

99-GS-38 VOTED: The Twenty-second General Synod adopts the Resolution "Partnership in Mission and Ministry Between the Congregational Church in American Samoa and the United Church of Christ."

PARTNERSHIP IN MISSION AND MINISTRY BETWEEN THE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN AMERICAN SAMOA AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WHEREAS, the Twenty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ "declared its intention to work toward partnership with the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa;"

WHEREAS, the General Synod recognized that there has been a growing relationship between members of the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa and the United Church of Christ, both in the Pacific and in North America;

WHEREAS, since 1984 the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa has expressed its desire to be in closer relationship to the United Church of Christ;

WHEREAS, in 1996 the General Assembly of the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa adopted a resolution approving a relationship with the United Church of Christ as mutual partners in God's mission;

WHEREAS, representatives of the two churches have met in 1997 and 1998 to discuss the nature of a proposed partnership and to develop a theological foundation for the partnership; and

WHEREAS, pastors of Samoan congregations that are local churches of the United Church of Christ have been consulted in this process;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Twenty-second General Synod of the United Church of Christ adopts the following Statement, approved by representatives of both churches at a consultation in Hawaii, November 23, 1998, and titled "Partnership in Mission and Ministry," as the basis for a Partnership between the United Church of Christ and the Congregational Christian Church in American Samoa.