

**MINUTES OF THE  
THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD**

**CLEVELAND, OHIO  
JUNE 26 – JUNE 30, 2015**

**Lee Foley  
Administrator  
General Synod**

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**MINUTES  
THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD**

**UNEXPECTED PLACES**

**CLEVELAND, OHIO  
JUNE 26 – JUNE 30, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Friday Afternoon, June 26, 2015  
First Plenary Session**

**1. GENERAL SYNOD CALL TO ORDER**

Moderator, Mr. Brian Holeman (CAC, S) called the first business session of the Thirtieth General Synod to order at 2:30 PM and welcomed delegates, visitors and guests. In addition to the Welcome, Mr. Holeman recognized the significance of the day with the affirmation of the Supreme Court of the United States' ruling in favor of extending the right to marry to same gender couples in all 50 states. He recognized Mr. Black, the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, and called on him to comment on this important milestone.

**2. COMMENTS REGARDING SUPREME COURT RULING.**

Mr. Black indicated that this is a bright moment in the mission and ministry of the United Church of Christ. Mr. Black pointed out that this has not been an easy journey but that the decision represents the full expression of justice to all. He asked that we hold on to the idea that all things are possible for even more things that seem impossible today.

**3. WELCOME FROM THE HOST CONFERENCE**

Mr. Holeman noted the extravagant hospitality of Local Arrangements Committees of each General Synod that work throughout the biennium preparing for delegates, honored guests and visitors. He introduced Mr. Phil Hart, Conference Minister for the Ohio Conference and invited him to the podium. Mr. Hart extended a warm welcome on behalf of the host conference.

**4. WELCOME FROM THE CLEVELAND MAYOR**

Mr. Holeman introduced the Honorable Frank G. Jackson. Mr. Jackson welcomed everyone to Cleveland and thanked the United Church of Christ for bringing Synod to Cleveland. He extended an open invitation to take advantage of all Cleveland has to offer and to return as often as possible. He thanked the Church for being on the forefront of Justice and Equality, and for being on the forefront of promoting and defining Justice and Equality.

## **5. INTRODUCTION OF GENERAL SYNOD LEADERSHIP**

Mr. Holeman introduced Assistant Moderator, Ms. Sue Artt (RM, S).

Mr. Holeman also introduced the Parliamentarians, Ms. Denise Page Hood (MICH), Federal District Judge, serving as the Parliamentarian for the Moderators and Ms. Libby Tigner (CA, NV, S) serving as the delegates' Parliamentarian.

Ms. Hood and Ms. Tigner reminded the delegates of applicable procedural rules and of the role of the Youth Stewards.

Mr. Holeman introduced Mr. Corey Larson, the Agenda Coordinator. Mr. Holeman explained the committee process, including the composition and role of the Agenda Committee.

Mr. Holeman introduced Mr. Lee Foley, Administrator of the General Synod, and Mr. David Anderson, head of the Committee Process Team. Mr. Holeman explained that the Agenda Committee consists of the Synod Administrator, the Moderators, the Parliamentarians, the Chair of the Committee on Disposition, the Agenda Coordinator and the head of the Committee Process Team.

## **6. REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Carol Burke (Ohio), Chair of the Credentials Committee, who moved the adoption of the Report of the Credentials Committee (Appendix A). She reported that the number of delegates under the age of thirty in the delegation as a whole exceeds the target number for that category of delegates and that this General Synod is in compliance with the diversity requirements of the bylaws. Ms. Burke recommends that, for future Synods, data regarding cultural and ethnic categories, gathered through Synod registration, should be reflexive of the analytics. Moreover, she suggested that we raise the diversity level from 17% to 20%

**15-GS-1 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the report of the Credentials Committee by consensus.

## **7. QUORUM DECLARED**

Mr. Holeman called upon Ms. Burke for the report of the Credentials Committee with regard to the Thirtieth General Synod attendees. Ms. Burke reported that there were 737 delegates in attendance, out of 2991 total attendees.

Mr. Holeman declared a quorum was present and the Thirtieth General Synod was in compliance with the Constitution of the United Church of Christ and Bylaws' paragraphs 189, 190, 191 and 192. He further declared that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ is officially in session.

## **8. INTRODUCTION OF MICROPHONE PROCEDURES AND ELECTRONIC VOTING**

Mr. Holeman explained the use of microphones and introduced the Youth Stewards. He then introduced Ms. Libby Tigner who provided instructions to the delegates on the use of the voting devices.

## **9. ADOPTION OF THE GENERAL SYNOD AGENDA**

Mr. Holeman informed the delegation that Bylaw 227 states that the Board of Directors acts as the General Synod “ad interim”. It serves as the Business Committee and Committee of Reference of the General Synod during its sessions, and as such shall prepare the agenda for General Synod and recommend changes therein during sessions.

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Bernard Wilson, Chair of the Board of Directors, who moved the adoption of the Agenda for the Thirtieth General Synod as included in the second Report of the Board of Directors (Appendix B), and authorization for the Agenda Committee to make any necessary adjustments during sessions.

**15-GS-2 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the agenda as included in the second Report of the Board of Directors and authorizes the Agenda Committee to make any necessary adjustments.

## **10. ADOPTION OF THE STANDING RULES**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Wilson, who moved the adoption of the Standing Rules of the Thirtieth General Synod included in the second Report of the Board of Directors. The Standing Rules were adopted by the Board of Directors in October 2013 and posted so that all the deadlines, specifications, and other matters governing the submission of Synod business could be followed in the months leading up to Synod.

**15-GS-03 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the Standing Rules.

## **11. GRANTING VOICE WITHOUT VOTE TO RESOURCE PERSONS**

Mr. Wilson moved to grant voice without vote to resource persons who are approved by the Business Committee and who will be asked to make reports and speak to certain issues. The office of the Administrator of the General Synod prepared a list of these people.

**15-GS-04 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod grants to resource persons approved by the Business Committee, by consensus, voice without vote.

## **12. GRANTING VOICE WITHOUT VOTE TO DESIGNATED GROUPS**

Mr. Wilson moved that the Thirtieth General Synod grant voice without vote to the designated groups and to their stated representatives who were approved by the Board of Directors and included in the

Synod Program Guide. The groups are as follows: The Ministry for God's Animals, the Faithful and Welcoming Churches of the United Church of Christ and the Association of United Church Educators.

**15-GS-05 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod grants to the designated groups and to their stated representatives who were approved by the Board of Directors, by consensus, voice without vote.

### **13. FIRST REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Angela Meyers (SC), Chair of the General Synod Nominating Committee, to present the first Report of the Nominating Committee (Appendix C).

Ms. Meyers submitted the first Report of the Nominating Committee and the second Report of the Nominating Committee (Appendix D) and urged the election of the outstanding nominees presented in the two reports. She indicated that the Nominating Committee proudly endorses these members of the UCC and the process by which they were selected. She stated that, for the first time, the committee asked for professional and personal references from each candidate and a member of the Committee personally checked the references for each nominee.

Mr. Holeman received the reports without objection and advised that elections will be held on Monday.

### **14. INITIAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS INCLUDING INTRODUCTION OF SLATE FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Holeman invited Mr. Wilson, Chair of the Board of Directors, to present the first Report of the Board of Directors (Appendix E) and to give a recap of the work of the Board during its first biennium.

Mr. Wilson related that he has had the great honor to serve as the very first Chair of the now 2-year old United Church of Christ Board, born of the governance restructure adopted by Synod in 2011. It has been a pleasure to work with the other members of the Board, including the Officers of the Church and your Moderator and Assistant Moderator for these past two years.

According to Mr. Wilson, the Board, working with the Officers, has put in place a sound fiscal plan, a plan for fiscal stability. Gone are the days of spending beyond our means at the National Setting. In addition, the Board oversaw the search process for the nominee being presented to you for call by election as the next General Minister and President, the Mr. John C. Dorhauer.

Mr. Wilson moved the receipt of the Board's slate of nominees for election to the General Synod Nominating Committee Class of 2021 and urged the election, later in the meeting, of the four individuals placed before Synod. The names and biographies of the nominees are attached. (Appendix F)

**15-GS-06:** The Thirtieth General Synod approves the slate of nominees for election to the General Synod Nominating Committee Class of 2021.

Mr. Holeman cited the Standing Rules that provide for floor nominations for these positions. Hearing no nominations from the floor, he advised that nominations for at-large candidates for the Thirtieth General Synod Nominating Committee are now closed and the election will be held Monday afternoon.

#### **15. THANK YOU TO MR. BERNARD WILSON.**

Mr. Holeman thanked Mr. Wilson for his exemplary service to the church.

Mr. Holeman expressed heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Wilson for his service as a courageous and capable leader and pointed out his gifts and talents as the outgoing Chair of the United Church of Christ Board and his impact as chair of the Committee of Restructure and the vice chair of the Executive Council. Mr. Holeman also pointed out the commitment and sacrifices made by Mr. Wilson, his congregation and his family, and gave thanks for Mr. Wilson's leadership.

#### **16. CONTINUATION OF THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – COMMITTEE ON DISPOSITION REPORT.**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Geoff Brace, Member of the Board of Directors' Committee of Reference, for a report. Mr. Brace reported that printed recommendations appear in two places. The first report, concerning 16 proposed resolutions that were received by the January deadline, was posted on the General Synod section of the UCC website two weeks ago for delegate review.

Mr. Brace stated that the committee received a total of seventeen (17) proposed resolutions and the Committee was recommending designating two (2) of them as "Prudential Resolutions," each requiring a majority vote, and fifteen (15) of them as "Resolutions of Witness," each requiring a two-thirds vote. The Committee was further recommending that thirteen (13) of the resolutions be referred to committees of the General Synod, three (3) of the resolutions be referred directly to a plenary session, and one of the resolutions be sent to implementing or other bodies.

**15-GS-07** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the Report of the Committee on Disposition and delegates to the Business Committee the referral of new business submitted during the first plenary of this General Synod.

#### **17. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS (BY TITLE ONLY)**

Moderator Holeman stated that, in accordance with the Standing Rules adopted earlier in the Plenary, this is the only time in the Agenda when Delegates may introduce New Business and this New Business will be introduced by Title Only.

**New Business:**

1. Jeremy Rutledge (SE) Seconded by Marvin Morgan (SE), Carol Moss (SE) and Irwin Milton (SE). Title of New Business: A Just and Compassionate response to the shootings at the Mother Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC.

Moderator Holeman referred the new business to the Business Committee for recommended action.

**18. NOMINATION AND SPEECH OF GMP CANDIDATE**

Moderator Holeman introduced Ms. Traci Blackmon and Mr. Damond Jackson to formally place the name of Mr. John C. Dorhauer into nomination before the body.

**19. NOMINATION AND SPEECH OF GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT CANDIDATE.**

Nomination made by Ms. Blackmon and Mr. Jackson of Mr. Dorhauer for election as General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

Mr. Dorhauer accepted the nomination, thanked Ms. Blackmon and Mr. Jackson and issued two challenges for the body in his speech: Have a willingness to be adaptive and formative in the face of change and have a time of deep reflection; engage in sincere and deep conversations on White Supremacy so that we can realize a community of shalom. He warned the body to prepare to fail, thus giving ourselves permission to take risks, to work together to clarify and define the mission, to fulfill the mission with passion and zeal, and to toil in love.

**20. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Holeman called on Administrator of the General Synod, Mr. Lee Foley for announcements.

1. Noted that since bad weather was coming, General Synod would be adding extra buses.
2. Asked delegates to sit in their assigned seats.
3. Reminded the body of the place and time for sign-ups for Speak Out.

**21. RECESS**

Mr. Holeman declared the Thirtieth General Synod to be in recess until 7:30 PM.



**Friday Evening, June 26, 2015**  
**Second Plenary Session**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Artt called the Second Plenary Session to order at 7:30 PM.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF HONORED GUESTS**

Ms. Artt welcomed the following former officers, executives of instrumentalities, and former moderators of the United Church of Christ.

Ms. Libby Tigner, Moderator of the Twenty-Ninth General Synod  
Mr. Marvin Morgan, Moderator of the Twenty-seventh General Synod  
Mr. Merlyn Lawrence, Moderator of the Twenty-sixth General Synod  
Mr. Norman “Jack” Jackson, Moderator of the Twenty-fifth General Synod  
Ms. Nancy Taylor, Moderator of the Twenty-third General Synod  
Mr. Nate A. Lewis, Jr., Moderator of the Twenty-fourth General Synod  
Ms. Denise Page Hood, Moderator of the Twenty-second General Synod  
Mr. John Krueger, Moderator of the Fifteenth General Synod  
Ms. Yvonne Delk, former Executive of the Office for Church in Society  
Mr. Earl Miller, former Executive Director of the Stewardship Council  
Mr. Arthur Cribbs and Bob Chase Former Executives of the Office of Communication  
Ms. Carol Joyce, former Secretary of the Church, and her husband Neal Luebke  
Ms. Doris Powell, former Treasurer of the Church  
Ms. Bernice Powell Jackson, former Officer and Executive Minister of Justice and  
Witness Ministries, and her husband Franklyn Jackson  
Ms. Olivia Masih White and her husband Terry White, Mr. Bennie Whiten and his wife  
Sue Spote, and Ms. Cally Rogers-Witte, former officers of the Church and  
Executive Ministers for Wider Church Ministries  
Mr. Steve Sterner, and his wife Judith Sterner and Mr. Jon Malone and his wife Benni,  
former Officers and Executive Ministers for Local Church Ministries  
Ms. Edith Guffey, and her husband Jerry Guffey, Mr. W. Mark Clark and his wife, Stacy  
Parish-Clark, former Associate General Ministers  
Mr. Paul Sherry, former President of the United Church of Christ, and his wife  
Mary Sherry

The above honored guests were given a round of applause and Ms. Artt declared that, with the body’s acclamation, these honored guests are granted voice in the Thirtieth General Synod. She then led the body in prayer.

**3. CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF MIKE DOWNS**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Dan Carwile, Chair of the Pension Board-Board of Trustees, and Mr. Dale Engle, to introduce Mr. Mike Downs, President and Chief Executive Officer of The Pension Board

for a well-deserved tribute and personal thanks for the financial skills and distinctive leadership he brought to the Pension Board. Mr. Carwile presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Downs.

Ms. Artt thanked Mr. Carwile and Mr. Engle for their comments. Ms. Artt declared that the Certificate of Appreciation is adopted and would be incorporated into the Minutes of the Thirtieth General Synod.

Mr. Mike Downs accepted the Certificate and thanked those present for their contribution to his ministry.

#### **4. RE-NOMINATION AND SPEECH OF WCM CANDIDATE**

Ms. Artt introduced Ms. Bonds, Chair of the Committee of Re-Nomination of Mr. James Moos to Wider Church Ministries. Ms. Bonds introduced Mr. Moos, current Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries and candidate for re-nomination to another term.

Mr. Moos spoke on the theme of “Unexpected Places”; they are places of unexpected grace and we must tap into the source of grace and joy by sharing in the struggle for God’s peace and justice. In those places we as a church would encounter the resurrection hope of new life and new community.

Ms. Artt thanked Mr. Moos for his thoughtful and challenging message and indicated that the nomination of Mr. Moos was before the General Synod and the election would be held on Monday evening.

#### **5. INTRODUCTION OF ECUMENICAL GUESTS**

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Karen Georgia Thompson, Minister for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations, to introduce our Ecumenical Delegates and Partners.

Ms. Thompson introduced the following ecumenical guests:

Ms. Julia Brown-Karimu, President for the Division of Overseas Ministries and Co-Executive of Global Ministries

Mr. Robert Welsh, President for the Council on Christian Unity and Ecumenical Officer

Mr. Gradye Parsons, Presbyterian Church USA, Stated Clerk who is the Chief Executive of the Office of the General Assembly

Mr. Thomas C. Goodhart, Pastor of Trinity Reformed Church of Brooklyn in Ridgewood Queens, New York, and the incoming Vice Moderator of the General Synod Council

of the Reformed Church in America

Mr. Donald McCold, Director of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs in the office of the Presiding Bishop from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Mr. Michael Castle, President of the Alliance of Baptists and Senior Pastor of Harmony Creek Church, a United Church of Christ and Alliance of Baptists Community (Kettering, Ohio)

Mr. Michael Blair, Executive Minister, Communities in Mission Unit, from the United Church of Canada and Ms. Nora Sanders, General Secretary from the United Church of Canada

Mr. Michael West, Publications Manager from the World Council of Churches

Mr. Mark McDonald, the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop, from the Anglican Church of Canada, currently serving as the North American president for the World Council of Churches

Ms. Artt asked the body to welcome them into our midst and with thanksgiving for their gifts to us grant these guests voice at the Thirtieth General Synod.

**15-GS-08 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod grants voice to these ecumenical guests by consensus.

## **6. INTRODUCTION OF OVERSEAS GUESTS**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Moos, Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries and Co-Executive of Global Ministries, to introduce and welcome our overseas guests and missionaries.

Mr. Moos brought greetings from more than two hundred ninety international partners and one hundred mission personnel, who join thousands of others who built our churches' two hundred-year legacy of global mission, beginning in 1806.

The following guests from partners throughout the world were introduced:

From Africa:

Mr. Lucas Amosse, President of the United Church of Christ in Mozambique

Mr. E. T. C. Ngadziore, President of the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe

Mr. Richard Gomendo, Chair of the Ukama Committee and Superintendent of the Western Conference of the United Church of Christ in Zimbabwe

Ms. Megan Baxter, Director of the Theological Education by Extension College in Johannesburg, South Africa

From East Asia and the Pacific:

A delegation from the Micronesian Council of the United Church of Christ:

Mr. Wie Fiti, the Congregational Church, Chuuk

Mr. Bender Enicar, the United Church of Christ, Pohnpei

Ms. Nena Kilafwasru, the United Church of Christ, Kosrae

Mr. Enja Enos and Mrs. Risko Enos, the United Church of Christ in the Republic of the Marshall Islands

From the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea:

Mr. Hunjung Cho, Reunification Ministries Director

Ms. Mee Yoon, Advocate for Comfort Women

Ms. Min Heui Cheon, Ecumenical officer

From Europe:

Ms. Olga Leventis, Program Director, Social Work Foundation, in Greece

Ms. Christine Busch, Ecumenical Officer, Evangelical Church of the Rhineland, Union of Evangelical Churches, Germany

From Latin America and the Caribbean:

Mr. Dan González-Ortega, Dean, Theological Community of Mexico

Mr. Gamaliel Lugo, Bishop, Pentecostal Evangelical Union of Venezuela

From the Middle East:

Mr. Mitri Raheb, President of the Diyar Consortium and Pastor of the Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, Palestine

From Southern Asia:

Mr. Alwan Masih, General Secretary of the Church of North India

Mr. Rajan Rohaan, from the Church of the American Ceylon Mission in Sri Lanka and a student at Eden Theological Seminary

Mr. Jude Sutharshan, also from the Church of the American Ceylon Mission in Sri Lanka and a student at Andover Newton Theological Seminary

After a standing ovation, Mr. Moos moved that these international partner guests be granted voice without vote for the duration of General Synod.

**15-GS-09 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod grants to these overseas guests, by consensus, voice without vote for the duration of General Synod.

Mr. Moos also recognized the many relationships that conferences and local churches have with partners the world over and welcomed any international guests to General Synod and asked that the body greet these guests as well. Mr. Moos invited Mr. Alwan Masih to offer words of greeting on behalf of our global partners.

Mr. Masih indicated that of the 125 mission personnel appointed by Global Ministries to serve at the invitation of partners, six are present with us this week:

Ms. Nicole Betteridge, a Global Mission Intern who has served as an English teacher with the Lao Evangelical Church, in Laos, and with the Christian Church in Thailand

Ms. Faye Buttrick and Mr. John Buttrick, FactsWatch coordinators with *Kairos Palestine*

Mr. Joel Cooper, a Global Mission Intern who is completing service with the Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue in Lebanon

Mr. Adam Royston, a Global Mission Intern who is completing service with the Church of Christ in Thailand

Ms. Alison Stendahl, recently retired from over three decades of service as a teacher and dean of students at the Usjudar American Academy, in Istanbul, Turkey

These and all missionaries were thanked for their service on our behalf.

Mr. Moos concluded by reminding Synod of the launch of the Middle East Initiative, a year-and-a-half emphasis on our partners, history, engagement, and advocacy in that region, and reminded us to lift up all of our partners in prayer.

Ms. Artt thanked Mr. Moos and declared these guests are granted voice at this Thirtieth General Synod by consensus.

**15-GS-10 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod grants to these missionary personnel, by consensus, voice without vote for the duration of General Synod.

## **7. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Holeman called on the Administrator of the General Synod, Lee Foley, for announcements.

1. A Prayer Service at 8:15 AM will open tomorrow's Synod.
2. See Dick Sparrow to sign up for Speak Out.
3. The next Plenary starts tomorrow at 8:45 AM.

## **8. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

Ms. Artt introduced Ms. Nancy Rosas, Minister of Spiritual Formation at Wash Park United Church of Christ in Denver, Colorado for the evening Theological Reflection.

## **9. RECOGNITION OF DISABILITIES MINISTRIES**

Ms. Artt invited Ms. Lynda Bigler and Ms. Jeanne Tyler, Chair and Vice Chair of the UCC Disability Ministry, to share a few words with the General Synod. After a brief presentation they thanked the General Synod for the opportunity to share their ministry.

## **10. WORSHIP**

The sermon for the evening worship was given by Ms. Neichelle Guidry Jones, Associate Pastor to Young Adults at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, Illinois

## **11. RECESS**

**Saturday Morning, June 27, 2015**  
**Third Plenary Session**

**Saturday Morning Prayer Service**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Holeman called the Third Plenary Session to order at 8:46 AM.

**2. SPEAKOUTS!**

Mr. Holeman recognized the following Speak Out participants:

1. Mr. Samuel Conde – (FLA) – More Inclusive Language
2. Mr. Neil Wilson – (MICH) Re-Member, an outreach to the Oglala Lakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. A call for conferences to join in partnership and covenant with Re-Member
3. Patrick Cage – (MA) – Praise God for the National Office, the UCC and Jesus

Mr. Holeman thanked the participants and advised that the next Speak Out would be on Monday morning.

**3. CELEBRATION OF NEW AND RENEWING CONGREGATIONS**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. J. Bennett Guess, Executive Minister of Local Church Ministries, and Mr. David Schoen, Team Leader of Congregational Assessment, Support and Advance, to lead the celebration of new congregations.

Mr. Schoen reported that since the last General Synod, the United Church of Christ has welcomed sixty seven (67) new churches. Mr. Guess introduced members from some of the new, renewing and affiliating churches.

Mr. Guess praised these new pastors and new congregations and asked the body to join in extending an extravagant welcome.

He gave thanks to his predecessors, Mr. Steve Sterner and Mr. Joe Malayang, and gave a great UCC thank you to Mr. Schoen who will retire at year's end. Mr. Guess also indicated that \$370,000 has been committed to campaign for matching offering monies for new churches to access dollars locally. He introduced the website for Just and Generous Christianity which is [www.WoodToTheFire.org](http://www.WoodToTheFire.org).

**4. ANTIONETTE BROWN RECOGNITION.**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Elizabeth Dilley, Minister for Ministers in Local Churches in the Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization Ministry Team, and Ms. Bernice Powell Jackson, Pastor of First United Church of Tampa and previous Executive Minister of Justice and Witness Ministries.

Ms. Dilley Ms. Powell-Jackson announced the launch of the Antoinette Brown Society, dedicated to the advancement of women and indicated that this Synod marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Antoinette Brown Award. The following awardees were introduced: Ms. Sharon Ellis Davis, Founding Pastor of God Can Ministries in Chicago; Ms. Blackmon, bi-vocational minister at Christ the King United Church of Christ in Florissant, Missouri; and RevGalBlogPals, an online community of clergy women bloggers and a multi-national denominational ministry that supports, encourages and amplifies clergy women through on-line resources and in-person continuing education events. The RevGalBlogPals award was accepted by Ms. Martha Spong.

## **5. KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Guess, Executive Minister of Local Church Ministries to introduce the First Keynote speaker, Ms. Connie Schultz, a columnist for the Washington Post and other publications. She represents those marginalized by injustice, claims the UCC as her church and is married to US Senator Sherod Brown. Ms. Schultz challenged the members of the body to share their stories to help others. She encouraged self-awareness and urged everyone to commit acts of gentle space for ourselves.

Ms. Artt thanked Ms. Schultz for her presentation.

## **6. RECOGNITION OF NORTH CAROLINA LITIGATION/SUPREME COURT DECISION/ANNIVERSARY OF BECOMING OPEN AND AFFIRMING**

Ms. Artt invited the Thirtieth General Synod into a time of reflection and celebration of the North Carolina litigation/Supreme Court Decision/Anniversary of Becoming Open and Affirming.

Those individuals involved with the litigation were Mr. Andy Lang, Executive Director of Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ, Mr. Mike Schuenemeyer, Mr. Don Clark, General Counsel of the United Church of Christ, Ms. Heather Kimmel, Associate General Counsel of the United Church of Christ; Mr. Edward Davis, Southern Council and the congregations of North Carolina and Eastern Virginia. Ms. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ms. Lisa Cloninger, Ms. Kathleen Smith, Mr. Nathan King, Ms. Sharon Bragan, Ms. Diane Ansley, and Mr. Joe Hoffman all spoke on the historical decisions for gay and lesbian couples.

## **7. COLLEGIUM TIME**

Ms. Artt introduced the Officers of the Church: General Minister and President Mr. Geoffrey Black, Local Church Ministries Executive Minister Mr. Guess, Justice and Witness Ministries Executive Minister Ms. Linda Jaramillo, and Wider Church Ministries Executive Minister, Mr. Moos. Each Officer provided insights on the last two years and shared hopes for the future of the United Church of Christ.

Ms. Artt thanked the Collegium members for their remarkable work under difficult circumstances.

The Collegium received a standing ovation from the General Synod.

## **8. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS**

Ms. Artt welcomed the second of our three Theological Reflectors, Mr. Robert Molsberry. Mr. Molsberry is the Interim Pastor at Peace United Church of Christ in Webster Groves, Missouri.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Foley, for announcements.

1. The Virginia Cryer Fund Offering total was \$8,730.55.
2. The Pride Parade has been cancelled due to the weather.
3. The Global Center Lobby is the new location of the luncheon in the park with the homeless.
4. The Synod Service project, Reading Changes Lives, continues in the Junior Ballrooms near the St. Clair Avenue entrance to the Convention Center.
5. The Exhibit Hall is open.
6. Synod workshops will be held in various committee rooms.
7. The Synod Gala is in the evening and there are still tickets available.
8. The Great Big Synod Dance will be at 7:30 PM in the Youth Hall.
9. Synod Committees go into session at 8:00 AM Sunday.
10. More buses were added. Please feel free to use them.
11. Worship tomorrow is at 3:00 PM.
12. Next Speak Out will be Monday morning.

## **10. RECESS**

Ms. Artt thanked Mr. Foley for the announcements and declared the Third Plenary of the Thirtieth General Synod to be in recess at 11:09 AM.

**Sunday, June 28, 2015**

## **COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD**

General Synod committees were in session in the morning and early afternoon, recommending on the disposition of resolutions brought before Synod.

## **WORSHIP**

The sermon at the afternoon worship was given by Bishop Dwayne Royster, Senior Pastor and Founder of Living Water United Church of Christ, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Bishop Royster brought a message calling for us to do ministry in this unexpected time and place that will change the world through preparation, worship, miracles and resurrection.



## **HEARINGS**

Hearings on the budget, the Nominating Committee process, relationship with the United Church of Canada, revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws, and the 2013 Resolution on Fossil Fuel took place in the evening.

### **Monday Morning, June 29, 2015 Fourth Plenary Session**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Artt called the Fourth Plenary Session to order at 8:00 AM.

#### **2. SPEAKOUTS!**

Ms. Artt recognized the following Speak Out Participants:

1. Ms. Diane Madowski (NCNV) – Celebration of 50th Anniversary of Medicare
2. Ms. Danielle Rochford (UCCDM) –Disabilities Ministry Widening the Welcome
3. Ms. Becky Anton (NC NV) Faith Community Network. Request help in locating parish and faith community nurses
4. Mr. Stephen King (MMS) – Homelessness, bring cards to give homeless individuals where they can get help with additional and mental health
5. Mr. Steven Hamilton (PSE) – ONA declaration
6. Mr. James Wess and Mr. Dave Fleming (PNE) – Prayers requested for Penn Northeast Conference Minister, Mr. Alan Miller, who is battling cancer.
7. Mr. John Roberts, (IS) – Faithful and Welcoming Churches
8. Ms. Jeannette Brown (CAC) – Funding of Amtrak
9. Mr. David Mehl (MOMS) – Search for Conference Minister, Missouri/Midsouth
10. Ms. Diana Madoshi (CA NV, N) – Medicare need for a call for Justice

Ms. Artt thanked everyone and reminded participants that the next Speak Out will be at the beginning of the next Plenary and sign-ups will be immediately following this plenary session.

#### **3. BUDGET PRESENTATION AND VOTE**

Ms. Artt introduced Ms. Kathy Houston, Chief Financial Officer of the United Church of Christ, who presented a historical financial snapshot and projections. (Appendix G)

Questions from the floor: Ms. Paula Disouri (MOMS) – Why not vote on the actual budget projection, and not just the lump sum?

Answer: Ms. Houston - The covenanted ministries and UCC Board of Directors are responsible for their own budgets. Historically, the main concentration has been on the National Basic Support level.

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Joyce Bathke, Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Directors. Ms. Bathke moved that the General Synod adopt a National Basic Allocation base of \$6,007 million per year and \$5,785 million for the budget years 2016 and 2017.

**15-GS-11 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the National Basic Support Allocation base of \$6,007 million and \$5,785 million, respectively, for the budget years 2016 and 2017.

Ms. Bathke then moved, on behalf of the Board of Directors, that the General Synod delegate the determination of the percentage allocation for Our Churches Wider Mission National Basic Support for the 2014-2015 Biennium to the United Church of Christ Board. She then spoke to the motion.

**15-GS-12 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod delegates the determination of the percentage allocation for Our Church Wider Mission National Basic Support for the budget years 2016 and 2017 to the United Church of Christ Board.

#### **4. KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**

Ms. Artt introduced Mr. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush, an ordained American Baptist minister and the Executive Editor of Global Spirituality and Religion for the Huffington Post. Mr. Rauschenbusch concluded his message by indicating that God's Church can be identified by being a safe space and a place for justice. We are to be a people filled with passion for justice and love and to represent God in the world at this crucial place in history in the U.S. and globally. He invited everyone to get a Twitter account.

#### **5. VOTING/CLICKER CHANGES**

Mr. Foley indicated that until a resolution could be reached with regard to the "clickers" general votes would be by voice vote.

Mr. Jorge Morale, Conference Minister (ILL Conference), requested that written ballots be used for officers and bylaw votes. After consultation with the parliamentarians, Ms. Artt indicated that would be the process and those action would be moved to the Monday afternoon plenary to enable preparation of the ballots.

**15-GS-13 VOTED:** Ms. Artt indicated a motion was needed to suspend Rule 21 of the Standing Rules with regard to electronic voting. It was moved, seconded and adopted.

#### **6. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ms. Artt stated that Committees are allocated approximately fifteen minutes in which to report to the General Synod. She reminded the Delegates of the microphone layout and function.

Ms. Artt thanked the Committee Process Team, Mr. Roy Mosley (NCNC), Mr. Dennis Frische-Mouri (IK), Ms. Susan Townsley (CONN), and team leader Mr. David Anderson (PNW). She then asked the Committee Chairs to stand and be recognized and thanked all of them for their hard work and diligence.

## **7. RESOLUTION ON FULL COMMUNION RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

Ms. Artt invited Mr. Wilson to the podium to present the Resolution on Full Communion with the United Church of Canada. Mr. Wilson deferred to Ms. Thompson, UCC Ecumenical Officer, to speak to the resolution.

Discussion:

Mr. David Greenhaw (President Eden Seminary) spoke in favor.

Mr. Mike Denton, Conference Minister (PNW) spoke in favor.

Ms. Bernice Powell Jackson (FLA) spoke in favor.

Mr. David Beebe (MOMS) spoke in favor.

Question from the floor: Ms. Brenda James (SOC) How would this resolution be staffed and how would it impact the budget?

Answer: Ms. Thompson indicated that at the present time there would be no staff sharing and it, therefore, would not affect the budget.

**15-GS-14 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the resolution on Full Communion Relationship Between the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada.

### ***RESOLUTION ON FULL COMMUNION RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA***

*WHEREAS, the gospel of Jesus Christ unites Christ's followers in a single community of faith and compels us to make our unity visible so "that the world may believe..." John 17:21, cf. Eph. 4:4-6, 1 Cor. 12:12-26);*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ (USA) and the United Church of Canada entered into formal ecumenical partnership in 2013, with action of the Twenty-ninth General Synod of the United Church of Christ and action by the General Council of the United Church of Canada, with the commitment to continued ecumenical engagement and interaction to promote common witness;*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada have common ecumenical partners, vision of the Church, and commitment to social justice, the inclusion of all persons, and to a diverse theological expression;*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada in our local churches, Conferences, and in national and international settings are witnessing significant signs of the movement of the Holy Spirit toward unity;*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada entered into a year of common discernment to seek God's will and direction for ways to live as the one body of Christ;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ, meeting in Cleveland, Ohio (26-30 June 2015) and the 42nd General Council of the United Church of Canada meeting in Corner Brook, Newfoundland (8-15 August 2015) make the following mutual declarations:*

*The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ acknowledges and celebrates before God that the United Church of Canada is an authentic, faithful part of the one, universal body of Christ.*

*The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ declares and celebrates that a relationship of full communion now exists between the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ (USA), by which we mean that both churches will pursue with intention ways of expressing the unity of the Church. This includes mutual commitment to recognizing ordained ministers of each partner church are truly ministers of word and sacrament, and ways of manifesting the common mission of witness and service.*

*The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ (USA) commits itself to work, with God's help and together with its partner churches, to effect greater unity in the whole church of Jesus Christ.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ (USA) encourages study of biblical, theological, and practical implications of full communion with the United Church of Canada and authorizes the General Minister and President to work collaboratively with the General Secretary of the United Church of Canada to appoint members of a United Church Partnership Committee to give guidance to this process.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a United Church Partnership Committee be established to give leadership to living into the possibilities of this full communion relationship through shared mission and ministry.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod receive the final report of the joint full communion working group, including the possibilities presented for common life and witness together.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the full communion partnership between the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ commence with the signing of the common agreement by the two Heads of Communion at a joint service of celebration that will include opportunities for local congregations and conferences across the two churches to celebrate in meaningful ways.*

### **FUNDING**

*Funding for the implementation of the resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected ministries and the funds available.*

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **8. COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS SINCE THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Bonds, Vice Chair of the Business Committee, to present the resolution. Following her presentation Ms. Bonds moved that the Thirtieth General Synod approve the resolution. She called on Mr. Moos, Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries, to speak to the resolution.

