

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

**RESOLUTION ON “IMPLEMENTATION OF
RECONCILIATION
WITH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND NATIVE
HAWAIIANS”**

WHEREAS the Eighteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ recognized the inherent right of Native Hawaiians self-governance and pledged its support and solidarity in the name of Christ by adopting the “Self-Governance of Native Hawaiians” Resolution;

WHEREAS the Eighteenth General Synod Resolution “Self-Governance of Native Hawaiians” called the United Church of Christ to action via a public apology to initiate a process of reconciliation between the United Church of Christ and Native Hawaiians;

WHEREAS the Eighteenth General Synod Resolution “Self-Governance of Native Hawaiians” directed the Office For Church In Society to develop resources in collaboration with the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ and to monitor and follow up on this resolution;

WHEREAS President Paul Sherry, on behalf of the Eighteenth General Synod, pledged to establish a National Apology Task Force to initiate and implement the process of reconciliation between the United Church of Christ and Native Hawaiians;

WHEREAS the United States Congress, pursuant to Senate Joint Resolution 19, Public Law 103-150, noted: (a) the Congregational Church through its American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Mission sponsored and sent more than one hundred missionaries to the Kingdom of Hawaii between 1820 and 1850; (b) the decision of the Eighteenth General Synod to take the above noted actions; (c) the appropriateness of Congress to support the reconciliation efforts of the State of Hawaii and the United Church of Christ with Native Hawaiians; and recognized and commended the efforts of reconciliation initiated by the state of Hawaii and the United Church of Christ with Native Hawaiians;

WHEREAS in almost two years very little progress can be reported by the National Apology Task Force;

WHEREAS the Native Hawaiian members of the National Apology Task Force and the Board of Directors of the Association of Hawaiian Evangelical Churches have expressed anxiety and fear that the reconciliation will be inhibited by the United Church of Christ as it moves into the twenty-first century;

WHEREAS the National Apology Task Force has been stymied by the lack of financial resources to meet and to record its deliberations;

WHEREAS the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ has initiated a statewide process of reconciliation between the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ and na kanaka maoli which involves Conference resources and funding;

WHEREAS the National Apology Task Force is distinctly a National United Church of Christ initiative and should be considered separate from the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ initiative;

WHEREAS the National Apology Task Force and the Hawaii Conference United Church of Christ may collaborate on particular strategies and proposals; and

WHEREAS the Board for Homeland Ministries and the Board for World Ministries, UCC, have recently arranged to allocate funds for an Hawaiian Foundation as a continuing step towards full reconciliation of the United Church of Christ and the Native Hawaiians, *[Note: This section was not in the original resolution but was added by Committee Eight with the consent of the Synod to recognize the work that has been done on this issue.]*

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges that the national reconciliation process be immediately implemented by the United Church of Christ making available essential funding for the Task Force to complete its work;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the President, the United Church Board for World Ministries Office, the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries Office and the Office For Church In Society provide strategies and resources to educate the total Church in the reconciliation process with the Native Hawaiians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls on the whole United Church of Christ to act on the report by the National Apology Task Force.

Subject to the availability of funds.

**14. RESOLUTION “TO CONTINUE WORK ON
REPENTANCE, REDRESS AND
RECONCILIATION FOR WRONGS DONE TO
THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE”**

Continuing the work of Committee Eight, Mr. Anders moved for the adoption of the Resolution, “To Continue Work on Repentance, Redress and Reconciliation for Wrongs Done to the Native Hawaiian People.” Mr. Anders yielded to Ms. Bennie Malayang of the Pacific Islander Asian American Ministries who spoke about the overthrow of Queen Liliuokalani on January 17, 1893.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Moderator Melendez called for discussion. Discussion proceeded on the resolution and Ms. Eleanore Chong (HI) proposed an amendment to designate the Sunday closest to January 17th as "Queen Liliuokalani Sunday" to pay homage to her. Ms. Chong spoke to the amendment. There was a second to the amendment.

There was discussion both for and against the amendment.

95-GS-71 VOTED: The Twentieth General Synod votes to amend the Resolution "To Continue Work on Repentance, Redress and Reconciliation for Wrongs Done to the Native Hawaiian People" by replacing the words "Hawaiian Sovereignty Sunday" with "Queen Liliuokalani Sunday."

Discussion continued and Ms. Betty Lou Flood (CONN) expressed concern regarding how the passage of this resolution might reflect on the work of other missionaries.

Moderator Melendez asked the delegates to vote and discussion was closed.

95-GS-72 VOTED: The Twentieth General Synod adopts the Resolution "To Continue Work on Repentance, Redress and Reconciliation for Wrongs Done to the Native Hawaiian People," as amended.

RESOLUTION ON "TO CONTINUE WORK ON REPENTANCE, REDRESS AND RECONCILIATION FOR WRONGS DONE TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE"

WHEREAS the Eighteenth General Synod, in June 1991, passed a resolution recognizing the right to self-governance of Native Hawaiians and their denomination's historical complicities in the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, directing the Office of the President of the United Church of Christ to offer a public apology to the Native Hawaiian people and initiating a process of reconciliation between the United Church of Christ and Native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS the Hawaii Conference of the United Church of Christ, as successor of the Hawaiian Evangelical Association, at its 171st Aha Paealua of 1993 passed a subsequent historical resolution apologizing for the unjust involvement of its predecessor and committed itself to address past and present injustices affecting Native Hawaiian people;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twentieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ designates the Sunday closest to January 17th as Queen Liliuokalani Sunday.

Subject to the availability of funds.

15. RECONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION "SUPPORTING A PERMANENT UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR WORLDWIDE EMERGENCY DISASTER RESPONSE"

Moderator Melendez indicated that during an earlier plenary there was a motion for reconsideration of the Resolution "Supporting a Permanent United Nations Fund for Worldwide Emergency Disaster Response." The motion was seconded and referred to the Agenda Committee for a time to discuss the motion to reconsider. The Moderator opened the floor for discussion on the motion to reconsider the Resolution "Supporting a Permanent United Nations Fund for Worldwide Emergency Disaster Response."

The Rev. Kenneth Press (ILL) stated that he felt this issue deserved reconsideration as an amendment is possible that might change the outcome of the Synod vote on this issue.

There was no further discussion and Moderator Melendez called for the vote.

95-GS-73 VOTED: The Twentieth General Synod defeats the motion to reconsider the Resolution "Supporting a Permanent United Nations Fund for Worldwide Emergency Disaster Response."

Mr. Kenneth Comer (NY) called for a Division of the House and it was seconded. However, the Twentieth General Synod voted against a Division of the House.

16. FINAL COMMUNITY BUILDING

Moderator Melendez called on the Rev. Pat De Jong for a time of community building and expressed thanks for the wonderful ways she brought the General Synod together for reflection, fun and fellowship. Rev. De Jong led the Synod in the final community building.

17. REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Moderator recognized the Rev. Peggy Bloesch (IS), Chair of the Credentials Committee, to present the report. Ms. Bloesch presented the following report:

General Synod Registration	2,371
Voting Delegates	737
Associate Delegates	105
Registered Visitors	1,212
Honored Guests	19
General Synod Staff	51
Ecumenical Guests	7
Voice without vote	36
Ecumenical delegates	7
Staff (Nat'l. and Conference)	197