

1988

RESOLUTION: THE ABOLITION OF APARTHEID

WHEREAS, Jesus, through the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-34), conveys a reality of neighborly love that knows no ethnic or racial bounds; and

WHEREAS, The government of the Republic of South Africa, since 1948, has denounced the scriptural message of Christ by declaring that the present regime in South Africa will enforce apartheid, the ultimate restriction of South African Black people; and

WHEREAS, The current crisis is such that the South African government is oppressing the South African Black people by denying them the right to participate as equal partners in the political and economic system of South Africa and by denying them basic human rights and needs; and -

WHEREAS, The Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa is embroiled in this horrendous tragedy, and has been split apart on the issue of apartheid; and -

WHEREAS, General Synod XVI in 1987 called upon the members of the United Church of Christ to reaffirm their commitment to full divestment and other economic strategies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates to the 121st Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, urge the support of this cause by the members of churches in the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in harmony with the resolution of General Synod XVI, that we call upon departments, agencies, congregations, and members of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ:

- 1) To engage in economic pressure strategies to maximize our effectiveness as instruments of change by mobilizing the church, and
- 2) To engage in acts of public witness directed at corporations supportive of the apartheid system, and
- 3) To organize prayer vigils to pray for the abolition of apartheid, and
- 4) To write letters stating our position to representatives in the United States Congress and in our local areas.