

1997

RESOLUTION: URGING HIV TESTING IN PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE

WHEREAS, The Lord has instructed His followers to care for both each other and little children, and

WHEREAS, We are "our brothers' and sisters' keepers" and responsible for every person; and

WHEREAS, The State of Connecticut mandates a (Wassermann) blood test, meant to disclose vital information for both partners and any issue from the marriage, as a condition for receiving a wedding license; and

WHEREAS, The presence of the HIV virus, a sexually transmittable disease, is not necessarily disclosed without proper additional testing; and

WHEREAS, Testing for the presence of the HIV virus performs an ethical service for both marriage partners; and

WHEREAS, No treatment has been devised as yet to successfully treat HIV-infected adults and infants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates to the 130th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, urge pastors responsible for counseling with marriage partners to strongly suggest that couples have HIV testing prior to marriage in the absence of legal requirement.