Discussion:

Ron Patterson (Business Committee) spoke in favor of the resolution.

**15-GS-15 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopted the resolution Commemorating 100 Years Since the Armenian Genocide.

### ***RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS SINCE THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE***

*WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in Anatolia (modern-day Turkey) in the Ottoman Empire, during which 1.5 million Armenians were killed and more than 1 million displaced between 1915 and 1923;*

*WHEREAS, surviving Armenians and their descendants who are still impacted by memory and consequences of the events, and many others, continue to seek recognition of the Genocide by Turkey, the US, and other governments of the world as a form of affirmation, of acknowledgement of truth, and of historical justice, asserting that time alone is not a remedy;*

*WHEREAS, missionaries of our church witnessed, documented, and advocated for an end to the massacres with local and international officials, and the United Church of Christ continues to maintain close relationships with Armenians ecumenically and globally, most particularly with the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East and the Armenian Missionary Association of America—relationships that have had mutual impact among Armenians and among members of our church;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ marks the occasion of the centennial commemoration of the Armenian Genocide with lament for the lives that were lost, and for the lack of recognition by governments of the world, most notably Turkey and the US, of the historical event of the Genocide;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ gives thanks for the faithful witness and presence of the Armenian Christian community, and offers prayers for its continued strength particularly as it is affected by the ongoing crisis in Syria, where many Genocide survivors resettled;*

*FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ reiterates its abhorrence when peoples and communities are made victims of violence, particularly when based on race, ethnicity, creed, or any other aspect of identity. Taken to the ultimate manifestation, such victimization constitutes genocide, a crime that should be prevented, halted, recognized, and acknowledged, in order to protect the communities, and offer recognition of the injustice it represents.*

### **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **9. RESOLUTION URGING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT PRACTICES**

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Crystal McCormick (IA), chair of the committee, to present the resolution. Ms. McCormick moved that the Thirtieth General Synod approve the resolution as amended. Thereafter, Ms. McCormick also spoke to the resolution on behalf of the committee.

Discussion:

Mr. Michael Downs (Chief Executive Office of the Pension Board) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Sheldon Culver (IS), Member of the Pension Board of the United Church of Christ spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Patrick Cage (MASS) brought an amendment to the floor, seconded by Mr. Mark Pullman (MASS).

Amendment: Replace “shareholder advocacy” with “socially responsible investing practices” in paragraph identified as lines 1130-1139.

## **10. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Chris Davis (Coalition for LGBT Concerns) Reminder to not assume gender identity when calling on individuals at the microphones.

Mr. Don Hart (UCF) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Graylan Hagler (MRSEJ) Asked for clarification and then spoke against the amendment.

Ms. Dawn Garrett Larson (NH) spoke in favor of the amendment.

(Name not provided) spoke against the amendment.

Mr. Tim White (MASS) spoke in favor of the amendment.

**15-GS-16 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to pass the amendment and it is included in the resolution.

Discussion continued on original resolution:

Mr. Jim Antal (MASS) spoke in favor of the resolution and commended the committee on its inclusion of socially responsible divestment practices.

Mr. Hart (UCF) spoke in favor of the resolution, and also called on all members, churches and bodies of the United Church of Christ to marry our money to our faith.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) proposed a second amendment which was seconded.

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod, affirming its covenantal relationships among the various ministries and settings of the United Church of Christ, requests future General Synods develop a procedure to allow for collaboration and communication between authors of resolutions concerning socially responsible investment practices and appropriate implementing bodies prior to being considered by those individuals or settings of the Church that will approve the resolution for submission to the General Synod for consideration.”

Mr. Jim Clausing (OHIO) spoke in favor of the second amendment.

Ms. Diane Dulin (CCP) asked to see the second amendment on the screen.

Ms. Brenda Brown (RM) spoke against the second amendment.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) spoke in favor of the second amendment and provided further explanation.

Ms. Diane Dulin (CCP) spoke against the second amendment.

Ms. Christine Wilke (WIS) spoke in favor of the second amendment.

Mr. Charles Baack (HI) spoke against the second amendment.

**15-GS-17 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod defeated the second amendment.

**15-GS-18 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the resolution urging socially responsible investment practices as amended.

### ***RESOLUTION URGING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT PRACTICES***

*WHEREAS, the historic social justice witness of the United Church of Christ (UCC) has manifested itself in multiple strategies for social, political and environmental change inspired by the biblical writings, the prophets, the teachings and life of Jesus, the historic cloud of witnesses to the Christian faith, and the leaders and the witness of transformational movements for peace, justice and equality for all, and in the light of God’s unbounded love for all creation;*

*WHEREAS, we who are blessed with financial assets — from those with modest incomes to those entrusted with substantial wealth — bear a God-given responsibility to use our economic power to further the realm of God: From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded. (Luke 12:48, NRSV); and*

*WHEREAS, the economic power derived from the ownership of financial instruments presents a unique opportunity to speak truth to power and advance the cause of justice for the earth and the women, men and children of every nation; and*

*WHEREAS, the principles of socially responsible investing — using the power of ownership to improve environmental, social, and governance (ESG) behaviors — align with the mission of members and ministries across the United Church of Christ; and*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ’s Council on Financial Investments (1969) recognized that in order to invest in a manner that lives out our faith in the marketplace, “All Instrumentalities and Conferences should actively seek involvement consistent with General Synod policies to achieve socially beneficial change in corporate practice through their ownership” of financial instruments; and*

*WHEREAS, widespread acceptance of the benefits of socially responsible investing have led to a growing amount (currently over 12%) of the investable assets in the United States being intentionally invested in a way that is socially responsible; and*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is recognized as a founding member of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), a vanguard organization dedicated to engaging the assets of faith-based and values-driven investors in calls for corporate change; and*

*WHEREAS, the witness of the United Church of Christ through ICCR continues through the work of current members The Pension Boards–United Church of Christ, Inc. (PBUCC), an Affiliated Ministry of the United Church of Christ, and United Church Funds (UCF), an Associated Ministry of the United Church of Christ, both of which have practiced the principles of socially responsible investing for more than 40 years on behalf of plans and assets of the UCC, respectively; and*

*WHEREAS, socially responsible investing includes many practices and actions taken at many levels, including but not limited to —*

- proactive investment in socially beneficial endeavors, behaviors and opportunities*
- dialogues with corporate leadership in pursuit of ESG changes*
- shareholder resolutions that call for better practices and more complete disclosures*
- exclusionary screens which seek to limit or avoid investment in certain industries for moral or performance bases*
- divestment as a last resort, when other means of engagement and witness have failed over time to achieve the desired goal(s); and*

*WHEREAS, shareholder advocacy, alongside other strategies of economic leverage for social justice witness, is important because of its direct engagement of publicly traded corporations with the witness of the church and the particular call to justice that the prophetic voice may bring to other shareholders, boards of directors and managers of companies in ways that cannot be duplicated by other forms of social justice action by the church; and*

*WHEREAS, socially responsible investors use internationally accepted guidelines and norms to determine the environmental, social and governance impacts of corporations and invested assets and do not rely on anecdotal evidence; and*



*WHEREAS, UCF and PBUCC seek to invest in ways that are consistent with the resolutions of General Synod and the witness of the United Church of Christ while maintaining the fiduciary controls appropriate for the particular kind of assets entrusted to each organization; and*

*WHEREAS, UCC polity permits and encourages different ministries of the UCC to advocate and be a witness in ways that are unique to each ministry; and*

*WHEREAS, socially responsible investing — alongside personal and corporate activism, intentional purchasing decisions, legislative improvements, raising awareness, and prayer; all established parts of the United Church of Christ’s witness of faith — demonstrates the commitment of individuals, churches, ministries and institutions to the work of justice to which all believers are called.*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon all Members, Local Churches, Associations, Conferences, Agencies, and Associated, Affiliated and Covenanted Ministries to examine and adopt socially responsible investing practices appropriate to their individual assets, retirement accounts, and endowments, as guided by the Holy Spirit’s call for justice; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod urges all settings and ministries of the United Church of Christ to implement investment and financial policies and practices that promote socially responsible investment, guidelines and commitments, and to continue socially responsible investment for social justice witness on issues that the UCC has made known in past pronouncements and resolutions of General Synod in ways that are appropriate to each one; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls for a range of Socially Responsible investing practices and actions taken at many levels, including but not limited to —*

- proactive investment in socially beneficial endeavors, behaviors and opportunities*
- dialogues with corporate leadership in pursuit of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) changes*
- shareholder resolutions that call for better practices and more complete disclosures*
- exclusionary screens which seek to limit or avoid investment in certain industries for moral or performance based divestment when deemed appropriate; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod acknowledges, recognizes, respects and affirms that each setting and ministry of the church has unique and appropriate ways of responding to the call to implement strategies of socially responsible investing within each setting’s particular charter, purpose, restrictions, and resources; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod recommends to all settings and ministries of the United Church of Christ the partnership inherent in the ministries of United Church Funds and the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ, which offer socially responsible investing vehicles; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in order to bring to life God's vision for the world, a choice to invest in a socially responsible manner should not stand alone, but should be complemented by those other acts of witness that speak truth to power, using the ways and means available to each individual or organization to demand justice by sharing efforts, policies, results, and experiences of social justice witness through socially responsible investing and through regular reporting and presentations at future General Synods as an important overall witness of the UCC to advocate for justice, peace, human rights, and the environmental well-being of the planet.*

### **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Collegium of Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **11. CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF LINDA JARAMILLO**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Wilson for a special presentation.

Mr. Wilson asked the General Synod to pause to honor one of our national officers who will be ending her ministry with us to embark on a well-deserved retirement. Ms. Linda Jaramillo, Executive Minister for Justice and Witness Ministries, will step down in September from the position she has held since 2005.

As the first Latina to serve as an Officer of the United Church of Christ, Ms. Jaramillo has been a steadfast and tireless advocate for justice, peace, and the rights of all people everywhere. She is a former president and vice-president of the Council for Hispanic Ministries, co-convener of the Council of Racial and Ethnic Ministries, and a UCC delegate to the World Council of Churches Assembly in Zimbabwe. She is a former Assistant Moderator of the General Synod, the Twenty-third in Kansas City. Her contributions as an Executive Minister will be missed.

A video in honor of Ms. Jaramillo was shown, followed by a standing ovation of the General Synod body and a word of thanks and gratitude from Ms. Jaramillo.

## **12. MUSIC/STRETCH BREAK**

## **13. RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE RACIALLY DEMEANING NAME, MASCOT, AND IMAGERY OF THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE TEAM**

Ms. Artt invited Ms. Andrea Davis (SW), committee chair, to present the resolution. Ms. Davis moved that the Thirtieth General Synod approved the resolution as amended by the committee. Thereafter, Ms. Davis also spoke to the resolution on behalf of the committee.

Discussion:

Mr. John Deckenback (CAC) spoke in favor of the resolution, asking the body to say no to racially demeaning names in mascots and imagery.

Mr. Lloyd Schneider (NCNC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Emily Heath (NH) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. John Palowski (IS) spoke against the resolution, saying the resolution doesn't go far enough.

Mr. Bradley Thomas (CAC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Marjorie Deaner (PW) spoke against the resolution.

Brave Flying Woman (SD) gave a passionate and emotional plea to vote in favor of the resolution.

**15-GS-19 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the Resolution to Change the Racially Demeaning Name, Mascot, and Imagery of the Washington National Football League Team.

***RESOLUTION TO CHANGE THE RACIALLY DEMEANING NAME, MASCOT, AND IMAGERY OF THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE TEAM***

*WHEREAS, all human beings are created in the image of God (Genesis 1: 27);*

*WHEREAS, Jesus calls us to love one another as he has loved us (John 15: 12-17);*

*WHEREAS, Paul admonishes us to work for peace and mutual up building (Romans 14: 18-19);*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is committed to the elimination of all forms of discrimination;*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ adopted at General Synod 18 (1991) a resolution condemning negative stereotyping of Native Americans;*

*WHEREAS, the use of racist imagery is an affront to basic human rights, undermines basic human dignity, and has a negative impact upon self-image, self-awareness, and self-esteem;*

*WHEREAS, the use of racist language and stereotypes continues to exploit and degrade Native American culture;*

*WHEREAS, the abuse of Native American symbols, such as the headdress and sacred pipe, for entertainment and profit is insensitive, insulting, and an affront to Native American spirituality and is, therefore, unacceptable;*

*WHEREAS, not only many professional, semi-professional, amateur, collegiate, and high and grade school sports teams throughout the United States but also (and particularly egregiously) the highly visible professional football team located in our nation's capital still employs racially derogatory and demeaning symbols, mascots, and names;*

*WHEREAS, the Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines "redskin" as a "usually offensive" term to describe American Indians and this term, when used in reference to Native American cultures and people, has a history of use as a pejorative and insulting name ;*

*WHEREAS, the term “redskins” would not properly be used by a person when addressing a Native American and should not be used to market a professional sports team;*

*WHEREAS, the use of the term “Redskins” for the team mascot and nickname of the Washington National Football League team is offensive and hurtful to many Native Americans and causes direct harmful effects to the public health and wellbeing of the Native American population ; and*

*WHEREAS, every major Native American organization, along with hundreds of clergy, churches, civil rights organizations, media outlets, sports writers and journalists, authors and elected officials (including the President of the United States), has voiced support for changing the team name;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the National Football League’s Washington franchise to change its team name and to refrain from the use of any images, mascots, or behaviors that are or could be properly deemed harmful or demeaning to Native American cultures or peoples;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ will communicate in writing this resolution to the owner of the Washington National Football League team, Daniel Snyder, and to the NFL Commissioner, Roger Goodell, and to the NFL Players Association, DeMaurice Smith, Executive Director;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ will communicate this resolution to the various conferences, affiliated and associated ministries, and instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ, and will proclaim it to the wider public through social and other media;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges individual churches and members of the United Church of Christ to communicate their concerns regarding this matter to both the Washington National Football League team and the National Football League by writing to:*

*Daniel Snyder  
Owner  
Redsk\*ns Park  
21300 Redsk\*ns Park Drive  
Ashburn VA 20147-6100  
703-726-7000*

*Roger Goodell  
Commissioner  
National Football League  
280 Park Avenue 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
212-450-2000*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges individual churches and members of the United Church of Christ to join a boycott of games played by the Washington National Football League team and not wear, display, or purchase any items with the Washington National Football League team logo until the name changes;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ supports the Oneida Indian Nation’s “Change the Mascot” campaign and will contact its staff to determine the best means of support and solidarity; and*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon other sports teams to eradicate the use of names, images, mascots, and behaviors that are or could be properly deemed harmful or demeaning to Native American cultures or people.*

**FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

**IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

**14. PRUDENTIAL RESOLUTION OF THE JUST PEACE MOVEMENT**

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Sheila Guiluamme, Mr. Mike Neuroth and Ms. Susan Thistlethwaite to offer a reflection and video on the Just Peace movement.

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Bonds to introduce the resolution which is coming directly to plenary with a recommendation that it be adopted. Ms. Bonds moved the adoption of the Resolution marking the Thirtieth Anniversary of Recommitting Ourselves to a Just Peace Church.

Discussion:

Mr. Paul Chip Jahn (IK) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Jim Antal (MASS) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Yvonne Delk (SOC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. David Greenhaw (Eden Seminary) spoke in favor of the resolution.

**15-GS-20 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod votes to adopt the resolution marking the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Just Peace Pronouncement by recommitting ourselves to be a Just Peace Church.

***RESOLUTION MARKING THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
JUST PEACE PRONOUNCEMENT BY RECOMMITTING OURSELVES TO BE  
A JUST PEACE CHURCH***

*WHEREAS, scripture calls us to seek God's shalom and participate in the reconciling mission of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.*

*WHEREAS, at its Fifteenth General Synod in Ames, Iowa the General Synod adopted the pronouncement "Affirming the United Church of Christ as a Just Peace Church," and called on its local churches, conferences and national bodies to "organize their common life so as to make a difference in the achieving of a Just Peace and the ending of the institution of war."*

*WHEREAS, in the thirty years since the adoption of the Just Peace pronouncement, we have seen protracted violent conflicts, intractable systemic injustices, and crippling cultural prejudices resolved using just peacemaking practices.*

*WHEREAS, in the thirty years since the adoption of the Just Peace pronouncement, many United Church of Christ Conferences, Seminaries, Institutions, and congregations have declared themselves Just Peace communities and have adopted policies and strategies to live out this call.*

*WHEREAS, in the year 2001, the United Church of Christ along with other global faith communities affirmed and participated actively in the World Council of Churches “Decade to Overcome Violence: Churches Seeking Reconciliation and Peace” program, and joined with other communions in marking the end of the decade in 2011 at the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation in Kingston, Jamaica.*

*WHEREAS, the World Council of Churches commended for study and action an “Ecumenical Call to Just Peace,” and re-affirmed at its General Assembly in Busan in 2013 a “Statement on the Way of Just Peace,” highlighting a growing ecumenical consensus toward Just Peacemaking, calling on member churches to join an “Ecumenical Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace,” by seeking peace in four distinct contexts:*

*For Just Peace in the Community- so that all may live free from fear,  
For Just Peace with the Earth- so that life is sustained,  
For Just Peace in the Marketplace- so that all may live in dignity,  
For Just Peace among the Nations- so that human lives are protected*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Just Peace Pronouncement by reinvigorating the Just Peace movement in the United Church of Christ and beyond. In common cause with all who seek peace with justice, a renewed Just Peace movement will most surely include ecumenical relations with Christian Churches throughout the world, interfaith partnerships in the United States and beyond, and strong new alliances wherever they may be made.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each congregation of the United Church of Christ be invited to become a Just Peace congregation, if they have not already done so.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod invites a litany of covenant making to be celebrated throughout the church and spread liberally across the minutes, publications and communication media of the United Church of Christ. Let this litany give God Praise for the first thirty years of witness in the United Church of Christ as a Just Peace church and covenant all who pray it into a common bond of love and service.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod invites congregations of the United Church of Christ to mark the Sunday preceding September 21 (which the United Nation recognizes as the “International Day of Prayer” for Peace as Just Peace Sunday.*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod invites all settings of the church who have committed themselves to Just Peace to create local, regional, and national partnerships and networks with the encouragement and support of the Covenanted Ministries of the United Church of Christ; to raise awareness of conflictual justice issues, share concerns, stories, and experience of Just Peace practices at work, and build constituencies around Just Peacemaking.*

## **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **15. DEVELOPING WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGED CONGREGATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH**

Ms. Artt called on Ms. Lessie Williams (CPC) chair of the committee to introduce the resolution and the amendments made by the committee. Ms. Williams moved the adoption of the resolution by the Thirtieth General Synod.

She then called on Mr. Alan Johnson (RM) who spoke in support of the resolution.

Discussion:

Ms. Linda Bigler – Disabilities Ministries (CPC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Paul Clay (CA NV, S) spoke in favor of the resolution and urged the body to learn how to be a welcoming and inclusive congregation.

Mr. Mark Stewart (MNWC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Kevin Pettit (RM) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Samuel Conde (FLA) and Mr. Chris Davis moved to make a motion to amend the resolution, adding the following to the final Be It Resolved:

Proposed Amendment:

“BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod encourages advocacy by all settings of the Church for broader and more just access to quality mental health services including private and public insurance coverage. This advocacy includes services for all persons with mental illness who are falling through the fraying safety net, especially persons in jails/prisons, persons who are homeless, persons of color, persons across all spectrums of sexuality and transgender and gender non-conforming who are experiencing mental illness.”

Discussion:

Ms. Manda Adams (NY) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Artt called the order of the day and indicated that the discussion would be picked up during the fifth plenary.

## **16. REPORT ON THE COMMISSION OF THE FUTURE OF GENERAL SYNOD**

Ms. Artt called upon Mr. Black to bring a report to this General Synod outlining its work to date and bringing forth any recommendations it might have.

Mr. Black said that it seems likely that the general body wants to continue every two years. General Synod is very expensive, but it brings us together and it renews us.

Finance options to consider:

- Some cost savings in making it shorter.
- Some cost savings in establishing a semi-permanent two in Cleveland and then another in another part of the country.
- Alter composition of synod. We open synod to every church. Every church could send one delegate and their pastor – at their own expense. That would pay for synod.
- Other - considering making every synod a committee of discernment.
- Other - considering making it less business oriented with more prayer and Bible Study.
- Other - considering making it more affordable to youth, families and students.

Mr. Black indicated that the commission will work with the incoming President in the future.

Over the next year they will be asking conferences to consider what they have heard and then will bring the necessary changes to the next Synod in Baltimore. It is imperative that we face these issues, we must find the means of financially supporting General Synod in a responsible way in the future.

## **17. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Matthew Laney, Senior Minister of Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford, Connecticut, to offer a theological reflection on our time together this morning.

Mr. Laney brought a message about making choices – making the best choices. Doing the life giving thing for all people. The life of what the UCC is about.

## **18. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Foley, for announcements.

1. Sign up for Speakouts.
2. This afternoon session gets underway at 2:30 PM. Please be on time.

## **19. RECESS**

Ms. Artt thanked Mr. Foley for the announcements and declared the Fourth Plenary of the Thirtieth General Synod to be in recess at 12:00 PM.



**Monday Afternoon, June 29, 2015**  
**Fifth Plenary Session**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Artt called the Fifth Plenary Session to order at 2:30 PM.

**2. SPEAKOUTS!**

Ms. Artt recognized the following Speak Out participants:

Ms. Hannah Hetrick (PSE) – Contact Dunkin Donuts and ask them to remove racists logo from cups 800-850-5339.

Ms. Sonya Vann (MOMS) – Conference Minister Search

Mr. Scott Brooks Cope (PNE) – Thanks for 113 years of Ministry of Doves Memorial and their Brave decision to close in Allentown, PA. Now Lehigh Center for Homeless, Mental Health and Senior Ministries.

Mr. Bill LaSalle (PC) – Student Loan Debt Support for UCC Seminary Students. Took action at recent annual meeting encouraging other conferences to vote on an annual offering to support MIDs.

Ms. Davida Foy Crabtree (CONN) – Prayer Request for Ms. Tracy Carnes, Stage IV Lung Cancer. (Ms. Artt called for 10 seconds of silent prayer for Ms. Carnes.)

Ms. Lynn Busch (IK) – Invitation to come to Booth 543 Stole(n) moments to purchase stoles.

Ms. Allison Bryce (Faith Community Nursing Network) – Come to booth trying to connect with parish nurses in all areas.

Mr. Andy CastroLang (PNW) – Prayer Request for the people of Wenatchee, WA dealing with large uncontrolled fires.

Ms. Meredith Jackson (MOMS) – Invitation to lunch of the Antoinette Brown Society at the Westin Hotel.

Mr. Gary Halstead (OHIO) – Care for returning veterans. Warriors Journey Home, Listen, Speak, Heal. Stop by booth.

Ms. Artt reminded everyone that the next SpeakOut! will be at the beginning of the next plenary and sign-ups will be immediately following this plenary session.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PAPER BALLOTS AND TELLER PROCESS.**

Ms. Artt announced that during the afternoon session tellers would count the ballots by hand. She reviewed procedures for counting, and noted paper ballots would be used for the elections of Mr. Moos, Mr. Dorhauer and the By-Laws. She also indicated that other business would be conducted while the counting was completed. She announced the Tellers would be Ms. Kathy Houston, Ms. Denise Shimell, Ms. Marilyn Pagan-Banks, Ms. Laurie Yamashiro and Ms. Beth Kennett.

Ms. Artt indicated the body would now return to the resolution regarding Mental Health.

#### **4. CONTINUATION OF RESOLUTION DEVELOPING WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGED CONGREGATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH.**

Mr. Samuel Conde (FLA) requested permission to withdraw previous amendment in favor of a new amendment. Amendment withdrawn.

New Amendment:

Ms. Kelli Parrish-Lucas (UCC Disabilities Ministries) Proposed the following:

“Line 1093 – move on line 1087 – Read as follows: This advocacy includes services for all persons with mental illness who are falling through the fraying safety net, especially persons in jail/prisons, and persons who are homeless, as well as persons of color, persons of all sexual orientation, and/or persons of all gender identities who experience mental health issues.”

Seconded by: Chris Davies (Coalition for LGBT Concerns)

Ms. Thea Racelis (Business Committee) spoke in favor of the new amendment.

Mr. Steven Moore (IK) spoke against the amendment since the committee agreed that it would not include a laundry list of people who are impacted by the issues.

Ms. Danielle Rochford (UCC Disabilities Ministries) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Brittany LaFleur (CONN) spoke against the amendment.

Ms. Linda Bigler (Business Committee) Spoke in support of amendment

Mr. Samuel Conde (FLA) Spoke in support of amendment

Mr. Paul Clay (CA NV, S) called the question.

**15-GS-21 VOTED** The Thirtieth General Synod votes to close debate on the amendment.

**15-GS 22 VOTED** The Thirtieth General Synod votes to defeat the amendment to the resolution.

Discussion on original resolution:

Mr. Eric Kendall (KO) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Ian Winham (CONN) moved the following amendment which was seconded.

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod encourages congregations to work to eradicate stigma around mental illnesses/brain disorders and advocate for better mental health services for those who are falling through the fraying safety net.” Remove any reference to specific persons.

Mr. Lloyd Schneider (CA NV, N) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Mary Alice Suitors (IL) spoke against the amendment.

Mr. Steven Moore (IK) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Patrick Cage (MASS) spoke against the amendment.

**15-GS-23 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod defeated the amendment.

**15 GS-24 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the resolution on developing welcoming, inclusive, supportive and engaged congregations for Mental Health.

***DEVELOPING WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTIVE  
AND ENGAGED CONGREGATIONS FOR MENTAL HEALTH***

*WHEREAS, most people believe that mental illnesses are rare and “happen to someone else,” when in fact, mental illnesses are common and widespread with an estimated 61.5 million Americans (1 in 4) experiencing some form of mental illness in a given year;*

*WHEREAS, there continues to be strong stigma and discrimination in society against people with these brain disorders in housing, employment, social relationships, (including how they are treated in our churches);*

*WHEREAS, many uninformed people believe people with mental illnesses are likely to be violent, while in reality, people with mental illnesses are more likely to be victims of violence than perpetrators;*

*WHEREAS, the public mental health system, which previously served as a safety net for people with the most severe mental illnesses, has suffered from dramatic funding cuts in the last decade, and our prisons and county jails now house more people with mental illnesses than psychiatric hospitals do;*

*WHEREAS, faith and spirituality can be an important component of recovery from mental illnesses and addictions;*

*WHEREAS, a mental illness or brain disorder in the family affects not only the ill family member, it profoundly affects other family members and loved ones and the entire family structure;*

*WHEREAS, people having a diagnosable brain disorder and/or substance abuse disorder are potentially at a higher risk for suicide;*

*WHEREAS, the church is called to be a community that breaks through fear and isolation to offer love, hope, care and healing;*

*WHEREAS, Jesus showed us the way to reach out to those who are ill or marginalized to offer companionship, compassion and support;*

***THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod encourages United Church of Christ congregations to adopt covenants to be WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged) Congregations for Mental Health.***

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod encourages congregations to work to eradicate stigma around mental illnesses/brain disorders, and to offer support to persons with and those impacted by mental health challenges, including their family members, loved ones and others concerned.*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod encourages advocacy by all settings of the church for broader and more just access to quality mental health services including private and public insurance coverage. This advocacy includes services for all persons with mental illness who are falling through the fraying safety net, especially persons in jails/prisons, and persons who are homeless.*

### **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries and other entities of the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **5. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.**

Ms. Jaramillo asked to lift up Ms. Loey Powell whose mother passed away a few moments ago. Ms. Jaramillo offered a prayer on behalf of Ms. Powell and her family.

## **6. ELECTION OF JAMES MOOS**

Ms. Artt recapped that on Friday General Synod received the re-nomination of Mr. Moos as Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries and the nomination of Mr. Dorhauer as General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

The motion is as follows:

On October 17, 2014 the United Church of Christ Board of Directors, sitting as the Wider Church Ministries Board of Directors, re-nominated for election by the Thirtieth General Synod the selection of its Re-nomination Committee, Mr. Moos of the Northern Plains Conference for a second four-year term as Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ and submits its re-nomination for consideration by delegates to the Thirtieth General Synod, meeting June 26-30, 2015 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Ballots were then distributed in accordance with the instructions previously announced.

**15-GS-25 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod calls Mr. Moos for a second four-year term as Executive Minister of Wider Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ.

## **7. ELECTION OF THE NEXT GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Ms. Artt moved on to the election of Mr. Dorhauer.

On March 19, 2015 the United Church of Christ Board of Directors nominated for call by election by the Thirtieth General Synod the selection of its Search Committee, Mr. Dorhauer of the Southwest Conference as the next General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ and submits its nomination for consideration by delegates to the Thirtieth General Synod meeting June 26-30, 2015 in Cleveland. The Motion comes from the Board and does not need a second.

Discussion:

Mr. Graylan Hagler (MRSEJ) spoke against the nomination and also objected to the presentation and raised the questions of Mr. Dorhauer's insensitivity, and asked for an apology by Mr. Dorhauer.

Mr. Emmery Groomes (SW) spoke in favor of Mr. Dorhauer's nomination and spoke of Mr. Dorhauer's competency and his achievements.

Mr. Doug Clark (CONN) stated that he was disappointed in the process and the choice that led to the election.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) spoke in favor of Mr. Dorhauer, as a part of the Search Committee and as a youth, saying it was about who the Spirit was calling to lead the Church.

Ms. Anna Hubleton (SC) spoke against the nomination because it's time to call a woman.

Mr. Felix Villenaver (CA NV, S) spoke in favor of the nomination, believing that Mr. Dorhauer is The right person.

Ms. Alice Hunt (CTS) spoke in favor of the nomination based on a review of all of the applications received.

Ms. Heather Archovich (MOM) spoke in favor of the nomination.

Mr. Roberto Ochoa (CHM) spoke in favor of the nomination.

Ms. Katelyn Lenley (KO) spoke in favor of the nomination. Why are we still debating on looks and not going off of qualifications alone?

Mr. Daniel Kirk (OHIO) spoke in favor of the nomination.

Ms. Cassandra Granados (NY) spoke against the nomination because she thinks it is time for a woman.

Ms. Mary Jane Huber (WIS) called the question, and it was seconded.

### **POINT OF ORDER**

Mr. Graylan Hagler (MRSEJ) stated that there needed to be a vote on calling the question.

**15-GS-26 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to close debate on election of Mr. Dorhauer.

**15-GS-27 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod calls the Rev. John C. Dorhauer as the next General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

### **8. ELECTIONS OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD, THE MODERATOR AND ASSISTANT MODERATOR, AND THE GENERAL SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Mr. Holeman indicated that the next order of business was the elections for various offices of the Church.

First, the election of members to the United Church of Christ Board of Directors, electing 13 members, 12 to full terms, one to fill a vacancy. The names of the nominees, selected by the General Synod Nominating Committee, have been posted for delegate review since January. The motion to elect these individuals comes from a Committee of the General Synod and requires no second.

**15 GS-28 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to elect the 13 members of the Board of Directors as posted for delegate review.

Mr. Holeman next moved to the election of the Moderator, of the Thirty-First General Synod. It was the stated intent of the authors of the new governance structure that there would be a graduation of leadership in this position, that the Assistant Moderator from one biennium would move up, be elected, as Moderator for the next biennium. Accordingly, the General Synod Nominating Committee has selected Ms. Artt for election as Moderator of the Thirty-First General Synod.

**15 GS-29 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to elect Ms. Sue Artt as the Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod.

Mr. Holeman then moved the election of Mr. Norman Williams as the Assistant Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod.

**15 GS-30 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to elect Mr. Norman Williams as the Assistant Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod.

(Unknown name and conference) objected to the election without discussion.

Mr. Holeman ruled objection out of order.

Mr. Graylan Hager (MRSEJ) appealed the ruling of the Moderator.

Mr. Holeman acknowledged the right to appeal.

## **9. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CT) asked to be led in prayer and guidance.

Mr. Black prayed for grounding and for the reminder that our work is about Christ's ministry of love and compassion.

Mr. Holeman ruled to reopen the election of Ms. Artt as Moderator and Mr. Williams as Assistant Moderator and allow for discussion.

Mr. Ian Holland (MASS) asked about closing debate and moving onto a whole new subject. He wanted to know if that was in accordance with Parliamentary Procedure. Parliamentarians ruled that it was appropriate.

Mr. Holeman asked if there was any discussion on the election of Ms. Artt, and there was no discussion.

**15 GS-31 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to elect Ms. Artt as the Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod.

Mr. Holeman asked if there was any discussion on the election of Norman Williams as the Assistant Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod, and there was no discussion

**15 GS-32 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted (again) to elect Mr. Williams as the Assistant Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod.

Mr. Holeman indicated that the next, and final election, is to the General Synod Nominating Committee, Class of 2021. The Board of Directors selects the nominees for this position. There are four nominees this time. They are Ms. PamelaJune Anderson, Ms. Jean Avison, Mr. Christopher Rankin and Mr. Joseph Sejneha. Nominations from the floor are not allowed for these positions.

Mr. Holeman asked for discussion, and there was no discussion.

**15 GS-33 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to elect Ms. Anderson, Ms. Avison, Mr. Rankin and Mr. Sejneha to the General Synod Nominating Committee, Class of 2021.

Mr. Holeman congratulated the nominees and asked them to stand and be recognized. There was applause.

## **10. RECOGNITION OF NEW AND RETIRING CONFERENCE MINISTERS**

Mr. Holeman called upon Mr. Kent Siladi, Chair of the Cabinet of the Counsel of Conference Ministers and Conference Minister of the Connecticut Conference, to recognize the new and retiring Conference Ministers.

Mr. Siladi recognized that all are called to ministry of one form or another. In the United Church of Christ there are some who are called into ministry and leadership in the Conference setting. The 38 Conferences across the United Church of Christ call persons to serve as their Conference Minister. Each Conference Minister serves uniquely in their particular Conference where they are invited to help shape the vision, mission and ministry of their setting. Each Conference Minister provides leadership beyond the Conference they serve through the Council of Conference Ministers and by providing leadership to other Boards and ministries of the National setting.

