

Adopted

No. 8715

RESOLUTION CONCERNING SHALOM

WHEREAS, The Church of Jesus Christ is the community of God's Shalom. Shalom people participate in and celebrate God's activity in history. We declare in word and act the coming reign of God.

WHEREAS, The Church of Jesus Christ lives a vision of Shalom, a vision of peace, justice and harmony between all people and with God. Shalom is given to us by God as gift and as promise: "I will make a covenant of shalom with them. It will be an everlasting covenant..." (Ezekiel 37:26). That promise continually calls us into existence as a community at once at peace within itself and seeking to extend the peace of God to all people. WHEREAS, Shalom is a vision of action, and it demands our commitment to faithful response. The peace which God desires for us all and promises to us becomes reality only through pursuit of justice and righteousness. "Then justice will dwell in the wilderness and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. And the effect of righteousness will be shalom, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever" (Isaiah 32:16,17).

- the crisis of American farmers and the problem of world hunger;
- the continued depletion of our resources by our dependence upon massive armaments;
- the fear which stalks our lives, and the lives of all God's children, in a world overcome with terrorism, injustice, repression and the threat of violence;
- the resistance of social structures to universally equitable systems;
- and the continued marginalization in our society of members of minority races, women, children, the aged and strangers in our midst.

As people of God we look for the day when God will fully establish the Divine reign. In that day all people will sit in peace under their vines and fig trees, and none shall be afraid.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, we who are the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in General Assembly in Louisville, Kentucky, October 16-21, 1987, declare that:

- God is at work building Shalom.
- We are a people of God's Shalom.
- We hereby identify ourselves as shalom people and reaffirm our commitment to the principles of shalom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we commit ourselves within the church in all of its manifestations, general, regional and local, and within society in general, to:

- 1) the elimination of any policy or program which divides nation from nation; system from system; class from class; person from person;
- 2) The building of systems of equity and justice between estranged persons;
- 3) The actualization of every person and the establishment of well-being for all people;
- 4) The sharing and stewardship of the world's wealth, food and natural resources;
- 5) And the building of new political, social and economic structures which embody justice and make peace available to all.