

1998

RESOLUTION: ADVOCACY OF THE ARTS

WHEREAS, God created the heavens and the earth in a wild and ordered display (Genesis 1) and God's image is represented by humanity in general and Jesus in particular, our creativity can an imitation of our Creator's activity; and

WHEREAS, The Prophet Miriam, along with the other Hebrew women, used tambourines, singing and dancing (Exodus 15) to praise God for being rescued from the Egyptians, we see that a variety of media is appropriate to express worship and to give voice to our diverse Christian heritage; and

WHEREAS, Jesus Christ was not only a formidable poet-storyteller who could rap spontaneous parables, but also drew with his finger on the ground in the course of defending a woman caught in adultery (John 8) and thus thwarted her unjust accusers, we see that the prophetic role of art, including humor, can challenge and transform us; and

WHEREAS, The United Church of Christ, along with other Protestant churches in the United States, needs to recover its appreciation and application of the arts in all aspects of church life in order to be relevant to generations to come:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates of the 131st Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, actively encourage the use of the arts in all settings of the church, including the Conference, regions, associations and local churches; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Conference also encourage access to fine artists, dancers, actors, musicians, and other creative resource experts through the Office for Program and Resources.