On behalf of the Council of Conference Ministers, Mr. Siladi recognized the new Conference Ministers and those who are retiring this year.

Retiring Conference Ministers:

Mr. Douglas Anders – South Central Conference  
Ms. Sheldon Culver – Illinois South Conference

New Conference Ministers:

Mr. David Ackermann – Penn West Conference  
Mr. Franz Rigert – Wisconsin Conference  
Ms. Diane Weible – California, Nevada Northern Conference  
Mr. William Worley – Pennsylvania Southeast Conference

New Conference Ministers serving in other Conferences:

Mr. John Vertigan – Florida Conference (Indiana-Kentucky Conference)

Conference Ministers who have been elected who will begin later this year:

Ms. Deborah Blood – Maine Conference  
Mr. Gordon Rankin – South Dakota Conference

Interim/Acting/Designated Conference Ministers:

Ms. Sue Artt – Rocky Mountain Conference  
Ms. June Boutwell – Southeast Conference  
Mr. Allen Fluent – Missouri Mid-South Conference  
Mr. Phil Hart – Consulting Conference Minister, Indiana Kentucky Conference  
Mr. Ken Heasley - Penn Central Conference (not present)  
Ms. Barbara Libby – Rhode Island Conference  
Ms. Ann Humble – South Central Conference

The new and retiring conference ministers were recognized with applause.

**11. PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION ENTITLED A JUST AND COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE IN THE WAKE OF THE SHOOTINGS AT EMMANUEL AME CHURCH IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.**

Mr. Holeman introduced the resolution coming directly to the General Synod and called upon Mr. Wilson, Chair of the Business Committee to present the resolution.

Mr. Wilson asked the body to make a change in the Resolution on Line 23. The change was to change the founding date of the church from 1691 to 1681. Mr. Wilson spoke to the pain and sorrow as a result of the June 17, 2015 murder of nine people at the Emmanuel AME church and moved that the body adopt the resolution as corrected. He then called on Mr. Jeremy Ruthledge to speak to the resolution. Mr. Ruthledge asked those gathered to hold in prayer the people of Charleston, South Carolina, and to pass the resolution and in doing so to honor the Charleston nine and speak out against white privilege.

**15-GS-34 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to adopt the Resolution entitled A Just and Compassionate Response in the Wake of the Shootings at Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina.



***A JUST AND COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE IN THE WAKE OF THE  
SHOOTINGS AT EMANUEL A.M.E. CHURCH IN CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA***

*WHEREAS, nine sisters and brothers in Christ were slain while in a Bible study at Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, South Carolina on June 17, 2015, and*

*WHEREAS, there exists a relationship in ministry among churches in Charleston, South Carolina that seeks to address issues of poverty and injustice including Circular Congregational Church and the Charleston Area Justice Ministry which engages in research, educates the public, and publically addresses the root causes of, and solutions to, poverty and injustice in their communities and seeks to transform the systems that cause suffering by holding local officials accountable for resolving these inequities and injustices, and*

*WHEREAS, the members of the Southeast Conference have sought to reach out to faith leaders in Charleston and South Carolina by presence in worship, standing in vigil, and offering prayers and solace to UCC members who lost family members in the shooting, and*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has historically sought to address issues of gun violence, racism, and justice as evidenced by the resolutions “Violence in our Society and World” and “Guns and Violence” adopted by General Synod 20, “Resolution Calling on the United Church of Christ to Renew the Battle Against Racism in All of Its Guises” adopted by General Synod 24, and the pastoral letter from the Collegium in 2013 which addressed gun violence and another pastoral letter from the Collegium in 2015 on racism, “A New Awakening,” and*

*WHEREAS, the Confederate flag has been, and continues to be a divisive and controversial symbol of violence, discrimination, oppression, hatred and racism, and that the United Church of Christ has responded to symbols of racial oppression such as the symbolic logo of the Washington football team and the symbolic caricature of the Cleveland baseball team from the stance that justice is a theological issue, not a political issue, and that symbols that are indicative of racial oppression should be resisted;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ reach out in Christian love to communicate to the members of Emanuel A.M.E Church our deep sympathy for their loss and the shattering of safe space in their house of worship and to assure other houses of faith in Charleston that we stand in witness to their faith and courage and pray as the psalmist does that “Violence shall no more be heard in your land, devastation or destruction within your borders; you shall call your walls Salvation, and your gates Praise. (Psalm 60:18)*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Collegium take appropriate actions to comfort and provide support for members and pastors of the United Church of Christ who lost family on June 17, 2015.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ stands in solidarity with South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, the more than thirty South Carolina State Legislators, the South Carolina NAACP, South Carolina Christian Action Council, and other residents of the State of South Carolina in their call to have the Confederate flag removed from the grounds of the South Carolina State House.*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ encourages pastors and congregations to renew their efforts to address issues of racism and violence in their communities and to promote fruitful relationships with other communities of faith in their cities and towns, especially through spiritual reflection in order to better understand the roots of violence and racism in our culture, consider the resources of our faith in ending such racism and violence, and taking action in our local communities and with ecumenical and interfaith partners to address the needs of the community to restore human dignity, meet the needs of healthy and wholesome life, and show the love of God to all the world.*

### **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Collegium of Officers, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **12. DISMANTLING DISCRIMINATORY SYSTEMS OF MASS INCARCERATION IN THE UNITED STATES**

Mr. Holman called upon Mr. Bob Thompson (SOC) to introduce the resolution. Mr. Thompson introduced the resolution and moved that General Synod adopt the resolution as submitted with changes from the committee. Mr. Thompson also spoke to the resolution.

Discussion:

Mr. Eric Moehler (MOMS) submitted the following amendment, which was seconded:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls for the cessation of all lock-up quotas, specifically the 34,000 immigrant detention bed quota, and the cessation of all detention facility contracts specifying a payment based on a guaranteed minimum number of detainees.”

Ms. Rebecca Glenn (SW) spoke in favor of the amendment.

(Unknown name and conference) spoke against the amendment.

Mr. Samuel Conde, (FL) Spoke in favor of the amendment

Mr. Tom Shipley (CONN) asked for clarification from the presenter of the amendment.

Mr. Thompson (SOC) indicated that his role was not to advocate or opposed the amendment but that the amendment belongs to the floor.

Mr. David Beebe (MOMS) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Irvin Milton (SOC) spoke against the amendment.

Mr. Louis Mitchell (MASS) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Diana Modoshi (NC NV, N) spoke against the amendment.

Mr. Eric Moeller (MOMS) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Paul Clay (CA NV, S) called the question and it was seconded.

**15-GS-35 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to close debate on the amendment.

**15-GS-36 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted. Mr. Holeman declares a division in the house, and the vote is retaken with the presentation of delegate cards. The Thirtieth General Synod defeated the amendment.

**15-GS-37 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the resolution on Dismantling Discriminatory Systems of Mass Incarceration in the United States with suggested changes by Committee.

***DISMANTLING DISCRIMINATORY SYSTEMS OF MASS INCARCERATION  
IN THE UNITED STATES***

*WHEREAS, since the 1980s, non-violent drug offenses have led to substantial sentencing of people of all races; however, punishment lodged against African Americans has been extreme. For example, the rate of drug use among White and African Americans is the same, African American men comprise 66% of the people in prison for drug use.*

*WHEREAS, African American men are currently more likely to be controlled by the criminal justice system, prosecuted more often, sentenced for longer terms, often prohibited from voting, and disqualified from serving on a jury, all the while continuing to suffer discrimination in employment, housing, and federal assistance.*

*WHEREAS, Justice Commission Hearings on Mass Incarceration conducted by the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference found evidence supporting author Michelle Alexander’s position that mass incarceration is the “New Jim Crow,” creating a system of modern-day enslavement. According to the findings, “it is apparent that the system of mass incarceration in the U.S. is replete with human rights violations by standards of the U.S. Constitution and the United Nations International Standards of Conduct.”*

*WHEREAS, the private prison industry aggressively solicits contracts from federal and state governments to provide facilities for prisoners, and specifically target detention of undocumented immigrants; many of which contracts require a minimum of 90% utilization of jail bed space. Texas leads the nation in the number of private prison beds, and New Mexico outsources the largest percentage of its inmate population to private corporations (43.8%) in the nation. Arizona, which now incarcerates over 13% of its prisoners in private prisons and is known as the national epicenter for incarcerating undocumented immigrants.*

*WHEREAS, people of color bear the brunt of our “criminal justice” system, no one is exempt from the problems of prosecutorial overreach, a poor public defender system, uneven sentencing, unreasonable parole practices, lack of funding for re-entry programs, and the use of prisons to house people for whom treatment for mental illness is not available.*

*WHEREAS, jails and prisons hold more individuals with serious mental illness than the largest remaining state psychiatric hospital in 44 of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. In 2012, there were estimated to be 356,268 inmates with severe mental illness incarcerated, at the same time, there were approximately 35,000 patients with severe mental illness in state psychiatric hospitals proving that the number of mentally ill persons in prisons and jails was ten times the number remaining in state hospitals.*

*WHEREAS, the growing prison industry is producing a vast underclass of former felons. The situation regarding prisoner reentry is dire. About three-quarters of a million prisoners are being released in the community each year. They face extreme hardship in housing, employment, family reunification, health and mental health care, and general isolation and alienation. They also suffer from debt (required restitution and associated parole and probation fees, fines, and penalties, with little or no income), as well as possible voting and entitlement disenfranchisement.*

*WHEREAS, estimates indicate that unduplicated expenditures to maintain the prison industrial complex are \$300 billion per year. The burden of such expenditures has led to the increasing privatization of that complex, especially in rural areas with small populations, where there is a need for employment and other commerce, including suppliers of goods and services. As a business, the first priority of private companies is profit; therefore, income for private prisons depends entirely on maintaining a large and stable inmate population. But the demand for guaranteed occupancy rates runs counter to efforts toward early release, alternative sentencing, and other forms of restitution, especially in cases of non-violent crimes.*

*WHEREAS, private prisons are exempt from some fundamental legal reporting mechanisms, including public reporting of crimes and escapes and the Freedom of Information Act. While confirmed data is hard to find, reliable sources indicate that the largest percentage of persons incarcerated in private prisons are African American men and women.*

*WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, the link between academic failure, delinquency, violence, and crime is welded to reading. Reliable data indicates that 85% of juveniles who interface with the court system are functionally illiterate and 70% of inmates in prison cannot read above fourth grade reading level. Inmates who receive no reading help have a 70% chance of returning to prison; this risk reduces to 16% for those who receive such assistance.*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ identifies mass incarceration as a critical human and civil rights issue in the U.S. because of its disparate impact on and disenfranchisement of people of color, youth, and people with limited economic resources; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ reaffirms its commitment to speak and act prophetically to disrupt and dismantle the growing prison industrial complex in the United States;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, to turn this tide of institutionalized racism and economic injustice by mass incarceration in the United States, that Justice and Witness Ministries, Conferences, and local congregations are encouraged to provide opportunities for education, mobilization, public witness, and public policy advocacy as outlined in the action plan.*

## **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries and other entities of the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

Mr. Holman announced the final count of the written ballot votes for Mr. Dorhauer. There was a standing ovation, Mr. Dorhauer and his wife appeared to express thanks, and Mr. Holman thanked and excused the tellers for their service.

## **13. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Rosas to reflect on our time together. Ms. Rosas called on the body to do some stretching and reflecting on God's invitation to tend and to nurture all creation.

## **14. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Foley for announcements.

1. Don't leave your badge on the table.
2. SpeakOuts!
3. Get Back at 7:30 PM.
4. Check bag and make sure it is your own or check with the Synod office for lost and found
5. Guest Announcement from Ms. Jaramillo regarding the petition in opposition to Cleveland baseball team name and delivery of petitions to stadium.
6. Thank you for your patience regarding the voting devices. They might be back in operation tomorrow.

## **15. RECESS**

Mr. Holeman declared the Fifth Plenary to be complete and General Synod to be in recess.

**Monday Evening, June 30, 2015**

**Sixth Plenary Session**

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Holeman called the Sixth Plenary Session of the Thirtieth General Synod to order and opened the floor to Speak Out participants.

## **2. SPEAKOUTS!**

1. Ms. Pat Jackman (MASS) – Seminarian Loan Debt
2. Ms. Jan Dashner (IS) – Military Chaplains
3. Ms. Heather Arcovitch (MOMS) – Rebuilding the (Burned) churches
4. Ms. Lizette Meecham (KO) – Columbia Partnership
5. Ms. Julia LeBrell (MICH) – Mental Health Issues
6. Ms. Julie Holm (PENN) – HBCUs and seminaries
7. Mr. Andy Lang (COALITION) – Invitation to celebration
8. Mr. Harold Beer (MICH) – Gratitude to those provided lodging and meals to bikers
9. Ms. Becky Davis and Ms. Dixie Laube (IOWA) – Happy Birthday to Ms. Jann Jenson
10. Mr. David Ingles (IL) – Invited to sing National Anthem of Canada

## **3. TESTED CLICKERS/VOTING DEVICES**

Mr. Holman announced that we would spend a few minutes testing the voting devices. Ms. Tigner gave instructions, and the result was successful. There was a resounding applause from the gathered body.

## **4. RESOLUTION REGARDING DISMANTLING THE NEW JIM CROW**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Bob Thompson to continue with the committee’s report on the second resolution before the committee. Mr. Thompson reviewed the changes that the committee made to the resolution and then moved that the body adopted the resolution as amended. Mr. Thompson then spoke to the resolution.

Discussion:

Mr. John Deckenback (CAC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

## **5. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Ms. Brittany La Fleur (CONN) requested that Mr. Black lead Synod in prayer over this resolution.

Mr. Phil Porter (COALITION) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Mike Warren (HI) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Elizabeth Walker (Business Committee) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Edith Guffey (KO) spoke in favor of the resolution.

**15-GS-38 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the resolution on Dismantling the New Jim Crow with suggested amendments from the Committee.

***DISMANTLING THE NEW JIM CROW***  
***A Resolution of Witness***

*WHEREAS, The “New Jim Crow,” the term used to describe the marginalization and re-subjugation of African Americans under the guise of the so-called War on Drugs, various get-tough-on-crime policies, and mass incarceration, is causing horrific pain, untold suffering, and irreparable damage to millions of African Americans;*

*WHEREAS, millions of African American men and women are under control of the criminal justice system, unable to vote or serve on juries but able to be discriminated against legally in employment, housing, and federal assistance;*

*WHEREAS, even though the rate of drug use among white and black Americans is the same, African Americans are prosecuted more often, receive harsher sentences, and serve longer terms for violations of laws prohibiting the use and distribution of drugs. Indeed, men of color comprise sixty-six percent of the people in prison for drug use (African Americans forty-two percent and Hispanics twenty-four percent);*

*WHEREAS, young African American men comprise fourteen percent of young men in the United States, yet comprise forty percent of young men in prison;*

*WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of The United States has held that such glaring statistical disparities are inadmissible as reasons for bringing actions to remedy these injustices, even in states in which ninety percent of people imprisoned for violations of drug laws are African Americans;*

*WHEREAS, General Synods of the United Church Of Christ have passed resolutions and pronouncement calling the church to action to help find solutions to the resurgence of racism, the seemingly endless War on Drugs, the problem of mass incarceration and the growth of the prison-industrial complex, and the reality of racial and class bias in arrests and sentencing, as well as resolutions and pronouncements calling the church to seek justice in policing, housing, and employment for people who have served felony sentences, to address inadequate legal representation for the indigent, to provide training and rehabilitation for prison inmates, and to restore voting rights for people who have served their time;*

*WHEREAS, not only the War on Drugs continues unabated but also the privatization of the prison industrial complex grows unimpeded, with the result that the United States, with only five percent of the world’s population, incarcerates twenty-five percent of the world’s prisoners, the highest percentage of incarceration in the world;*

*WHEREAS, Justice Commission Hearings on Mass Incarceration conducted by the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference found evidence supporting author Michelle Alexander’s position that mass incarceration is an essential aspect of the “New Jim Crow,” creating a system of modern-day enslavement. (2014 Report, Bearing Witness: A Nation in Chains). Indeed, according to the findings, “it is apparent that the system of mass incarceration in the U.S. is replete with human rights violations by standards of the U.S. Constitution and the United Nations International Standards of Conduct”;*

*WHEREAS, the growing prison industry is producing a vast underclass of former felons. Indeed, the situation regarding prisoner re-entry is dire. About three-quarters of a million prisoners are being released in the community each year. They face extreme hardship in housing, employment, family reunification, health and mental health care, and general isolation and alienation. They also suffer from debt (required restitution and associated parole and probation fees, fines, and penalties, with little or no income), as well as voting and entitlement disenfranchisement;*

*WHEREAS, as a result of such legally permissible disenfranchisement, more African American men were disqualified from voting in 2014 than in 1870, the year the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified;*

*WHEREAS, in some of our largest cities, the high school dropout rate is over fifty percent; in public schools across America, only ten percent of eighth grade black males read at or above a proficient level; and, in our national capital, three of every four young African American males can expect to serve time in prison; and*

*WHEREAS, the link among academic failure, delinquency, violence, and crime is welded to reading (The U.S. Department of Justice). Indeed, reliable data indicates that 85% of juveniles who interface with the court system are functionally illiterate and 70% of inmates in prison cannot read above fourth grade reading level. Inmates who receive no reading help have a 70% chance of returning to prison, while the risk of recidivism reduces to 16% for those who receive such assistance;*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ support and reaffirm prior resolutions and pronouncements calling the church to continued sacred conversations on race and to engage in prophetic speech and action directed at eliminating systemic racism in all its guises, ending the “War on Drugs,” stopping mass incarceration and the growth of the prison-industrial complex, ending racial and class bias in arrests and sentencing, implementing justice in policing, housing, and employment for people who have served felony sentences, addressing inadequate legal representation for the indigent, providing training and rehabilitation for prison inmates, and restoring voting rights for people who have served their sentences;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ identify “the New Jim Crow,” “defined as the disenfranchisement, marginalization, and re-subjugation of African Americans and accordingly the creation of a permanent caste of second-class citizens, as a critical human and civil rights issue in the United States on account of its devastating political, legal, and social effects upon African Americans, other people of color, youth, and people with limited economic and other resources; and*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges Justice and Witness Ministries, Conferences, Associations, and local congregations to provide opportunities for education, including a resource with information on the biblical and theological foundations on race, mobilization, public witness, and public policy advocacy to dismantle the New Jim Crow and to turn this tide of institutionalized racism and economic injustice. .*



## **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries and other entities of the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **6. A CALL FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND REUNIFICATION IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA.**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Denise Mason-Bullitt (PNW) to present the resolution regarding A Call for Peace, Justice and Reunification in the Korean Peninsula. Ms. Mason-Bullitt moved that the Thirtieth General Synod adopt the resolution as amended. She then spoke to the resolution on behalf of the committee.

Discussion:

Mr. Hunjung Cho (Overseas Delegate) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Kelly Parish Lucas (UCC Disabilities) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. William VerDuin (IS) spoke in favor of the resolution.

**15-GS-39 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod adopts the resolution on a Call for Peace, Justice and Reunification in the Korean Peninsula.

### ***A CALL FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND REUNIFICATION IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA***

*WHEREAS, the Korean War ended on July 27, 1953 with the signing of an Armistice Agreement and creation of a demilitarized zone between the two Korean regimes, which was designed by the U.S. and Soviet Union in August 15, 1945 as only a temporary political arrangement, and yet after sixty years a formal peace treaty has never been reached, leaving the peninsula and its people divided by fear and hostility, and subject to recurring incidents of violence;*

*WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Korea's independence from Japanese occupation, enabled by the U.S. through the Taft-Katsura Agreement in 1905, yet the Korean people are still not free from the occupation of extensive militarization, and of antagonistic domestic policies and Cold War international politics, intensified in recent years as South Korea, a client of U.S. military hegemony in North East Asia, has been the apex of an aggressive U.S. policy to "pivot" or reposition arms and forces into the Pacific;*

*WHEREAS, for more than 60 years the U.S. has led sustained economic sanctions on North Korea, continues to wield wartime operational control of South Korea's military, and has planned to deploy the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-ballistic missile system in the country to intercept missiles from North Korea, China and Russia, further threatening the peace and security of the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia;*

*WHEREAS, communities and families separated by the Korean War and subsequent division between the North and South desire reunion and reconciliation before generations pass without ever seeing or knowing the fate of loved ones; and separated families have rarely been able to communicate or visit across the border, but rather have been kept distant, disconnected, and often are used as leverage in political negotiations;*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ maintains a close partnership with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea, which together with the National Council of Churches in Korea, the Korean Christian Federation of North Korea, and with the World Council of Churches 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly meeting in 2013 in Busan, Korea, have called on the international community to advance a new era of commitment to work for peace and reunification in the Korean peninsula;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ, reminded that the Twenty-Fourth General Synod in 2003 resolved to advocate for “Peace and Reconciliation in the Korean Peninsula,” being grieved that the Korean people remain divided and disrupted by recurring violence and hostility more than 60 years after the end of the Korean War, faithfully joins our partners the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea and the National Council of Churches in Korea, as well as responds to the World Council of Churches 10<sup>th</sup> Assembly, in recommitting our communion to work for peace and justice; and committing to work for reunification in the Korean peninsula;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod, recognizing that 2015 is the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of Korea from occupation at the end of the Second World War, and yet that the peninsula remains occupied by militarization and nuclear weapons, and believing that with “God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26), advocate that the U.S. government and international community commence a new process of peace-building across the Korean peninsula, that includes a commitment by all parties to replace the Armistice Agreement of 1953 with a permanent peace treaty, finally bringing an end to the state of war; and a mutual commitment to end provocative military exercises on the peninsula, to reduce military expenditures, and to eliminate nuclear weapons on the peninsula, establishing a model for peace and demilitarization in Northeast Asia;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod, trusting that Christ “has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us” (Eph. 2:14), rededicates itself to accompany our Korean partners in their efforts, working with the governments in both North and South Korea, with the churches and Christians in both North and South Korea, and through religious, humanitarian and advocacy initiatives, to seek the reconciliation and restoration of families and communities long divided by conflict and hostility, so that social, spiritual and psychological healing can occur among the people of Korea;*

*FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod calls upon its members and congregations to accompany our partners in Korea by praying for peace with the peoples and churches of Korea, recognizing the Sunday before August 15, Korean Liberation Day, as the “Sunday of Prayer for the Peaceful Reunification of the Korean Peninsula”; by expressing*

*solidarity through relationship building trips, in partnership with Global Ministries as their ecumenical partner, to churches in North and South Korea; by supporting efforts such as the World Council of Churches' Tozanso Process and complementary initiatives to foster dialogue, reconciliation, and mutual support between the North and South; and by advocating that the U.S. Congress and Administration change U.S. foreign policy and military strategy and pursue policies of peace and reunification.*

### **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **7. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Ms. Min Heui Cheon asked for prayer in the passing of this resolution. Mr. Moos offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

## **8. CELEBRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF MR. GEOFFREY BLACK**

Mr. Holeman introduced Mr. Wilson, Chair of the Board of Directors, to introduce a time of celebration of Mr. Black as the General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

An original musical piece "A Bow Tie and A Smile" written by Mr. John Dornhauer, Jr. was performed.

A video tribute to Mr. Black was shown and a standing ovation ensued.

Mr. Black gave some reflections of his ministry as General Minister and President. "We are in this thing together". He has always felt the support and loving care of the Church. We have shared much change. Thanks for the willingness for the need for change. Being General Minister and President has been a blessed challenge. He is convinced that the church universal and this country has a need for the UCC. We are all family – children of God.

## **9. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

Mr. Holeman invited Mr. Molsberry to offer a theological reflection of our time together this evening.

## **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Foley for announcements.

1. Speakouts! – Two left, sign up at end of this plenary or tomorrow morning.
2. Put your name on the luggage tag of your Synod bag and check with the Synod Office if you've lost your tag

## **11. RECESS**

Mr. Holeman declared the Sixth Plenary Session would be completed at the end of the evening worship and the next plenary would begin tomorrow at 8:00 AM.

## **12. WORSHIP**

Meditation during the evening worship service was presented by Mr. Rahib, an internationally acclaimed author and speaker.

**Tuesday Morning, June 30, 2015**  
**Seventh Plenary Session**

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Artt called the Seventh Plenary Session of the Thirtieth General Synod to order.

## **2. SPEAKOUTS!**

1. Ms. Kimberlee Whisler-Vasko (IL) – Search for College President for Elmhurst College
2. Mr. Derrick Duncan and Mr. Hunjung Cho (Global Industries) – Letter shared from Korea
3. Mr. Patrick Cage (MASS) – Climate Change Fossil Fuel Free Pension Board Options
4. Ms. Morgan Bates (PSE) – Abolish of Capital Punishment
5. Ms. Sarah Sample LeBrell (MICH) – In addition to speaking out I would like to be heard. Against both resolutions in regard to the Palestinian Conflict.
6. Ms. Meghan Pritchard (PNW) – Climate Change as addressed by Pope Francis Encyclical and Environmental Justice
7. Mr. Rick Walters (Pension Boards) – Introduction of New Investment Fund Options for those concerned with the Pension Boards Implementation of Fossil Fuel mandates.
8. Mr. Phil Hart (OH/IK) – Innovation Lab Experience

## **3. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Black offered prayer to begin again our journey together towards deliberation and decision making today.

## **4. PRESENTATION ON SEMINARY EDUCATION**

Ms. Artt introduced Ms. Alice Hunt, President of Chicago Theological Seminary, to present on the role of theological education in both leadership development and in helping to shape the discussion regarding the nature and future direction of the Church.

Ms. Hunt discussed theological formation as the bedrock of our mission. By taking an intentional approach to theology. Theological formation is happening in silos and needs to be federated across the denomination, vibrant leadership, academies in our Conferences, nationally, and in the Office for Faith Formation. Ms. Hunt challenged us to be a theological center. We are in this together. We in the UCC we have a unique and powerful message. We recognize in all its expressions and do cradle to grave. One UCC seminary with multiple campuses, utilizing distance learning to engage all! Closing challenge to the General Minister and President and leaders, convene leadership to discuss, plan and act on that challenge. Ms. Hunt challenged the new General Minister and President to look seriously at what it would look like if your denomination was the center for theological education.

## **5. HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS**

Mr. Holeman addressed a couple of housekeeping matters. Mindful of Mr. Black's Prayer. Be mindful of each other's feelings. Extend the courtesy of those who may not see the issues the same as you. Only voting delegates are allowed to vote. State your name and your Conference.

**15-GS-40 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted by acclamation to rescind the suspension of Rule 21b.

## **6. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.**

Ms. Sheldon Culver (IS) stated that it behooves us to pay attention to our goals and not delaying work by "word smithing" and remember we are in covenant.

## **7. PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.**

Mr. Holeman called upon Mr. Wilson to move the adoption of the proposed Bylaw changes and amendments pertaining to governance.

Mr. Wilson moved the adoption of proposed amendments and revisions as voted upon by the Unified Board in March 2015. The proposed amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws were brought by the Governance Committee of the Board of Directors and then approved by the Board of Directors and are in full compliance with all deadlines and notification protocols. Because the proposal comes from the Board Business Committee they need no second.

Mr. Wilson called upon Ms. Elizabeth Walker of the Governance Committee to provide details regarding the changes and referred the body to the summary and information sheets posted under materials of the General Synod 2015 website. Ms. Walker indicated the recommended changes are based on the reconfiguration of our National Setting with the creation of the Unified Board and the impact of recent re-organization undertaken in our National Offices as well as updates and clarifications of intent to reflect current meaning and process. Through input from MESA, we have proposed clarifications regarding the Ordination and Search and Call process as well as the continued relationship between members in discernment and those persons approved for ordination

pending call and our Committees on Church and Ministry. Proposed changes to the Unified Board Committee structure, specifically the proposed changes to the Executive Committee, came with the realization that the Executive Committee needed to be expanded to include all of the Chairs of the Standing Committees and representation of each class of the Board, and it also needed to reflect the diversity of our Church and of the Board. The elimination of the requirement to have specific covenanted ministry based committees was based on the general sense that the committee structure needed some adjustments, as the whole board is responsible for strategic planning and oversight, and that the assignment to ministry committees be left to the Board in conjunction with our leaders in the National Setting to best determine how the committee structure can best be utilized. There was a provision to allow the Board to call upon persons with expertise outside of the Board to serve on committees.

Discussion:

Ms. Angela Bileau (MASS) asked what the future of Justice and Witness Ministries was, addressing her question to Mr. Dorhauer to hear his commitment to Justice and Witness Ministries and the future. Mr. Dorhauer indicated that he will request that the position be held open and replaced at the time the current position is vacated in October.

Mr. Lawrence Richardson (MINN) spoke in favor of the changes.

Mr. Kevin Monroe (CAC) spoke against the changes.

Mr. Cameron Barr (IOWA) spoke in favor of the changes.

Ms. Dawn Garret Larson (NH) spoke against the changes.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) spoke in favor of the changes.

Ms. Yvonne Geld (SOC) spoke against the changes.

Mr. Adam Wynsinski (MASS) spoke in favor of the changes.

Ms. Kelly Parish Lucas (Disabilities Ministries) spoke against the changes.

Ms. Kim Wood (IL) spoke in favor of the changes.

Ms. Bernice Powell Jackson (Honored Guest) spoke against the changes.

Mr. John Dorhauer (Conference Minister Elect) spoke in favor of the changes.

Mr. Jorge Morales (ILL) spoke against the changes.

## **8. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) asked for Authors of Open Letters calling for transparencies to identify themselves.

Mr. Emmery Groomes (SW) Called the Question and it was seconded.

**15-GS-41 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod's vote to stop debate was defeated.

Discussion Continued:

Mr. Erin Lawer (MINN) spoke in favor of the changes.

Mr. Graley Hager (MRSEJ) spoke against the changes.

Mr. Brian Beer (OHIO) asked a question regarding process.

Ms. Donna Schapper (NY) asked a question regarding amendments.

Ms. Molly Baskette (MASS) spoke in favor of the changes.

Ms. Donna Schapper (NY) moved to postpone the Bylaws to the Thirty-first General Synod, and it was seconded. Ms. Schapper then spoke to it. She was concerned that people feel trusted enough with the process. It is not to slow down the change but find ways to bring people in together

Discussion on Motion to Postpone.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) objected to consideration of the amendment and spoke to it. Called to decide on the Bylaw changes to do and perform the business of the day. Spoke against a Motion to Postpone.

Mr. Ron Patterson (FLA) questioned what it means to accept the Motion for Postponement. Postpone would freeze frame what was decided today and bring it back in identical form in two years.

Moderator called the order of the day.

## **9. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. John Kendall (IL) asked for prayer to relieve the tension in the room.

Ms. Artt called the body to sing together “We are one in the Lord”.

## **10. KEY NOTE SPEAKER MS. WINONA LADUKE**

Ms. Artt introduced the speaker Ms. Winona LaDuke, an activist, environmentalist, economist and writer known for her work on tribal land claims and preservation.

Ms. LaDuke encouraged people to continue the good work. Work hard, pray hard. She thanked the Church for the work in rejecting the doctrine of discovery and thanks to the South Dakota Conference for returning land to the Lakota people. She encouraged us to honor the earth and shared what is being done in the Lakota communities. She spoke against fossil fuel, pipelines and destruction of the environment through fracking.

## **11. RECOGNITION OF SOUTH DAKOTA CONFERENCE RETURNING LAND TO NATIVE AMERICANS**

Ms. Artt thanked the speaker and introduced Mr. Black and the Mr. David Gelton, Interim Conference Minister of the South Dakota Conference.

Mr. Black stated that last year he was privileged to be present at the South Dakota Conference Annual Meeting when the actual titles to church properties and adjacent lands in Nebraska and South Dakota were handed over to the Dakota Association. The ceremony was quite moving.

The process of transferring the land has taken years, and it was gratifying to witness the culmination of the process, with the last of more than a dozen deeds transferred by the South Dakota Conference. These church land deeds were held by predecessor mission organizations of the UCC and transferred to the South Dakota Conference after the UCC was formed in 1957. The Conference has held those deeds for decades "in trust" on behalf of the Dakota Association. It wasn't until a few years ago that the Conference and Association began the process of transferring the lands.

In recent years, the leadership of Mr. Mark Stewart and Mr. David Felton has been instrumental in moving the land transfer process forward. Not only has it been an achievement for the Lakota people who are now in full possession of their land, it has also been the source of an increasingly positive and constructive relationship between the South Dakota Conference and the Dakota Association. This will make it possible for the incoming new Conference Minister, Mr. Gordon Rankin, to begin his tenure in South Dakota with an opportunity to build an even stronger relationship with the Lakota people, a relationship of mutuality, trust and equal partnership. A relationship free of the anger, frustration and both perceived and real paternalism and racism that have been impediments to right relationship in the past.

Mr. Felton thanked Mr. Black. Ms. Toni Buffalo, Ms. Mary Edlen and Mr. Bob Frieberg participated in the transfer ceremony of returning the last of the lands to the Lakota people.

## **12. RETURN TO THE ORDER OF THE DAY**

Ms. Schaper (NY) asked to withdraw her Motion.

Mr. Holeman indicated the Motion to Postpone belongs to the House and then asked if there was any objection to withdraw the Motion to Postpone. There was objection so the house was called upon to vote on the withdrawal of the Motion.

**15-GS-42 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to withdraw the Motion to Postpone the Discussion of the Bylaw changes to the Thirty-first General Synod.

Discussion on original motion continued:

Mr. Patterson (FL) requested clarification of majority of what is being considered would require a two year discussion among the Conference. Mr. Holeman affirmed.

Ms. Erin Van (IS) spoke in favor of the changes.

Mr. Art Cribbs (CA NV, S) spoke against the changes.

Ms. Edith Guffey (KO) spoke neither for nor against, but asked people to pray.

Ms. Robin Bacon (CAC) requested clarification. Will Conference have a chance to vote? Ms.

Walker indicated that it will be given a chance to give an up or down vote, but not make any changes.

Mr. David Yoshita (CONN) spoke against the changes.

Mr. Phil Porter (Coalition) requested clarification as to who are the Officers. Ms. Walker indicated the Executive Ministers would also be Officers of the Church. Model designed for flexibility.



Mr. Bob Thompson (SOC) Called the Question and it was seconded.

