RESOLUTION: STRENGTHENING GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP

WHEREAS, The United Church of Christ seeks to promote the unique gifts in all cultures as a way to enrich our Christian faith, for "The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all" (1 Corinthians 12:7); and

WHEREAS, We are called to be in one body as individuals of faith and as the church in the global community, for “There is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you” (Ephesians 4:4); and

WHEREAS, Each of us, individually and collectively, has received special gifts (Ephesians 4:7) so that "when each separate part works as it should, the whole body grows and builds itself up through love" (Ephesians 4:16b); and

WHEREAS, New possibilities for global relationships and new possibilities for common global concerns are opening up in the present decade; and

WHEREAS, The presence of the church of Jesus Christ in virtually every nation creates a network of love that can cross every barrier known to humankind; and

WHEREAS, The development of global relationships through partnership can break open some of the national, faith, racial, ethnic, and linguistic barriers that divide our world, thereby living out our commitment to teach with justice based on the mission of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, We acknowledge both our need and our desire to be participants in the international Christian community; and

WHEREAS, one of the Global Partners of the United Church of Christ, The Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) has recently initiated an interest in partnership with the Connecticut Conference; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates to the 125th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ (Missionary Society of Connecticut), urge the Connecticut Conference to enter into a partnership with one of the United Church of Christ global partners; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the Connecticut Conference Board of Directors, through the Department of Stewardship and Mission Interpretation, to establish a committee to propose the partnership, implement and support the church partnership in cooperation with the United Church Board for World Ministries, and report back regularly to the Conference Board of Directors, the Department of Stewardship and Mission Interpretation, and through CONNtact; and
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we ask that funds be allocated for the exchange of people and resources in order to develop the partnership; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we anticipate that the partnership would last for a period of three (3) years at which time it will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.