

No. 8922

RESOLUTION ON THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO AIDS

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, the number of men, women and children who have Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and AIDS related complex (ARC) is rising daily; and,

WHEREAS, AIDS is a life-threatening illness and not a manifestation of Divine Judgment; and,

WHEREAS, Jesus confronted humanity with powerful acts of healing and offered a new depth of compassion by aligning himself with those he healed; and,

WHEREAS, all who believe in Jesus as the Savior are a part of Christ's body and are called to model their behavior after the example set by our Lord; and,

WHEREAS, there are no exceptions to God's love;

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, commit ourselves in all manifestations of the church to become accurately informed about AIDS based on the most current medical information.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to becoming informed of both community and church resources such as the Division of Homeland Ministries' AIDS packets for understanding this illness and offering compassionate care and then to share these resources with others.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves to making certain those with AIDS and ARC are treated as the children of God and that we act as instruments of God's compassionate love and tender care where the seeds of fear, prejudice and alienation have been sown.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon all members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to pray regularly for those who have this illness, their families, associates, care-givers and researchers as well as those immobilized by their fears of this illness.