

97-GS-12 VOTED: The Twenty-first General Synod adopts the Resolution "Affirmation of Partnership with the Council of Churches in Cuba."

The Florida Delegation unanimously abstained from voting on this resolution.

RESOLUTION A AFFIRMATION OF PARTNERSHIP WITH COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF CUBA®

WHEREAS, the Council of Churches of Cuba joins together most of the Protestant communion in that country for more than three decades;

WHEREAS, when ties with churches in the United States and in many other parts of the world were broken and missionaries had to leave, the Council assisted its members in their struggle to survive without support from abroad;

WHEREAS, the Council of Churches of Cuba has demonstrated the necessary courage to stand up and defend the legitimacy of the ministry of churches within a revolutionary and socialist society, and has assisted its member churches in finding opportunities to serve, as part of that society, in programs and projects attuned with their Christian faith;

WHEREAS, thanks to such efforts, the Cuban government has begun to appreciate that witness and recognize the importance of the relationship of Cuban Protestant churches with church partners around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Cuban Ecumenical Council has developed alternative programs and projects to assist the churches as they try to alleviate the effects of the U.S. economic embargo;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ, celebrates and affirms the partnership with the Cuban Council of Churches; a partnership also shared with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, through the Common Global Ministries Board.

Subject to the availability of funds.