

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A NEW TRIAL FOR MAURICE CARTER

WHEREAS there are clear and compelling discrepancies in the pursuit of justice in the Maurice Carter case; and

WHEREAS the justice system itself must correct these discrepancies; and

WHEREAS the people of God are called to seek justice, and

WHEREAS the Michigan Conference United Church of Christ, gathered at its annual meeting at Hope College, Holland, Michigan, on June 12, 2001, adopted a “Resolution in Support of a New Trial for Maurice Carter” (by a vote of 147 yes, 7 no, 2 abstentions) in which it:

(a) expressed its support, through its prayers and witness as the Body of Christ, of the ministers and congregations in the Benton Harbor area who are seeking justice for Maurice Carter and his family;

(b) asked its Conference Minister, in conjunction with the ministers and congregations of the Benton Harbor area, to communicate in writing to the Berrien County Prosecutor, Mr. James Cherry, and the Attorney General of the State of Michigan, Ms. Jennifer Granholm, to pursue a new trial for Maurice Carter;

(c) asked its Conference Minister to encourage the Berrien County Prosecutor and the Attorney General of the State of Michigan to thoroughly review this case and to make recommendations to the legislature for appropriate action so that future miscarriages of justice might be prevented; and

WHEREAS the Michigan Conference United Church of Christ also resolved that its “Resolution in Support of a New Trial for Maurice Carter” should be forwarded to the General Synod in Kansas City for consideration and written support;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-third General Synod joins the Michigan Conference in calling for a new trial for Maurice Carter.