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REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON CHRISTIAN LIFE STYLE AND ECOLOGY

The Task Force on Christian Life Style and Ecology was created by the Administrative Committee of the General Board, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in response to General Assembly Resolution 7754, "Resolution Concerning A Task Force on Ecology." It is related to the Division of Homeland Ministries for administration. The Task Force was created to make recommendations on environmental stewardship and lifestyle matters to members, congregations, regions and general units of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

The Task Force is pleased to report a steadily increasing concern for environmental stewardship and lifestyle issues within both the church and society. The widely publicized celebration of Earth Day 1990 resulted in a swelling of interest and action. For example, many bodies of the church have ended the practice of using disposable table service. The use of recycled material is increasingly common. The Alverna Covenant (environmental stewardship covenant created by the Task Force) was signed by more than 1800 persons in 1990. This brings the total number of signers to more than 3000.

The Task Force is distressed to report that the state of the environment is only minimally improved. Much more work needs to be done including careful attention to lifestyle adjustments, consumer reduction, production methods and amounts monitoring, reuse processes development, and recycling.

The Task Force is interested in hearing the concerns and reports of actions by Disciples on ecological and lifestyle issues. Communications may be addressed to: Task Force on Christian Life Style and Ecology, P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Task Force members are appointed for six-year terms and meet annually. Members of the Task Force and the year of completion of appointment are as follows:

1991
Phillip Abel, Cleveland, OH
Melinda Malin, Bedford IN
Jerry McCoy, Eureka, IL
Joe Stump, Indianapolis, IN

1993
J. Gregory Alexander, Fort Madison, IA
Franklin D. Williams, Orlando, FL
Rene R. Jensen, Lenexa, KS
D. Bruce Wilson, Mesilla Park, NM

1995
Bath Blankenship, Lexington, KY
Janet Fountain, Milton, Nova Scotia
Richard D. Coleman, Nashville, TN
Darryl M. Trimiew, Fort Worth, TX

General Staff
Rolland G. Pflue

THE ALVERNA COVENANT

Whereas:
God has created the world with finite resources
God has given to us the stewardship of the earth
God has established order through many natural cycles

Whereas:
We are consuming resources at a rate that cannot be maintained
We are interrupting many natural cycles
We are irresponsibly modifying the environment through consumption and pollution
We are populating the earth at a rate that cannot be maintained

As a member of the human family and a follower of Jesus Christ, I hereby covenant that:
I will change my lifestyle to reduce my contribution to pollution
I will support recycling efforts
I will search for sustainable lifestyles
I will work for public policies which lead to a just and sustainable society
I will share these concerns with others and urge them to make this covenant.