

## AMENITIES RESOLUTION II

When the planning for this Twenty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ began two years ago, we knew we weren't starting from scratch. Each General Synod marks a specific time in the life of our beloved church, carrying with it an historical continuity, as well as the essence, of this particular moment in time and fresh vision for the future. Our long list of things to be considered in our planning finally brought us to our theme: "For the Healing of the Nations."<sup>®</sup>

Now that we have come to the close of our meeting, it is good to consider again those places where hope and reality have met and to give thanks for the many gifts of God and for friends in Christ who have made this General Synod possible. For all the visible efforts made here, there have been many more which have been invisible -- extra and special labors of faith and love which have made it possible to do the work of General Synod.

WHEREAS, the correct and timely registration of delegates, visitors and guests was carried out by the Rev. Laurinda Hafner and Mr. Darrell Ludwig;

WHEREAS, diligent and tireless support in the General Synod Office was provided by Byron and Pat Light;

WHEREAS, Ms. Dana Downs, Ms. Michell Farrow, Ms. Melissa Izzo, the Rev. Christopher Noffke, the Rev. Robert Snyder, and Ms. Jacqueline Wilkins, the Recorders of the General Synod proceedings, provide accurate minutes of our work and were ably staffed by Ms. Julie Kraus and Ms. Ruth Radcliffe;

WHEREAS, Ms. Marilyn Dubasak worked carefully with the Committee of Reference to make sure all the pieces of business were handled by the General Synod;

WHEREAS, Mr. Ted Meurer helped the Director of Finance and Treasurer to make sure that all of our bills were paid;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Paul Baumer, assisted by the Rev. Ken Daniel, managed the exhibit area, providing us with the opportunity to learn more about the work of the United Church of Christ and related agencies by working out details of all the needs of the exhibitors;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Dick Sparrow diligently and graciously managed the ever-popular, but not enough, Speak Out! and was assisted by Ms. Susan Dickerman who served as floor coordinator;

WHEREAS, expert training of committee chairs and management of the committee process was provided by the Rev. Sheldon Culver, the Rev. Karen Mosby, and the Rev. Robert Ullman;

WHEREAS, tireless support of the business on the floor was provided by the Agenda Committee and staff, Ms. Laura Ayala and Ms. Sheila Kelly, who attended to the details of each concern and assured that the agenda moved smoothly;

WHEREAS, the sometimes thankless job of facilities management, including making sure we all had rooms to sleep and work in was expertly done by Ms. Florence Coppola, as well as the staff of the Convention Center and hotels who worked early and late to accommodate us;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Curt Ackley recruited and coordinated technical support volunteers who initiated the use of lap top computers in committees;

WHEREAS, Ms. Barbara Fryman has served as Audio Visual Coordinator;

WHEREAS, the sign language interpreters and Spanish language translators have provided invaluable services;

WHEREAS, the Office of Communication has assisted with video productions and presentations;

WHEREAS, Ms. Barbara Everett provided technical support in the office and in preparing papers;

WHEREAS, the Parliamentarians, Ms. Annie Wynn Neal and Mr. Malcom Bertram, provided thoughtful advice to the Moderators and were helpful to the delegates, helping to make the parliamentary process

accessible and workable;

WHEREAS, Ms. Susan Sanders, with her experience and expertise, organized ways for the Synod to be of service in the Columbus area;

WHEREAS, Ms. Barbara Everett and Mr. Terry White thoughtfully coordinated the Saturday afternoon workshops;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Pat de Jong and the Rev. Christopher Grundy helped us to move, to relax and to rejoice in the midst of our work;

WHEREAS, the Youth Stewards with their nimble legs moved about the floor with ease and expediency;

WHEREAS, the Stage Manager, Mr. Terry White, courteously moved persons into place and guided them to their places before us;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Rosemary Iha coordinated the Chaplains who were quietly and faithfully present with sympathy and listening ears;

WHEREAS, the Worship Committee: Ms. Zenaida Burgos-Torres, Mr. Arthur Clyde, Ms. Carol Fujita, the Rev. Kim Johannessohn, the Rev. Valentino Lassiter, and Ms. Catherine Thiedt, along with the Rev. John Thomas, provided us with ways to seek God's presence in our midst and to draw upon the gifts of the Spirit in Bible study and worship led by Rev. Wesley Ariarajah;

WHEREAS, Ms. Brenda Allen has ably served as leader of the Business Committee;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Don Manworren of the Disciples of Christ willingly and cheerfully assisted in all manner of ways in helping us;

WHEREAS, the Rev. Ken Iha co-ordinated the planning and arrangements for our experience of *The Color of Fear*;

WHEREAS, our Moderators, the Rev. David Dean, Ms. Margaret MacDonald and Mr. Frank Thomas provided leadership in all of our business, both serious and lighthearted;

WHEREAS, the Administrator of the General Synod, Ms. Edith Guffey, who is also Secretary of the Church, has overseen and managed all that needed to be done at Synod with graciousness, insightfulness and good humor;

WHEREAS, the delegates of this General Synod have worked hard and thoughtfully on the business before them, and have lent their wisdom, as well as their commitment, during committee and plenary sessions, as well as in work projects and workshops; and

WHEREAS, the Chair of the Agenda Committee offers an apology to any persons whom she may have forgotten in this resolution, especially those who are part of the registered General Synod staff;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-first General Synod provides a standing acclamation to these faithful servants and friends in recognition of their untold hours of service and diligence in support of the work of the General Synod.