

SATURDAY EVENING

Mr. Matthew Small (ME/CYAAM) expressed the importance of exposing children to music and called for the Church to support music in our schools for children and make it a priority. He stated his opinion that when schools fail, it is the Church's duty to educate.

Ms. Nicole Lake (IOWA/STEP) invited visitors to visit the Student Ecumenical Partnership booth in the Exhibition Hall to learn more about how to get conferences, churches, etc., involved in young adult activities.

Mr. Timothy J. Brown (NY), a commissioned minister serving as the Youth and Young Adult Program Coordinator for the United Church of Christ Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns, noted how "coming-out stories" have helped young gays in the Church who are on their faith journeys. He pointed to the importance of sharing their stories with other youth. Ms. Ann Tucker will co-edit stories of coming out experiences. Guidelines can be obtained at the Exhibit Booth.

Ms. Heather M. Arcovitch (CONN) asked delegates to join her in a quiet moment of prayer that as we bring life to a new paradigm of leadership for the new millennium and we prepare to vote that we find a safe harbor in which to find the words to purge the pain we are experiencing as a natural part of the birthing process. She suggested we need to claim this pain and speak its name because only then will healing be found.

Rev. Yvonne V. Schaudt (MASS) lead visitors in a short prayer of healing.

Mr. Ron Fujiyoshi (PAAM) invited delegates to join the PAAM dinner Sunday night for Korean food. Tickets are available at the PAAM booth.

At the conclusion of the Speak Out! Assistant Moderator Norman-Richardson expressed thanks to all, and announced the next Speak Out! would be held Sunday afternoon.

3. AWARDS AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

On behalf of on the local churches, conferences and communities across the country and the world, the Assistant Moderator highlighted the importance of recognition and thanksgiving for those who have been selected to be honored at this General Synod for a variety of gifts and accomplishments. She invited Rev. Paul H. Sherry to lead the General Synod in a Prayer of Thanksgiving for the recipients of the awards. Following the prayer Mr. Sherry introduced those who

were being recognized for their gifts and accomplishments by various instrumentalities and groups during this General Synod.

- The Just Peace Award from the Office for Church in Society: Irma E. Romero, Chicago, Illinois; Pilgrimage UCC, Marietta, Georgia; Carlos Marentes, Father Roy Bourgeois.
- The Antoinette Brown Award from the Coordinating Center for Women in Church and Society: Rev. Janet M. Griesinger, Rev. Dr. Marilyn L. Stavenger.
- From the National Committee on Persons with Disabilities: Rev. Russell C. Schmidt, John Selmar, Rev. Dr. Harold H. Wilke.
- From the Board for World Ministries: Latin America and the Caribbean - Naomi Ruth and Madrid de Espinoza; Middle East - Canon Naim Ateek; Africa - St. Georges United Church of Hillbrow, Johannesburg, South Africa; Southern Asia - Asmora Nababan; East Asia and the Pacific - Bishop Erme Camba; Europe - the Monks of the Servian Orthodox Monastery Decani
- From the Board for Homeland Ministries: The Arthur Tappan Justice Award to the United Church of Santa Fe; Excellence in Teaching Awards to Larry Allen, E. Eugene Montague, Fay Conlee Oliver, Rev. Fe R. Nebres and Rev. A. Hale Schroer.
- All laywomen who were recognized as Honored Laywomen by the Coordinating Center for Women in Church and Society.

Mr. Sherry expressed thanks and appreciation to all of the recipients of awards. He urged delegates and visitors to stop by the "Awards Board" near the Registration Area to learn more about the awards and the recipients.

4. RESOLUTION "CONTINUING NEED FOR HISPANIC MINISTRY"

The Assistant Moderator announced the beginning of the voting process on resolutions that have been submitted to General Synod. She then called upon Mr. John W. Lardin (MICH), Chair of the Planning and Correlation Committee of the Executive Council, to address a resolution that was referred directly to a plenary of the General Synod.

