

1979

RESOLUTION: CONCERN FOR REFUGEES

WHEREAS thousands of refugees are fleeing Southeast Asia, many by boat, and

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ has been concerned about refugees from many different countries for many decades and many are also fleeing from nearby Haiti seeking asylum in our land, and

WHEREAS the responsibility for saving them is too large a burden for a few countries to bear alone, but is an obligation to be shared by the whole human family, and

WHEREAS we are all sojourners and would be strangers no longer, and would welcome strangers into our midst, caring for and with them in the name of Jesus Christ;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ calls upon the United States Department of State to initiate and support an international effort, through the United Nations, to enable refugees to find homes and opportunity for life, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twelfth General Synod supports legislation in the Congress of the United States to reform our immigration laws so as to make it possible for more refugees to immigrate, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge our churches to take advantage of all legal opportunities to sponsor refugees for resettlement in our country, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Twelfth General Synod commends the United Church Board of World Ministries for expanding its concern and programs for the above mentioned world refugees.