

**No. 9323**

**(Operational Business Item)**

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE USE OF THE WORDS "NATIONAL" AND  
"AMERICAN" IN THE GENERAL MANIFESTATION OF THE CHURCH  
ADOPTED by the General Assembly**

WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) enjoys the important opportunity of being one denomination in two countries;

WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) exists as "national church" in the United States and in Canada only in relation to ecumenical relationships with other communions;

WHEREAS, we wish to further the opportunity of our communion to demonstrate that national boundaries are of secondary importance to the one Gospel of Christ which we share;

AND WHEREAS, there still exist a variety of institutions in the General manifestation of the church which cling to the use of the word "national" or "American" (such as a National Benevolent Association, an American Asian Disciples, a National Pastor for a National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellowship), when describing ministries which could better reflect the fact that our denomination is a denomination of two countries;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, urge all institutions and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada to give careful consideration to their choice of names and descriptions of their ministries in such a way as to better reflect their possibilities for ministries in two nations;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, urge all institutions and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada to give judicious consideration to the expeditious change of the names of their institutions and ministries where those names reflect a ministry only within one of our two countries.