Mr. Lardin referred the delegates to the resolution "Continuing Need for Hispanic Ministry" on page 159 of the Program, Worship and Business Book, moved its adoption, and yielded the remaining time to Rev. Ann Calvin Rogers-Witte (SW) to speak to the resolution.

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Ms. Rogers-Witte spoke to the resolution and the importance of supporting its focus as we move forward into the future.

The Assistant Moderator called for discussion. Ms. Linda M. Jaramillo (CPC) urged the passage of the resolution and recognition of the Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team as a team working with Instrumentalities Executives, and the Council for Hispanic Ministries. She said the key is the need to strengthen the relationship with conferences and in local settings.

There being no further discussion, Assistant Moderator Norman-Richardson called for the vote.

CONTINUING NEED FOR HISPANIC MINISTRY

99-GS-14 VOTED The Twenty-second General Synod adopts the Resolution "Continuing Need for Hispanic Ministry."

WHEREAS, Hispanics* continue to be a growing membership group in the United Church of Christ and one of the fastest growing demographic groups in the United States;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ continues to strive to become a truly multiracial, multicultural church, as called for in the Pronouncement and Proposal for Action adopted by the Nineteenth General Synod in 1993;

WHEREAS, the Sixteenth General Synod in 1987 voted a Pronouncement and Proposal for Action, "The Hispanic Ministry of the United Church of Christ," and created the Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team to develop a Plan of Action to commend to all settings of the United Church of Christ;

WHEREAS, the current and past Plans of Action developed by the Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team and received by the Twentieth and previous General Synods have been useful in encouraging and evaluating the United Church of Christ's progress in ministries with and by Latinas*;

WHEREAS, the current Plan of Action, adopted by the Twentieth General Synod in 1995, identifies leadership development and other goals on which progress has been made, with much work remaining to be done; and

WHEREAS, the Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team has revised its Plan of Action to include updated goals and objectives through 2005 and has submitted

this revised Plan as part of its report to the Twenty-second General Synod;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-second General Synod:

1. Receives the 2001-2005 Plan of Action presented by the United Church of Christ Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team and commends it to the covenanted ministries envisioned for the future of the national setting, conferences and other bodies named within the Plan with the recommendation that they adopt it as a guide to ministries for, with and by Latinos*;
2. Extends the United Church of Christ Hispanic Ministries Implementation Team for the 1999 - 2001 Biennium and requests that the Team report to the Twenty-third General Synod on its progress.

* This title refers to all the constituencies of the Council for Hispanic Ministries. It includes Hispanic, Latino, Latina, Chicano, Chicana, and other names we choose to use to identify our cultural or national backgrounds.

Funding for this action will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.

The Assistant Moderator thanked Mr. Lardin and Ms. Rogers-Witte and called on Mr. Sherry to introduce Mr. Jonathan Kozol as speaker for the evening plenary.

5. ADDRESS BY JONATHAN KOZOL

Mr. Sherry introduced Mr. Jonathan Kozol as an educator, a writer, a prophetic figure and a compassionate human being. He referred to Mr. Kozol's writings, in particular *Amazing Grace*, which resulted from a two-year conversation with children, pastors and parents in the impoverished area of the South Bronx, New York. The youth were of African-American and Hispanic descent. Mr. Sherry thanked Mr. Kozol for his work and his presence.

Mr. Kozol thanked Edith Guffey and Faith Johnson for making his appearance possible and stated that the United Church of Christ has had an important role in his life because of its commitment to civil rights, gender issues, welfare, environmental issues, etc. He stated that other denominations have been afraid to defend such issues. Mr. Kozol applauded the United Church of Christ's courage, and expressed his support. He feels this is a cold season for activists, but said he is not apologetic or frightened because of his activist role. There are other old liberals who are scared to be called liberals. He suggested that they are ex-liberals