

1976

RESOLUTION: THE GROWTH OF HUMAN CONCERN COMMITTEES IN LOCAL CHURCHES

WHEREAS our Lord Jesus said, "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost," and as the risen Christ does challenge his followers in every age saying, "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you," and

WHEREAS we believe that to be sent implies active mission, and to seek and save the lost defines the Evangelistic purpose of that mission as the doing of the Word, and

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ, in Synod, Conference and Association, has long championed Christian action, accepting Christ's call into his church "to be his servants in the service of men - to proclaim the gospel to all the world and to resist the powers of evil" and

WHEREAS to carry on the challenging example of Jesus, every local congregation needs within it a particular organization of the socially concerned to seek out, study and promote the alleviation of all forms of human injustice and need, and

WHEREAS such a Council of Human Concerns (previously called a Social Action Committee) is needed to act upon the suggestions of our Department of Church and Society and to carry out the social action adopted by our General Synod, and this council of Human Concerns further can, wherever possible, promote an Ecumenical Council of Human Concerns consisting of representatives of all churches and synagogues in the community, and

WHEREAS this Ecumenical Council of Human Concerns can meet to discuss and to carry out projects to meet a community need, such as:

Projects to aid the aged: daily telephoning to shut-ins, Meals on Wheels, visiting convalescent homes, etc.,

Projects to prevent juvenile delinquency, Projects to help young people on probation,

Projects to have a storage of canned goods and household furnishings for emergencies, etc.

Projects to be friends to the South Vietnamese here,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ continue to challenge each of its local congregations to maintain an active Council of Human Concerns within its own church and to form an Ecumenical Council of Human Concerns in each community, wherever possible, to undertake projects that shape a better tomorrow. Combined efforts produce a powerful force for positive growth and change in America today.

