

**No. 8934**

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO)  
IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**ADOPTED by the General Assembly**

WHEREAS, social and political conflict in the Middle East persists as a most difficult and dangerous problem threatening to erupt in even more tragic dimensions; and

WHEREAS, social conflict in the Middle East cannot be resolved in an acceptable way by military force; and

WHEREAS, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) is the self-chosen political representative for vast numbers of the Palestinian people; and

WHEREAS, the government of Israel, one of the most powerful military forces in the world, uses its forces against the Palestinian people in a manner that make victims of civilians and denies basic human rights to the Palestinian people; refuses to recognize the PLO; and is closely allied with the United States, depending heavily on its economic and military alliance with the United States; and

WHEREAS, this relationship puts heavy responsibility on the United States to use its full political and diplomatic capabilities toward rectifying the present situation in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, leaders of the PLO have stated their desire to work out a negotiated, political solution to the conflict with Israel; and

WHEREAS, as Christians, we are called to seek reconciliation and to work for peace and for justice, particularly with the poor and the oppressed; and

WHEREAS, as Christians, we believe that persons should be involved in major decisions which affect their lives, and we are called to determine and to support proximate steps which offer hope for moving toward the goals of peace, justice and self determination, recognizing that other Christians with the same goals may consider alternative approaches;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana on July 28 to August 2, 1989 recognizes that the Palestine Liberation Organization is an important political organization that in so far as it seeks a negotiated political solution to its conflict with Israel deserves an opportunity to contribute to the search for peace and justice in the Middle East; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) calls on the governments of the United States and Canada to use their fullest political, diplomatic and economic strength to end the vicious cycle of injustice and violence between Israelis and the Palestinians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) urgently asks members of our churches to prayerfully consider these views herein expressed and to exercise their influence on government representatives toward ending conflict and establishing peace and justice for all the people in the Middle East; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Minister and President convey these views to the President of the U.S., the Secretary of State and all leaders of Congress of the U.S. and to the Prime Minister and Parliament of Canada.