

**THE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2011

**IOWA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
BOOK OF RESOLUTIONS**

One Hundred Sixty-Eighth Session

Held at

IOWA EVENTS CENTER

Des Moines, Iowa

June 4-7, 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE

Editor’s Notes 3

Procedures for Submitting Resolutions to Annual Conference 4

Resolutions Committee Tips for Writing Resolutions 5

Resolution Proposal Form 7

RESOLUTIONS

100 **Natural World** 8
Resolutions dealing with: A) Water, Air, Soil, Minerals, Plants; B) Energy Resource Utilization; C) Animal Life; and D) Space.

200 **Nurturing Community** 14
Resolutions dealing with: A) The Family; B) Other Christian Communities; C) Marriage; D) Divorce; E) Single Persons; F) Human Sexuality; G) Abortion; and H) Death with Dignity.

300 **Social Community** 16
Resolutions dealing with: A) Rights of Racial and Ethnic Persons; B) Rights of Religious Minorities; C) Rights of Children; D) Rights of Youth and Young Adults; E) Rights of the Aging; F) Rights of Women; G) Rights of Persons with Handicapping Conditions; H) Population; I) Alcohol and Other Drugs; J) Tobacco; K) Medical Experimentation; L) Genetic Technology; M) Rural Life; and L) Urban-Suburban Life.

400 **Economic Community** 29
Resolutions dealing with: A) Property; B) Collective Bargaining; C) Work and Leisure; D) Consumption; E) Poverty; F) Migrant Workers; and G) Gambling.

500 **Political Community** 34
Resolutions dealing with: A) Basic Freedoms; B) Political Responsibility; C) Freedom of Information; D) Education; E) Civil Obedience and Civil Disobedience; F) Criminal Justice; and G) Military Service.

600 **World Community** 39
Resolutions dealing with: A) Nations and Cultures; B) National Power and Responsibility; C) War and Peace; and D) Justice and Law.

700 **Annual Conference Administration** 46
Resolutions dealing with the Administration or program life and structures of the Iowa Annual Conference.

APPENDIX

How to be a United Methodist Advocate-Ways to Contact Your Legislators 52

National Elected Leaders 52

State Elected Leaders 53

Resources on Current Legislation 54

INDEXES

Alphabetical Index of Resolutions57

Topical Index of Resolutions61

Iowa Conference Action Alert Network.....55

Joining the Action Alert Network55

EDITOR'S NOTES

1. *The Book of Resolutions* (BOR) contains a complete listing of all Resolutions of the Iowa Annual Conference. In 2011, some resolutions were re-numbered and moved to different sections to more closely align with the General Conference Book of Resolutions. All resolutions in the BOR will be in effect until they are repealed. *The Book of Resolutions* is an official record of resolutions approved by the Iowa Annual Conference.
2. Each Resolution is assigned a 9000 number. Gaps in the numerical sequence occur when resolutions have been deleted. All new resolutions are assigned a new number. The first date following the resolution title indicates the year the resolution was first approved by the Iowa Annual Conference. The second date, when listed, indicates the year the resolution was amended to its current form. All resolutions have been edited to have the same format and punctuation, without changing the content or meaning of the resolution.
3. There are likely to be a few errors in the 2011 *BOR*. Please report all corrections or suggestions for improvement to:

Patty King
 Editor, IAC Book of Resolutions
 206 N. Franklin
 Ames, IA 50014-3423
pjking@netins.net

