

03-GS-49 VOTED: The Twenty-fourth General Synod adopts the resolution “Calling for Discussion of the Worship Life of the United Church of Christ and for Worship Resources and Program Initiatives.”

**CALLING FOR DISCUSSION OF THE WORSHIP LIFE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND FOR WORSHIP RESOURCES AND PROGRAM INITIATIVES**

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ seeks always to be faithful to its call to worship God in spirit and in truth; and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ embraces and affirms the gift of its diversity; and

WHEREAS, churches throughout our denomination have expressed the need for ways to enhance their worship life; and

WHEREAS, the creation of resources and programs for worship renewal should be rooted in a comprehensive understanding of worship traditions and practices throughout the United Church of Christ and in the ecumenical church; and

WHEREAS, the scope of this initiative invites the support and blessing of the whole church as represented by the actions of the Sixth General Synod; and

WHEREAS, the Worship and Education Ministry Team of Local Church Ministries is mandated to support the worship life of the United Church of Christ with resources, programs, and training for the use of such resources in the local church and other ministry settings.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Twenty-fourth General Synod calls on Local Church Ministries and the Worship and Education Ministry Team, supported by the Research Office of General Ministries, to encourage a broad-based discussion of and inquiry into worship throughout the United Church of Christ and, having listened to the church to consider, evaluate, design, and develop: resources for worship renewal including liturgical texts, music, the arts, and electronic media, programs and initiatives, including worship leadership training and education in both church and schools of theology; possible enhancements and complements to the *Book of Worship: United Church of Christ* that respond to the distinctive call of this generation in the life of the local church and other ministry settings, and honor our commitment to be a church that serves God in all of Creation, and is inviting and welcoming to all.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twenty-fourth General Synod calls on the Worship and Education Ministry Team of Local Church Ministries to

report its progress to the Twenty-fifth General Synod (2005) by presenting results of research, programmatic strategies, and examples of resource works-in-progress.

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