

1984

RESOLUTION: CREATIVE MINISTRIES TO THE ELDERLY

WHEREAS, the Scriptures remind us: "We have many members in the one body, and all the members have different functions. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:4-5) and "If one member of the body suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together." (1 Corinthians 12:26); and

WHEREAS, our Conference and its churches, along with the general population, are finding increasing numbers of retired parishioners; and

WHEREAS, among our elderly and disabled there are many who have overlooked and underused talents, experience, time and interest; and

WHEREAS, others in this population are experiencing ill health, handicaps of various kinds, poor housing, inadequate income, loss of spouse, lack of transportation, impaired mobility; and

WHEREAS, such people are thus often deprived of the healing and continuing presence of the church, its worship and fellowship:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference survey our churches to find models of programs and practices that can enable our conference to

1. put together realistic and helpful information, data, sources of help and inspiration so that we may then involve those who are active and able to a greater degree in the life of the church, and
2. provide models of caring ministry for the inclusion of the disabled and infirm, who are home and institution bound so that they may continue to enjoy experiences of the church and the love which all in the spirit of Christ need opportunities to give and to receive.