

No. 9522

(Operational Business Item)

**SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION
OUR COMMON SOCIAL WITNESS**

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, our Christian living is both personal and social, calling for discipline in our private lives and in our life together; and

WHEREAS, the church has the responsibility to carry on the tradition of the Biblical prophets who denounced sin whether in the religious community or in public life, who called out for justice, and who promised hope on the other side of judgment; and

WHEREAS, we as members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are called upon to speak clearly about God's justice and to live into God's promised hope, and to do this in all of our manifestations: congregational, regional, and general; and

WHEREAS, we have historically understood that the Office of General Minister and President, the Division of Homeland Ministries, and the Division of Overseas Ministries have been the primary voices of the social conscience of the general manifestation of the church regarding advocacy for the oppressed, working for peace and justice at home and around the world, and effectively providing avenues for the witness of the whole church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), meeting in Pittsburgh October 20-24, 1995, reaffirms the crucial importance of our Christian social witness, and that in concert with the whole church there be lodged in the Office of General Minister and President, the Division of Homeland Ministries, and the Division of Overseas Ministries the important functions of advocacy, information and action in matters of peace and justice, so that prophetic voices of the church might continue to find expression;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of General Minister and President, the Division of Homeland Ministries, and the Division of Overseas Ministries be requested to:

1. Identify staff persons and resources to fulfill this role,
2. Encourage and resource congregations, regions and other general units and institutions of the church to bear prophetic witness,
3. And share in social witness with ecumenical and interfaith partners and people of common concern.