

## TUESDAY AFTERNOON

the churches and members of the United Church of Christ to support their efforts;

2. encourages United Church of Christ members to act as the persistent petitioner in Luke 11:5-8, urging the President and members of Congress to respect the sovereignty of Cuba and the humanity of the Cuban people, to repeal the Cuban Democracy Act, to end the blockade, and to seek the welfare and shalom of the Cuban people, and not their starvation, sickness and death;

3. encourages United Church of Christ members to urge President Clinton to respond favorably to the December letter and request from Cuban church leaders;

4. calls upon President Paul Sherry and a representative group of UCC leaders to meet with leaders of the Ecumenical Council of Cuba at the earliest possible time to discuss our common task of unity and reconciliation and how to achieve better relations between our two countries;

5. calls upon the Office for Church in Society and the Commission for Racial Justice to give special attention and leadership to these concerns; and

6. requests the United Church Board for World Ministries and the United Church of Christ Fellowship of Reconciliation to give special attention and leadership to these concerns.

### **6. RESOLUTION "URGING REOPENING OF EAST JERUSALEM"**

Continuing the report of Committee Fifteen, Ms. Laura Hogleund moved the adoption of the resolution "Urging Reopening of East Jerusalem." Ms. Hogleund pointed out that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is considering a similar resolution this afternoon. Ms. Hogleund requested that the Rev. Dale Bishop from the United Church Board for World Ministries be granted voice without vote. Voice without vote was granted by consensus.

Rev. Bishop spoke in favor of the resolution.

93-GS-67 VOTED: The Nineteenth General Synod adopts the resolution "Urging Reopening of East Jerusalem"

#### **RESOLUTION "URGING REOPENING OF EAST JERUSALEM"**

WHEREAS, in response to individual acts of violence against Israelis, the government of Israel, on March 29, 1993, imposed a ban on Palestinians residing in the West Bank and Gaza from entering Israel and East Jerusalem - a ban which continues to the present;

WHEREAS, this ban has prevented many Palestinians from reaching medical facilities in Jerusalem and has kept Christian and Muslim residents of the Occupied Territories from their holy sites in East Jerusalem;

WHEREAS, this ban has devastated the Palestinian economy, causing an economic loss of approximately \$3,000,000 per day;

WHEREAS, the United States government has advocated a position, which is in accord with the position of the United Nations Security Council resolutions, that East Jerusalem is occupied territory and that no party can unilaterally change that status;

WHEREAS, just as Jerusalem is of central importance to the Jewish people, so is East Jerusalem the cultural, economic and religious center of the Palestine people, both Christian and Muslim;

WHEREAS, the churches of the Middle East have sought the support of churches around the world in ending the closure of East Jerusalem; and

WHEREAS, the closure of East Jerusalem represents an obstacle to the successful continuation of the Middle East Peace Talks;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that General Synod Nineteen requests that the President of the United Church of Christ call upon the U.S. government to urge Israel to end its ban on travel to East Jerusalem by residents of the West Bank and Gaza;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that General Synod Nineteen requests the President of the United Church of Christ communicate with all of the delegations to the Middle East Peace Talks the hope that these negotiations will lead to a just peace in the region based upon security and self-determination for Israelis and Palestinians, as well as their neighbors;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that General Synod Nineteen affirms its solidarity with the Middle East Council of Churches in declaring that the city of Jerusalem must be the Jerusalem for all peoples.

### **7. RESOLUTION "IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF ANGOLA AND ZAIRE"**

Ms. Hogleund introduced and moved the third and final piece of business considered by Committee Fifteen, the adoption of the resolution "In Solidarity with the Peoples of Angola and Zaire." Ms. Hogleund again pointed out that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) were considering a similar resolution. Also, the resolution calls for prayer and a member of Committee Fifteen is prepared