

1979

RESOLUTION: HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

WHEREAS God in the experience of the Exodus and the words of the prophets elevated human justice and dignity to a divine imperative, and Jesus commands us to love one another as we would be loved, and

WHEREAS there are thousands in the world today who suffer imprisonment, torture, banning and death simply because they have spoken their conscience or chosen to follow their religious beliefs, and

WHEREAS Amnesty International is a movement organized to protect those provisions of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" adopted by the General Assembly by the United Nations on December 10, 1948, and

WHEREAS Amnesty International is a non-government organization which has consultative status with the United Nations, Council of Europe, and cooperative relations with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, and

WHEREAS Amnesty International is financially independent, funded by membership throughout the world and is committed to taking action wherever and whenever information about violations of human rights comes to its attention, receiving for this work the 1977 Nobel Prize for Peace, and

WHEREAS Amnesty International works through the Inter-Religious Urgent Action Network, affording local churches the opportunity to help prisoners of conscience by writing letters, on their behalf, to government officials of the country concerned,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, followers of Jesus, who seek to live the law of love, hearing of the injustices done to many, are moved to stand up for those who have been denied their human dignity. We call upon all peoples and nations to support the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in deed as well as in word.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, through the Department of Church and Society, encourage local churches to start Amnesty International Urgent Action Network groups.