

RESOLUTION ON OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO FEDERAL FUNDING
A Resolution Approved by General Synod XIV (1983)

WHEREAS, love is exemplified in the compassion of the Christ; and

WHEREAS, Jesus said, “I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger and you received me in your homes, naked and you clothed me; I was sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me” (Matthew 25:35-36, *Today’s English Version*); and

WHEREAS, our whole Christian heritage bears a strong concern for the just social ordering of humanity; and

WHEREAS, the role of the Church has even been to stand with those in the midst of suffering and injustice; and

WHEREAS, the prophetic task of the Church is to expose the suffering, and challenge the injustices so long as they continue; and

WHEREAS, the change in philosophy of our Federal Government has resulted in a drastic reduction in funding for programs in health, education, nutrition, housing and other social services, and an increase in spending for armaments; and

WHEREAS, those least able to provide for their own needs as a result of age, sex, disability, or socio-economic deprivation are those most hurt by these Federal reductions in funding; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has challenged private philanthropy to assume a greater share of responsibility for the funding of human services;

THEREFORE, the Fourteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ declares its opposition to the Federal Government’s shifting of public resources from human services to armaments, and to the assumption that the private sector can adequately underwrite the human services cutback or removed from Federal support,

- charges the Office for Church in Society with communicating this resolution to the Federal Government;
- urges all members of each local church to express their opposition to this shift in Federal spending from human services to armaments to the President of the United States and to their Congressional Representatives through letters and votes; and
- in response to the extreme urgency of human need arising from current Federal cutbacks, encourages all members to covenant with God and their fellow Christians to contribute more to church and other human service agencies from their financial resources according to God’s call to love our neighbor as ourselves.