RESOLUTION CONCERNING PARTICIPATION IN THE ECUMENICAL DECADE OF CHURCHES IN SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN, 1988-1998

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, Eastertide, 1988 marked the beginning of the Ecumenical Decade Churches in Solidarity with Women, (1988-1998), under the sponsorship of the World Council of Churches; and

WHEREAS, the Biblical roots of Genesis reveal that all persons, male and female, are created in the Image of God; and

WHEREAS, women are especially vulnerable to the forces of poverty, famine, and discriminatory practices and thus many live on the margins of society; and

WHEREAS, the United Nation’s Decade for Women, 1975-1985, in spite of its successes, did not adequately address the concerns of church women or challenge the churches to fully claim the position of women in church and society; and

WHEREAS, through Resolution No. 7342 on the Participation of Women in the Church and Resolution No. 8525 on the Leadership of Women in the Church adopted at the General Assemblies in 1973 and 1985 the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) supported and recognized women as full partners in church and society; and

WHEREAS, the aims of the Ecumenical Decade are:

a. Full participation of women in church decision-making bodies and where ideas and plans are developed.

b. Incorporation of women’s issues, concerns, and commitments into study and action in the areas of justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

c. Integration of women’s insights and experiences into Biblical and theological reflections of the church (study, sharing, acting, and celebrating).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 28 - August 2, 1989, call upon the church in all its manifestations to join with other church bodies worldwide and fully participate in the Ecumenical Decade - Churches in Solidarity with Women, 1988-1998; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that general units, regions, seminaries, and congregations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) commit themselves to appropriate action for implementation of the aims of the Ecumenical Decade as they develop plans and programs.