

1981

RESOLUTION: NUCLEAR ARMS FREEZE

WHEREAS we now live in a world where the United States and the Soviet Union presently possess between them almost 50,000 nuclear weapons; and

WHEREAS under the capabilities of the present arsenals, all of the cities in the northern hemisphere can be destroyed within the space of half an hour; and

WHEREAS both nations-continue to plan for the production and deployment of 20,000 more nuclear warheads within the next decade, including a "new generation" of nuclear weapons which, by virtue of their accuracy, will give each nation a "first strike" capability, thereby heightening tensions between them; and

WHEREAS as a biblical people, we have heard the call of our one Lord and Saviour, to be "peacemakers" (Matthew 5:9); and we now heed His admonition to "choose life, that you and your descendants may live" (Deuteronomy 30:19), to "seek peace and pursue it" (Psalm 34:14);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ through its Peace Committee, call upon both the United States and the Soviet Union, jointly, to stop the nuclear arms race through a freeze on all further testing, production, and deployment of nuclear weapons; and further cease production of missiles and new aircraft designed primarily to deliver nuclear weapons;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Conference urge the members of the Connecticut Congressional delegation to introduce into Congress (or to co-sponsor) a resolution calling for an immediate nuclear weapons freeze, and urge the Administration to negotiate with the USSR a permanent moratorium on nuclear weapons;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Conference continue to keep its member churches informed about further developments on this issue.