**15-GS-43 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted to end debate on the Motion.

**15-GS-44 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod denied the Motion on the Constitution and Bylaws proposals pertaining to Governance. (2/3 vote required: Yes-401; No-249; Abstain-23)

### **13. ADOPTION OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BYLAWS RELATING TO THE INVESTMENT AND ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Holeman called upon Mr. Wilson to introduce the Second Motion Mr. Wilson moved the adoption of the United Church of Christ Bylaws relating to the Investment and Endowment Committee. Mr. Wilson deferred to Ms. Walker to speak to the Motion.

Ms. Walker spoke to the specific changes indicating that this amendment concerns the manner in which the Board sets the draw rate from the unrestricted funds in the endowment.

**15-GS-45 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod voted in favor of the Proposed Amendment to the Bylaws regarding Investment and Endowment.

### **14. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE.**

Mr. Black introduced the representatives of the United Church of Canada.

### **15. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Ms. Kelly Gallagher (CONN) requested the Board to consider arrangements to fill the Justice and Witness Ministries Executive Minister position and requested communication of the plans to the general body.

### **16. RESOLUTION A CALL FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TO TAKE ACTIONS TOWARD A JUST PEACE IN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Richard Edom, Chairperson of committee, to present the recommended action of that committee. Mr. Edom moved that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ take actions toward a Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict. He, thereafter, spoke to the resolution.

Discussion:

Mr. John Dekenbeck (CAC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Joann Marketto (PNE) spoke against the resolution.

### **17. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) offered a prayer.

Mr. Graylan Hagler (MRSEJ) spoke in favor of the resolution.  
Ms. Dawn Berry (NH) spoke against the resolution.

Ms. Debby Spearman (SE) moved an amendment as follows:

“COMMENDS United Church of Christ leadership for continuing to dialogue with major Jewish organizations and call for United Church of Christ-wide participation in a rigorous dialogue among the three Abrahamic faiths at all levels – in particular between local congregations that will be resourced with materials from the Wider Church Global Ministries Middle East and Europe office that will identify ways in which groups of congregations in different faiths can work in concert to promote sacred reconciliation among all people who are affected by the conflict in the Middle East and to influence public policies in ways that will promote peace and social justice for Palestinians and Israelis and end violence in all its forms” Seconded by Lorrin Shepherd (FLA)

Discussion on Amendment:

Ms. Marisa Brown Ludwig (MASS) spoke against the amendment.  
Ms. Diane Dulin (CPC) spoke in favor of the amendment.

**15-GS-46 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to approve the amendment to the the Motion.

Discussion continued on the main motion:

Mr. Matt Deal (PW) made an amendment which was addressed by Mr. Eden who indicated the fullness of the proposed amendment represents material changes to the Resolution and, therefore, Mr. Holeman ruled the amendment out of order.

Discussion resumed on the original resolution:

Ms. Jeneen Kubala (OHIO) spoke against the motion.

Mr. Richard Waddell (ME) asked a question regarding voting on a previous amendment. There was a majority vote, so why was it defeated?

Mr. Holeman asked for a viewing of the vote tally again: 310 for; 271 against; and 87 abstained.  
Mr. Holeman indicated he stands corrected and the amendment passed.

Mr. Rick Pleva (IOWA) commented on abstentions. Do they count as yes? Mr. Holeman indicated that the answer to that question is No.

Mr. Holeman then called for discussion to continue on the Motion as amended.

Ms. Robin Bacon Huffman (CAC) spoke in favor of the resolution.  
Mr. Mark Pohlman (MASS) spoke against the resolution.  
Mr. Ryan Dowell Baum (IOWA) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Silas Tockey (IL) Called the Question and it was seconded.

**15-GS-47 VOTED** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to end debate on the amended motion.

## **18. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Jim Antal (MASS) pointed out that it applies to everyone in every town, city and congregation in the United Church of Christ. If it passes, he is encouraging and urging everyone to make the personal commitment to stay in relationship with others of diverse faiths in and around your towns.

**15-GS-48 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ approved the resolution calling for a call for the United Church of Christ to take Actions toward a Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict.

### **A CALL FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TO TAKE ACTIONS TOWARD A JUST PEACE IN THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

*WHEREAS, in 1985 the 15th General Synod of the United Church of Christ committed itself to be a Just Peace Church;*

*WHEREAS, historically the United Church of Christ has affirmed Israel's right to exist within secure and internationally recognized boundaries (GS 16[1987] and GS 18[1991] ) and asserted the rights of Palestinians to enjoy sovereignty in an independent, contiguous, and viable state of their own, within secure and recognized boundaries (GS 16 [1987], GS 17[1989], and GS 18[1991]);*

*WHEREAS, past General Synods have identified the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and its human rights abuses committed therein to be a major source of conflict and have called for the end of the construction and expansion of settlements (GS 18 [1991] and GS 21[1997] );*

*WHEREAS, the various expressions of the United Church of Christ have a long history of effectively using boycotts against products and policies (lettuce, grapes, infant formula, apartheid, etc.) to address injustices;*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is deeply committed to interfaith relationships and General Synods have confessed to the sin of anti-Semitism and proclaimed its renunciation (GS 23 [2001]) and have denounced actions against Islam or Muslims based on ignorance or fear (GS 28 [2011]);*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has historically stressed the importance of living out a Covenantal theology, whereby diverse autonomous organizations covenant to collaborate for the common good, and that through such Covenantal relationships the United Church of Christ has partnered globally with those most impacted by the continuing conflict between Palestinians and Israel;*

*WHEREAS, as demonstrated through ongoing dialogue and partnerships, the United Church of Christ values and nurtures its relationships with Jewish groups in the U.S. and Israel who seek justice, equality, and freedom for both peoples, including groups with differing perspectives on the conflict;*

*WHEREAS, Palestinians in the West Bank have lived since 1967 under Israeli military occupation that subjects them to many human rights abuses, including: loss of their land for the purpose of building Israeli settlements; limited access to their land and to each other on account of the route of the Separation Wall on occupied Palestinian territories; systematic displacement into small, non-contiguous geographic enclaves separated by barriers and checkpoints; gross inequality in the amount of water allocated to them; severe and arbitrary travel restrictions; limited access to holy sites; segregated roads; demolition of their homes; destruction of their crops by settlers and the Israeli army; and arbitrary arrest, even of children;*

*WHEREAS, the Israeli government has once again subjected Palestinians in Gaza to military attacks using deadly force beyond that necessary for Israel's acknowledged need for self-defense and thereby beyond that measure of proportionate response permitted by historically Christian just war theory, has destroyed Gaza's infrastructure and economy, and has imposed: severe limits on personal entry and on the entry of products essential to Gazans' well-being; fishing limits in violation of international law and the Oslo accords; and strict control of electronic communications, as well as of air and sea space;*

*WHEREAS, Israel has annexed Palestinian East Jerusalem and separated it from the West Bank and Gaza and continues to appropriate Palestinian properties there for Jewish settlements and to deny building permits to Palestinians, as well as to revoke the residency rights of many of its Palestinian citizens there;*

*WHEREAS, Israel refuses to end, but rather has sought to solidify, its occupation of territory conquered in the 1967 War, leading to numerous illegal actions and human rights abuses by the Israeli government and military in defiance of United Nations resolutions, and refuses to respect the 4th Geneva Convention as called for by the International Court of Justice in its opinion concerning the Separation Wall in the occupied Palestinian territories;*

*WHEREAS, our Palestinian Christian partners, seeking an alternative to violence born of hopelessness and despair, have authored Kairos Palestine 2009 - 'A Moment of Truth': A Word of Faith, Hope, and Love from the Heart of Palestinian Suffering as a call and summons to their global partners to engage in non-violent measures that will pressure Israel to end the Occupation;*

*WHEREAS, the resolution "Concerning the Use of Economic Leverage in Promoting Peace in the Middle East," passed by the General Synod in 2005, calls upon "the Covenanted Ministries, Pension Boards, United Church Foundation, local churches and members to use economic leverage, including, but not limited to: advocating the reallocation of US foreign aid so that the militarization of the Middle East is constrained; making positive contributions to groups and*

*partners committed to the non-violent resolution of the conflict; challenging the practices of corporations that gain from the continuation of the conflict; and divesting from those companies that refuse to change their practice of gain from the perpetuation of violence, including the Occupation”;*

*WHEREAS, despite years of corporate engagement and the submission of shareholder resolutions from United Church Funds and other religious and secular groups, few companies have withdrawn any of their operations that support the Occupation;*

*WHEREAS, many agencies, institutions, universities, and Christian denominations around the world are severing financial ties to companies or institutions that help sustain the Israeli occupation and now, notably, have been joined by various Jewish groups in the U.S., such as Jewish Voice for Peace and American Jews for a Just Peace-Boston, as well as Israeli groups, such as the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions and Coalition of Women for Peace, that support using boycott and divestment strategies; and*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ’s efforts to end the Occupation through economic leverage and advocacy for the protection of human rights of all Palestinians and Israelis are not aimed at isolating Israel or any other party but reflect the belief that engagement and communication among all affected by the current tragic situation in the Middle East are in the deepest interests of both Palestinians and Israelis;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ:*

*CALLS upon United Church of Christ churches and church members to study the Kairos Palestine document and take heed of its call for non-violent measures pressuring Israel to end the Occupation, in solidarity with the Palestinian people;*

*CALLS upon the United Church of Christ Board, the Pension Boards - United Church of Christ, Inc., United Church Funds, conferences, local churches, members, and other related United Church of Christ entities to divest any holdings in the following companies that have been found to profit from the occupation of the Palestinian territories by the state of Israel: Caterpillar Inc., Motorola Solutions, Hewlett-Packard Development Company LP or its successors, G4S, and Veolia Environment plus its subsidiaries;*

*CALLS upon the United Church of Christ Board to establish an advisory group composed of representatives from the stakeholders in this issue, with the specific assignment of developing and publishing standards by which faith-driven investment, divestment, and re-investment decisions can be made in the future;*

*CALLS upon all national entities of the church to boycott goods identified as produced in or using the facilities of illegal settlements located in the occupied Palestinian territories, including, but not limited to, Ahava skin care products, SodaStream products, and Hadiklaim dates; and upon church members to join boycotts of such goods in their local communities;*

*CALLS upon the United Church of Christ Officers of the Church and church members to persist in the request to Congress, previously made by a number of religious leaders, to ensure that U.S. aid to Israel violates neither the U.S. Foreign Assistance Act, which prohibits assistance to any country that engages in a consistent pattern of human rights violations, nor the U.S. Arms Export Control Act, which limits the use of U.S. weapons to “internal security” or “legitimate self-defense”;*

*COMMENDS United Church of Christ leadership for continuing to dialogue with major Jewish organizations and call for United Church of Christ-wide participation in a rigorous dialogue among the three Abrahamic faiths at all levels - in particular between local congregations – that will be resourced with materials from the Wider Church Global Ministries Middle East and Europe office that will identify ways in which groups of congregations of different faiths can work in concert to promote sacred reconciliation among all people who are affected by the conflict in the Middle East and to influence public policies in ways that will promote peace and social justice for Palestinians and Israelis and end violence in all its forms;*

*CALLS upon the United Church of Christ Board to monitor the implementation of this resolution by all United Church of Christ national entities and to ensure that those who manage the United Church Board’s own invested funds and who provide United Church Board employee health and pension benefits are in compliance with the resolution; and*

*ASKS the General Minister and President to provide an annual report to the whole church on the implementation of this resolution, including a summary of interfaith dialogue at various levels, along with examples of interfaith, congregation-to-congregation peace efforts.*

#### **FUNDING**

*The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available.*

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

### **19. CALLING ON THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TO RECOGNIZE THE ACTIONS OF ISRAEL AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS AS APARTHEID.**

Mr. Holeman called upon Mr. Bill Lyons (MI) to present the recommended action by the committee. Mr. Lyons indicated that the committee significantly expanded the text of the resolution while preserving the original intent and spirit in which it was submitted. On behalf of the committee, Mr. Lyons moved that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopt the resolution calling on the United Church of Christ to recognize the actions of Israel against the Palestinians as apartheid, as amended. Ms. Lyons then spoke the the resolution.

## **20. BUSINESS DISCUSSION SUSPENDED**

By consensus of the body, Mr. Holeman suspended the business discussion of the morning, indicating that debate and discussion would reconvene at 2:00 PM. He then introduced the Theological Reflector.

## **21. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

Mr. Laney brought a message about claiming the throne of the earth for Jesus Christ. He indicated that in our work for justice Jesus has already claimed the throne of this world and he encouraged everyone to be the body that God has called us to be in Jesus' name.

## **22. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Artt called on Mr. Foley announcements.

1. Sign up for SpeakOut!
2. Don't go through Exhibit Hall.
3. Check Bags and Lost and Found.
4. Conference Ministers collect "clickers" of any delegates that are leaving early.

## **23. RECESS**

Ms. Artt declared the Seventh Plenary to be complete and the Thirtieth General Synod to be in recess until 2:00 PM.

### **Tuesday Afternoon, June 30, 2015 Eighth Plenary Session**

## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Holeman called the Eighth Plenary of the Thirtieth General Synod to order at 2:02 PM.

## **2. SPEAKOUTS!**

Mr. Holeman called upon the following SpeakOut participants:

1. Ms. Jen Shannon (PC) – Thank you for representing God to the lowest paid people
2. Ms. Gail Kinney (NH) – Growing Economic Equality
3. Ms. Brenda James (SOC) – Extravagant Welcome to Franklinton Center August 1
4. Ms. Julia LaBrell (MICH) – Shout out to People who belong to small churches
5. Mr. Kevin Munroe (CAC) – Shout out to Zion Reformed UCC 200th anniversary.
6. Mr. Paul Clay (CA NV S) – Looking for resolutions that challenge local churches to turn around numbers.
7. Ms. Taylor Ramage (CAC) – Speaking out for transgender university students

8. Mr. Emmerly Groomes (SOC) – Go Solar to Divest in Fossil Fuel. Happy Birthday John Gage.
9. Mr. Adam Isbrtsky (MASS) – OCWM pledge of \$2.00 to help deficit budget get smaller
10. Ms. Manda Adams (NY) – Closure of exhibit hall has been a hardship; Involve Disabilities Ministry for planning purposes.

Mr. Holeman thanked the participants and Mr. Dick Sparrow for his work as the SpeakOut! Coordinator.

### **3. PRAYER FOR DELEGATES**

Mr. Richard Waddel (ME) offered a prayer for all Delegates for hope, knowledge and strength for the continued work to be done.

### **4. CONTINUATION OF CALLING ON THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TO RECOGNIZE THE ACTIONS OF ISRAEL AGAINST THE PALESTINIANS AS APARTHEID.**

Discussion:

- Mr. Zachary Jackson (PSE) spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Ms. Liz Hash (SC) spoke against the resolution.
- Ms. Mamie Cokely (MICH) spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Ms. Kelly Brill (OHIO) spoke against of the resolution.
- Ms. Caris Holden (PSE) spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Mr. Paul Telstron (CA NV, S) spoke against the resolution.
- Ms. Manda Adams (NY) spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Mr. Tom Croner (PW) spoke against the resolution.
- Ms. Bernice Powell Jackson (Honored Guest) spoke in favor of the resolution.
- Ms. Marrisona Brown Ludwick (MASS) spoke against the resolution.

Mr. Nicholas Pense (PSE) Called the Question, and it was seconded.

**15-GS-49 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to terminate debate. Motion Carried. Debate Closed.

**15-GS-50 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted on the resolution as amended by the committee Calling on the United Church of Christ to recognize the actions of Israel against the Palestinians as Apartheid. Motion Failed (Resolution of Witness 2/3rds majority required 312 for; 295 against; 31 abstentions)

### **5. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Art Cribbs (CA NV S) called on the UCC to be an open and welcoming community of communication to all racial lines; to begin to listen more carefully to the voices of the people who are not heard. Mr. Cribbs invited people to be more intentional in conversations, in opening ourselves for the diversity and differences that are a reality in our time.



## **6. RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE OUTER SPACE ENVIRONMENT**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Ruth Bradshaw (KO) Chair of the committee to present the recommended action of the committee to the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ. Ms. Bradshaw reported on the resolution and moved that the body adopt and approve the resolution as amended. She then spoke to the resolution as amended by committee.

Discussion:

Mr. Roger Ulrich (PSE) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Bob Bachelder (MASS) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Bryn Smallwood-Garcia (CONN) spoke against the resolution.

Mr. Alexander Hanes (SD) wanted to hear the amendment. Moderator indicated there is no amendment.

Mr. Derek Obrien (CONN) Called the Question and it was sSeconded.

**15-GS-51 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to terminate debate. Motion Carried. Debate Closed. Voting in Favor of termination of debate.

**15-GS-52 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of the motion as amended by committee calling for responsible stewardship of the outer space environment.

### **RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP OF THE OUTER SPACE ENVIRONMENT**

*WHEREAS previous General Synods of the United Church of Christ have acknowledged humanity's moral obligation to be faithful stewards of God's creation; and*

*WHEREAS the United Church of Christ's pastoral letter on faith and science provides a theological basis for enlarging our ethical perspective on creation to incorporate outer space; and*

*WHEREAS a sustainable space environment is necessary for many activities essential to human flourishing; and*

*WHEREAS the long-term sustainability of the space environment is at risk from space debris and irresponsible conduct; and*

*WHEREAS timely action is required to stabilize the space environment, particularly low Earth orbit.*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ praises God for the majesty, mystery and complexity of the whole of creation, from the Earth to the outer reaches of the universe, and acknowledges human responsibility for the stewardship of planet Earth, its ecosystems and the larger cosmological systems of which it is a part.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses its concern about the pollution and degradation of the outer space environment and its dangerous implications for humanity and all of God's creation;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ requests that Justice and Witness Ministries recommend educational materials for the churches on the subject of outer space sustainability;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ requests that educational materials recommended by Justice and Witness Ministries be presented to the Thirty-First General Synod with suggestions for how the United Church of Christ might undertake various forms of action;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ requests that Justice and Witness Ministries send copies of this resolution and supporting materials to its global ecumenical, interfaith, and civil society partners and invite them to join the United Church of Christ in its efforts to promote outer space sustainability;*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the members of the United Church of Christ to educate themselves on this issue and advocate with members of Congress to adequately fund NASA to lead the nations of the world in working together to reduce the volume of debris in low Earth orbit;*

*BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ expresses its support for efforts by the United States and other nations to negotiate international agreements that encourage responsible behavior in space.*

#### **FUNDING**

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

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

### **7. RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION REQUIRING LABELING OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS ON FOOD PACKAGING.**

Mr. Holeman called upon Mr. David Nelson (IOWA) Chair of the committee to present the recommended action of the committee to the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ. Mr. Nelson reviewed the amendments and recommended approval of the resolution as amended by committee. He also spoke to the resolution.

## **8. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Jacob Garner (CONN) objected to consideration of the resolution, stating that standing rules give authority to object when the text of a resolution brings into question the Christian faith. Ruled out of order by Moderator, but advised to bring his objection at an “Against” microphone.

Discussion:

Ms. Diana Madoshi (CA NV, N) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. David Pattee (OHIO) spoke against the resolution.

Ms. Catherine Howe (NH) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. David Yolida (CT) spoke against the resolution.

Ms. Emily Heath (NH) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Paul Clay (CA NV, S) Called the Question, and it was seconded.

**15-GS-53 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to terminate debate. Motion Carried. Debate Closed. Voting in favor of terminating debate.

**15-GS-54 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to reject the resolution as amended. It was a resolution of witness and required a 2/3 vote. (310 for, 296 against; 28 abstentions). Motion failed.

## **9. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Ms. Jaramillo said a word of thanks for the 2,936 signatures regarding Racism in Baseball to the Cleveland Baseball Team. Celebrate Supreme Court Decision related to the affordable care act. Thank the US Court for looking beyond politics.

## **10. REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO FULL EQUALITY FOR PERSONS OF ANY SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OF GENDER EXPRESSION.**

Mr. Holeman called on Ms. Ruth Bradshaw (KO), Chair of the committee to present the recommended action of the committee to the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ. Ms. Bradshaw indicated that the committee was requesting permission to offer a substitute resolution to the body in order to capture the intent and meaning of the original resolution, and that it required a change in the name of the resolution.

Mr. Holeman indicated introducing a substitute resolution and a name change required a vote of acceptance by the body. He then asked for discussion or debate and there was none.

**15-GS-55 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to accept the substitute resolution entitled Reaffirming our Commitment to Full Equality for Persons of any Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Gender Expression to replace the original resolution entitled Our Commitment to Full Equality for LGBT Persons.

Ms. Bradshaw spoke to the resolution and called on the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ to adopt the resolution as substituted and amended by Committee.

Mr. Louis Mitchell (MASS) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Bob Thompson (SOC) spoke against the resolution.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Chris Davies (COALITION) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Ms. Katherine Howe (NH) Call the Question and it was seconded.

**15-GS-55 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to terminate debate. Motion Carried. Debate Closed. Voting in Favor of termination of debate.

**15-GS-56 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of the motion as substituted and amended by committee calling Reaffirming our Commitment to Full Equality for Persons of any Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity or Gender Expression.

**REAFFIRMING OUR COMMITMENT TO FULL EQUALITY FOR PERSONS OF ANY SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OF GENDER EXPRESSION.**

*WHEREAS, General Synod and other settings of the United Church of Christ have repeatedly advocated for the equal rights and dignity of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons (LGBT) in the United States and abroad, and*

*WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ, in partnership with other churches and faith traditions, has played a key role in the passage of laws protecting the basic civil rights of protecting persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, including the right to marry, and*

*WHEREAS, a new political movement is advocating in many states for legislation that aims to establish broad “religious exemptions” from existing or future laws protecting the equal rights of persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression , and*

*WHEREAS, these laws could allow restaurant owners to refuse service to customers of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, landlords to refuse leases to tenants of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression , and other forms of discrimination against persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ reaffirms its commitment to the full legal protection of the civil rights of all persons regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression,*

*CALLS upon congregations and all settings of the United Church of Christ to advocate for enactment of local, state and federal laws protecting persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression against discrimination in public accommodations, housing and employment,*

*CALLS upon congregations and all settings of the United Church of Christ to advocate on the basis of faith against legislation or executive actions that aim to establish a broad “religious exemption” to existing or future laws protecting the equal rights of persons of any sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression , and*

*REAFFIRMS the historic commitment of this church to religious freedom, to the right of all churches and faith communities to maintain and advocate for their own beliefs and practices, and to respectful dialogue within the United Church of Christ and with other faith communities on issues concerning human sexuality, human dignity and marriage.*

### **FUNDING**

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

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

*The Collegium of Officers, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.*

## **11. POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Mr. Don Hart (Business Committee) requested the body to celebrate the beginning of ministry of the new Executive of CHHSM, Mr. Michael Readinger, and new Executive of the Pension Board, Mr. Brian Bodager, welcoming them as leaders of the Church.

## **12. RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL STAFF**

Mr. Holeman called the order of the day so the national staff could be recognized.

Mr. Holeman invited all national staff members to join him on the stage. He then invited everyone to formally express their appreciation to the staff, including those who work with the Pension Boards and the United Church Funds. The delegates and visitors responded with a standing ovation.

Mr. Black thanked staff on behalf of the Collegium.

## **13. TRANSITION FROM FOSSIL FUELS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Aaron Roberts (KO) Chairperson of the committee to present the recommended action of the committee to the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ. Mr. Roberts presented the resolution as amended by the committee and recommended that the body adopt the resolution as amended. Mr. Roberts also spoke to the resolution.

Discussion:

Mr. David Shanks (IS) spoke against the resolution.

Mr. Jim Antal (MASS) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. Bill Lochstet (PC) spoke in favor of the resolution.

Mr. John Pawlowski (IS) proposed an Amendment, to be added as a final “Be It Further Resolved”. Proposal was seconded by Mr. R. J. Morgan (IS).

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is our belief that the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy is among the most compelling and urgent moral issues of our times that although some political and technological advance may take time, that way progress can be achieved more immediate that the UCC move with all deliberate speed to champion those objectives and the UCC may not only insist upon swift and measurable action among state and federal governments, but that it model these commitments in all of its religious and administrative buildings, as well as its expenditures and allocations of resources and that we encourage other ecumenical partners do the same.”

Discussion on the amendment:

Mr. John Lof (IOWA) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Emmery Groomes (SW) spoke in favor of the amendment.

There was no opposition, so by consensus the amendment was voted on.

**15-GS-57 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of the first amendment to the resolution.

Ms. Karen Wells (WIS) and Ms. Heidi Hackman (WIS) brought a second amendment to the resolution, requesting that the date of 2080 in the first WHEREAS paragraph be changed from 2080 to 2040.

Mr. Ian Whinham (CONN) spoke in opposition to the amendment.

Ms. Karen Wells (WIS) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Scott Brooks-Cope (PNE) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. John Parkyn (WIS) Spoke in opposition to the amendment

Mr. Jim Antal (MASS) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Mr. Jacob Gardner (CONN) spoke in opposition to the amendment.

Mr. Bradley Thomas (CAC) spoke in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Kelly Napier (SC) Called the Question, and it was seconded.

**15-GS-58 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of ending debate on the second amendment to the resolution.

**15-GS-59 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of the amendment to change the date in the first WHEREAS from 2080 to 2040.

Discussion on Original Motion as amended:

Mr. David Pattee (OHIO) Called the Question and it was seconded.

**15-GS-60 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of ending debate on the original resolution as amended.

**15-GS-61 VOTED.** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted in favor of the resolution on Transition from Fossil Fuels to Renewable Energy, as amended by committee and as amended twice by the Thirtieth General Synod.

***TRANSITION FROM FOSSIL FUELS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY***

*WHEREAS, the use of any fossil fuel, including coal, natural gas and oil, results in an increase of carbon dioxide and other dangerous greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere, which causes global warming and climate change, such that if we do not immediately decrease our use of these fuels, and completely eliminate them by the year 2040 all life on earth will likely experience previously unknown devastating results including drought, wildfires, extreme precipitation and cyclones, drinking water scarcity, diminished food production, population migrations, human mortality, violent conflicts, and species extinction, thereby upsetting the whole ecology of Earth; and*

*WHEREAS, feasibility studies indicate that transitioning to all renewable energy like wind, solar, and hydro, is not only possible but economically desirable; and*

*WHEREAS, nonrenewable fossil fuel extraction continues to be subsidized by our government, while at the same time, renewable energy sources are significantly under-supported, resulting in the de-emphasis of critical renewable energy development; and*

*WHEREAS, investment in extensive infrastructures supporting the fossil fuel industries and especially the fracking (horizontal slickwater hydraulic fracturing) industry precludes investment, invention, introduction, development and employment opportunities essential for building a renewable energy future; and*

*WHEREAS, the United States contains large subterranean supplies of natural gas and oil in underground rock formations far beneath the earth's surface in which natural gas and oil extraction is being considered or in which natural gas and oil extraction is already occurring by the process known as fracking; which uses millions of gallons of water, often mixed with sand and toxic chemicals, some of which returns to the surface contaminated and sometimes radioactive and has led to contamination of air, surface and other underground water resources, and has also caused earthquakes; and*

*WHEREAS, hydraulic fracturing has an impact on individuals and communities, including such justice issues as the use of "forced pooling," private vs public practices of eminent domain, concerns about worker safety, illegal dumping, and environmental racism issues including siting of waste disposal facilities in or near low-income communities of color; and*

*WHEREAS, the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ, recognizing that there is a wide range of stances on the issues of climate change, fossil fuels, hydraulic fracturing and renewable energy among its members and that these issues have the potential to be divisive within the body of Christ, still and all understands that the gospel is the permission and the commandment to enter difficulty with hope; and*

*WHEREAS, although we understand the pull of immediate, short-term, economic and political necessities, as people of faith we answer a higher call, which is to have a deep moral obligation to be good stewards of God's creation so that all humans, other creatures and future generations may thrive on clean air, clean water, and clean soil.*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ place itself on moral record and implore its pastors, conferences and members to advocate with federal and state lawmakers to enact or extend incentives and renewable portfolio standards that will lead to the rapid transition to renewable energy sources, energy conservation and energy efficiency measures worldwide, with a goal of total transition as soon as possible but no later than 2080; eliminate immediately all fossil fuel subsidies; enact some form of a carbon tax; enact legislation that will eliminate as quickly as possible any further extraction of coal, oil and gas nationally or internationally, particularly by corporations chartered in the United States; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod implore its pastors, conferences and members to advocate with federal and state lawmakers to enact an immediate ban on all gas and oil well hydraulic fracturing; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod, through its General Minister and President convey our concerns about fossil fuels and hydraulic fracturing in writing, including a copy of this resolution, to all governors, appropriate regulatory agencies, and state and federal elected officials, and to all appropriate denominational instrumentalities informing them of the United Church of Christ's position, and implore its pastors and members to send this resolution to state and federal elected representatives; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod requests that Justice and Witness Ministries, through its Minister for Environmental Justice, establish a national task force and report back to all future General Synods the progress on all imperatives listed in this resolution; and be it further*

*RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod encourage conferences to establish task forces working in conjunction with the Minister for Environmental Justice, as appropriate, to study, monitor, and report to the churches on justice issues relating to fossil fuel use and hydraulic fracturing--including but not limited to climate change; ecological protections of our lands, air, and water; dangers to public health and welfare; impacts on communities around issues such as crime and violence, housing, education, etc.; and that these task forces be charged with educating and organizing congregants in their decision-making and actions around these issues, and that such task forces also listen to the people in the pews with deep intent to hear the moral dilemmas facing our members about the relationship between the short term and the longer term implications; and be it finally*

*RESOLVED, that the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ invites and encourages its members to inform and educate themselves about the issues pertaining to fossil fuel use, hydraulic fracturing, climate change and renewable energy by assessing personal and congregational carbon footprints and engaging in humble and open grassroots conversation, with*



*particular sensitivity to energy consumption patterns and to our most vulnerable citizens, those without sufficient income to meet daily needs, as well as the long-term needs for energy that all face; in the sharing of pertinent stories about the impasse that our dependency on non-renewable energy resources discloses; and in workshops and study groups that discern and express the theological, moral, economic and personal facets of the enterprises of fossil fuel use and hydraulic fracturing, with the above conversations designed to yield a renewable form of spiritual and moral energy to resolve our physical energy needs.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is our belief that the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy is among the most compelling and urgent moral issues of our times that although some political and technological advance may take time, that way progress can be achieved more immediate that the UCC move with all deliberate speed to champion those objectives and the UCC may not only insist upon swift and measurable action among state and federal governments, but that it model these commitments in all of its religious and administrative buildings, as well as its expenditures and allocations of resources and that we encourage other ecumenical partners do the same.*

#### **14. POINT OF PRIVILEGE:**

Mr. Fritz Gilmore (RM) and Mr. Luke Grobe (RM) suggest finding a way to do more compassionate and open conversation where all are prayerfully in conversation on how we can be in community with the resolutions. Try something new stepping forward with the good work, but believe that there are new ways that allow for our Church to do business.

#### **15. INVITATION TO THE THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL SYNOD**

Mr. Holeman shared that in two years, the General Synod will convene in the city of Baltimore, Maryland and the Central Atlantic Conference will host our gathering. He then called on Conference Minister, Mr. John Deckenback to extend the invitation.

(Video was shown.) Mr. Deckenback (CAC) extended a warm welcome to Baltimore and presented Mr. Holeman with a symbol of appreciation. He asked for prayers for Central Atlantic Conference by the body of the UCC as they prepare for healing as a community and prayer for restoration and celebration.

#### **16. THANKS AND RECOGNITION OF THE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE**

The Moderator called on Mr. Foley, Administrator of General Synod, for a word of thanks to our Local Arrangements Committee and volunteers from the Ohio Conference. Three hundred fifty-three volunteers participated.

The delegates responded with a standing ovation. Mr. Foley also expressed appreciation to the Youth Stewards who were still on the floor as well as the Co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee Ms. Sue Wimer and Mr. Derry Wimer.

## **17. THANKS TO OTHER STAFF:**

Mr. Holeman took the opportunity to thank the General Synod Administrator, Lee Foley, and his marvelous staff: Ms. Valerie Smith, Ms. Tina Villa, Ms. Jan Gomoll, Ms. Denise Shimell, and Ms. Christine Lucarelli, for all of their hard work in putting together this fantastic General Synod experience. There was a standing ovation of appreciation.

## **18. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FINAL REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR**

Mr. Foley indicated that the Registrar for the Thirtieth General Synod reported 3,134 registrants for the meeting. There were nearly 4,000 through the building over the last five days.

Mr. Foley offered the following additional announcements:

1. Scooters need to be returned to the Local Arrangement Office (Room 10 by 10:00 AM)
2. The Synod Office closes at 7:30 PM. Lost and Found.
2. Voting devices need to be returned to the appropriate coordinators.
3. You can cut through the Exhibit Hall if you are careful.

## **19. SERVICE RECOGNIZING THE ENDING OF AUTHORIZED MINISTRIES FOR MR. GEOFFREY BLACK AND MS. LINDA JARAMILLO**

Mr. Holeman called on Mr. Wilson, Mr. Moos, Mr. Guess, Mr. Walter John Boris, Ms. Rita Root and Ms. Bonds to assist with the release of Mr. Black and Ms. Jaramillo from their duties as Executive Minister of Justice and Witness Ministries and General Minister and President respectfully. The ceremony was concluded with a prayer by Mr. Dorhauer.

## **20. INSTALLATION OF NEW MODERATOR/ASSISTANT MODERATOR**

Mr. Holeman stated that, as we come to the end of the General Synod, we pause now to recognize and affirm the ministry of those we have elected to lead the United Church of Christ. Before you are the Moderator-elect and Assistant Moderator-elect of the United Church of Christ.

## **21. FINAL THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION**

Mr. Holeman invited Ms. Rosas for her reflections on this General Synod experience, and also said a word of thanks to the Theological Reflectors for all they have shared in our time together.

The delegates expressed their appreciation with a standing ovation.

## **22. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Holeman, on behalf of the Moderators, expressed thanks and appreciation for everyone's participation and commitment to our denomination and the Church of Jesus Christ. He then called on Mr. Wilson, Chair of the Board of Directors, for the final motion.

Mr. Wilson moved the adjournment of the Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ at the conclusion of this evening's worship service.

**15-GS-68 VOTED:** The Thirtieth General Synod of the United Church of Christ voted to adjourn at the conclusion of this evening's worship service.

The Moderator, Mr. Holeman, gaveled the final business session of the Thirtieth General Synod to a close.

