RESOLUTION CONCERNING SUPPORT OF SMALL MEMBERSHIP CONGREGATIONS

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, previous General Assemblies of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have encouraged program units to place emphasis on the support of small membership congregations through such means as the development of curriculum materials, local church program planning helps, and training and support for ministerial leadership; and,

WHEREAS, this call has been extended to program units because of the predominance of small membership congregations in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and

WHEREAS, one of the established and on-going priorities of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is to RENEW CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND WITNESS;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, August 2-7, 1985, in an effort to fulfill this priority, request that the program units continue to circulate materials, already developed, that will provide nurture and guidance to these congregations, and that they continue to develop new materials that will speak to the current problems facing these congregations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the period from January 1, 1987 to December 31, 1990 be proclaimed as "Four Years for the Small Membership Congregation"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the regions emphasize and celebrate the life and ministry of this vital influence in our corporate life, the small membership congregation.