on this issue and proceeded to voting on the Resolution "Active Nonviolence."

91-GS-90 VOTED: The Eighteenth General Synod adopts the Resolution "Active Nonviolence."

ACTIVE NONVIOLENCE

WHEREAS, we live in a violent environment in which:

- people have become insensitive to violence, being conditioned by television, news coverage, war toys and the glorification of violent role models;
- our society tends to emphasize greed, competition, and the resolution of conflict through force;
- increasing numbers of people are poor, hungry, homeless, and without health care or support systems;
- wealth is increasingly transferred from the poor and the middle classes to the rich;
- a basic level of unemployment is accepted as normal;
- increasing numbers of people are poor, hungry, homeless, and without health care or support systems;

WHEREAS, violence is perpetrated through:

- all forms of domestic abuse;
- the use of war and embargoes of the type which lead to hunger and starvation;
- the destruction of the ecosystem;

WHEREAS, we are beneficiaries of violence because:

- with 5 percent of world population the U.S. consumes one third of the world's resources;
- we expropriate resources by means of international debt, unequal trade agreements, austerity requirements and military force;

WHEREAS, active nonviolence confronts injustice and violence using strategies and techniques for social transformation and personal change which engender shalom - justice, peace, wholeness, health, integrity of individuals and creation;

WHEREAS, we have seen active nonviolence:

- in the witness of God through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ;
- in the witness, testimony and suffering of many in the church;
- in nonviolent movements for justice in the world;
- demonstrated in the lives of such people as Chief Seattle, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Dorothy Day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ proclaims its commitment to nonviolence and urges members of the United Church of Christ to choose nonviolent methods, seeking a knowledge of nonviolent principles and techniques.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod calls the delegates and the members of conferences, associations and congregations to understand:

- the environment of violence;
- the plight of victims of violence;
- the responsibility and accountability of those who knowingly or unknowingly are perpetrators or beneficiaries of violence; and
- the tradition and effectiveness of active nonviolence.