### **23. WORSHIP**

## A LISTING OF DELEGATES TO THE THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD

### 2015 Conference Voting Delegates\*

#### California, Nevada Northern

John Aney  
Jorge Bautista  
Robin Carlson  
Emma Fujii  
Davena Jones  
Jennifer Kawaguchi  
Diana Madoshi  
Daniel Ross-Jones  
Lloyd Schneider  
Kelly Wilson

#### California, Nevada Southern

Michael Barrett  
Jessica Chapman  
Paul Clay  
Amy Duncan  
Mane Fatu  
Sarah Halverson  
Kevin Johnson  
Diana Kirk  
Aram Mitchell  
Matthew Redrich  
Foai Tanuvasa  
Paul Tellstrom

#### Calvin Synod 3 delegates

#### Central Atlantic

Judy Bowman  
Caroline Dean  
Debra Duke  
Robert Faison  
Jennifer Sowell Glover  
Robin Bacon Hoffman  
Sia Barbara Ferguson Kamara  
Karen Lovelace  
Fatima Maitland  
Linda Matthias  
Kevin Munroe  
Elsie-Marie Nüller  
Virginia Peters  
Derek Ritenour  
Alexander Schaeberle  
Krysten Thomas  
Daniel Thoren  
Steve Wood

#### Central Pacific

Deborah Allen  
Salome Chimuku  
Diane Dulin  
John Soper  
Lessie Williams

#### Connecticut

Holly Adams  
Martha Bays  
Andrew Bilger  
Joseph Blotz  
Xavier Blyden  
Mia Bryant  
Cheryl Caronna  
Martha Chenault  
Douglas Clark  
Charlene Corbett  
Gabriel Cosme  
Gabrielle Cusano  
Mia Douglas  
Adam Eckhart  
Denise Esslinger  
Kevin Ewing  
Allen Fanslow  
Cheryl Fine  
Holly Francis  
Maxwell Grant  
Gale Grayson  
Jacob Griffith Gardner  
Persephone Hall  
Bill Hawley  
Diana Hellyar  
Kim Homans  
Bob Inderbitzen  
Marilyn Kendrix  
Brittany LaFleur  
Jordan Long  
Kevin Mayo  
Kaeley McEvoy  
Rhonda Myers  
Derek O'Brien  
Janet Parker  
William Peltz  
Allie Perry  
Mary Ann Purtill  
Jackie Ramos  
Hayley Richards  
Olivia Robinson  
John Sawchuk  
M. Todd Shipley  
Bryn Smallwood-Garcia  
Arnold Thomas  
Damaris Whittaker  
Virginia Wickersham  
Jael Williams  
Ian Winham  
David Yoshida

#### Florida

Vonshelle Jamine Beneby  
Samuel John Conde

Robyn Grace Firth  
Mark W. Goforth  
Sheila Guillaume  
Haley Knapp  
Johnathan Makara  
Charnley Ann Marsden  
Leigh McCaffrey  
Jacques Mervil  
Marcelino Rivera  
Kathy Rooke  
Lorrin Cary Shepard  
Dawson B. Taylor

#### Hawaii

Glenn Frazier  
Glenn Harris  
Darrel Itano  
Haleaka Martin  
Meleane Moala  
Jayne Ryan Kuroiwa  
Kathy Tanaka  
Welina Tong  
Michael Warren  
Joshua Weible  
Henry Wong

#### Illinois

Beth Babbitt Borst  
James E Barnes  
Rev Dave Bateman  
Paula Comper  
Scott Cunningham  
Shirley Fleming  
Robyn Gray  
Duan Hale  
Lindsey Halpern-Givens  
Sue Harrington  
Kristopher Hewitt  
Kathleen Hummel  
Muriel Jahn  
Brett Johnson  
Pamela Keckler  
John Kendall  
Lance Lackore  
A. Parker Lewis III  
Michael Linder  
Susan Lock  
Janet MacLean  
Kevin McLemore  
Michelle McNamara  
Ted Michalsen  
Michael Montgomery  
Patricia Morton  
Jeanne Murawski  
Mary Newcomb

#GS2015

\*(Delegate list based on registrations as of April 23, 2015)

## 2015 Conference Voting Delegates

Ernest G. Potter  
Brandyn Simmons  
Tyler Spellious  
Mary Alice Suter  
Gayle Tucker  
Allyson Vertigan  
Patricia Winckler  
Ronald Ziemer  
Doug Zimmerman

### Illinois South

Aaron Ban  
Katie Jo Bielke  
Elmer Bowman  
Jessica Chapman  
Lillian Daiber  
Lois Gibson  
Brad Grotefendt  
Lisa Hart  
John Holst  
Lindsey Keller  
R. J. Morgan  
Pat Morris  
John Pawloski  
David Shanks  
Will VerDuin

### Indiana-Kentucky

Tyler Betustak  
Wendy Bruner  
Sharon Crosby  
Thomas Dean  
Jamesett Ferguson  
Linda Frische-Mouri  
Lydia Hancock  
Paul Chip Jahn  
Deborah Jeffrion  
Lori Keller Schroeder  
Rhonda Lieske  
Stephen Moore  
Susan O. Shaughnessy  
Angela Rupchock-Schafer  
Tanya Schmitz  
Melinda Sterrett  
Bekki Vail  
Ronald Wunsch

### Iowa

Cameron Barr  
Carolyn Boogerd  
Lindsey Braun  
Jane Buck  
Pam Burtnett  
Forrest Cornelius  
Becky David

Ryan Dowell Baum  
Robert Fread  
Allen Ghoske  
Sue Johannsen  
Dixie Laube  
John Lof  
Kristy May  
Crystal McCormick  
Scott Meyer  
David Nelson  
Tony Portero Paff  
Kyle Sturm  
Shawna Sturm  
Brian Wohlhuter

### Kansas-Oklahoma

Ruth Bradshaw  
Erik Kendall  
Kaitlyn Lemley  
Joshua Longbottom  
Aaron Roberts  
Amanda Tross

### Maine

Julieann Brown  
Beth Campbell  
Vanessa Colesworhty  
Laura Hansen  
Anne Hodgman  
Tim LeConey  
Darren Morgan  
Herb Oliver  
Chad Poland  
Laurel Robinson  
David Smith  
Dick Waddell

### Massachusetts

Robert Bachelder  
Molly Baskette  
Theo Brierley  
Robert Brown  
Marisa Brown Ludwig  
Patrick Cage  
Brent Damrow  
Barbara Darling  
Daniel Dibble  
TJ Enders  
Kelly Gallagher  
Frances Graveson  
Laura Gronberg  
Jackson Hastings  
Ian Holland  
Lisa Hulbert  
Wallace Hurd

Ann-Marie Illsley  
Adam Isbitsky  
Patricia Jackman  
Tracy Keene  
Lucy Kogut  
Patty Kogut  
Jenn Macy  
Angela Menke Ballou  
Louis Mitchell  
William Neil  
Mark Pohlman  
Esther Rendon-Thompson  
Pedro Silva  
Cynthia Stahler  
John Terry  
Adam Tierney-Eliot  
Danneza Torres  
Diego Torres  
Barbara Turner Delisle  
Wendy Vander Hart  
Bradford Watters  
John White  
Charles Wildman  
Christina Williams  
Cindy Worthington-Berry  
Suzan Young

### Michigan

Traci Bartell  
Harold Beer  
Jody Betten  
Terri Bracy  
Michelle Brown  
Anthony Carter  
Mamie Cokley  
Deborah Dean-Ware  
Mary DuBuis  
Ruth Fitzgerald  
Dennis Green  
Richard Hotchkin  
Bill Lyons  
Emily Joye McGaughy-Reynolds  
Hannah Robinson  
Elizabeth Rodrigues  
Howard Tejchma  
Patti Ulrich  
Jerry Wallace  
Neil Wilson

### Minnesota

Kathy Gibson Christensen  
Bridget Haefner  
Allen Hilton  
Shirley Hoff  
Nick Johnson

## 2015 Conference Voting Delegates

Becky Kruse  
Mark Kuether  
Aaron Lauer  
Cindy Lemke  
Sapphire McKnight  
Shuji Moriichi  
Cindy Mueller  
Kathy Nelson  
Emily Olson  
Lawrence Richardson  
Mark Scott  
Nancy Swanson  
Peter Wagner  
Mark Young

### Missouri Mid-South

Karen Aitkens  
David Beobe  
Barbara Biedenstein  
Stone Birkner  
Paula DeSeure  
Judy Fiocco  
James Fuller  
Carolyn Held  
Judy Hertenstein  
Meredith Jackson  
Stephen King  
Susan Leary  
Jonnae McCray  
David Mehl  
Laura Mignerone  
Mark Miller  
Eric Moeller  
Claimel Nervik  
Mark Roberts  
Jeff Weyrauch

### Montana-Northern Wyoming

3 delegates

### Nebraska

Jerry Cassidy  
Cathy Ann Colson  
Ken Evitts  
Steve Gerdes  
Diana K. Jahn  
Angela Leeper  
Sarah Leeper  
Les Parmenter  
Kathy Rahorst  
Melissa Rahorst

### New Hampshire

Damon Anderson  
Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy

Sanjay Cherian  
Dawn Garrett-Larsen  
Katharine Howe  
Wayne Martin  
Sally Tinkham  
Kathleen Traynor  
Harlinda Webb

### New York

Manda Adams  
Marcie Agee  
Reginald Brantley  
Reuben Cedino  
Rachel Ditch  
Elizabeth Duffly  
Gary Gosse  
Cassandra Granados  
Lennox Grant  
Anne Hurd  
Cynthia Jackson  
Lyle Jenks  
Cathy Kuntzieman  
Robert Loesch  
Tom Martinez  
Karen Maust  
Corrine Pimm  
Benjamin Potter  
Janelle Richardson  
Ismael Sanchez  
Henry Simmons  
Rebecca West  
Scott Zaffora-Reeder

### Northern Plains

3 delegates

### Ohio

Brian Anders  
Theo Baldwin  
Peter Barclay  
Mitzie Barnes  
Patricia Battle  
Katherine Beckett  
Arik Borstad  
Lisa Bowersock  
Kelly Brill  
Carol Burke  
Tony Buss  
Judith Campbell  
Avily Chen  
Jim Clausing  
Sarah Courtney  
James Dismond  
Jonathan Dodson  
Daniel Doty

David Edmondson  
Elizabeth Fiene  
Kendra Fulien  
Bob Gross  
Gary Halstead  
Ruth Hopkins  
Colin Jones  
David Jones  
Susi Kawolics  
Daniel Kirk  
Jon Komperda  
Breanna Kramer  
Jeneen Kubala  
Robin LaBolt  
Catherine Lawrence  
Lucas Lindon  
LaPearl Logan Winfrey  
Darla Metz  
Karen Miller  
Norman Moxley  
John Dylan Newcomb  
Joyce Oyler  
Tim Paroz  
David Pattee  
Todd Peterson  
Gary Proietti  
Mindy Quellhorst  
Zachary Read  
Edie Recker  
Judy Reich  
Carl Robinson  
Jeff Roeger  
Gaye Santoro  
Katy Smith  
Tim Smith  
Logan Sowers  
Betsy Stibens  
Nevan Strobelt-McCann  
Tyler Thomas  
Carol Vaccariello  
Valerie Walker  
Sam Waugaman  
Maureen Webber  
Michelle Wilkey  
Bertrice Wood  
Mark Young

### Pacific Northwest

Andy CastroLang  
Dee Eisenhauer  
Katie Gilbert  
Jenn Hagedorn  
Scott Ward  
Marsha Williams

## 2015 Conference Voting Delegates

### **Penn Central**

JKay Boyer  
Stephen Broache  
Andrew Druckenmiller  
Craig Ellis  
Rachel Emmons  
Maggie Gassert  
Dwight Hein  
Edwin Higginbottom  
Chip Hoover  
Phil Landers  
William LaSalle  
William Lochstet  
Doris Loucks  
Les Loucks  
Dale Mease  
Susan Myers  
Eva O'Diam  
Cathie Oliphant  
Monica Ouellette  
Sigrid Plajer  
MaryBeth Schmotzer  
Lee Ann Strine  
Jerry Thomason  
David Tietje  
David Troxell  
Megan Waleff  
Carol Washburn  
Fred Young

### **Penn Northeast**

David Adams  
Wilbur Albright  
Carol Bastin  
Jeffrey Bauer  
Douglas Brace  
Sara Jane Brace  
Lynn Breedy  
Scott Brooks-Cope  
Rebecca Broyan  
Candi Cain-Borgman  
Trudi Egan  
Kathryn Foster  
Michelle Funk  
James Gottwald  
Phyllis Hamm  
Virginia Heimer  
Dalice Hess  
Steven Hummel  
Noah Kandt  
Joanne Marchetto  
Dale Sattizahn  
Tori Schoenberger  
Josiah Smith

Michael Smith  
Hannah Snyder-Samuels

### **Penn West**

JJill Clawson  
Theresa Cook  
Steve Craft  
J. Matthew Deal  
Marjorie Deaner  
Denise Mason-Bullitt  
Chelsea Neatrou  
Laddie Ohl  
Cheryl Petrini

### **Pennsylvania Southeast**

Kathryn Aikins  
Morgan Bates  
Samuel Brackeen  
Walter Breiner  
Marvin Coldren  
Chelsea Cornwell  
Christian Creyer  
Anthony Dooley  
Kara Druckenmiller  
Mary Lou Eckels  
Selina Hamilton  
Hannah Hetrick  
Rebecca Hoover  
Zachary Jackson  
Cean James  
Kim Kendrick  
Charles Kuthuru  
Kathryn Latshaw  
Patrick Morris  
James Neal  
Nicholas Pence  
Dorothy Shelly  
Robert Stewart  
Kara Sullivan  
Paul Sullivan  
Roger Ulrich  
Tammie Wisniewski  
Stephanie Wooten  
Sue Wunderlich

### **Rhode Island**

Matthew Bizer  
Cleo Graham  
Peggy Matteson  
Evelyn Watkins

### **Rocky Mountain**

Dave Bristow  
Brenda Brown  
John Cattel

Chris Gilmore  
Luke Grobe  
Rebecca Kemper Poos  
Sara Schneider  
Gala Sua  
Ezekiel Wakefield

### **South Central**

Sheila Angerer  
Andrew Greenhaw  
Anna Humble  
Debra Joseph  
Matthew Lundy  
Gerry Metzger  
Marianne Muehr  
Kelly Napier  
Liz Nash  
Jasmine Quinlerly

### **South Dakota**

Kathleen Batchelder  
LeRoy Bobtail Bear  
Molly Eileen Carlson  
Alexander Haines  
Keith Kraft  
Katherine Peterson  
Kylie Steever

### **Southeast**

Lacey Brown  
Charmaine Johnson  
Kirk Lyman-Barner  
Marvin Morgan  
Carrole Moss  
Benjamin Rose  
Jeremy Rutledge  
Debbie Spearman

### **Southern**

Anne Abernathy Wepner  
Raygan Baker  
Madelene Beard  
Jamytta Bell  
Patrick Campbell  
Richard Edens  
Wayne Gardner  
Rudean Harrell  
Amanda Hendler-Voss  
Nanette Hilliard  
Mac Hulslander  
Brenda James  
Kayla Jillson  
Henrette (Henry) John  
Cheryl McNair

## 2015 Conference Voting Delegates

Ervin Milton  
Ernestine Purnell  
Bria Sweat  
Robert (Bob) Thompson  
Tyler Williams

### Southwest

Deborah Clugy-Soto  
Andria Davis  
Frank Fox  
Emmery Groomes  
Jean-Marie Huisjen

### Vermont

Cynthia Batten  
Kathy Clark  
Marisa Laviola  
James Merriam

Kyendamina Cleophace Mukeba  
Gary O’Gorman  
Amanda Swoyer  
Jeanne Zammataro

### Wisconsin

Deanne Allen  
Sara Athorp  
Cathy Burbury  
Jill Christopherson  
Ruth Costello  
Joanna D’Agostino  
Nita Fitzgerald  
Tom Fritz  
Madeline Giordana  
Julie Goranson  
James Hobbick  
Mary Jane Huber  
Jami Huisjen Scott

James Iloff  
Lester Ingram  
Cary Knier Johannes  
Erik Koepnik  
Ashley Larson  
Kevin Mundell  
Christopher Myers  
Kerri Parker  
John Parkyn  
Ruth Schmidt  
Joshua Simon  
Richard Steele  
Dale Stohre  
Larry Stuessy  
Darryl Thomas Jr.  
Heide Walker Hackman  
Karin Wells  
Lucas Williams  
Andi Wolf

## 2015 UCC Board of Directors Voting Delegates

Maritza A. de Gonzalez  
Sue Artt  
Brittini Badger  
Pat Barnes-McConnell  
Joyce Bathke  
Caroline Belsom  
Lynda Bigler  
Geoffrey Black  
Frank Bolden  
Dale Bonds  
Geoffrey Brace  
Faith Nomura Burgess  
Robbie Carlson  
Tom Croner  
Sheldon Culver  
Edward Davis

Mike Denton  
Michael Downs  
William Edwards  
Robert Frieberg  
David Gaewski  
Gilberto Garcia-Rodriguez  
J. Bennett Guess  
Don Hart  
Emily Heath  
Brian Holeman  
M. Linda Jaramillo  
Noah Jensen Tabor  
Nesa Joseph  
Julia LeBrell  
DeEtte “Dee” Lundberg  
Thea Mateu

James Moos  
Kevin Omi  
Ronald Patterson  
Kevin Peterson  
Tina Phillips  
Richard Pleva  
Michael Readinger  
Ernesto Reyes  
Dwayne Royster  
Gary Schulte  
Carol Shipley  
William Tanner  
Jeanne Tyler  
Elizabeth Walker  
Bernard Wilson  
Kimberly Wood

## 2015 Historically Underrepresented Groups

**Council for American Indian Ministry**  
Trumen Bobtail Bear  
Forrest Whiterabbit, Jr.

**Council for Hispanic Ministries**  
Elivette Mendez Angulo  
Lizette Merchan Pinilla  
Roberto Ochoa  
David Mateo

**The UCC Open and Affirming Coalition**  
Chris Davies

**Ministers for Racial, Social and Economic Justice**  
James McConnell  
G Lind Taylor  
Mbiyu Chui

**Pacific and Asian-American Ministries**  
Richard Hom  
Bernard Bassig

**United Black Christians**  
Charles Carpenter

**UCC Disabilities Ministries**  
Susan Burns  
Kelli Parrish Lucas

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## Respectfully submitted

Michell Farrow – Recorder

Jean Avison – Recorder

Dianne Roberts – Chief Recorder

Caroline Belsom – Editing Proofreader

Bob Frieberg – Editing Proofreader

Kevin Peterson – Editing Proofreader

Ernie Reyes – Editing Proofreader

Carol Shipley – Editing Proofreader

Yvette Wynn – Editing Proofreader

Denise Shimell – Associate for Governance and General Synod Administration



Adopted and approved by the United Church of Christ Board of Directors of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ on October 15, 2015.

Lee Foley – Administrator of General Synod

Valerie Smith – Associate Administrator of General Synod

The Minutes of the General Synods of the United Church of Christ are available online at <http://www.ucc.org> and are held in perpetuity by the Archivist of the United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

Good Afternoon.

I'm Carol Burke from the Western Reserve Association of the Ohio Conference and I serve as the Chair of your Credentials Committee.

The committee is comprised of 10 delegates, in two classes, and our job is to monitor the composition of the Conference Delegations to the General Synod, for their compliance with the diversity requirements as laid down in the UCC Bylaws.

In May, 2014, Jan Gomoll and I met and arranged to send letters to those individual Conference delegations who the Credentials Committee Class of 2013 felt were not in compliance with the spirit of the Bylaws at the Long Beach General Synod 29. They were contacted and advised that improvement was needed.

The Credentials Committee has met twice in recent months, first by conference call earlier this year, when we reviewed preliminary data from the Synod Registrar. At the conclusion of that meeting, we again directed Jan Gomoll to be in contact with those Conference delegations that we found to be struggling to achieve compliance. Yesterday, we met for the second time, and reviewed the Final Report of the Registrar, dated June 22, 2015, yet we realize that changes in delegate registration were being made as late as this morning.

We can report that the Delegation-as-a-whole has met and exceeded the Bylaws requirement that 20% of the Delegates are 30 years of age or under. Our ratio of Lay Persons to Clergy is almost a perfect 50%, as the Bylaws require. The Bylaws also require that the Delegation-as-a Whole should reflect the United Church of Christ's commitment to affirmative action, with regard to racial and ethnic persons defined as Blacks, Hispanics, American Indians, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders. The 2014 census conducted by the UCC Center for Analytics Research and Data reports that 13% of our church membership falls into our racial or ethnic categories. The Credentials Committee is pleased to report that this General Synod's Delegation-as-a-Whole exceeds that threshold with 17% racial or ethnic persons registered as delegates.

The Credentials Committee noted that the Bylaws require not fewer than 675 nor more than 725 conference delegates. As of June 22, there were only 659 registered conference delegates.

The Credentials Committee would like to present these comments to the Delegation-as-a-Whole.

1. We suggest that the cultural/ethnic categories that we use when delegates register for General Synod should be the same as those categories that are used by our Center for Analytics Research and Data. This would enable our ability to more accurately compare Delegation-as-a-Whole percentages to those compiled by the Center.

2. The Credentials Committee should have access to Delegation-as-a-Whole data from previous synods, thus allowing comparison and determination of how the face of the UCC is evolving.

3. We challenge the membership of the United Church of Christ and its Bylaws to move beyond its commitment to affirmative action and become fully inclusive and assessable to all historically under-represented groups, increasing the minority voices who represent who we are as a denomination from the 17% diversity of this General Synod 2015 to 20% diversity at our next General Synod.

Yes, there are areas where individual Conference delegations are not in compliance with the spirit of the UCC Bylaws, and they will be contacted and advised improvement is needed, but it is my privilege to report to you that the Conferences of the United Church of Christ have made a good-faith effort to provide the diversity required by the UCC Bylaws. Therefore, the Credentials Committee has certified the Delegation-as-a-Whole of General Synod 2015 to be in compliance with the UCC Bylaws requirements.

Thank you.

**APPENDIX B**

**SECOND REPORT OF THE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-01** to approve the Agenda with the addition of the call for executive session at the conclusion of the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH, 2015 MINUTES**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-02a** to approve the March 2015 Minutes.

**APPROVAL OF MAY, 2015 MINUTES**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-02b** to approve the May 2015 Minutes.

**GRANT VOICE WITHOUT VOTE**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-03** to grant Voice without Vote to Staff and Others Advising the UCC Board of Directors.

**RECEIVED COMBINED AUDIT**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-04a-c** to receive the Combined Audit.

**RESIGNATION OF KIRA GEARY**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-05** to receive the Resignation of Member Kira Geary.

**REMOVAL OF KEVIN FINLEY**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-06** to remove Member Kevin Finley.

**UCAN MERGER WITH WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-07** to approve the UCAN Merger with Wider Church Ministries.

**HAITI LIMITED TERM ENDOWMENT FUND**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-07a-c** to approve the Haiti Limited Term Endowment Fund.

**SEPARATION OF VOTED TO UCF BOARD**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-08** to separate into individual votes, the recommendation of elected members to the UCF Board.

**ELECTION OF DARLENE SOWELL TO UCF BOARD**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-09** to accept the election of Ms. Darlene Sowell to the UCF Board.

**ELECTION OF WILLIAM MORGAN TO UCF BOARD**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-10** to accept the election of Mr. William Morgan to the UCF Board.

**AFFIRMATION OF THE CLASS OF 2017 AND CLASS OF 2021 TO UCF BOARD**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-11** to affirm the ongoing term classes of 2017 and 2021 of the UCF Board.

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD RESOLUTION WORKING GROUP**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-12** to receive the Report of the General Synod Resolution Working Group.

**ELECTIONS OF CHARLENE MILLS AND MICHAEL FISHER TO CBLF BOARD**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-13** to receive the elections to the CBLF Board – Ms. Charlene Mills and Mr. Michael R. Fisher.

**REPORT OF TRANSPARENCY WORKING GROUP**

IT WAS VOTED:  
**15-06-UCCB-14** to receive the report of the Transparency Working Group.

**LESSEE/SUB-LESSOR, UPON SALE OF PROPERTY**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-15**

to accept the action to become Lessee/Sub-lessor if the sale of 700 Prospect closes with the appropriate change in the RECOMMENDED ACTION paragraph, striking the word “Corporation” after “building at 700 Prospect.”.

### **PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF 700 PROSPECT AND HOTEL**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-16**

to approve all three actions in the recommendation to use proceeds of the sale of 700 Prospect and hotel immediately for purposes of budget draw.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** that the Board of Directors of United Church of Christ Board establish a fund from a portion of the net proceeds from the sale of real estate currently owned by 700 Prospect Corporation for the purpose of (a) providing funding for anticipated consolidation of occupied space to floors two through seven, (b) for anticipated costs to prepare floors eight and nine for leasing and (c) providing a reserve for unanticipated maintenance as determined by staff and reported to the Investment and Endowment Committee by xx/xx/2015. Further, any balance remaining in the fund after the consolidation of space and the preparation of the two floors will be distributed per the 700 Prospect Corporation Articles of Incorporation.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** that the Board of Directors of United Church of Christ Board authorize staff to invest the net proceeds from the sale of the real estate currently owned by the United Church of Christ Hotel Venture LLC and 700 Prospect Corporation (net of the reserve fund) to the respective United Church Funds investment accounts for the Office of the General Minister & President, Justice & Witness Ministries, Local Church Ministries and Wider Church Ministries.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** that the Board of Directors of United Church of Christ Board authorize the inclusion of the net proceeds from the sale of the real estate currently owned by the United Church of Christ Hotel Venture LLC and 700 Prospect Corporation that will be invested with United Church Funds in the total return draw calculations retroactive to 2010 for inclusion in the total return draw calculations for the 2016 and beyond budgets.

### **EXCLUDE CONNECTICUT LITIGATION EXPENSES FROM BUDGET CONSIDERATION**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-17**

to exclude uninsured Connecticut litigation expenses from the budget/draw considerations.

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**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SITTING AS THE  
BUSINESS COMMITTEE OF THE THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD.**

**GRANT VOICE WITHOUT VOTE**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-18** to grant Voice without Vote to Resource Persons to the General Synod:

**SYNOD COMMITTEE LIAISON APPOINTMENTS**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-19** to accept notice of the Synod Committee Liaison Appointments:

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DISPOSITION**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-20** to accept the report of the Committee on Disposition

**APPROVE THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD AGENDA**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-21** to approve the Final Thirtieth General Synod Agenda

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

IT WAS VOTED:

**15-06-UCCB-22** to move into Executive Session at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michell Farrow – Recorder  
June 26, 2015

**APPENDIX C**  
**AMENDED FIRST REPORT OF THE GENERAL SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE**



By unanimous vote, the Thirtieth General Synod Nominating Committee has selected the following 13 members of the United Church of Christ for nomination as members at-large and is placing their names for election before the Thirtieth General Synod, meeting June 26-30, 2015 in Cleveland, Ohio for election to the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

These outstanding individuals will join the other 23 members at large and the 16 ex-officio members now serving.

Each person that came before the Nominating Committee was carefully and individually considered and references for each candidate were checked. The Committee was blessed with a deep and rich pool of nominees of superior ability, attributes, skills and experience. With the election of these highly-qualified members of the United Church of Christ we succeeded in exceeding the diversity requirement for the Board of Directors, as outlined in the Bylaws.

The members of the Committee give thanks to God for the quality and dedication of the members of the Church it had to choose from, and it is with high esteem that we present these outstanding individuals for election to the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

Ms. Angela Myers  
Chair-the Thirtieth General Synod Nominating Committee

February 24, 2015



## **For Election to the United Church of Christ Board of Directors**

**Carolyn Call** is a European American ordained female, 50-59, who is an Associate Conference Minister for the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. She holds Ministerial Authorization. She is a member of Zion UCC in South Bend, Indiana. She holds a PhD in Educational Psychology from Cornell University. Ms. Call has previously served as a local church pastor, an adjunct instructor at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis and as the Director of the Office for Civic and Social Engagement at St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. Ms. Call is active in various ecumenical and civic volunteer organizations. She was nominated by the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. Ms. Call will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Dennis Coy** is a European American male, 30-39, who is an executive security officer for Consumers National Bank in Canton, Ohio and the pastor of Congregational UCC in Canton. He holds Ministerial Authorization as a Licensed Minister. Mr. Call is a former police officer and former Special Agent for the State of Ohio. He served as the 85<sup>th</sup> President of the Ohio Jaycees and remains an active volunteer for various civic organizations, including the North Canton Chamber of Commerce. Prior to his call at Congregational UCC he served as the Director of Youth Ministry at Trinity UCC, also in Canton. He self-nominated to the Board. Mr. Coy will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Darrell Goodwin** is an African American ordained male, 30-39, who serves as Dean of Students at Seattle University. He is a member of Liberation UCC in Seattle, Washington. He holds an A.B.D. Doctor of Ministry. He is the founding Pastor of Liberation and earlier in his career served as Director of the Shaw Leadership Program at Boston College. He served two terms as a member of the Penn West Conference Nominating Committee, is a member of his local ecumenical clergy group and is active in various community and civic organizations. He was nominated by the Coalition. Mr. Goodwin will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Carla Gregg-Kearns** is a European American ordained female, 30-39, who serves as Senior Pastor of Good Shepherd UCC in Cary, North Carolina. She holds a M.Div. Prior to entering the ministry Ms. Gregg-Kearns worked as a Caseworker for social service agencies in Austin, Texas. She has served as Senior Pastor at Good Shepherd since July, 2013. Ms. Gregg-Kearns is a former member of the Office of General Ministries Board of Directors under the former governance structure. She currently serves as the President of the Southern Conference Board of Directors. She is the co-founder of the United Church of Christ/Presbyterian Campus Ministry at Duke University. She was nominated by the Southern Conference. Ms. Gregg-Kearns will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Richard Harter** is a European American lay male, 60+, who is a retired lawyer. He is a member of First Church UCC in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He holds a J.D. from the University of Chicago. Mr. Harter served as a Partner and Head of Employee Benefit Practice for Bingham McCutchen LLP. He served as the interim President of the Chicago Theological Seminary. He is a former Moderator of his local church and the Massachusetts Conference and served on the Conference Board of Directors. Mr. Harter currently serves as a Member with Special Expertise, without vote, on the Special Committee on Development of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors. He was nominating by the Massachusetts Conference. Mr. Harter will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Alice W. Hunt** is a European American ordained female, 50-59, who is the President, Chicago Theological Seminary. She is a member of Trinity UCC in Chicago. She holds a PhD. Prior to her call at CTS she was the Academic Dean at Vanderbilt Divinity School. She worked as a Systems Analysis on the Hubble Space Telescope. She is a former school math teacher in Georgia, Alabama and Kenya. Ms. Hunt served on the Executive Council under the former governance structure and currently serves on the Search Committee for the next General Minister and President. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Center for Progressive Renewal. She serves on a Chicago interfaith group and has volunteered at half-way homes and nursing homes. She self-nominated to the Board. Ms. Hunt will serve in the Class of 2021.

**James Maki** is a European American lay male, 19-29, engineer, now pursuing an advanced degree in engineering. He is a member of Zion UCC in Le Sueur, Minnesota. He holds a B.S. computer engineering from the Milwaukee School of Engineering. Mr. Maki served a six-year term on the Executive Council of the former governance structure, one of the youngest members to ever sit on that body, serving during the time while the new governance structure was under consideration and then enacted. Mr. Maki is fencer and fencing instructor and while in school served as the treasurer of his college fraternity, managing a sizable annual operating budget. He self-nominated to the Board. Mr. Maki will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Douglas McClelland** is a European American lay male, 60+, who is a lawyer and retired business law professor at Montana State University. He is a member of First Congregational UCC in Billings Montana. He holds a J.D. He is a graduate of Yale and University of California-Berkley Law School. Mr. McClelland operates a travel planning business featuring winery tours and fly-fishing in Argentina. He is a conservationist and previously served as National President of Trout Unlimited and on the Board of the Yellowstone Park Foundation. Mr. McClelland currently serves as a Member with Special Expertise, without vote, on the Special Committee on Development of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors. He is a former member of the Executive Council of the former governance structure, serving two years as its Vice-Chair. He self-nominated to the Board. Mr. McClelland will serve in the Class of 2012.

**Yesenia Menendez-Sanchez** is a Hispanic American lay female, 40-49, who is a Parenting Educator, holding a Masters Degree in Social Work. She is a member of Iglesia Hispana de la Comunidad UCC in Boston, Massachusetts. She has worked professionally for a childhood autism agency. Additionally, she has worked as a Restaurant Operations Manager, a business consultant and as the Interim Director of a Big Brothers Big Sisters program. She is the Moderator at her local church and signs in the choir. She sits on the Massachusetts Conference Board of Directors. She was nominated by the Massachusetts Conference. Ms. Menendez-Sanchez will serve in the Class of 2021.

**David Nelson** is a European American lay male, 60+, who is the President Nelson Equity Development, LLC and of Ocean Energy Company, both of Des Moines, Iowa. He is a member of Plymouth Congregational UCC in Des Moines. Mr. Nelson holds an AB and an MBA from Harvard. Prior to his current position he served as the Chief Financial Officer at various Midwestern companies and began his career as a bank officer in New York. He has long been active at all levels of his local church and served on the Iowa Conference Board of Directors. He volunteers his time as President and Chair of the Board of Directors of Plymouth Place and has previously served his local YMCA and Polk County Youth Law Center as a board member and President. He was nominated by the Iowa Conference. Mr. Nelson will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Inez Reid** is an African American lay female, 60+, who is a Senior Judge, District of Columbia Court of Appeals. She is a member of Peoples UCC in Washington, DC. She holds a J.D. Ms. Reid served as General Counsel to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare prior to her appointment to the court. She served on the Local Church Ministries Board of Directors, as Chair for two years, under the former governance structure and has served on the Cornerstone Fund Board of Directors. Ms. Reid was a contributing participant in the effort that brought the new governance structure to the UCC. She is active in various community and civic organizations. She self-nominated to the Board. Ms. Reid will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Frances Q.F. Wong** is an Asian American lay female, 60+, retired Circuit Court Judge for the State of Hawaii, now serving in a retired-fill in capacity. She is a member of Church of the Crossroads in Honolulu, Hawaii. She holds a J.D. and served as the Senior (Administrative) Judge during her time on the court. Ms. Wong's undergraduate degree is in education and she taught special education early in her career. She is a graduate of the Pacific School of Religion. She has five times served as Moderator of her local church and has served on various Conference boards and committees. Ms. Wong has served on various civic boards, many related to the arts. She was nominated by the Hawaii Conference. Ms. Wong will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Yvette Wynn** is an African American lay female, 40-49, Private Banker for Morgan Stanley Private Bank. She is a member of Community Church of the Pelhams in Pelham, New York. She holds a Masters Degree in Economics. She has served as Moderator of her local church, sits on the Metropolitan Association Board of Directors and served on the New York Conference Annual Meeting Planning Team. Ms. Wynn currently serves as a Member with Special Expertise, without vote, on the Investment and Endowment Committee of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors. She volunteers her time for the Westchester County Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity and her local food bank. She was nominated by the New York Conference. Ms. Wynn will serve in the Class of 2021.

