

1990

RESOLUTION: ADVOCACY FOR THOSE IMPRISONED UNJUSTLY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

WHEREAS, Paul wrote, "Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners,- and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering" (Hebrews 13:3); and

WHEREAS, As Christians we are taught to uphold the human rights and dignity of others through our actions and commitments (Isaiah 58:6, Matthew 25: 36-45); and

WHEREAS, People are held as prisoners/hostages to further the political aspirations of others and/or to suppress a perceived threat to their power; and

WHEREAS, As a large group of voters, we can have an impact on the direction our legislators take on any particular issue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates to the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, urge the Department of Church in Society to coordinate lobbying efforts to persuade our state and national government to firmly and persistently pressure for the release of those whose human rights have been violated by imprisonment; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge member churches of the Connecticut Conference to encourage an activist group within each church to disseminate information and to act upon the information received from the Department of Church in Society; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each Association in the Connecticut Conference be urged to appoint two people who will be responsible for adopting and supporting the activities of groups such as Amnesty International and for coordinating this information with the activist group in each church and with the Department of Church in Society.