

Emergency Resolution

NO. 0533

Suicide Bombing and Our Commitment to Peace Making

And if one member suffers, all the members suffer together. (1 Corinthians 12:26)

We remember that Jesus drew innocent children around him to assure them protection and to focus the disciples on the sanctity of life that is known through opening ourselves to the realm of God. (Luke 18: 15-17)

WHEREAS, there has been a significant increase in suicide bombings in recent weeks, with an expansion to target civilians in non-combatant areas; and

WHEREAS, suicide bombers reflect the alienation of their communities from other parts of the human family and use a particular violence against civilians to influence political processes; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing opposition to suicide bombings from world leaders, government officials, religious leaders of all faiths and ordinary people; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 General Assembly meeting in Kansas City committed the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to participate in the World Council of Churches Decade to Overcome Violence;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2005 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) reaffirms our commitment to the World Council of Churches Decade to Overcome Violence opposing violence of all kinds – and a particular form of violence, suicide bombing – as offensive against the sanctity of life; and

BE IT FURTHER REFOLVED that the 2005 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) empowers our Common Global Ministries Board, working with domestic and international ecumenical and interfaith partners, to encourage members at all settings of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and United Church of Christ to engage in prayer, study and dialogue to strengthen our understanding of the alienation that leads to suicide bombing and to increase our commitment to be partners in peace making.