

1978

## RESOLUTION: CHRISTIAN OBEDIENCE AND THE NUCLEAR QUESTION

WHEREAS as Christians we proclaim our obedience to God the Creator, acknowledging in praise and thanksgiving that all of nature is the work of God, lovingly offered as a free gift to all people; and

WHEREAS we proclaim our obedience to God the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, who in a ministry of healing and reconciliation to a broken world, identified the redemption of the world with the responsible and peaceful use and just distribution of the benefits of a beautiful earth; and

WHEREAS we proclaim our obedience to God the Sustainer, who by the Holy Spirit preserves the Creation, sustaining us in love but also in judgment for our failure to heed the call to covenant partnership in God's creative and redemptive work; and

WHEREAS the continued development of nuclear energy poses significant unresolved problems concerning:

1. Reactor safety (the hazards associated with the normal operation of ordinary power plants, and the hazards associated with accidents, human error, natural disasters, or other extraordinary events concerning ordinary nuclear power plants.)
2. Radioactive wastes (the hazards associated with the transportation, handling and especially the disposal of radioactive material.)
3. Nuclear power and the proliferation of nuclear weapons (special hazards associated with the so-called fast breeder reactor and its supporting systems, and the continued proliferation of the production of atomic bomb material.)
4. Social and political implications (concentration of power in the hands of a few, concern for future generations left with the burden of nuclear power and wastes, how are the benefits distributed, and the inappropriate use of capital, technology and human effort.)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ recommends that:

1. Individual Christians think and study the question of nuclear energy and its alternatives, praying for guidance on these difficult issues, making their feelings known to members of the Christian community and to people in leadership positions in government.
2. The local churches of the Conference sponsor forums and study groups to discuss these questions for this and future generations.
3. The work of the Environment and Energy Committee of the Department of Church and Society be continued, and that it be instructed to make available

pertinent material to local churches, which will enlighten people regarding questions concerning nuclear energy, as well as the interconnected issues of solar energy development, alternative energy sources and Christian life style.