

TUESDAY EVENING

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod requests the Office for Church in Society, the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, the UCBHM Divisions of American Missionary Association and Education and Publication, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, conferences and associations and local churches:

- to help church members confront violence on the personal, interpersonal, structural and systemic levels of life;
- to train church members in the use of nonviolent strategies and techniques;
- to develop linkages with institutions, organizations, nations and especially the United Nations for the purpose of the study, promotion and use of nonviolence as a means for achieving the integrity of creation, justice, and peace;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod encourages local pastors to preach about active non-violence.

Subject to the availability of Funds.

17. RECONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF COMMITTEE EIGHT

A motion was made to change the order of the day to address immediately Committee Eight's report on Resolution "Acknowledging the 500th Anniversary of the Landing of Christopher Columbus and a United Church of Christ Response." The motion was seconded. The Eighteenth General Synod failed to approve changing the order of the day.

18. RESOLUTION "USE OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION METHODS"

The Moderator recognized Ms. Jamieson for the presentation of the Report of Committee Seven. On behalf of the committee, Ms. Jamieson moved that the Eighteenth General Synod adopt the Resolution "Use of Conflict Resolution Methods." There was no discussion.

91-GS-91 VOTED: The Eighteenth General Synod adopted the Resolution "Use of Conflict Resolution Methods."

USE OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION METHODS

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ, in the Fifteenth General Synod, voted to affirm itself a Just Peace Church;

WHEREAS, the Integrity of Creation, Justice, and Peace Priority adopted by the United Church of Christ at the Seventeenth General Synod called all parts of the denomination to study and action in support of that Priority;

WHEREAS, as Christians, we believe that individuals, families, churches, and our nation should lead the world away from violence as a means of settling disputes;

WHEREAS, highly developed techniques of conflict resolution such as mediation, negotiation, and arbitration exist as the result of the efforts of many individuals and organizations in the academic, political, and business worlds.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod:

Calls upon everyone involved in the national organizations and instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ to use

mediation, negotiation, and arbitration whenever disputes arise;

Calls the delegates and members of United Church of Christ conferences, associations, and congregations to study these methods of peacefully resolving conflicts and to apply them in their dealings with others inside and outside of our own religious community;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod calls upon the government of the United States of America to resolve disputes with other nations peacefully and urges the use of conflict resolution techniques toward that end.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Eighteenth General Synod calls upon the President of the United Church of Christ, and the Office for Church in Society to communicate this resolution to the President of the United States and to the United States Congress.

Subject to the availability of funds.

19. REFERRAL OF BUSINESS TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Rev. Samuel Buehrer (OHIO) moved the remainder of the business scheduled for this plenary session be referred to the Executive Council for action and the agenda order be moved to President Paul Sherry's remarks followed by Worship. The motion was seconded.

President Sherry asked for a point of personal privilege, offering to shorten his remarks to allow for the addressing of the Resolution "Acknowledging the 500th Anniversary of the Landing of Christopher Columbus and a United Church of Christ Response." He felt this to be a very significant issue and one which could be dealt with grace and strength.

Mr. Buehrer accepted President Sherry's request as a friendly amendment to his motion.

Mr. Hollis Wilson, Agenda Coordinator, noted the implications of the motion included the elimination of the viewing of the retrospective audio-visual presentation of the Eighteenth General Synod.

Ms. Bernice Powell, Executive Associate to the President, suggested a viewing of the audio-visual presentation as people were departing the arena for evening worship.

91-GS-92 VOTED: The Eighteenth General Synod refers the remaining business items (including the Resolution "Boycott of Salvadoran Coffee," Community Building time, Final Report of the Executive Committee, Report of the Credential Committee, and the Amenities Resolution) to the Executive Council for action, excluding the Resolution "Acknowledging the 500th Anniversary of the Landing of Christopher Columbus and a United Church of Christ Response," President Sherry's Closing Reflections, and evening Worship.

20. REPORT ON ILLNESS OF DON GALL

In response to many queries, Ms. Patricia E. de Jong (IOWA) reported on her husband's (the Rev. Donald A. Gall) health, recovering from dehydration.