No. 9334

(Sense-of-the-Assembly Resolution)

RESOLUTION CONCERNING CIVIL RIGHTS
ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, the life and teachings of Jesus require us to treat each human being as our neighbor and
to treat others as we want to be treated, and Jesus demonstrated in forthright and compelling ways the
irrespective of their sexual orientation as gay, lesbian, or bisexual constitutes a contradiction of such teachings.

WHEREAS, a sense of the Assembly acknowledges the diversity of gifts and opinions present
in the church while at the same time confessing and condemning the persistence of all oppression,
persecution and suffering including that of gay, lesbian and bisexual persons as well as the harassment
of those heterosexual persons who affirm them; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), meeting in Kansas
City, Missouri, October 21-26, 1977, adopted Resolution No. 7747 urging the passage of legislation on
basis of sexual orientation, and calling upon the members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
to advocate and support the passage and maintenance of such legislation; and

WHEREAS, many states have laws remaining on the books which criminalize certain sexual behavior
between consenting adults, and these so-called “sodomy laws” are often enforced solely against gay,
lesbian, and bisexual persons; and whereas, this unfair and uneven application of the law should not
be sanctioned in a society which proclaims and honors the equal rights of all persons; and

WHEREAS, the General Board of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. meeting
in Cleveland, Ohio, November 11-13, 1992, adopted a resolution opposing the constitutional amendment
passed by the state of Colorado on November 3, 1992 which forbids the state legislature and
municipalities of that state from enacting laws specifically protecting the rights of homosexuals; and in
addition the resolution opposed the passage of similar laws by other governmental bodies, and
encouraged the leaders of each member communions and their public policy and advocacy offices to
work for civil rights for all people; and

WHEREAS, several states, counties and municipalities, including the City of St. Louis, Missouri,
where this General Assembly gathers, have enacted laws guaranteeing basic human and civil rights to
all persons irrespective of sexual orientation, and a growing number of private employers have adopted
similar policies, and some of these employers extend insurance and other benefits to
domestic partners;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of
Christ) meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, July 15-20, 1993 commend the City of St. Louis, Missouri for its
signing into law Ordinance #82710 on October 6, 1992 which makes it illegal to discriminate on the
basis of sexual orientation in employment, housing, public accommodations and education in
regards to vocational schools, and celebrate the City of St. Louis' leadership in this area of civil
rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will communicate with the Colorado governor and legislature that we are not initiating
a boycott against Colorado at this time, in order to support the appeal of the constitutional amendment
No. 2. If these efforts fail or no decision is

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