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WHEREAS, landmines amount to endless war, remaining hidden for years after soldiers leave the battle fields to destroy and terrorize communities and returning refugees;

WHEREAS, many military leaders, including Retired General Norman Schwartzkopf have called for such a ban on anti-personnel landmines;

WHEREAS, the use of landmines results not only in unconscionable human casualties, but also pollutes the land and the environment and renders farm land untillable; and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ Board for World Ministries and the Office for Church in Society are urging congregations and conferences of the United Church of Christ to join the international effort to lift our voices in opposition to the production, trade, stockpiling and use of landmines;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

- supports a comprehensive global ban on anti-personnel landmines;
- urges the Government of the United States to participate in the "Ottawa Process" to implement such a ban;
- requests the president of the United Church of Christ to communicate this resolution to the Secretary of State, Ms. Madeleine Albright, and the National Security Advisor, Mr. Samuel Berger;
- urges congregations of the United Church of Christ and their individual members are to raise their voices in support of a ban on anti-personnel landmines.

Subject to the availability of funds.

10. RESOLUTION "A MISSION STATEMENT FOR YOUTH MINISTRY AND A MISSION STATEMENT FOR YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY"

Assistant Moderator MacDonald referred delegates to the adopted Committee of Reference Report which referred the Resolution "A Mission Statement for Youth Ministry and A Mission Statement for Young Adult Ministry" directly to Plenary. She called on Mr. Christopher Gilmore of the Business Committee to introduce the resolution.

Mr. Gilmore moved the adoption of the resolution and called on Mr. Matthew Small (MASS) to speak to the resolution, stating that youth and young adult ministries are a vital part of the United Church of Christ. Mr. Small stated that the drafting body for the resolution was the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries and he urged General Synod to adopt these mission statements.

Mr. Matthew Leathers (CAL.S) proposed an amendment as follows: in the Mission Statement for Youth Ministries delete the words "Sustain adult leaders in youth ministries through training and resource support." Substitute the words "Develop, nurture, and sustain adult leaders in youth ministry through training, resourcing, and networks of support." Ms.

Erika Dowd (CAL.S) spoke in support of the amendment.

97-GS-22 VOTED: The Twenty-first General Synod adopts the amendment.

Assistant Moderator MacDonald called on James Markus (MT) from the Council on Youth and Young Adult Ministries who offered a friendly amendment to the Youth Mission Statement, that is, at the fifth point substitute the word "Youth" for "Young Adult." This was accepted as a friendly amendment.

The Rev. Donald D. Freeman (PC) said he supported the amendment but was concerned that it stated that General Synod will put this in practice in all settings of the church. He noted that General Synod does not have the power to do this. He offered a friendly amendment to address this concern. The amendment read: "that the Twenty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ embraces the following Mission Statements for Youth Ministry and Young Adult Ministry and calls upon all the ministry settings of the United Church of Christ to embrace them and put them into practice." This was accepted as a friendly amendment and Assistant Moderator MacDonald called for the vote.

97-GS-23 VOTED: The Twenty-first General Synod adopts the Resolution "A Mission Statement for Youth Ministry and A Mission Statement for Young Adult Ministry" as amended.

RESOLUTION "A MISSION STATEMENT FOR YOUTH MINISTRY AND A MISSION STATEMENT FOR YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY"

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is committed to youth ministries and to young adult ministries;

WHEREAS the life and structure of the United Church of Christ is in transition and change; and

WHEREAS, the Council for Youth and Young Adult Ministries recognizes the need for a foundational statement to guide and define ministry with and by youth and young adults;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ embraces the following Mission Statements for Youth Ministry and Young Adult Ministry and calls upon all the ministry settings of the United Church of Christ to embrace them and put them into practice.

A Mission Statement for Youth Ministries

Youth Ministries within the United Church of Christ consists of diverse youth and youth leaders from various geographic regions, racial and cultural backgrounds, and theologies, who join in covenant, called and challenged by 1 Timothy 4:12:

"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity"

As partners and leaders in service to God within local

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churches, associations, conferences, and national bodies, the mission of Youth Ministries in the United Church of Christ is to:

- Affirm the unique gifts and talents of youth;
 - Create "safe places" where youth can examine their faith journeys;
 - Develop youth leadership, promoting spiritual growth, encouraging stewardship, and strengthening a sense of belonging in the United Church of Christ;
 - Affirm the diversity within the United Church of Christ by supporting involvement of youth from all racial/ethnic groups and acknowledging that differences are assets to ministry;
 - Work to ensure fair and adequate representation by youth throughout the life of the United Church of Christ, including all boards, councils, and committees of the church;
 - Develop, nurture, and sustain adult leaders in youth ministry through training, resourcing, and networks of support;
 - Reach out to youth beyond the church, inviting all and ministering with all, to facilitate the spiritual growth of the community of faith through evangelism.
- Develop young adult leadership through resources and training programs that empower young adults and strengthen their commitment to the United Church of Christ;
 - Support existing models and create new models for ministries with young adults in higher education;
 - Work to deepen the multiracial-multicultural richness and understanding within the United Church of Christ by supporting involvement of young adults from all racial/ethnic groups and acknowledging that differences are assets to ministry;
 - Work to ensure fair and adequate representation by young adults throughout the life of the United Church of Christ, including all boards, councils, and committees of the church;
 - Nurture adult leaders of young adult ministries through training, resources, and creating environments of support;
 - Fully embrace young adults in our churches and communities, addressing their needs and issues through evangelism and a spirit of Christian fellowship, renewing and supporting the growth of the body of Christ.

A Mission Statement for Young Adult Ministries

Young Adult Ministries within the United Church of Christ encompasses a wide range of ministries, including campus ministries, military chaplaincy, and community-based ministry with young adults. While this ministry poses great challenges, we take to heart the commitment expressed in the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith:

"You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages,
tongues, and races.

You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,...."

We strive to be inclusive of the whole body of Christ in local churches, associations, conferences, and national entities. The mission of Young Adult Ministries in the United Church of Christ is to:

- Affirm the unique gifts and talents of young adults;
- Provide opportunities for young adults, through programs and resources, to explore ways to integrate their faith in their lives and through their life transitions;

Financial Implications: Subject to the availability of funds for introduction, promotion and education about the statements, and implementation.

Implementation: Implementing bodies include all settings of the United Church of Christ (local churches, agencies, and ministries; Associations and Conferences; and national offices) with primary responsibility placed with the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. Implementation will involve developing programs and ministries to make known the vision and goals of these statements.

11. RESOLUTION "MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., PICTURE PROJECT"

Assistant Moderator MacDonald called upon Ms. Kausalya S. White to introduce another resolution which was referred directly to Plenary. Ms. White moved the adoption of the Resolution "Martin Luther King, Jr., Picture Project." Ms. White called upon the Rev. George E. Dohm (MO) to speak to the motion.

There was a discussion both for and against the resolution. A point of clarification was made in the last "MAY IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED," where the resolution reads: "that in the twilight of the twenty-first century...." It should read: "at the dawning of the twenty-first century...." This change was accepted.

Assistant Moderator MacDonald called for the vote and declared that the resolution had failed.

12. DIVISION OF THE HOUSE