# COMPOSITION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD 2015-2017

United Church of Christ Board (36 At-Large Positions)	Count	Board Percentages
Male	18	50.0%
Female	18	50.0%
Clergy	12	33.3%
Lay Males	12	33.3%
Lay Females	12	33.3%
African American	6	16.7%
Hispanic	4	11.1%
Native American	2	5.6%
Pacific Island	2	5.6%
Asian American	4	11.1%
Total	18	50.0%
European American	18	50.0%
60+	12	33.3%
50-59	4	11.1%
40-49	6	16.7%
30-39	6	16.7%
19-29	7	19.4%
Youth	1	2.8%
Disability	3	8.3%
LGBT	6	16.7%

## **APPENDIX D**

### **SECOND REPORT OF THE THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

It is with deep appreciation for their skills, willingness to serve and love of the United Church of Christ that the General Synod Nominating Committee unanimously selects the Rev. Sue Artt for election as Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod and Mr. Norman J. Williams as Assistant Moderator of the Thirty-first General Synod and places their nominations before the Thirtieth General Synod for election.

Rev. Artt is a Euro-American ordained female, 50-59, who has served as Assistant Moderator for the past two years, and as the framers of the new governance structure envisioned, she is being placed before the General Synod for elevation to Moderator. She currently serves as the Acting Conference Minister of the Rocky Mountain Conference after serving a local church in the Illinois-South Conference. Rev. Artt comes to her ministry after a corporate career as an executive for Mobil Exxon. She holds an MBA with focus on Organizational Behavior and Development and received her MDiv in 2006.

Mr. Williams is an African American lay male, 60+ and is a member of Church of the Good Shepherd Congregational in Chicago. He has served as its treasurer, as a deacon and as a trustee. He is the Chair and CEO of Illinois Service Federal Savings and Loan. He also manages his family-owned funeral parlors in Chicago. Mr. Williams is the Chair of the Chicago Theological Seminary Board of Trustees and sits on the Illinois League of Financial Institutions. Like Rev. Artt, Mr. Williams brings extensive financial expertise to the position, which carries with it membership on the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

The selections of Rev. Artt and Mr. Williams came after careful consideration of a deep and rich pool of candidates submitted by the Conferences and various Groups eligible to nominate, along with other candidates who self-nominated. However, at the conclusion of our discussion the nominations of Rev. Artt and Mr. Williams were unanimous and we ask for the affirmation of our selections by all voting delegates at the Thirtieth General Synod.

In Christ,  
Angela Myers  
Chair-The Thirtieth General Synod Nominating Committee

June 5, 2015

**APPENDIX E  
FIRST REPORT OF THE UCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**It was VOTED  
13-07-UCCB-01**

to adopt the printed agenda necessary for the appropriate legal transition to the new structure.

**APPROVAL OF CORPORATE BYLAWS**

**It was VOTED  
13-07-UCCB-02**

to approve the Corporate Bylaws of the UCC Board of Directors.

**ADOPTION OF STANDING RULES**

**It was VOTED  
13-07-UCCB-03**

to adopt the Standing Rules of the UCC Board of Directors.

**APPROVAL OF MERGER AGREEMENT**

**It was VOTED  
13-07-UCCB-04**

to approve the Merger Agreement between the Office of General Ministries and the Executive Council into a new corporation, the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

**ELECTION OF CHAIR**

**It was VOTED  
13-07-UCCB-05**

to elect Mr. Bernard Wilson Chair of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

**ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

**It was VOTED  
13-07-UCCB-06**

to elect Ms. Dale Bonds Vice-chair of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-01**

to adopt the printed agenda.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-01a**

to approve the Consent Agenda as found on the Agenda of the October 9-12, 2013 United Church of Christ Board Meeting. UCCB-13-10-09 (Consent Agenda)

**APPROVAL OF THE BEHAVIORAL COVENANT**

**It was VOTED**

**13-10-UCCB-02** to adopt the “Consideration of Behavioral Covenant.”

**APPROVAL OF THE BEHAVIORAL COVENANT  
WITH AMENDED CHANGES**

**It was VOTED**

**14-03-UCCB-01** to adopt the Behavioral Covenant with the amended changes.

Seeking to be faithful together, we covenant with one another to be attentive to these guidelines as we make decisions for our faith community. In a spirit of trust and love, we will:

- Treat each other respectfully so as to build trust, believing that we all desire to be faithful to Jesus the Christ,
- We will keep our conversations and communications open for honest exchange,
- We will not ask questions or make statements in a way which will intimidate or judge others,

Listen. Listen. Listen.

- We will try not to formulate what we want to say while someone else is speaking,
- Welcome and regard each other as equals with our own unique gifts and graces,
- We will seek clarification if needed,
- Speak in truth and love,
- Be open to new learnings from various perspectives,
- Share our concerns in a spirit of love and respect in keeping with Jesus’ teaching,
- Focus on ideas and suggestions instead of questioning people’s motives, intelligence, or integrity,
- Speak for ourselves only, expressing our own thoughts and feelings, referring to our experiences,
- We will avoid broad generalizations,
- Maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,
- Seek to stay in community with each other though the discussion may be vigorous or full of tension,
- We will be ready to forgive and be forgiven,
- We will include those who should be involved in discussions even if we disagree with them,
- Support and abide by the decision of the majority even if we disagree with it, and if we disagree with it and wish to change it, work for that change in ways which are consistent with these guidelines,
- Include our disagreements in our prayers, not praying for the triumph of our viewpoints, but seeking God’s grace to listen attentively, to speak clearly, and to remain open to the vision God holds for us all.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**It was VOTED**

**14-10-UCCB-01** to approve the recommended Agenda.



**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**It was VOTED**

**14-10-UCCB-02** to approve the Consent Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND  
CONSENT AGENDA**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-01** to approve the recommended Agenda and the Consent Agenda with the addition of Rev. Kent Siladi, Co-chair of the Search Committee, receiving voice without vote to the meeting of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

**ORDER OF THE DAY**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-05** to call the order of the day.

**RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE THIRTIETH  
GENERAL SYNOD**

**It was VOTED:**

**15-03-UCCB-04** To approve the recommended actions of the Committee on Disposition.

**DEFER VOTE ON RECOMMENDED ACTION RELATING  
TO FUNDING TO THE SOUTHERN CONFERENCE**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-08** to defer the vote to the motion on the floor relating to funding to the Southern Conference to offset costs resulting from the lawsuit against North Carolina until the evening's session.

**FUNDS AUTHORIZED TO SOUTHERN CONFERENCE**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-12** to approve the motion for the United Church of Christ Board to authorize \$50,000 from the Executive Council (EC) Fund to be shared with the Southern Conference in recognition of the financial impact on the Southern Conference, due to the lawsuit against the state of North Carolina.

**TASKFORCE TO DISCOVER WAYS TO LIVE  
IN COVENANT**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-13** to amend the previous motion, adding the words "biblical, cultural and ethical" following theological.  
(1 Abstention)

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-14**  
(1 No)  
(1 Abstention)

to approve the following amended motion: “The United Church of Christ Board calls for the formation of a task force to address the theological, biblical, cultural and ethical spectrum of opinions within the United Church of Christ, to discover ways to live in covenant together.”

**GRANT VOICE WITHOUT VOTE TO  
HOLLY MILLERSHANK**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-17**

to grant Holly MillerShank voice without vote.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-18**

to move into Executive Session.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-28**

to move into Executive Session.

**DALE BONDS ELECTED AS CHAIR OF THE UCC  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-29**  
(2 No)

to accept the nomination of Ms. Dale Bonds as Chair of the United Church of Christ Board.

**FRANK BOLDEN ELECTED AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE UCC  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-30**

to accept the nomination of Mr. Frank Bolden as Vice-Chair of the United Church of Christ Board.

**TRANSPARENCY WORKING GROUP**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-31**

to approve the amendment to the original motion.

**It was VOTED**  
**21-03-UCCB-32**  
(2 No)

that the Chair expediently appoint a task force consisting of five interested and willing members of the current Board, working directly with the General Minister and President, tasked to examine the issues of accountability, and develop best practices for transparency for our

continued work as a Board on behalf of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ. And in conjunction with the National Staff, this task force would consist of no more than one member of the Executive Committee and, if possible, at least one of our Conference Minister Members, and would make a written report to the Board, at least two weeks prior to our meeting in June.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-33**

to move into Executive Session.

## **FINANCE AND BUDGET**

### **ADOPTION OF SIX MONTH BUDGET**

**It was VOTED**  
**13-07-UCCB-07**

to adopt the proposed six month budget as presented.

### **CLERGY HOUSING ALLOWANCE**

**It was VOTED**  
**13-10-UCCB-04**

to approve the Finance and Budget Committee's recommendation that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors approve the Clergy Housing Allowance under Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code and the Regulations promulgated thereunder ("Section 107") during calendar year 2014 for each ordained minister in good standing with his or her respective denomination and any other "Minister of the Gospel" within the meaning of Section 107, who is in the employ of a Covenanted Ministry of the United Church of Christ, shall be a sum equal to such employee's good faith estimate of the amount which will be excludible under Section 107 with respect to the providing of a home by such employee for such year; however, unless and until such employee shall provide in writing the estimate described above, the amount of said Clergy Housing Allowance for such employee shall be a sum equal to one third of such employee's gross salary compensation. [Each eligible employee will be instructed to submit a signed statement of his or her designated Housing Allowance for calendar year 2014, which shall conform to the requirements of the above resolution to Human Resources by a date determined by that department.]

### **SUPPLEMENTATION OF SMALL ANNUITIES**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-05**

to approve the Finance and Budget Committee's recommendation that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors authorize the Pension Boards-United Church of Christ to provide supplementation of small annuities effective January 1, 2014 based on an income level of \$28,008 with three-fourths of that amount as the level applicable in determining supplementation for a deceased member's surviving spouse/partner.

### **NATIONAL BASIC SUPPORT ALLOCATION**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-06**

to approve the Finance and Budget Committee's recommendation that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors approve the National Basic Support allocation base of \$6,304,000 for 2014 and the funding to the Office of the General Minister and President, the Covenanted Ministries and the Pension Boards allocation as follows: OGMP \$2,836,295 (53.29%), JWM \$857,264 (13.60%), LCM \$1,111,728 (17.64%), WCM \$625,278 (9.92%) and PB \$350,014 (5.55%).

### **2014 BUDGET**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-07**

to approve the Finance and Budget Committee recommendation that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors approve the proposed 2014 budgets totaling \$25,173,749 with the provision that the Collegium enact their financial plan as presented during the October 2013 meeting of the United Church of Christ Board.

### **COLLEGIUM'S PLAN ON FISCAL STABILITY**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-08**

The United Church of Christ Board of Directors approves the Collegium's Plan on Fiscal Stability as presented in executive session on Thursday, October 10, 2013.

### **2015 DELEGATE TRAVEL POOL**

**It was VOTED  
14-03-UCCB-16**

to approve the rates for the calculation of the 2015 Delegate travel pool.

### **GENERAL SYNOD 2015 REGISTRATION FEES**

**It was VOTED  
14-03-UCCB-17**

to approve the recommendation for the General Synod 2015 registration fees.

## **2015 GENERAL SYNOD BUDGET**

**It was VOTED  
14-03-UCCB-18**

to approve the recommendation of the Finance and Budget Committee to approve the 2015 General Synod budget totaling \$1,361,914.

### **NATIONAL BASIC SUPPORT ALLOCATION**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-06**

that the Board approve The Finance and Budget Committee's recommendation to approve the National Basic Support allocation base of \$6,190,000 in 2015, and the funding of the Office of the General Minister and President, the Covenanted Ministries and the Pension Board allocation as follows: OGMP \$4,201,467 (67.88%), JWM \$811,623 (13.11%), LCM \$354,129 (5.72%), WCM \$474,846 (7.67%) and PB \$347,935 (5.62%).

### **2015 BUDGET**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-07**

that the United Church of Christ Board approves the proposed 2015 budget totaling \$22,297,967, as recommended by the Finance and Budget Committee.

### **CLOSE DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-24**

to call the question to close the discussion on the amendment to change the date on the original motion.

### **POSTPONEMENT – CONFERENCE CALL**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-25**

to change the date of the postponement to a conference call prior to December 31, 2014.

### **CLOSE DISCUSSION ON VOTE**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-26**

to close the discussion on the vote to forgive the debt at Franklinton Center.

### **FORGIVE THE DEBT AT FRANKLINTON CENTER**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-27**

to approve the recommendation from the Finance and Budget Committee to forgive the debt at Franklinton Center. (1 NO vote)

**FRANKLINTON CENTER AT BRICKS POOL REPAIRS TO BE REPAID TO JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-28**

to approve the recommendation of the Finance and Budget Committee that the United Church of Christ Board provide a formal request to the Franklinton Center at Bricks Trustees that the pool repairs (\$53,247.00) be repaid to Justice and Witness Ministries no later than December 31, 2017. (1 Abstention)

**LINE OF CREDIT TO FRANKLINTON CENTER AT BRICKS**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-29**

to approve the recommendation of the Finance and Budget Committee that the United Church of Christ Board approve extending a secured line of credit up to \$450,000 to Franklinton Center at Bricks to meet cash flow needs for the years 2014 through 2020 and that a formal agreement between the United Church of Christ Board and Franklinton Center at Bricks that provides the terms of the secured line of credit be drafted by legal counsel and signed by the appropriate board members of both organizations.

**DANIEL HAND FUND**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-30**

to approve the recommendation of the Daniel Hand Fund.

**NATIONAL BASIC SUPPORT**

**It was VOTED  
15-03-UCCB-07**

that the United Church of Christ Board adopt and recommend to General Synod for adoption (1) a National Basic Support allocation based on \$6.007 million for the budget year 2016 and \$5.785 million for the budget year 2017; and (2) that the percentage allocations for 2016 and 2017 be based on the recommendation by the United Church of Christ Board.

**INVESTMENT AND ENDOWMENT**

**AUTHORIZE THE USE CURRENT POLICIES IN DEVELOPMENT OF 2014 BUDGETS**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-03**

to approve the recommendation of the Investment & Endowment Committee, that the United Church of Christ Board authorize the use by the Office of the General Minister and President and the Covenanted Ministries of their current policies in the development of their 2014 budgets in order to give the {Investment & Endowment} Committee time to review and deliberate on various alternate policies that may be available.

**ALLOCATION OF CURRENT EQUITY HOLDING TO THE FUND FREE OF  
FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES**

**It was VOTED**

**14-07-UCCB-04** that the UCCB Investment and Endowment Committee recommend that the Board of Directors of the United Church of Christ Board approve allocating \$10 million of its current equity holdings to the Fund Free of Fossil Fuel Companies to be created by the United Church Funds.

**APPROVAL OF RESTRICTED FUNDS DISBURSEMENT**

**It was VOTED:**

**14-03-UCCB-04** to approve the Restricted Funds Disbursement of \$185,451 from the Donchian Fund for the Armenian Missionary Association of America for church projects in Armenia (\$139,088.25) and for church and educational needs in Lebanon and Syria (\$46,362.75)

**DRAW RATE ON INVESTMENT AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS FOR 2015**

**It was VOTED**

**14-10-UCCB-03** to approve the draw rate on investment and endowed funds for 2015 to no more than 5%. (4 abstentions)

**MARJORIE LIKINS BEQUEST**

**It was VOTED**

**14-10-UCCB-04** that the Board authorize the Chief Financial Officer to transfer the Marjorie Likins bequest in the amount of \$103,771.98, and any additional amounts received, to the UCC Pension Boards to comply with Article 4c of said bequest, which requires that the funds be required to establish a fund to supplement pensions of widows or ministers.

**DRAW RATE ON INVESTMENT AND ENDOWMENT  
FUNDS FOR 2019**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-05**

that the draw rate on invested and endowed funds be reduced to 4% pursuant to Bylaws 227a and 243e by year 2019.

**GOVERNANCE**

**501(C)(3) EXEMPT STATUS**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-09**

to accept the following amendment with language changes: RESOLVED, that all UCC affiliated, associated, and other -related bodies, including but not limited to those described in Article XII of the Constitution and Articles IV and VI of the Bylaws, (excluding local churches, Associations, Conferences, Covenanted Ministries, and the United Church of Christ Board) be, and hereby are, encouraged to seek and obtain recognition of their own I.R.C. 501 (C)(3) exempt status within two years;

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-11**

to accept the amendment to change the time for all UCC-related organizations, excluding local churches, Associations, and Conferences to seek and obtain recognition of their I.R.C. 501 (C)(3) exempt status within three years of the adoption of this amendment; and the third paragraph to reflect three years.

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-13**

to accept the amendment of the language in the second paragraph to now read: FURTHER RESOLVED, that recognizing the ecclesiastical covenantal relationship between the United Church of Christ and affiliated, associated and other related bodies, that the Office of the General Minister and President be, and hereby is, directed to resource and assist in this process.

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-15  
(1 abstention)**

to adopt the amendment to now read: FURTHER RESOLVED, that recognizing the ecclesiastical covenantal relationship between the UCC and affiliated, associated and other related bodies, that the Office of the General Minister and President be, and hereby is, directed to resource and assist in this process.



**ADOPTION OF SAFE CHURCH POLICY**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-17**

to adopt the Safe Church Policy.

**ADOPTION OF THE BOARD TRAVEL POLICY**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-18**

to adopt the Board Travel Policy.

**ELECTION OF GENERAL SYNOD NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-19**

to elect Ms. Angela Myer as Chair of the Nominating Committee of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ for a term of two years, concluding with the current biennium and her term as a member of the Nominating Committee.

**ELECTION OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE CHAIR**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-20**

to elect Ms. Deborah Blood as Chair of the Thirtieth General Synod Credentials Committee.

**DISTRIBUTION OF CONFERENCE DELEGATES TO THE  
THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-21**

to adopt the distribution of Conference Delegates to the Thirtieth General Synod which totals 677.

## Distribution of Conference Delegates to the Thirtieth General Synod

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Members</u>			<u>Delegates</u>	
California-N/Nevada	015,474	÷	1,480 =	10.46	10
California-S/Nevada	017,627	÷	1,480 =	11.91	12
Calvin Synod	002,360	÷	1,480 =	01.59	03
Central Atlantic	026,395	÷	1,480 =	17.83	18
Central Pacific	006,810	÷	1,480 =	04.60	05
Connecticut	073,989	÷	1,480 =	49.99	50
Florida	023,266	÷	1,480 =	15.72	16
Hawaii	015,583	÷	1,480 =	10.53	11
Illinois	075,163	÷	1,480 =	50.79	50
Illinois-South	021,602	÷	1,480 =	14.60	15
Indiana-Kentucky	026,728	÷	1,480 =	18.06	18
Iowa	030,913	÷	1,480 =	20.89	21
Kansas-Oklahoma	009,220	÷	1,480 =	06.23	06
Maine	018,423	÷	1,480 =	12.45	12
Massachusetts	068,239	÷	1,480 =	46.11	46
Michigan	029,546	÷	1,480 =	19.96	20
Minnesota	028,007	÷	1,480 =	18.92	19
Missouri-Mid-South	030,905	÷	1,480 =	20.88	21
Montana-No. Wyo.	004,416	÷	1,480 =	02.98	03
Nebraska	015,508	÷	1,480 =	10.48	10
New Hampshire	020,498	÷	1,480 =	13.85	14
New York	035,351	÷	1,480 =	23.89	24
Northern Plains	004,922	÷	1,480 =	03.33	03
Ohio	094,155	÷	1,480 =	63.62	64
Pacific Northwest	008,947	÷	1,480 =	06.05	06
Penn Central	040,975	÷	1,480 =	27.69	28
Penn Northeast	038,045	÷	1,480 =	25.71	26
Pennsylvania SE	044,820	÷	1,480 =	30.28	30
Penn West	013,798	÷	1,480 =	09.32	09
Rhode Island	006,208	÷	1,480 =	04.19	04
Rocky Mountain	013,567	÷	1,480 =	09.17	09
South Central	015,364	÷	1,480 =	10.38	10
South Dakota	009,807	÷	1,480 =	06.63	07
Southeast	011,432	÷	1,480 =	07.72	08
Southern	030,534	÷	1,480 =	20.63	21
Southwest	007,629	÷	1,480 =	05.15	05
Vermont	012,896	÷	1,480 =	08.71	09
Wisconsin	049,784	÷	1,480 =	33.64	34

677

### ADOPTION OF AMENDMENTS TO STANDING RULES OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-22**

to adopt the amendments to the Standing Rules of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors, as provided to the membership.

### **ADDITION OF STANDING RULE #13**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-23**

to add a standing rule #13, to read “The confidential nature of certain information will at all times be respected. The membership and staff will honor all confidences shared with it.”

### **APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE UCAN INC. ARTICLES AND BYLAWS**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-24**

to approve amendments to the UCAN Inc. Articles and Bylaws, as provided to the membership.

### **BOARD MEMBER RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-26**

that until there is a standing rule or policy on responding to public or press inquiries regarding matters in litigation, any Board Member approached or contacted by the press or public regarding such matters should direct that inquiry to the office of the General Minister and President.

### **DANIEL HAND EDUCATION FUND**

**It was VOTED  
13-10-UCCB-27**

to distribute the 2014 funds available from the Daniel Hand Educational Fund totaling \$404,759.36 equally among the following seven recipients and to distribute said funds twice a year (January and July): Dillard University, Fisk University, Huston-Tillotson University, LeMoyne-Owen College, Talladega College, Tougaloo College and the Amistad Research Center.

### **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER – AUTHORITY TO SIGN CONTRACTS**

**It was VOTED  
14-03-UCCB-05**

to adopt the policy giving the Chief Administrative Officer explicit authority to sign contracts on behalf of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors and General Synod.

### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

**It was VOTED  
14-03-UCCB-06**

to approve that the United Church of Christ Board of Directors proposal of the Memorandum of Understanding be submitted to the Boy Scouts of America.

### **TERMINATION OF THE PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH TRUST**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-07**

to consent to the termination of the Pilgrim Congregational Church trust.

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-08**

to endorse and affirm the proposal and report of the Executive Committee.

**UCAN BYLAWS**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-09**

to remove the words “and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of WCM,” from the UCAN Bylaws article IV, I.

**ADD “BIBLICAL” BACK TO BYLAWS**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-10**

to change the amendment to add the word “Biblical” back to places in the Bylaws document where it had been deleted.

**CHANGE WORDING, LINE 528, BYLAWS**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-11**

to change the wording on line 528 to, the Biblical, theological and historical grounding describes how this action reflects the historic roots of the United Church of Christ and connects it to current identity and theology, noting the current engagement of various settings of the Church.

**JOEL E. STRAUCH ELIGIBLE FOR ELECTION TO  
PENSION BOARD’S BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-12**

to declare Mr. Joel E. Strauch eligible for election to the Pension Board’s Board of Trustees – United Church of Christ, Inc.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-13**

to adopt the Conflict of Interest Policy.

**WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-03-UCCB-14**

to adopt the Whistle Blower Policy.

## **RESIGNATION OF ROXANNE GOULD**

**It was VOTED  
14-07-UCCB-02**

to receive the resignation of Ms. Roxanne Gould as an At-large Member of the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

## **ELECTION OF BRITTNI L. BADGER**

**It was VOTED  
14-07-UCCB-03**

to elect Ms. Brittni L. Badger to the United Church of Christ's Board of Directors as an At-Large member, Class of 2017.

## **THIRTY-FIRST GENERAL SYNOD SITE SELECTION**

**It was VOTED  
14-03-UCCB-19**

to accept Baltimore as the site for the Thirty-first General Synod.

## **SLATE OF NOMINEES – GMP SEARCH COMMITTEE**

**It was VOTED  
14-09-UCCB-01**

to approve the slate of nominees to the General Minister and President Search Committee.

## **A MOTION FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD ON BEHALF OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-08**

“As members of the United Church of Christ Board, we recognize and affirm the vital matters of justice with which our Collegium of Officers and national staff so ably deal. We are excited to learn of the work around literacy, racism, immigration, marriage equality and other pressing issues of the day.

We would also like to remind the United Church of Christ Board and the Collegium of Officers that persons with disabilities make up 20% of the population. This number may be a surprise, because many of us have so-called “hidden” disabilities. Regardless, we are here, we are part of you. We are a named Historically Underrepresented Group of the United Church of Christ.

We, therefore, respectfully request that the reports of the Collegium to the United Church of Christ Board and to the Wider Church routinely and regularly lift up the work that is being done to forward the cause of justice and inclusion for persons with disabilities.”

**AMEND MOTION FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD  
ON BEHALF OF PERSON WITH DISABILITIES**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-09**

To amend the motion “and we request that the appropriate staff be requested to make materials accessible to people prior to the Board meeting,” to “We further request that materials be provided to the Board in formats accessible to all.”

**ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-10**

to support the resolution on the Armenian Genocide.

**POSTPONE DISCUSSION ON RESOLUTION**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-11**

to postpone discussion on the resolution “A Call for Peace Justice and Re-unification in the Korean Peninsula,” until the evening session.

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD MEMBER  
JOB DESCRIPTION**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-12**

“That the United Church of Christ Board member job description include the expectation that Board members will make a financial commitment annually to the UCC,” and in italics under this and not part of the motion *“The Development Committee is making a commitment with this motion to make information readily available to the Board members about the great variety of ways to give.”*

**TASKFORCE TO EXAMINE THE  
COVENANT OF GIVING**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-13**

to approve the motion that the General Minister and President lead a taskforce to examine the covenant of giving across the life of the United Church of Christ in order to ensure the discovery, implementation and utilization of a more effective and efficient development program . We further recommend that taskforce participants represent the local Associations, Conferences, and National audiences that constitute the United Church of Christ. And that this taskforce present its findings and make recommendations to the Development Committee by October 1, 2015 for review, and report back to the United Church of Christ Board, and ultimately for presentation to General Synod in 2017.

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-14**

to reconsider the resolution “A call for Peace, Justice and Reunification in the Korean Peninsula, and remove “United Church of Christ Board,” from the title “A Resolution of Witness submitted by Wider Church Ministries/ United Church of Christ Board.

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-15**

to remove from postponement consideration of the resolution “A call for Peace, Justice and Reunification in the Korean Peninsula.”

**AMEND TITLE, “A RESOLUTION OF WITNESS”**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-16**

to amend the title to read “A Resolution of Witness submitted by Wider Church Ministries, a covenanted ministry of the United Church of Christ.”

**AMEND “FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED”**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-17**

to amend the “Finally, be it resolved,” paragraph. To read after bridge-building trips “, in partnership with Global Ministries and their ecumenical partners,”

**APPROVE ORIGINAL MOTION AS AMENDED**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-18**

to approve the original motion as amended. To add to the “Finally, be it resolved,” paragraph. To read after bridge-building trips “, in partnership with Global Ministries and their ecumenical partners,” (1 Abstention)

**AMEND RESOLUTION “SUBMITTED BY  
JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES”**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-19**

to amend the resolution to “Submitted by Justice and Witness Ministries” and strike (United Church of Christ Board) and add “a covenanted ministry of the United Church of Christ.”

**APPROVE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-20**

to approve the resolution as amended.

**RELEASE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

**It was VOTED  
14-10-UCCB-21**

to release the minutes of the Executive Session held on October 11, 2014.

## **BOARD TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-10-UCCB-22**

that the United Church of Christ Board will now move into Executive session, the time being 6:31 PM.

## **AMEND RESOLUTION REGARDING NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS LOCATION**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-02**  
(1 abstention)

to amend Synod Resolution 89-GS-56 by striking the words: 2. Locates the National Headquarters in the building located at 700 Prospect Avenue.

## **APPOINTMENTS TO THE HISTORICAL COUNCIL**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-03**  
(1 abstention)

to accept the recommended action to elect the following people to the UCC Historical Council: Rev. Dr. Carolyn Call (at-large, for a term of six years commencing on the date of election and ending at the conclusion of General Synod 2021) and Rev. K. Ray Hill (at-large, for a term of six years commencing on the date of election and ending at the conclusion of General Synod 2021); and to elect Rev. Dr. Nancy Nollau Mack (class of 2019) as Chairperson of the UCC Historical Council for a term of two years commencing on the date of election and ending at the conclusion of General Synod 2017.

## **AFFIRMATION OF REV. DR. JOHN C. DORHAUER AS CANDIDATE FOR GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-06**  
(1 no vote)  
(3 abstentions)

to vote by affirmation and approve the recommendation of the Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer as the candidate for General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ.

## **VOICE WITHOUT VOTE – THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-15**

to approve the recommendation of the Governance Committee to accord the following groups, voice without vote at the Thirtieth General Synod, under provision of Rule IX of the Standing Rules: the Ministry for God's Animals, Faithful and Welcoming Churches, the Association of United Church Educators, and UCC Military Chaplains.



**NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION – GENERAL SYNOD NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
(CLASS OF 2021)**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-16**

to approve the recommendation of the Governance Committee to nominated the following persons for election by the Thirtieth General Synod as members of the General Synod Nominating Committee, Class of 2021: Ms. Jean Avison, Ms. Marilyn Pagan-Banks, Mr. Christopher Rankin and Mr. Joseph Sejnoha, and noting as a matter of record that Marilyn Pagan-Banks was nominated by the United Black Christians.

**CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-19**

to add the word “age” after reflecting, to paragraph 235f.

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-20**

to change the word “leadership” to “membership” in paragraph 235f.

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-21**

to change one year to two years in line 106 of the Constitution and Bylaws, and also noting year to years.

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-22**

to approve the Constitution and Bylaws as amended that have been presented.

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-23**

the General Synod proposed changes, removing all reference to “biennial” and “2 year” set timing, and replacing with “regular meetings”. Also, changing the attending information relating to the terms of Board Members, Officers and Delegates that relate to General Synod scheduling.

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-24**

to approve the acceptance of amended changes to the original amendment.

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-UCCB-25**

(1 No)

(1 Abstention)

to approve the original amendment as amended with the changes to one vote, two-thirds (66.7%) vote and a period after Board in paragraph 243f.

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-26**

to strike the words “referred to in paragraph 243f” in paragraph 243e. (the same changes to page 20, 223a)

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-27**

to recommend to General Synod the amendments to paragraphs 223a and 243e as amended.

**DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

**GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-10**

to approve the Gift Acceptance Policy as recommended by the Development Committee.

**RE-PURPOSE THE STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-11**  
(5 No Votes)  
(3 abstentions)

to approve the proposal to re-purpose the Strengthen the Church Offering as recommended by the Development Committee.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**RECEIVE REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**It was VOTED**  
**14-10-UCCB 23**

to receive the report of the Audit Committee.

**RECEIVE REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**It was VOTED**  
**15-03-UCCB-09**  
(1 No Vote)

to receive the report of the Audit Committee and the recommendations as outlined in the proposal.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **CONSIDERATION OF GROUP EXEMPTION POLICY**

**It was VOTED**

**13-10-ExComm-03** The “Consideration of Group Exemption Policy,” will be presented as a recommended action to the full United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

### **CONSIDERATION OF SAFE CHURCH POLICY**

**It was VOTED**

**13-10-ExComm-04** The “Consideration of Safe Church Policy,” will be presented as a recommended action to the full Board.

### **CONSIDERATION OF BEHAVIORAL COVENANT**

**It was VOTED**

**13-10-ExComm-05** The “Consideration of Behavioral Covenant,” will be presented as a recommended action to the full Board.

### **CONSIDERATION OF BOARD TRAVEL POLICY**

**It was VOTED**

**13-10-ExComm-06** The “Consideration of Board Travel Policy,” with the adjustment in covering the first two pieces of luggage when traveling with the laptop or tablet, will be presented as a recommended action to the full Board.

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE BEHAVIOR COVENANT**

**IT WAS VOTED**

**14-03-ExComm-01** to submit the recommended amendments to the Behavior Covenant to the United Church of Christ Board.

### **BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA MEMORANDUM**

**IT WAS VOTED**

**14-03-ExComm-02** to recommend action by the Board of Directors: the Memorandum of Understanding Boy Scouts of America and United Church of Christ.

### **SIGNATURE AUTHORITY**

**IT WAS VOTED**

**14-03-ExComm-03** to recommended action by the Board of Directors: the adoption of a policy giving the Chief Administrative Officer explicit authority to sign contracts on behalf of the United Church of Christ Board and General Synod.

## **ST. LOUIS-PILGRIM TRUST**

### **IT WAS VOTED**

**14-03-ExComm-04** to recommend consideration by the Board of Directors: consent to termination of Pilgrim Congregational Church trust.

## **TERMINATION OF COVENANT**

### **It was VOTED**

**14-05-ExComm-03** that the UCCB terminate its current covenant with the Southern California Conference, specifically as it relates to the Daniel F. Romero Center for Border Ministries effective immediately, and that the Center will no longer be referred to as a National Ministry of the United Church of Christ.

## **STROBELT-McCANN RESIGNATION**

### **It was VOTED**

**14-05-ExComm-04** to receive the Resignation of Mr. Nevan Strobel-McCann from the Board of Directors, Class of 2017.

## **REMOVAL – DEBORA BLOOD, CHAIR – THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

### **It was VOTED**

**14-05-ExComm-05** to remove Ms. Debora Blood as Chair of the Thirtieth General Synod Credentials Committee.

## **ELECTION – CAROL BURKE, CHAIR – THIRTIETH GENERAL SYNOD CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

### **It was VOTED**

**14-05-ExComm-06** to elect Ms. Carol Burke as Chair of the Thirtieth General Synod Credentials Committee, replacing Debora Blood.

## **GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **IT WAS VOTED**

**14-11-ExComm-01** to accept and approve the General Minister and President Position Description. (1 No Vote)

## **HAITI LIMITED TERM ENDOWMENT FUND**

### **It was VOTED**

**14-12-ExComm-03** to approve \$115,040.00 for 2014 and \$118,000.00 for the calendar year 2015 be expended from the Haiti limited term endowment fund.

