The Implementation

We call upon the official bodies of all congregations, regions and the general program units of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to affirm the priority and to commit themselves to an implementation process which will move the church through the 1990's prepared to be partners with God in a ministry of reconciliation. Shared decision-making will be key to every step of the process which in twelve years will result in the realization of the priority.

The General Minister and President will launch the priority by calling upon all manifestations of the church to be in a time of prayer and recommitment as each moves to claim the priority as its own. On Pentecost Sunday 1988, all persons in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) are encouraged to recommit themselves to God through Jesus Christ, to the renewal of congregational life, and to the whole mission of the church.

Resource materials will be developed to interpret the priority.

Regional teams using available materials will meet with clusters of congregations to interpret and discuss implications of the priority.

A broadly representative team appointed by the General Minister and President will design a Churchwide Planning Conference in 1988 which will bring together congregational, regional and general unit leadership (1) to examine current programs and resources in terms of congregational life, (2) to explore the needs of congregations, and (3) to project future programs along with the leadership and resources which will be needed.

Participants in the Planning Conference will be divided into working groups focused on the Biblical marks of a dynamic church.

The Churchwide Planning Conference held on a conveniently located college or seminary campus will be open to all Disciples who wish to register, attend and participate in one of the working groups.

Based on the information generated at the Churchwide Planning Conference, programmatic resources and materials will be developed and produced for use by congregations as they implement the priority.

Regional events will be planned to introduce resources which can be used to support the development of vital congregations throughout the denomination.

Each biennium the various manifestations of the church will evaluate their progress, reordering, rethinking and renewing their commitment to the priority.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the priority for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for the next twelve years (1988-1999) shall be:

To develop vital congregations as dynamic faith communities in prophetic, redemptive, and reconciling ministries to the whole world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the implementation process move forward through the affirmation of the priority in the three manifestations of the church, the Churchwide Planning Conference in 1988 and the subsequent implementation of program and resources through the twelve year period.

No. 8731

RESOLUTION CONCERNING SEAL HUNTING

REFERRED by the General Assembly to the Task Force on Christian Life Style and Ecology for appropriate study and response.