

1976 RESOLUTION: "HE WHO TRANSPLANTS, SUSTAINS"

WHEREAS: The beginnings of American culture stemmed in large measure from the ethical understandings of our ancestors in the faith, the Puritans, who were "stubborn of principle, straight spoken, thrifty, industrious, earnest and devout", and whose leaders were highly educated persons who valued intellectual traditions; and

WHEREAS: The Church and religious life played a most important role in the creation of ideas and ideals which were expressed as the principles of freedom, justice, and individual rights at the time of this nation's birth and have been reaffirmed throughout history by such phrases as "government by consent of the governed," "the blessings of liberty," "All men are created equal," "One nation under God;" and

WHEREAS: The 'Meeting House', especially in New England, was the symbol and center of spiritual commitment and political endeavor, fully serving both for worship and the conduct of civil business; and

WHEREAS: Over 350 years of the American experience has shown the necessity for the continual and periodic re-examination of such co-existent and sometimes contradictory demands as liberty and order, uniformity and diversity, individual rights and the common welfare; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That this assembly recommend that the churches of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ affirm our colonial heritage by reaffirming the role of the 'Meeting House' in the life of the community by encouraging, within our several walls, the free and open debate of the issues of freedom, justice and individual rights, and the role of local, state and federal government in establishing or abridging those ideals.