

## No. 8360

### REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONCERNING REVISION OF MINISTERIAL PLACEMENT PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES

#### RECEIVED by the General Assembly

Resolution 8142 on the Revision of Ministerial Placement Principles and Procedures, approved by the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Anaheim, California, July 31 - August 5, 1981, instructed the Task Force on the Ministry of the General Board to:

- Examine and revise the document, *Ministerial Placement Principles and Procedures*;
- Enlist the participation of Regional Clergy Associations, The Congress of Disciples Clergy, Regional Commissions on the Ministry, the Conference of Regional Ministers and Moderators, and the Department of Ministry of the Division of Homeland Ministries to assist in the examination and revision of the document;
- Present a progress report on its work to the General Board at its 1982 meeting; and
- Prepare a policy statement on ministerial relocation for presentation and action at the 1983 General Assembly.

The Task Force on the Ministry, in beginning its work of examining and revising the document, *Ministerial Placement Principles and Procedures*, projected the following procedures:

#### (1) List the Concerns.

In addition to the problems and concerns stated specifically in Resolution 8142, Dr. Thomas E. Wood, Executive Secretary of the Department of Ministry, was asked to detail other concerns that have been raised as well as other changes that would make the document more effective.

#### (2) Enlist Representatives of Groups Involved in Ministry.

While most of the constituency groups listed in the resolution were already represented on the Task Force, several other persons were enlisted to insure representation of each constituency. Budget restrictions limited the number of persons and meetings.

#### (3) Review and Revise the Document.

The document was revised by the Task Force on the basis of concerns raised in the Assembly Resolution (8142). This section "Ministerial Relocation," if approved, would become Section VI of the "Policies and Criteria" statement.

#### (4) Seek Counsel from Regional Ministers and Regional Commissions on the Ministry.

The revised document was mailed to regional ministers and regional commissions for evaluation and suggested changes.

#### (5) Prepare Policy Statement and Resolution for 1983 General Assembly.

The Revised document was presented to the Administrative Committee of the General Board, January 31 - February 2, 1983. The Administrative Committee raised several questions and suggested wider circulation of the proposed changes before presentation to the General Assembly. There was a concern that local congregational leaders be included among those reviewing and evaluating the document.

Regional Ministers and Regional Commissions on the Ministry have made several helpful suggestions. Some of these groups need additional time to complete their evaluation.

The Task Force on the Ministry is now involved in the process of reviewing the suggested changes and will be preparing a revised document to send to the various constituencies. After receiving these evaluations, a report will be prepared for the General Board and a resolution for the 1985 General Assembly.