

1985

RESOLUTION: MINISTRY OF THE WHOLE CHURCH

WHEREAS, We are members of the one body of Christ, endowed with differing gifts, according to God's grace (I Corinthians 12:27-28, Romans 12:4-6); and

WHEREAS, As members of the priesthood of believers, we are called to bear witness to the presence of Christ in the world (I Peter 2:9-10); and

WHEREAS, The United Church of Christ Statement of Faith calls us all into the Church to be servants in the service of others, and to proclaim the Gospel to all the world; and

WHEREAS, God calls the whole Church and every member to be actively engaged in ministry (Article V, Section 17, United Church of Christ Constitution), and

WHEREAS, Some are called to perform ministries requiring ecclesiastical authorization in and on behalf of the Church and are set apart by rite and name as ordained ministers, commissioned ministers, and licensed ministers, Article V, Section 18, United Church of Christ Constitution) and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 118th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ, calls for the implementation of the Constitution and By-Law changes adopted by General Synod XIV in the life of the Connecticut Conference through the following actions:

1. That written communications of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ be consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws in the usage of the term "minister";
2. That the Department of Church Life and Leadership assist associations and local congregations in considering, developing, and implementing constitution and by-law changes congruent with those ratified by the Connecticut Conference;
3. That the Department of Christian Education make available materials to be used by local congregations to help members identify the Biblical and theological foundations for the ministry of all people;
4. That the local congregations be encouraged to recognize and celebrate the varied ministries of their members' and
5. That the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Conference offer a progress report concerning the implementation of this resolution at the 119th and 120th Annual Meetings of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ.