

1979

RESOLUTION: CHURCH GROWTH

WHEREAS commitment to Christ is a communal as well as an individual transaction, entailing our concern for church growth as well as personal growth, and

WHEREAS intentional planning and concerted action for church growth is a way of evangelism which demonstrates our Christian commitment as do other ways of evangelism such as shared spirituality, health interpersonal relations, and social responsibility, and

WHEREAS enabling church growth is essential to the faithful maintenance and mission of the Connecticut Conference and its member congregations,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ affirms church growth as a high priority, and intends to reflect this priority in its preaching, programming, stewardship and resource development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local congregations and associations are encouraged to develop church growth committees which are to be intentional about such concerns, opportunities, training and resources as may enable church growth and witness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each congregation is encouraged to set for itself an annual percentage goal for church membership growth; to include funding in its budget to enable purchase of materials and underwriting of programs for church growth; and to authorize its pastor or pastoral staff to devote a significant allotment of time to ministries which are specifically aimed at church growth.