**AFFIRMATION OF MIKE READINGER**

**It was VOTED**

**14-12-ExComm-04** to affirm Mike Readinger to the UCC Board of Directors, replacing Bryn Sickbert (CHHSM)

**CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTION  
ON MASS INCARCERATION**

**It was VOTED**

**14-12-ExComm-05** to endorse the Resolution on Mass Incarceration submitted by Justice and Witness Ministries.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE OPERATING  
AGREEMENT OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
HOTEL VENTURE, LLC**

**It was VOTED**

**14-12-ExComm-06** to endorse the Operating Agreement of United Church of Christ Hotel Venture, LLC

**CONSIDERATION OF THE RESOLUTION TO DEFINE  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UCC AND  
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

**It was VOTED**

**14-12-ExComm-06** to recommend the Resolution to Define the Relationship Between the UCC and the United Church of Christ to General Synod 2015.

**REALLOCATION OF FUNDING OF  
ECUMENICAL GRANTS**

**It was VOTED**

**14-12-ExComm-06** to reallocated funding of the Ecumenical Grants to CUIC and WCRC.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-ExComm-01** to approve the agenda.

**GRANT VOICE WITHOUT VOTE TO STAFF**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-ExComm-02** to grant voice without vote to staff present during the conference call.

**ELECTION OF NORMAN WILLIAMS TO  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-ExComm-03** to elect Mr. Norman J. Williams as a Member-at-large to the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

**ELECTION OF WESTLEY HURT TO  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**It was VOTED**

**15-03-ExComm-04** to elect Westley Hurt as a Member At-Large to the United Church of Christ Board of Directors.

**NOMINATION OF PAMELAJUNE ANDERSON TO THE GENERAL SYNOD  
NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

**It was VOTED**

**15-05-EXCOMM-02** in compliance with Bylaws paragraph 201, the nomination of PamelaJune Anderson to the General Synod Nominating Committee, for election by the Thirtieth General Synod.

**CHRISTIAN JUSTICE ACTION – APPLICATION FOR  
VOICE WITHOUT VOTE**

**IT WAS VOTED**

**15-05-EXCOMM-03** to deny Christian Justice Action’s (CJA) petition for a waiver of the January 30, 2015 deadline for submission of application for voice without vote at the Thirtieth General Synod.

\*The Executive Committee is fully empowered to act on behalf of the full Board of Directors when it is not in session. No further action by the Board of Directors is required of those items acted upon by the Executive Committee.

## APPENDIX F

### Candidates for Election to the General Synod Nominating Committee, Class of 2021

In accordance with Bylaws paragraph 201 the United Church of Christ Board of Directors, with thanks to God for their gifts and willingness to serve, presents the following four esteemed members of the United Church of Christ for election to the General Synod Nominating Committee, Class of 2021.

**Pamela June Anderson** is an African American ordained female, 60+, who is Pastor of Space for Grace Fellowship UCC in Lansing, Michigan, Michigan Conference. She holds a Doctor of Ministry. She is a retired US Navy Chaplain who served during the Gulf War, 1989-1990. During her ministry she has also served as an Associate Association Minister, hospice chaplain and hospital chaplain. Space for Grace is a new church start in an urban setting. Ms. Anderson has previously served at the National Setting, on various Ministry Boards, including Local Church and Justice and Witness Ministries Boards. She volunteers for various civic and ecumenical organizations in her home town. Ms. Anderson was nominated by the United Black Christians and will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Jean Avison** is a Euro American lay female, 60+, who is an executive for Wells Fargo Bank in Portland, Oregon. She is a member of Meridian UCC in Wilsonville, Oregon, Central Pacific Conference. She has served at all settings of the Church, as Moderator of her local church, on the Board of her Conference, as its Moderator and Co-chair of its Conference Minister Search Committee. Ms. Avison served on the Executive Council of the UCC under the former structure, for two years as Chair of its Budget and Finance Committee and as Chair of its Committee of Reference. She volunteers at various civic organizations, including her local food bank and a public schools support effort. Ms. Avison self-nominated and is endorsed by her Conference Minister. She will serve in the Class of 2021.

**Chris Rankin** is a Euro American ordained male, 30-39, who is Pastor of Trinity UCC in East Petersburg, Pennsylvania, Penn West Conference. He holds a Doctor of Ministry. He serves on his Conference Board of Directors and on the United Church of Christ Homes Board of Directors. Mr. Rankin is an expert in congregational vitality, his field of emphasis in obtaining his Doctorate. Mr. Rankin previously served on the **Candidates for Election to the General Synod Nominating Committee, Class of 2021**

**Joseph Sejnoha** is a Euro American lay male, 50-59, who is an Associate Professor of Business with a Masters in Business Administration. He is a member of United Church of Christ Congregational in Yankton, South Dakota, South Dakota Conference. He has previously served on the Board of Trustees of his church and as Chair of its Search Committee. He served on the Conference Board of Directors and as Co-chair of its Capital Campaign. Mr. Sejnoha served on the Office of General Ministries Board of Directors, 2005-2011, under the former structure, two years as its Vice-chair, 2009-2011. Mr. Sejnoha brings financial expertise and human resource skills to the Nominating Committee. He self-nominated and is endorsed by his Conference Minister. Mr. Sejnoha will serve in the Class of 2021.

With the election of these four outstanding members of the United Church of Christ the precise diversity and composition requirements of the Bylaws are fulfilled and the collective skill set, attributes and life experience of the Nominating Committee, such a vital function of our beloved Church, is enhanced.

Blessings,

The Rev. Dr. Bernard Wilson  
Chair-UCCB

Ms. Elizabeth Walker, Esq.  
Chair-Governance Committee, UCCB

May 18, 2015



## APPENDIX G

### FINANCIAL REPORT

#### UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER GENERAL SYNOD 2015



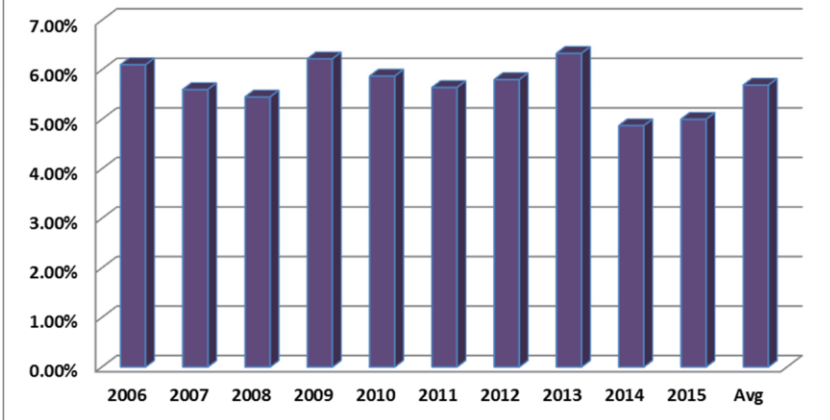
On Tuesday, July 2, 2013, the directors of the new United Church of Christ Board met for the first time in Long Beach, California. During this first meeting, board members expressed concern about the financial viability of the National Setting and the level of the draw rates ... and so began the work of the financial committees including the Finance and Budget, the Investment and Endowment, the Audit and the Development Committees.

The Investment and Endowment Committee, which includes board members as well as non-board members with investment expertise, determined that establishing a draw rate without adequate time to conduct research and discuss the ramifications of any recommendations would be premature for budget year 2014 and gave authorization to the Office of the General Minister and President and the three Covenanted Ministries (Justice & Witness Ministries, Local Church Ministries and Wider Church Ministries) to present their budgets using the spending policies that had been previously adopted by their respective predecessor boards for 2014.

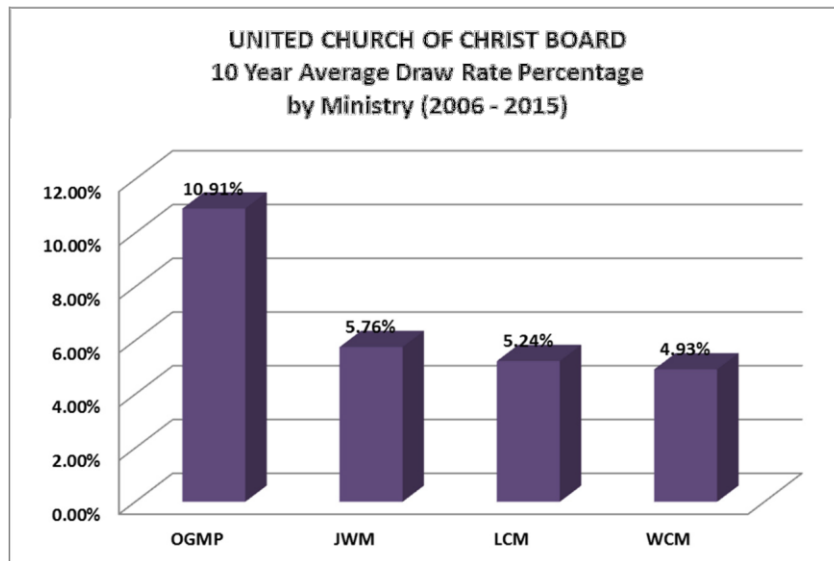
Upon completion of research on spending policies and draw rates, and holding multiple conversations regarding the spending policies with the Collegium and the full Board, the Investment and Endowment Committee has recommended to the United Church of Christ Board a draw rate of 5% for budget year 2015 with a goal of attaining a 4% draw rate by 2019. Their work is now focused on developing the United Church of Christ Board's Investment Policy.

The chart below provides information on draw rates over a ten year period (2006 through 2015). The combined draw rates (on a weighted average basis) have ranged from a high of 6.33% to the new norm of 5% or below:

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD  
Annual Average Draw Rate Percentages  
10 Years (2006 - 2015)



On an individual ministry basis, the average rates over the same time period range from 4.93% to 10.91%:



The Finance and Budget Committee held multiple conference calls and meetings to discuss the budgets and develop a new model for allocating basic support. Like the Investment and Endowment Committee, the Finance and Budget Committee expressed concern about the level of the draws across the ministries. The Committee heard from the Collegium about the ramifications of reducing expenses without determining the mission priorities of the National Setting first and the Committee and the full board encouraged the Collegium to develop a plan for the future structure and support of the National Setting.

The 2014 Combined Budget which included the Office of the General Minister & President (combining the former Executive Council and Office of General Ministries operating revenues and expenses), Justice & Witness Ministries, Local Church Ministries and Wider Church Ministries was presented with an average draw rate of 6.63%, or an additional draw of \$2.3 million over the policy base of \$7.6 million. The Finance and Budget Committee recommended approval of the budget as presented with the stipulation that the Collegium enact their plan to begin reducing expenses and increase revenue throughout 2014 to achieve a balanced budget.

Actual results for the year ended December 31, 2014 were significantly different than budget, reflecting the decisions of the Collegium to act judiciously in reducing staff, overhead and program expenses in order to address the excessive draw rates immediately. While the actual draw rate (2014 actual was 4.87%) is to be celebrated and commended, the impact of the budget reductions affected staff as 13 positions were eliminated through a reduction in force. In addition, several open positions were not filled. The work of the eliminated positions was absorbed by other staff as necessary to maintain the infrastructure of the National Setting and ensure meetings such as General Synod maintained their high quality.

On a combined basis, 2014 closed with a surplus of \$290,000 against the budgeted deficit of \$2.3 million.

Both the 2014 Combined Budgets and the Combined Revenues and Expenses (Actual) are presented below:

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD  
COMBINED BUDGETS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>OGMP</u>	<u>Com Serv (1)</u>	<u>JWM</u>	<u>LCM</u>	<u>WCM</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
<b>Revenues &amp; Support</b>							
OCWM-National Basic Support	\$ 3,359,716		\$ 857,264	\$ 1,111,728	\$ 625,278	\$ 5,953,986	25.92%
OCWM-Special Support	25,000		760,000	202,000	2,500,000	3,487,000	15.18%
Draw on Investments	836,565		1,230,209	3,024,831	2,479,357	7,570,962	32.97%
Additional Draw per Board Policy	-		-	-	929,759	929,759	4.05%
Trusts and Gifts	144,250		69,000	379,563	635,000	1,227,813	5.35%
Reimbursements	20,000	\$ 590,408	-	58,000	1,167,679	1,836,087	7.99%
Resource Sales/Fees	1,733,505	12,000	2,000	180,000	-	1,927,505	8.39%
Other	3,000		4,000	1,500	25,000	33,500	0.15%
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$ 6,122,036</b>	<b>\$ 602,408</b>	<b>\$ 2,922,473</b>	<b>\$ 4,957,622</b>	<b>\$ 8,362,073</b>	<b>\$ 22,966,612</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 3,072,693	\$ 2,105,310	\$ 1,582,062	\$ 2,226,938	\$ 2,091,846	\$ 11,078,849	43.87%
Office Expense & Administration	612,929	1,674,579	224,302	200,753	267,455	2,980,018	11.80%
Rent	340,912	366,744	242,613	259,380	173,848	1,383,497	5.48%
Common Services/United Church of Christ Resources	1,508,588	(3,594,825)	494,471	889,083	702,683	-	0.00%
Travel	287,500	24,600	152,000	215,499	201,956	881,555	3.49%
Governance	75,000	-	-	17,500	36,250	128,750	0.51%
Overseas Personnel	-	-	-	-	1,930,463	1,930,463	7.64%
Retired Missionaries	-	-	-	-	370,000	370,000	1.46%
Program & Grants	1,420,373	26,000	588,500	1,617,242	2,851,228	6,503,343	25.75%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,317,995</b>	<b>\$ 602,408</b>	<b>\$ 3,283,948</b>	<b>\$ 5,426,395</b>	<b>\$ 8,625,729</b>	<b>\$ 25,256,475</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Deficit - Additional Draw Required to Balance</b>	<b>\$ (1,195,959)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (361,475)</b>	<b>\$ (468,773)</b>	<b>\$ (263,656)</b>	<b>\$ (2,289,863)</b>	

(1) Reimbursements under this column reflect allocations to the UCC Cornerstone Fund and the Church Building & Loan Fund. Those two organizations are invoiced for their allocations.

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD  
COMBINED REVENUES & EXPENSES  
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>2014 Budget</u>	<u>OGMP</u>	<u>Com Serv (1)</u>	<u>JWM</u>	<u>LCM</u>	<u>WCM</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Variance B/(W) Budget</u>
<b>Revenues &amp; Support</b>									
OCWM-National Basic Support	\$ 5,953,986	\$ 3,451,275		\$ 880,626	\$ 1,142,025	\$ 642,318	\$ 6,116,244	26.62%	\$ 162,258
OCWM-Special Support	3,487,000	25,754		765,581	231,785	2,272,065	3,295,185	14.34%	(191,815)
Draw on Investments	7,570,962	836,564		1,230,209	3,024,828	2,479,357	7,570,958	32.95%	(4)
Additional Draw per Board Policy	929,759					698,727	698,727	3.04%	(231,032)
Trusts and Gifts	1,227,813	165,064		100,836	450,562	687,775	1,404,237	6.11%	176,424
Reimbursements	1,836,087	315,348	\$ 552,252		36,450	1,051,477	1,955,527	8.51%	119,440
Resource Sales/Fees	1,927,505	1,757,274	11,035	1,694	112,926	980	1,883,909	8.20%	(43,596)
Other	33,500	8,324	2,893	19,137	9,390	12,749	52,493	0.23%	18,993
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$ 22,966,612</b>	<b>\$ 6,559,603</b>	<b>\$ 566,180</b>	<b>\$ 2,998,083</b>	<b>\$ 5,007,966</b>	<b>\$ 7,845,448</b>	<b>\$ 22,977,280</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 10,668</b>
<b>Expenses</b>									
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 11,078,849	\$ 2,964,327	\$ 1,675,134	\$ 1,377,925	\$ 1,951,674	\$ 1,938,827	\$ 9,907,887	43.67%	\$ 1,170,962
Office Expense & Administration	2,980,018	693,845	1,480,685	171,810	194,829	224,703	2,765,872	12.19%	214,146
Rent	1,383,497	300,957	366,214	246,201	262,296	151,072	1,326,740	5.85%	56,757
Common Services/United Church of Christ Resources	-	1,332,020	(2,975,046)	431,106	630,634	581,286	-	0.00%	-
Travel	881,555	139,380	7,146	130,801	166,616	192,147	636,090	2.80%	245,465
Governance/General Synod	128,750	108,884				31,722	140,606	0.62%	(11,856)
Overseas Personnel	1,930,463					1,647,235	1,647,235	7.26%	283,228
Retired Missionaries	370,000					475,591	475,591	2.10%	(105,591)
Program & Grants	6,503,343	1,672,303	10,030	471,624	1,030,024	2,602,865	5,786,846	25.51%	716,497
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 25,256,475</b>	<b>\$ 7,211,716</b>	<b>\$ 564,163</b>	<b>\$ 2,829,467</b>	<b>\$ 4,236,073</b>	<b>\$ 7,845,448</b>	<b>\$ 22,686,867</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 2,569,608</b>
<b>Surplus (Deficit-Addl Draw)</b>	<b>\$ (2,289,863)</b>	<b>\$ (652,113)</b>	<b>\$ 2,017</b>	<b>\$ 168,616</b>	<b>\$ 771,893</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 290,413</b>		<b>\$ 2,580,276</b>

(1) Reimbursements under this column reflect allocations to the UCC Cornerstone Fund and the Church Building & Loan Fund. Those two organizations are invoiced for their allocations.

Our Church's Wider Mission-National Basic Support is currently allocated on a different formula than in the past. Practice between the July, 2000 restructure and the 2013 budget year had been to use the basic support percentage allocations approved for the new structure by General Synod in 1999 with adjustments for amounts taken off the top such as support for General Synod, grants to ecumenical partners, grants to the historically underrepresented groups and expenses of the Executive Council. All of those grants and expenses previously deducted from the projected basic support for a given year prior to allocating to the Pension Boards and the Covenanted Ministries are still deducted before allocations and are now included in the budget of the Office of the General Minister and President.

The new model of allocating basic support adopted by the United Church of Christ Board after consideration and recommendation by the Finance and Budget Committee deducts certain historic commitments and support for General Synod, then applies the Pension Boards percentage of National Basic Support that was approved in 2013 to the projected revenue. After these two calculations, the remainder is allocated based upon the proportionate net budgeted revenues and expenses of the Office of the General Minister and President (OGMP) and the Covenanted Ministries. This new methodology adjusts for annual changes in discretionary revenues and expenses amongst the OGMP and the Covenanted Ministries and equalizes the draw rates amongst the four entities.

In order to compare and contrast the old method with the new, the 2013 allocation as approved by the former Executive Council and the 2015 allocation as approved by the United Church of Christ Board are included in the Supplemental Information section.

The other financial committees of the United Church of Christ Board have also accomplished much since the Board's first meeting in July, 2013:

The Audit Committee reviewed and received the 2013 audited financial statements of the United Church of Christ Board, approved updated Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower Policies for the Board and the Committee determined that their due diligence requirement is to identify the best service capability and overall value of audit firms that could potentially provide audit services to the National Setting so a time period has been established for requesting proposals from firms on a periodic basis. The Audit Committee will meet prior to General Synod to review the 2014 audited financial statements and will be reviewing proposals from audit firms in September for the 2015 audit.

The Development Committee has worked to implement a gift acceptance policy on behalf of the United Church of Christ Board which sets forth a formal framework within which the organization will accept gifts of cash, pledges, securities, real estate, planned gifts, etc., all consistent with the mission of the United Church of Christ.

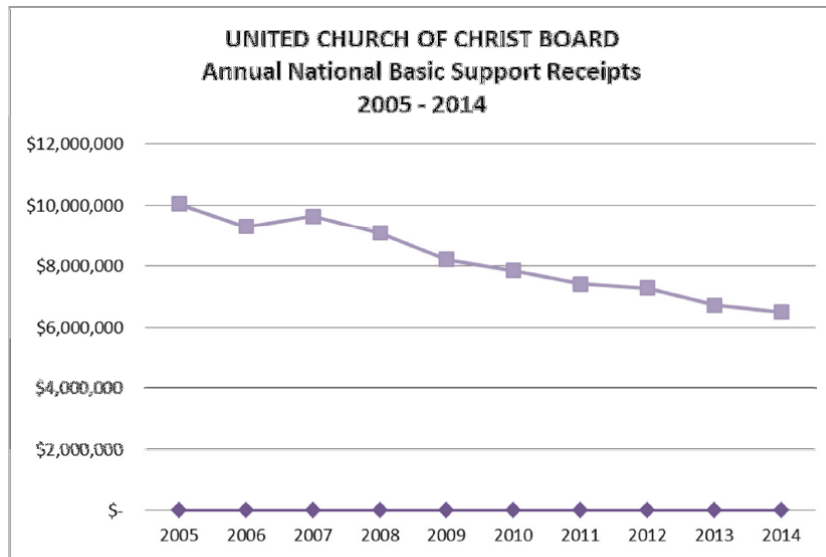
The Development Committee has recommended the convening of a Task Force on Giving, which the United Church of Christ Board has now convened. The work of the Task Force is to examine the covenant of giving across the life of the United Church of Christ in order to ensure the discovery, implementation and utilization of a more effective and efficient development program, and to inform the future direction of the church's pattern of giving. The Task Force is charged with examining and reporting to the United Church of Christ Board and the 2017 General Synod:

- The current philosophy of giving among the various entities of the church;
- Our Church's Wider Mission, the covenantal agreement, retention rates, and relevancy in the life of the various expressions of the church;
- Alternative models of covenantal financial partnership;
- The established Pattern of Giving, its relevancy and viability'
- The Special Mission Offerings as presently organized and allocated relative to the needs of the church, OCWM and the Pattern of Giving.

Our Church’s Wider Mission-Basic Support and Special Mission Offerings

Our Church’s Wider Mission—both Basic Support and the Special Mission Offerings—accounted for approximately 43% of 2014 revenues that supported the work of the Office of the General Minister and President and the Covenanted Ministries.

As stated in past reports and shown on the graph below, Basic Support continues to decline with the trend expected to continue over the next several years although at a slower rate than has been experienced in the past. The graph presented below shows a 10-year history of National Basic Support receipts.



At this General Synod, delegates will be asked to approve a National Basic Support base of \$6.007 million and \$5.785 million for 2016 and 2017, which will impact the budgets for the United Church of Christ Board and the Pension Boards. These figures represent a decrease from the 2015 budget (\$6.190 million) of \$183,000 or 2.96% for 2016 and a decrease between 2016 and 2017 of \$222,000 or 3.84%.

General Synod delegates will also be asked to recommend that the allocations to the Office of the General Minister and President, the Covenanted Ministries and the Pension Boards be referred to the United Church of Christ Board since under the new model of allocations, the allocations cannot be calculated until preliminary, discretionary revenue and expenses are calculated for the budget year for the Office of the General Minister and President and the Covenanted Ministries.

The intention of this report is to provide additional historical data and the 2015 mission spending plan. The 2015 Mission Spending Plan presented below includes the basic support allocation to and Christmas Fund receipts of the Pension Boards. These two revenue sources and related expenditures represent only a portion of the Pension Boards’ actual revenues and expenses.

Sources and uses are also provided in graph format in the Supplemental Information section. The programs have been combined into a grand total for the charts.

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
MISSION SPENDING PLAN  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>OGMP</u>	<u>JWM</u>	<u>LCM</u>	<u>WCM</u>	<u>PB</u>	<u>2015 Total</u>	<u>Percent of Totals</u>
<b>Revenues &amp; Support</b>							
OCWM-National Basic Support	\$ 4,201,467	\$ 811,623	\$ 354,129	\$ 474,846	\$ 347,935	\$ 6,190,000	26.03%
OCWM-Special Support	25,000	750,000	236,400	2,400,000	1,700,000	5,111,400	21.49%
Draw on Investments	801,813	1,212,843	3,055,183	3,142,276		8,212,115	34.53%
Trusts and Gifts	110,900	59,200	304,288	660,000		1,134,388	4.77%
Reimbursements	250,000		135,961	1,020,661		1,406,622	5.91%
Resource Sales/Fees	1,656,847	1,200	51,500	-		1,709,547	7.19%
Other	2,000	1,200	2,500	15,000		20,700	0.09%
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Support</b>	<b>\$ 7,048,027</b>	<b>\$ 2,836,066</b>	<b>\$ 4,139,961</b>	<b>\$ 7,712,783</b>	<b>\$ 2,047,935</b>	<b>\$ 23,784,772</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
Administration	\$ 1,528,174	\$ 756,531	\$ 842,536	\$ 1,219,959		\$ 4,347,200	18.28%
Office of Philanthropy & Stewardship/Fundraising	1,398,052			177,326		1,575,378	6.62%
Publications, Identity & Communication	2,924,168			328,694		3,252,862	13.68%
Office of General Counsel	470,352					470,352	1.98%
Conference & Ecumenical Relations	278,021					278,021	1.17%
Public Life & Social Policy		661,195				661,195	2.78%
Health & Wholeness Advocacy		257,672		20,000		277,672	1.17%
Education for Faithful Action		680,559				680,559	2.86%
Congregational Assessment & Support			799,002			799,002	3.36%
Ministerial Excellence, Support & Authorization			1,211,109			1,211,109	5.09%
Faith Formation			671,570			671,570	2.82%
Center for Analytics, Research & Data			460,553			460,553	1.94%
Overseas Programs				3,978,476		3,978,476	16.73%
Global Sharing of Resources				1,601,626		1,601,626	6.73%
Global Education & Advocacy				151,384		151,384	0.64%
Child Sponsorship				99,509		99,509	0.42%
Grants & Other Program Initiatives-Executive Offices	448,757	480,000	155,143	135,746	2,047,935	3,267,581	13.74%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 7,047,524</b>	<b>\$ 2,835,957</b>	<b>\$ 4,139,913</b>	<b>\$ 7,712,720</b>	<b>\$ 2,047,935</b>	<b>\$ 23,784,049</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$ (503)</b>	<b>\$ (109)</b>	<b>\$ (48)</b>	<b>\$ (63)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (723)</b>	



## **THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD**

**is called to perform all legal functions of the General Synod when General Synod is not in session. This governing board is responsible for strategic planning and policymaking. Working with the General Minister and President, it is responsible for the ecumenical and interfaith relations of the United Church of Christ in the National Setting. The members of the United Church of Christ Board serve as the directors of each of the Covenanted Ministries.**

**The administrative functions of United Church of Christ Board are accounted for under the Office of the General Minister and President and include general synod, philanthropy and stewardship, publications and communication, conference and ecumenical relationships and general counsel.**

**This board faithfully used mission support of \$7,211,718 in 2014 and will use \$7,047,524 in 2015. Mission support includes \$3,477,029 given through Our Church's Wider Mission Basic and Special Support in 2014. The projection for 2015 is \$4,226,467.**

### **Our Administration Ministries will require \$1,528,174 this year.**

The General Minister and President (the Rev. Geoffrey A. Black), working with other staff, provides spiritual leadership for the whole church, guiding the visioning and planning necessary for faithful church life through continuing testament, extravagant welcome and changing lives.

The office of the Chief Administrative Officer (Mr. Lee Foley), working with other staff, facilitates the work of and helps plan the General Synod in cooperation with the General Synod Program and Planning Committee, conferences, and local church leadership. The Chief Administrative Officer serves as Secretary of the United Church of Christ Board and carries the day-to-day responsibility for the overall work of the office, including certain Common Services teams.

Administration also includes the cost of board meetings for the United Church of Christ Board and any special task forces as appointed by the Board.

### **Our Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship will require \$1,398,052 this year.**

Our program reaches out to the whole church in partnership with all of the Covenanted Ministries, inviting and receiving major gifts and planned gifts that extend the church's outreach and supporting generous philanthropy across all expressions of the church. Included in the Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship are expenses associated with the development of congregational mission support resources, Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) promotion, grants and scholarships and stewardship. Capital Campaign Services staff works closely with the staff of the Office however their expenses are accounted for by the Church Building and Loan Fund.

**Our Program & Grants Ministries will require \$4,121,298 this year.**

Our program includes expenses associated with General Synod. These expenses are supported through annual allocations from Our Church's Wider Mission-Basic Support and Registration Fees.

Our program includes grants to ecumenical ministries, historical councils and to groups that are part of the Council for Racial and Ethnic Ministries.

Our program includes expenses associated with the Office of General Counsel which is responsible for the wide range of legal issues throughout all settings of the church. This office is financially supported in part by the Conferences of the United Church of Christ.

Our program includes the church's essential task of proclaiming the Gospel in and through our church as our story is told within and beyond the UCC:

- The UCC's social media presence has expanded rapidly. We have 80,000 Facebook followers, with our most popular posts reaching up to 4 million people, and we have nearly 10,000 followers on Twitter.
- The UCC web site welcomes more than 1.3 million visitors each year; half of these visitors as brand-new visitors to the site.
- The UC News team produces more than 300 stories each year, published UC News outlets, and places stories in the mainstream media, including *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Huffington Post*, *The Christian Century*, Religion News Service and the Associated Press.
- *Keeping You Posted*, the denomination's weekly e-newsletter, is delivered weekly to more than 40,000 recipients.

Our program includes a rich collection of print and online resources:

- With a focus on our local churches, these resources serve as teaching tools, provide guidance and support for vital worship, and call upon church members to grow as disciples and stewards. They tell the story of how the church engages in mission and suggest ways for faithful Christians to live in and respond to the secular culture.
- These resources provide faith-based curricula and other resources that support local church leaders who educate, lead worship and nurture faith formation.
- We offer resources that guide local church leaders to fulfill their voluntary tasks in the congregation.

Theological reflection is central and is done in relationship with all expressions of the church and in many ecumenical settings committed to and remaining open to hearing God's ancient story anew and afresh.

We express our extravagant welcome as we live in covenant so that the church may be one:

- We work with ecumenical and overseas partners.
- We work with the conferences and institutions of the church.
- We work with our partners within the Council for Racial and Ethnic Ministries.

Our administration, financial development and program ministries include the cost of travel, which often connects staff with lay and clergy leaders of the whole church, including those in conference and ecumenical settings.

Included in each of the expense categories named above are costs associated with office space and equipment, maintenance and insurance, as well as office supplies and postage. Also included are common service costs that are allocated to each of the Covenanted Ministries. We cooperate with other ministries so that we can together – and economically – provide for hospitality, archive support, financial services, human resources, information and technology services, mail and copy room/print shop support and the distribution center.

*In addition, in a unique and cooperative arrangement, the Office of the General Minister and President also includes the separate functions of Common Services, which is funded proportionately by each of the ministries. Ministries such as the Pension Boards, the Council for Health & Human Services Ministries, the Insurance Boards, the Church Building and Loan Fund and the United Church of Christ Cornerstone Fund participate in certain services offered by Common Services, helping defray the costs allocated to the Covenanted Ministries.*

**The Staff Ministries of Common Services will require \$1,604,541 this year.**

This staff oversees all of the financial functions of the Office of the General Minister and President and the three Covenanted Ministries, handling receipts, paying expenses, keeping records, overseeing the audit and reporting to the church.

Staff also guide efforts in human resources, oversee personnel matters and diversity initiatives.

Staff provides necessary archival support for the past and current records of the church and facilitate in processing mail and duplicating services as well as resource distribution services.

**The Infrastructure Support of Common Services will require \$1,821,513 this year.**

Outsourced support of our information and technology services is included within this total. This money is also used for managing the computer and telephone systems of the National Setting. Also included are the costs associated with office space and equipment, maintenance, insurance, audit and credit card fees as well as office supplies.

UCC Resources, our warehouse and distribution and fulfillment center, provides support to our members, local churches, conferences and other institutions wishing to order resources produced by the ministry teams throughout the National Setting.

**It is important to note that the dollars identified above for Common Services come from the budgets of the Ministries of the church and are allocated amongst the Program, Administration and Fund Development expense categories.**

## **JUSTICE AND WITNESS MINISTRIES**

**Is called to enable and encourage collaboration among local churches, associations, conferences and national expressions to engage in God's mission nationally and globally by direct action for the integrity of creation, justice, and peace. JWM's mission is to speak and act prophetically through communication, mobilization, leadership training, issues education, public witness and public policy advocacy.**

**This ministry faithfully used mission support of \$2,829,466 in 2014 and will use \$2,835,957 in 2015. Mission support includes \$1,646,207 given through Our Church's Wider Mission Basic and Special Support in 2014. The projection for 2015 is \$1,561,623.**

### **Our Administration Ministries will require \$756,531 this year.**

The Executive Minister (the Rev. M. Linda Jaramillo) is responsible for guiding and leading Justice and Witness Ministries and serves as the Collegium Leader for the Reading Changes Lives Initiative. Neighbors in Need grants are administered out of this office.

### **Our Program & Grants Ministries will require \$2,079,426 this year.**

Our program provides for people of faith to gather and give common voice to specific ways of addressing the elimination of poverty, hunger, racism, classism and sexism.

- We respond to God's intention for dignity and value for all human beings, especially for those who have been disenfranchised, oppressed and excluded.
- We advocate for justice and God's redemptive power – in individual lives, in political systems, and in governmental policies at home and around the world.
- Our program works for the common good in public life and for social policies that can restore integrity to human life and creation and that can transform human community to places of peace with strong ties to individuals through the Justice Peace Action Network.

Growing out of our faith and God's call to do justice, our programs offer strong advocacy and direct support for a wide variety of issues.

- We work for economic justice, racial justice, environmental justice, human rights and justice for women, global peacemaking, criminally justice, media ethics, public education and health care for all.
- We engage in a public witness and public policy advocacy on behalf of General Synod.
- We provide human, print and media resources for the church, helping people to connect their Christian faith to specific issues.
- We work with UCC ministry partners to address corporate social responsibility.

Our Justice Leaders Engaging and Developing is a biblically based and theologically grounded training program designed to equip local church leaders with the skills and tools needed to develop, strengthen and sustain justice advocacy ministries in our UCC congregations.

Our program includes support for four Centers of Education and Social Transformation at the UCC Washington D.C. office, Franklinton Center at Bricks in Whitakers, NC, and Pilgrim Firs

in Port Orchard, WA and Silver Lake, CT and provides a grant to support conference staff working directly on immigration issues at our southern borders.

Our administration and program ministries includes the cost of travel, which often connects staff with lay and clergy leaders of the whole church, including those in conference and ecumenical settings.

Included in each of the expense categories named above are costs associated with office space and equipment, maintenance and insurance, as well as office supplies and postage. Also included are common service costs that are allocated to each of the Covenanted Ministries. We cooperate with other ministries so that we can together – and economically – provide for hospitality, archive support, financial services, human resources, information and technology services, mail and copy room/print shop support and the distribution center.

