

**No. 8723**

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING CHRISTIAN UNITY**

**REFERRED** by the General Assembly to the Council on Christian Unity and the Partnership Committee.

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WHEREAS, Jesus Christ prayed that the church might be one so that the world might believe; and  
WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) began as a unity movement in obedience to that prayer; and

WHEREAS, we have been engaged in a relationship with the United Church of Christ for some years, but that relationship seems in some places to be moving quite slowly toward any visible expression of union; and

WHEREAS, in the Upper Midwest Region, we have experienced positive benefits by moving more and more into union; and

WHEREAS, we need to encourage our members who are eager to express Christian unity and to dialogue with those who may have reservations,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, October 16-21, 1987, reaffirm our commitment that Christian Unity is our polar star; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in keeping with that affirmation, that we now inform the United Church of Christ that we are ready and willing and look forward to entering into formal union negotiations at such time as it is mutually acceptable.

The Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
in the Upper Midwest

The General Board recommends that the General Assembly REFER  
Resolution No. 8723 to the Council on Christian Unity and to the  
Partnership Committee.  
(Debate time 12 minutes)