

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST RESPONSE TO "BAPTISM, EUCHARIST AND MINISTRY"

85-GS-59 VOTED: The Fifteenth General Synod of the United Church of Christ:

Rejoices in the publication of Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry and expresses its gratitude to the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches for the extraordinary theological work represented in the documents; Offers "A United Church of Christ Response to Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry" as a contribution toward the continuing work of the [World Council of Churches] Commission on Faith and Order as it completes the research project "Toward the Common Expression of the Apostolic Faith Today," and as it prepares for a World Conference on Faith and Order;

Covenants with the Faith and Order Commission to continue the study of Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry, in ecumenical partnership with other churches, and receives it into our life as a church for the guidance we can take from the text for our worship, educational, ethical, and spiritual witness;

Recommits itself, in response to Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry to be "a united and uniting church" that intends to share responsibility in the quest of the churches for the faithful manifestation of the unity of Christ's one church; and

Directs the Executive Council to develop materials and a study process for local churches on Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry and "A United Church of Christ Response to Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry" within the next biennium.

Financial Implications: \$5,000 -\$10,000 subject to the availability of funds.