## **LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRIES**

**is called to encourage and support the local churches of the United Church of Christ in fulfillment of God's mission, supporting the pilgrimage of the United Church of Christ to be a multiracial/multicultural church, open and affirming, accessible to all. This ministry encourages local churches to shape their life and mission in partnership with one another, with other expressions of the church and with ecumenical and interfaith communities.**

**This ministry faithfully used mission support of \$4,236,073 in 2014 and will use \$4,139,913 in 2015. Mission support includes \$1,373,810 given through Our Church's Wider Mission Basic and Special Support in 2014. The projection for 2015 is \$590,529.**

### **Our Administration Ministries will require \$842,536 this year.**

The Executive Minister (the Rev. J. Bennett Guess) is responsible for guiding and leading Local Church Ministries and serves as the Collegium Leader for the Stillspeaking Worship Institute and Extravagance UCC strategies.

### **Our Program & Grants Ministries will require \$3,297,377 this year.**

Our program includes a wide variety of gatherings of, and resources for, the church:

- Youth come together for exploring faith and life.
- Leaders come together to learn more effective ways of enabling churches to be extravagantly welcoming and vital through worship, evangelism, faith formation and inspiring models of ministry.
- Staff also provides coordination of weekly worship services for visitors and staff as well as the downtown Cleveland community at the Amistad Chapel, and help plan for the enhancement of staff life within the National Setting, and support the work of the Collegium of Officers.

Our programs include many essential services to the church:

- These services provide support for clergy and lay leaders, including chaplains. Helping to prepare leaders open to and prepared for ministry in the present and future church. They provide for services in support of vocational placement, connecting congregations with persons authorized for ministry and support for Committees on Ministry.
- Our program strives to guide churches towards being vital places of worship, learning, advocacy, and service, to teach that evangelism – reaching out to others – is mission. And we assist congregations making big, bold decisions about their futures.
- This ministry works with conferences of the church to engage in new church development and revisioning of existing churches, providing direct grant support to congregations and the Center for Progressive Renewal to enhance this ministry.
- This ministry provides annual support to the Council for Higher Education member institutions.
- Our program includes record-keeping that has expanded beyond the data collection for the annual yearbook to a new online Data Hub used system wide by Associations, Conferences and the National Setting, with information about our local churches and

ministers and offers greater data analysis about trends and projections for the denomination, our churches and authorized ministers.

Our administration and program ministries includes the cost of travel, which often connects staff with lay and clergy leaders of the whole church, including those in conference and ecumenical settings.

Included in each of the expense categories named above are costs associated with office space and equipment, maintenance and insurance, as well as office supplies and postage. Also included are common service costs that are allocated to each of the Covenanted Ministries. We cooperate with other ministries so that we can together – and economically – provide for hospitality, archive support, financial services, human resources, information and technology services, mail and copy room/print shop support and the distribution center.

## **WIDER CHURCH MINISTRIES**

**is called to encourage and support local churches, associations, conferences and national expressions to participate in the global, multiracial/multicultural church, open and affirming, accessible to all. It is called to support United Church of Christ ministries around the world and the nation.**

**This ministry faithfully used mission support of \$7,845,448 in 2014 and will use \$7,712,720 in 2015. Mission support includes \$2,914,383 given through Our Church's Wider Mission Basic and Special Support in 2014. The projection for 2015 is \$2,874,846.**

### **Our Administration Ministries will require \$1,219,959 this year.**

The Executive Minister (the Rev. James Moos) is responsible for guiding and leading Wider Church Ministries and for serving as Co-Executive of Global Ministries.

Administration also includes the cost of board meetings for the Common Global Ministries Board which oversees global partnerships and the sending and receiving of missionaries in a joint venture with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

### **Our Financial Development Ministries will require \$177,328 this year.**

In cooperation with the Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship, the Executive Minister and other Common Global Ministries staff reach out to the whole church, inviting and receiving gifts that support WCM/CGMB's programs.

### **Our Program, Grants and Overseas Ministries will require \$6,315,433 this year.**

Our program includes significant relationships with and support of more than 270 partner churches and organizations in more than 70 countries around the world:

- Through these connections we respond to health, educational, community and faith needs around the world.
- Partner churches are supported, human needs are met, refugees are resettled, clinics are outfitted and children are sponsored for renewed life.
- Economic, agricultural and community development are supported, along with social services.
- Schools and seminaries are helped and leadership is developed.
- Because of the unique nature of overseas missionaries and our historical understanding of their work, included here in our program efforts is the work of over 120 mission personnel serving in 5 geographic regions.

Our program includes strong advocacy for justice and human rights. In this work we help to meet the needs of partner churches and also inform our own members about vital justice issues which are addressed through a faith perspective.

Through the United Church AIDS Network (UCAN), our program includes work that promotes health and wholeness:



- We work to address the needs resulting from the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
- We advocate for health and welfare concerns in our own country and globally.
- We minister by, for and with persons with disabilities and maintain relationships with the varied health and human service ministries of the church.
- We nurture family life.

Our program offers services to the church:

- We coordinate a large program of voluntary services.
- We offer global and domestic mission education opportunities with special focus on youth and young adults and leadership development.
- We prepare churches to receive missionaries from other parts of the world, support mutual relationships which build up our faith.
- We respond to natural and technological disasters, both domestically and globally.

Our administration, financial development and program ministries includes the cost of travel, which often connects staff with lay and clergy leaders of the whole church, including those in conference and ecumenical settings.

Included in each of the expense categories named above are costs associated with office space and equipment, maintenance and insurance, as well as office supplies and postage. Also included are common service costs that are allocated to each of the Covenanted Ministries. We cooperate with other ministries so that we can together – and economically – provide for hospitality, archive support, financial services, human resources, information and technology services, mail and copy room/print shop support and the distribution center.

## **THE PENSION BOARDS-UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**is called to make available a system of employee benefit programs (pension, medical, dental, life and disability plans, as well as assistance programs to meet emergency needs) designed to assist ministers and lay workers in achieving financial security during working and retirement years.**

*Note: The work related to employee benefit plans, including the necessary staff, is funded by contributions made by church employers on behalf of their employees. This defines the Pension Boards as a membership body and the money used for these purposes is not reflected below. What is reflected below is the assistance ministries which are supported by the whole church through Our Church's Wider Mission Basic Support and the Christmas Fund.*

### **Our Program Ministries require \$2,047,935 this year.**

This assistance program, supported by both Basic Support and the Christmas Fund provides direct support to those who have served the Church and are facing financial challenges. Through this ministry, the Church is able to supplement the small pensions of those who retired after years of church services at very low salaries, benefitting those persons and their spouses. Individuals who qualify may receive monthly payments to bring total pension income up to a minimum level set annually by the United Church of Christ Board. In addition to the supplementation of small pensions, assistance is also provided to supplement health benefits of annuitants, Christmas "thank you" checks for annuitants and emergency grants for both actives and annuitants.

## **UNITED CHURCH FUNDS, INC.**

**is called to manage investments for local churches, associations, conferences, institutions, national ministries and other entities related to the United Church of Christ so that financial resources can be best used to strengthen God's mission.**

*Note: Currently United Church Funds receives no money from the church through Our Church's Wider Mission. All of the money it needs for its work comes from modest fees charged against the funds entrusted to its management. Most of the money from fees is used for investment management and marketing and for the support services and governance needed.*

## OTHER REVENUE SOURCES FOR THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD

Our Church's Wider Mission both Basic and Special Support, provided for 42.55% of revenue sources (mission support) in 2014. This percentage is expected to increase slightly to 42.57% in 2015 reflecting an increase of Special Support as a percent to total support and a decrease in Basic Support as a percentage of total support.

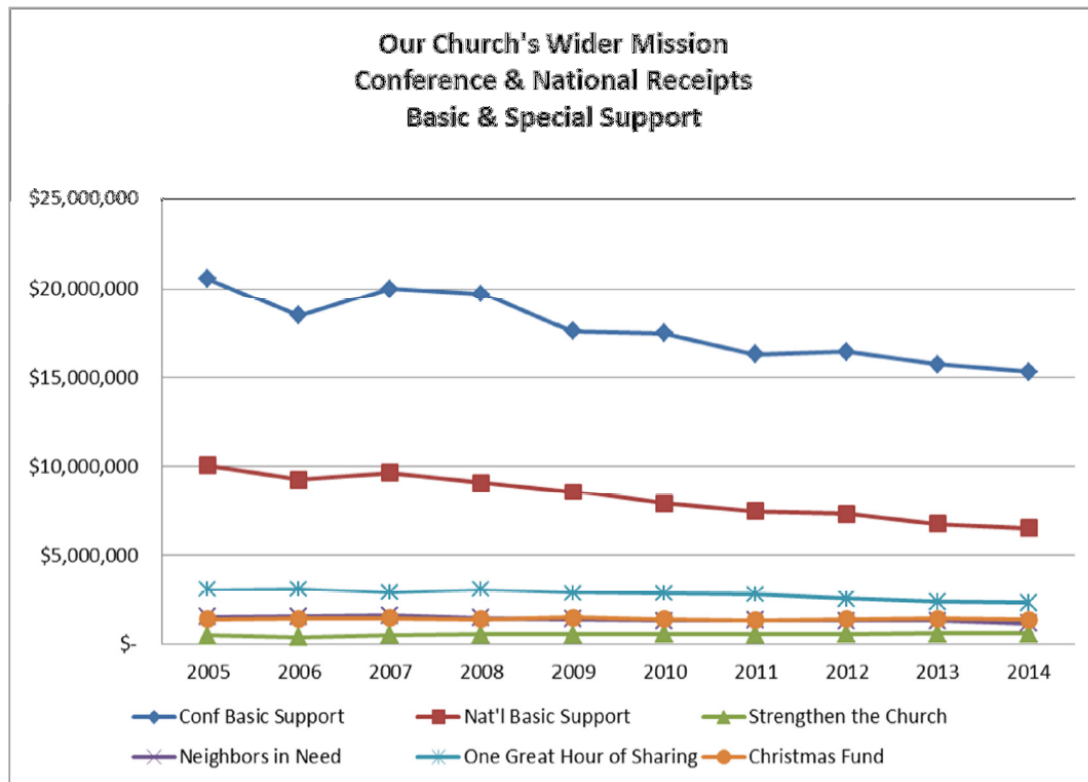
OCWM Special Support is comprised of four special offerings. Total receipts sent to the national offices changed between 2014 and 2013: Neighbors in Need decreased by \$132,000 or 10.54%; One Great Hour of Sharing decreased by \$54,000 or 2.32%; Strengthen the Church decreased by \$1000 or .41%; and the Christmas Fund decreased by \$49,000 or 3.53%.

The remaining revenues sources represent the following percentages of total support for the Office of the General Minister and President and the Covenanted Ministries:

United Church of Christ Board Revenue Source Percentages		
	2014 Actual	2015 Budget
<b>Our Church's Wider Mission</b>		
National Basic Support	27.65%	26.88%
Special Support	14.90%	15.69%
<b>Total OCWM</b>	<b>42.55%</b>	<b>42.57%</b>
<b>Other Revenue Sources</b>		
Draws on Investments	36.08%	37.78%
Trusts and Gifts	6.35%	5.22%
Reimbursements	6.57%	6.47%
Resource Sales & Other Fees	8.23%	7.86%
Other	0.22%	0.10%
<b>Total Other Revenue Sources</b>	<b>57.45%</b>	<b>57.43%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

It is important to emphasize that the National Setting is not alone in experiencing the declines in Our Church's Wider Mission. As basic support dollars have declined, our conference partners have had to begin difficult discussions about their programmatic work, staffing and sustainability.

The chart on the next page provides a graph of total Basic Support at the national and conference levels and the four Special Mission Offerings over the ten year period from 2005 through 2014. The graph shows the trend that has been reported over the past several General Synods. The dollar amounts supporting the graph are provided in the Supplemental Information Section – “Offering Trends-OCWM Basic Support and Special Mission Offerings”. According to the *Fall 2014 United Church of Christ Statistical Profile* published by the Center for Analytics, Research and Data, national basic support has decreased from approximately \$.01 of every \$1.00 of local church expense in 2003 to less than \$.01 in 2013.



Staff of the National Setting is not immune to the realities of the decline in both basic support and the special mission offerings. Programs continue to be reviewed with a goal of efficiency and excellence as staff collaborate between and amongst themselves to support the Church's emphasis on continuing testament, extravagant welcome and changing lives. Faithful stewardship of our resources, and care for the future viability of the National Setting, are high priorities.

The work of the Task Force on Giving, as stated earlier in this report will examine the covenant of giving across the various expressions of the church in order to ensure the discovery, implementation and utilization of a more effective and efficient development program and inform the future direction of the church's pattern of giving. This holistic approach by the Task Force may eventually benefit not only the National Setting of the church, but our conferences, associations, local churches and other partners in ministry and education.

In addition, the Office of Philanthropy and Stewardship will support the United Church of Christ Board's budget planning process by using predictive modeling to create a reliable giving forecast. Beginning in 2016, for the first time, the United Church of Christ Board's budget will integrate a fundraising goal as projected charitable income.

Financial challenges in all settings of the United Church of Christ continue but significant opportunities for partnerships and collaboration present themselves as well.

Provided below are the two actions that General Synod will be asked to consider and vote upon:

**PROPOSED NATIONAL BASIC SUPPORT PAY OUT BASE FOR 2016 and 2017**

Each biennium, a National Basic Support (NBS) pay out base is recommended by the United Church of Christ Board and taken to General Synod for adoption. The base establishes the amount used to calculate the NBS to be paid out. Actual NBS for 2014 was \$6.476 million; the original projection as adopted by General Synod in 2013 was \$6.304 million for 2014 and \$6.017 million for 2015. The 2015 budget was based on projected receipts of \$6.190 million as the decline in national basic support is beginning to decrease on an annual basis.

Due to the continued trend in declining dollars and adjusted sharing ratios between the Conferences and the National Setting, the United Church of Christ Board is recommending that the General Synod adopt a National Basic Support Allocation base of \$6.007 million and \$5.785 million for the budget years 2016 and 2017.

**PROPOSED NATIONAL BASIC SUPPORT ANNUAL ALLOCATION FOR 2016/2017**

Each year, the percentage allocation of OCWM National Basic Support is recommended by the United Church of Christ Board. General Synod will be asked to delegate the determination of the percentage allocation for OCWM National Basic Support for 2016 and 2017 to the United Church of Christ Board.

The current percentages for the budget year 2015 are: Office of the General Minister and President 67.88%; Justice and Witness Ministries 13.11%; Local Church Ministries 5.72%; Wider Church Ministries 7.67% and the Pension Boards 5.62%.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Houston  
Chief Financial Officer  
June 4, 2015

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD  
REPORT OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
GENERAL SYNOD 2015**



**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

- National Basic Support Allocation, 2013
- National Basic Support Allocation, 2015
- United Church of Christ Board Revenue Sources, 2014 Actual and 2015 Budget
- United Church of Christ Board Use of Funds, 2014 Actual and 2015 Budget
- Offering Trends-OCWM Basic Support and Special Mission Offerings

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
National Basic Support Allocation Worksheet  
Year 2013

	<u>Total</u>	<u>EC</u>	<u>OGM</u>	<u>JWM</u>	<u>LCM</u>	<u>WCM</u>	<u>PB</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
OCWM National Basic Support (NBS)	\$ 6,745,000	0	1,520,998	1,170,258	1,983,030	1,595,193	475,523	6,745,000
EC Administrative Budget		\$ 363,942	<b>Notes 1 &amp; 2</b>					
General Synod Infrastructure (biennial)		\$ 270,000	<b>Notes 1 &amp; 3</b>					
TSI [as part of PIC]			\$ 317,690	<b>Note 1 &amp; 4</b>				
Adjusted NBS Base for Allocation	<u>\$ 5,793,369</u>	<u>633,942</u>	<u>1,624,093</u>	<u>1,005,150</u>	<u>1,703,250</u>	<u>1,370,132</u>	<u>408,433</u>	<u>6,745,000</u>
<b>NET FUNDING IMPACT</b>		<b>633,942</b>	<b>103,095</b>	<b>(165,108)</b>	<b>(279,780)</b>	<b>(225,061)</b>	<b>(67,090)</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Effective Net Allocation Percentages</b>		<b>9.399%</b>	<b>24.078%</b>	<b>14.902%</b>	<b>25.252%</b>	<b>20.313%</b>	<b>6.055%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<u>Shared Costs to be Consolidated - Net effect to allocation base is zero</u>								
Support agreement from Restructure	\$ 175,000		175,000			(175,000)		0
Hunger Action Grant	\$ 12,500			12,500		(12,500)		0
JPAN Support	\$ 30,000			30,000		(30,000)		0
Racial Constituency Group Grants		161,208	(40,302)	(40,302)	(40,302)	(40,302)		0
Net Change by Ministry		<u>161,208</u>	<u>134,698</u>	<u>2,198</u>	<u>(40,302)</u>	<u>(257,802)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>NBS Allocation 2013</b>		<b>795,150</b>	<b>1,758,791</b>	<b>1,007,348</b>	<b>1,662,948</b>	<b>1,112,330</b>	<b>408,433</b>	<b>6,745,000</b>
<b>Effective Percentage of Allocation</b>		<b>11.789%</b>	<b>26.075%</b>	<b>14.935%</b>	<b>24.655%</b>	<b>16.491%</b>	<b>6.055%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Original Percentage Allocation</b>		<b>0.000%</b>	<b>22.550%</b>	<b>17.350%</b>	<b>29.400%</b>	<b>23.650%</b>	<b>7.050%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Change</b>		<b>11.789%</b>	<b>3.525%</b>	<b>-2.415%</b>	<b>-4.745%</b>	<b>-7.159%</b>	<b>-0.995%</b>	<b>0.000%</b>
<b>Note 1:</b> This item will reduce the NBS Payout Base								
<b>Note 2:</b> This consists of the Ecumenical & Historical Society contributions; grants per EC-99-03-B&F; and Board and Other Meetings expenses.								
<b>Note 3:</b> The Biennial General Synod Budget includes \$500,000 NBS. \$230,000 in 2012 and \$270,000 in 2013								
<b>Note 4:</b> The off the top amount has been reduced based upon the percentage of the 2009 TSM amount to total NBS compared to current NBS								
<b>NBS Allocation 2013</b>		<b>795,150</b>	<b>1,758,791</b>	<b>1,007,348</b>	<b>1,662,948</b>	<b>1,112,330</b>	<b>408,433</b>	<b>6,745,000</b>
<b>Effective Percentage of Allocation</b>		<b>11.789%</b>	<b>26.075%</b>	<b>14.935%</b>	<b>24.655%</b>	<b>16.491%</b>	<b>6.055%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>NBS Allocation 2012</b>		<b>770,190</b>	<b>1,857,215</b>	<b>1,069,720</b>	<b>1,770,114</b>	<b>1,198,122</b>	<b>434,639</b>	<b>7,100,000</b>
<b>Effective Percentage of Allocation</b>		<b>10.848%</b>	<b>26.158%</b>	<b>15.066%</b>	<b>24.931%</b>	<b>16.875%</b>	<b>6.122%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Change between years</b>		<b>24,960</b>	<b>(98,424)</b>	<b>(62,372)</b>	<b>(107,166)</b>	<b>(85,792)</b>	<b>(26,206)</b>	<b>(355,000)</b>

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BOARD**  
National Basic Support Allocation Worksheet  
Proposed Allocation Scenarios Based Upon Revenues and Expenses  
Year 2015

	<u>Total</u>	<u>UCCB</u>	<u>JWM</u>	<u>LCM</u>	<u>WCM</u>	<u>PB</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
OCWM National Basic Support (NBS)	\$ 6,190,000						
Grants - General Synod		\$ 63,757					
General Synod Infrastructure		\$ 270,000					
Racial Constituency Group Grants		\$ 110,000					
Adjusted NBS Base for Allocation	<u>\$ 5,746,243</u>	<u>\$ 443,757</u>					<u>\$ 6,190,000</u>
Pension Boards at 2013 Effective Rate	\$ 347,935					6.055%	
Net Available for Allocation	<u>\$ 5,398,308</u>						

**Step 1**

2015 Preliminary Budgeted Revenues (1)	\$ 3,290,317	\$ 2,024,443	\$ 3,785,831	\$ 4,720,223			\$ 13,820,814
2015 Preliminary Budgeted Expenses	\$ (7,047,524)	\$(2,835,957)	\$(4,139,913)	\$(5,195,005)			(19,218,399)
2015 Preliminary Budgeted Net Revenues & Expenses	<u>\$ (3,757,207)</u>	<u>\$(811,514)</u>	<u>\$(354,082)</u>	<u>\$(474,782)</u>			<u>\$(5,397,585)</u>
Percentage of Total Net Revenues & Expenses		69.61%	15.03%	6.56%	8.80%		100.00%
Allocated Based Upon Expenses	\$ 443,757	\$ 3,757,710	\$ 811,623	\$ 354,129	\$ 474,846		\$ 5,398,308
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 443,757</b>	<b>\$ 3,757,710</b>	<b>\$ 811,623</b>	<b>\$ 354,129</b>	<b>\$ 474,846</b>	<b>\$ 347,935</b>	<b>\$ 6,190,000</b>
<b>Effective Allocation Percentage</b>	<b>7.17%</b>	<b>60.71%</b>	<b>13.11%</b>	<b>5.72%</b>	<b>7.67%</b>	<b>5.62%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Effective Allocation by Ministry</b>		<b>67.88%</b>	<b>13.11%</b>	<b>5.72%</b>	<b>7.67%</b>	<b>5.62%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

(1) Excludes Basic Support Estimates Ministries may have in their budgets but includes the "Off the Top" Basic Support to OGMP

Excess Draw (Shortfall - Required to Balance) \$ 503 \$ 109 \$ 47 \$ 64 \$ 723

**Step 2**

Draws		\$ 8,020,063					
Percents to Total							
OGMP	\$ 609,761		7.60%				
JWM	\$ 1,212,843		15.12%				
LCM	\$ 3,055,183		38.09%				
WCM	\$ 3,142,276		39.18%				
<b>Total</b>			<b>100.00%</b>				
Reallocate Excess Revenue (> \$1,000)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**Step 3**

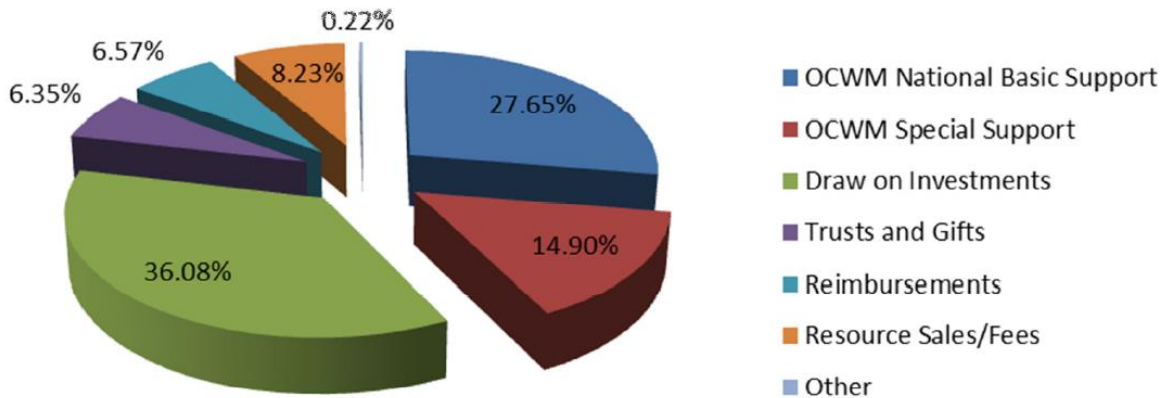
2015 Adjusted Preliminary Budgeted Revenues (1)	\$ 3,290,317	\$ 2,024,443	\$ 3,785,831	\$ 4,720,223			\$ 13,820,814
2015 Preliminary Budgeted Expenses	\$ (7,047,524)	\$(2,835,957)	\$(4,139,913)	\$(5,195,005)			(19,218,399)
2015 Preliminary Budgeted Net Revenues & Expenses	<u>\$ (3,757,207)</u>	<u>\$(811,514)</u>	<u>\$(354,082)</u>	<u>\$(474,782)</u>			<u>\$(5,397,585)</u>
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<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 443,757</b>	<b>\$ 3,757,710</b>	<b>\$ 811,623</b>	<b>\$ 354,129</b>	<b>\$ 474,846</b>	<b>\$ 347,935</b>	<b>\$ 6,190,000</b>
<b>Effective Allocation Percentage</b>	<b>7.17%</b>	<b>60.71%</b>	<b>13.11%</b>	<b>5.72%</b>	<b>7.67%</b>	<b>5.62%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Effective Allocation by Ministry</b>		<b>67.88%</b>	<b>13.11%</b>	<b>5.72%</b>	<b>7.67%</b>	<b>5.62%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**2014 Calculation**

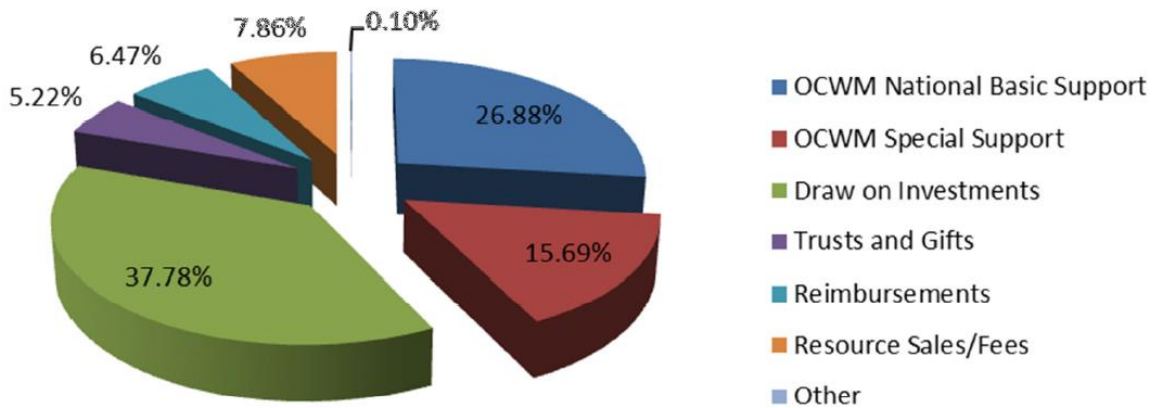
2014 Preliminary Budgeted Revenues (1)	\$ 3,285,741	\$ 2,065,209	\$ 3,845,894	\$ 5,120,119			\$ 14,316,963
2014 Preliminary Budgeted Expenses	\$ (7,317,995)	\$(3,283,948)	\$(5,426,395)	\$(6,009,053)			(22,037,391)
2014 Preliminary Budgeted Net Revenues & Expenses	<u>\$ (4,032,254)</u>	<u>\$(1,218,739)</u>	<u>\$(1,580,501)</u>	<u>\$(888,934)</u>			<u>\$(7,720,428)</u>
Percentage of Total Net Revenues & Expenses		52.23%	15.79%	20.47%	11.51%		100.00%
Allocated Based Upon Expenses	\$ 523,421	\$ 2,836,295	\$ 857,264	\$ 1,111,728	\$ 625,278		\$ 5,430,565
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 523,421</b>	<b>\$ 2,836,295</b>	<b>\$ 857,264</b>	<b>\$ 1,111,728</b>	<b>\$ 625,278</b>	<b>\$ 350,014</b>	<b>\$ 6,304,000</b>
<b>Effective Allocation Percentage</b>	<b>8.30%</b>	<b>44.99%</b>	<b>13.60%</b>	<b>17.64%</b>	<b>9.92%</b>	<b>5.55%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Effective Allocation by Ministry</b>		<b>53.29%</b>	<b>13.60%</b>	<b>17.64%</b>	<b>9.92%</b>	<b>5.55%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Increase/Decrease Between 2014 and 2015</b>							
Change in OCWM Allocation Dollars	\$ 841,751	\$ (45,641)	\$ (757,599)	\$ (150,432)	\$ (2,079)	\$ (114,000)	
Change in OCWM Allocation Percentage		14.58%	-0.49%	-11.91%	-2.25%	0.07%	0.00%



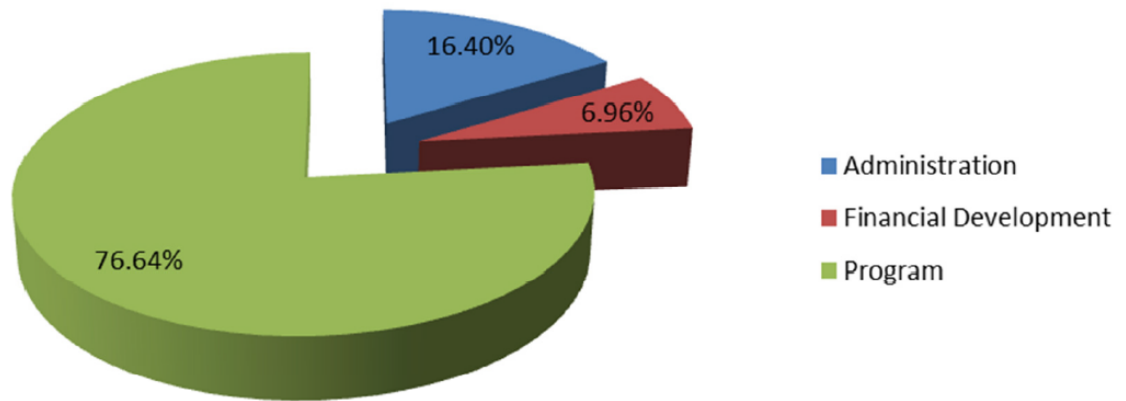
## United Church of Christ Board Revenue Sources - 2014 Actual



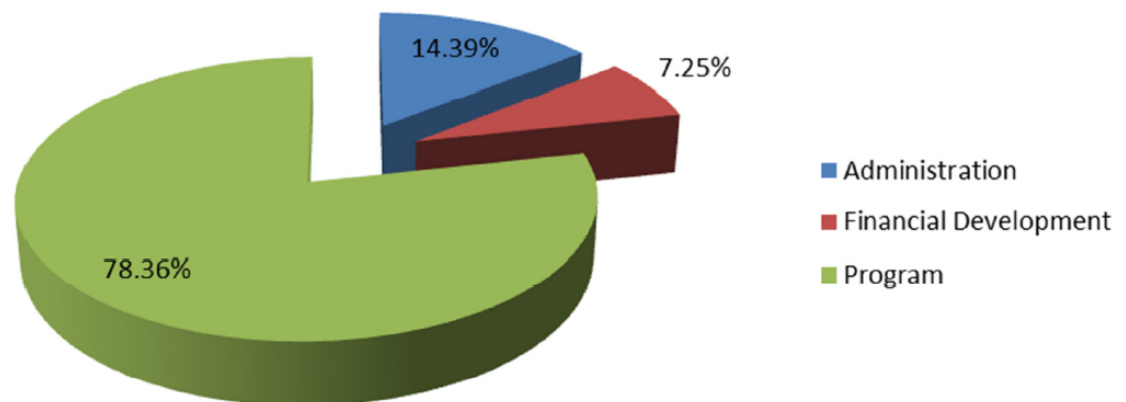
## United Church of Christ Board Revenue Sources - 2015 Budget



## United Church of Christ Board Expenses - 2014 Actual



## United Church of Christ Board Expenses - 2015 Budget



**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
OFFERING TREND SUMMARY**

Year	OCWM Conference	% Chg	OCWM National	% Chg	STC	% Chg	MIN	% Chg	OGHS	% Chg	Christmas Fund	% Chg
2014	15,313,562	-2.64%	6,489,930	-3.37%	563,662	0.44%	1,135,865	-10.44%	2,272,065	-2.32%	1,345,954	-3.67%
2013	15,728,115	-4.36%	6,716,103	-7.67%	561,195	0.41%	1,268,270	-0.10%	2,326,133	-7.12%	1,397,178	2.39%
2012	16,445,944	0.99%	7,274,193	-1.89%	558,901	7.11%	1,269,591	-2.21%	2,504,369	-9.16%	1,364,507	4.09%
2011	16,284,346	-6.62%	7,414,361	-5.56%	521,790	-5.10%	1,296,288	1.42%	2,756,804	-2.34%	1,310,943	-4.66%
2010	17,438,515	-0.81%	7,850,860	-8.29%	549,835	3.84%	1,280,106	-6.64%	2,822,878	-0.38%	1,374,983	-5.04%
2009	17,580,765	-10.77%	8,560,888	-5.73%	529,507	4.74%	1,371,196	-3.40%	2,833,600	-7.06%	1,447,961	5.81%
2008	19,703,441	-1.46%	9,061,690	-5.00%	505,552	5.31%	1,419,476	-9.60%	3,048,640	5.48%	1,368,479	-4.36%
2007	19,996,075	8.48%	9,640,973	4.09%	480,038	30.08%	1,570,270	4.82%	2,890,359	-6.16%	1,430,840	3.50%
2006	18,432,468	-10.22%	9,261,706	-7.80%	369,043	-16.99%	1,496,018	1.54%	3,090,069	0.67%	1,392,444	1.74%
2005	20,530,030	-2.58%	10,045,760	-6.40%	444,584	26.28%	1,475,368	-0.96%	3,059,672	-3.14%	1,358,789	5.52%
2004	21,072,728	-1.35%	10,732,556	-1.85%	382,055	20.60%	1,489,964	8.61%	3,158,743	2.39%	1,287,893	8.06%
2003	21,361,508	0.62%	10,935,391	-6.08%	291,928	-12.00%	1,371,868	-3.39%	3,084,997	-1.30%	1,191,639	-15.01%
2002	21,230,696	-0.17%	11,642,857	-4.68%	331,742	12.79%	1,420,004	-10.29%	3,125,549	-7.78%	1,402,072	13.66%
2001	21,266,714	0.84%	12,214,457	-2.40%	294,125	11.80%	1,582,813	7.55%	3,389,282	6.61%	1,231,404	-9.01%
2000	21,089,695		12,526,614		263,090		1,471,651		3,179,267		1,353,293	

Note 1

Note 2

Note 2

Note 3

Note 1: Effective 2009, Conference totals exclude receipts retained by the Ohio As sociations.

Note 2: Includes Conference and National portions.

Note 3: Figures represent only those receipts sent to National Offices, they do not include receipts sent directly to Pension Boards