

No. 8743

RESOLUTION CONCERNING TV MINISTRIES

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS the electronic media offer unprecedented access into the homes of many people not yet reached by the traditional church; and

WHEREAS many people who hunger for spiritual nurture find it difficult to be participants in the gathered church, because of the conditions of age, health or work schedules; and

WHEREAS the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has not utilized the power and potential of the electronic media as instruments of mission and ministry; and

WHEREAS recent disclosures indicate that some "TV ministries" have failed to fulfill their stated purpose, and have failed to uphold the standards of Christian stewardship in their appeal for funds and their distribution and use of those funds:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, October 1987, go on record as affirming that while the electronic media cannot replace the gathered church, and should not be regarded as a rival for the church, the church, in all its manifestations, should be encouraged to utilize the media as instruments of ministry; and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) be urged to continue giving their financial support to their church, which provides for the whole mission of the church, rather than to those "television ministries" which have a poor record of fiscal integrity and the effective use of funds for Christian purposes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) be urged to investigate the comprehensive ministry and financial expenditure of "TV ministers", and to write "TV ministries" and request a full written financial report each year.