

RESOLUTION ENDORSING PARTNERSHIP

Between the Central Pacific Conference, UCC, and the Northwest Mindanao Jurisdiction, UCCP

Whereas, as Paul proclaimed to the Church at Rome, God has made of one blood all the families of earth;

Whereas, as Jesus unified diverse persons for discipleship, we are called to unite in building community;

Whereas, as the Pentecost event stirs us to affinity, we seek beyond our traditional boundaries to develop networks of service and celebration;

Whereas, as inspired by the Still-speaking God, we choose to venture forward in faithful witness as persons of various "ages, tongues, and races;"

Whereas, as we engage in Global Partnerships we grow in knowledge, relationship, and opportunities for discipleship;

Therefore, be it resolved that,

With joy and prayerful hope, and in recognition of each other's challenges, contexts, and vital ministries as part of the Body of Christ, we, the Central Pacific Conference, United Church of Christ, and the Northwest Mindanao Jurisdiction of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines enter into partnership, pending endorsement of the relevant national bodies (UCC/DoC and UCCP).

Be it further resolved that,

With humility, prayer, and thanksgiving, the Central Pacific Conference pursues this commitment by exploring with the Northwest Mindanao Jurisdiction ways of relating that embody the spirit of solidarity and care, dialogue, mutual respect, understanding and accountability, and just sharing of resources based on the gifts and capabilities of each.

Be it further resolved that,

With commitment to join in covenant together we will pray for each other's ministries; cultivate friendships of faith that transcend barriers of language, culture, and historical relationship; and communicate regularly between our two bodies and among constituent groups.

Be it further resolved that,

With awareness of the Divine Mystery and Purpose, we will seek not only the spiritual growth of our member congregations, but also to pray, learn, and work together for this Creation, so loved by God, following others in the steps of Jesus Christ that we might serve God's will of peace and justice.

Be it further resolved that,

With expectation rooted in faith and enlivened by enthusiasm we take this step into partnership through the leadership of the Conference's Wider Church Ministry Team, assisted by the Conference Minister, and in collaboration with the bishop of the NWMJ UCCP.

Cost estimate: Travel expenses for a visit by the bishop in 2012, possibly (\$2000). The partnership has little if any program expenses.

Submitted by CPC Wider Church Ministry Team, Dennis Alger, Chair, to Spring Assembly May, 2011