4. For the sake of conservation of space *IACJ* means *Iowa Annual Conference Journal* and *BOR* means *Book of Resolutions*.
5. All who read *The Book of Resolutions* should understand that the Iowa Annual Conference is a legal ecclesiastical institution of The United Methodist Church, as prescribed in *The Book of Discipline*. There may be some official members of the Annual Conference who have not voted with the majority. Therefore, the vote and action of the Iowa Annual Conference may not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of every member and constituent of United Methodist congregations in Iowa.
6. The *BOR* is a joint effort of the Conference Resolutions Committee, the Journal Committee, and the Board of Church and Society.
7. See Rules of Order, Article II.C.16 in the *2011 IACJ* for the Conference rules governing the Conference Resolutions Committee. See Rules of Order, Article VII., J. in the *2011 IACJ* for the Conference rules governing Resolutions.
8. Please refer to the "Resolutions Committee's Tips for Writing Resolutions" on page 5.
9. Please use the official "Resolution Proposal Form" for each subject. A sample of that form is contained in this *Book of Resolutions*, p. 7. These forms are available from and are to be returned to:

Karen Nichols Dungan
 Iowa Conference Center
 2301 Rittenhouse Street
 Des Moines, IA 50321-3101

10. In addition to being the official record of the Iowa Annual Conference's resolutions, the *BOR* is designed to be a program and study resource for local church groups. Churches may want to use the book with adult and youth church school classes, United Methodist Women, United Methodist Men, Church and Society Committees, and Council on Ministries. Also, it is a good resource for special issue forums or meetings. Individual United Methodists, who view social action through legislation as their particular ministry, can use the handbook in preparation for communicating about issues with legislators and members of congress. Additional copies of the *BOR* are available through the Leadership Development Minister for Social Justice & Mission at the Iowa Conference Center, 2301 Rittenhouse Street, Des Moines, IA 50321-3101, (515) 974-8908.

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTING RESOLUTIONS TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1. The procedures for submitting resolutions to Annual Conference can be found in the Rules of Order, Article VII., J., in the *2011 IACJ*.
2. A resolution is a statement of position on an issue or concern. It has two parts, beginning with "Whereas" statements which give rationale and supportive data and ending with "Be it resolved" statements of position and/or action. **Resolutions do not request or call for the expenditure of funds by the Annual Conference.**
3. Please refer to the 2008 General Conference *Social Principles and Book of Resolutions* and the *2011 Iowa Annual Conference BOR* for the Church's present positions on issues. After considering these and the Biblical imperatives, local churches are encouraged to:
 - a) write resolutions on additional issues or concerns the Church ought to address, or
 - b) amend the present resolutions of the Iowa Annual Conference Resolutions.

Process for submitting new or amendments to existing resolutions (including a request to repeal an existing resolution)

- 1) These matters are presented to the Annual Conference in odd numbered years (i.e. 2011, 2013, 2015, etc.) The submission process begins immediately following the even numbered Annual Conferences. The next Annual Conference for consideration of resolutions will be 2013. Only resolutions concerning "Urgent matters" will be considered at 2012 Annual Conference. An "urgent matter" is defined as issues that did not exist prior to the last deadline and for which action is required before the next regular Resolutions year.
- 2) Individuals, districts and local United Methodist Churches may submit new Resolutions or amendments to existing resolutions to the Resolutions committee prior to October 1 of any even numbered year (2012, 2014, 2016, etc.). This means that resolutions for consideration at the 2013 Annual Conference must be submitted by October 1, 2012.
- 3) Local church or individual resolution submissions will be referred to the appropriate board or agency for their review. Resolutions submitted by local churches or individuals must be received by the Resolutions Committee by October 1st of the even numbered years. The Board or Agency will return the proposed resolution to the Resolutions committee by December 31st with a recommendation for or against or a proposed resolution of its own. The Boards and Agencies will also submit their own resolutions by December 31st. Any resolution proposals which come too late to be referred to a board

or agency will be referred directly to the Resolutions Committee. Only urgent issues (see Standing Item for definition of an urgent issue) will be included in the even years of Annual Conference legislative agenda.

- 4) The Resolutions Committee will review all submitted Resolutions or amendments and will determine that they are:
 - a) less than 250 words in length excluding title.
 - b) not the same as or similar to an existing General Conference Resolution or Iowa Resolution unless cast as an amendment.
 - c) do not contain information that is misstated, incorrect or misleading.
 - d) not in conflict with the current *Book of Discipline*.
- 5) If the Resolutions Committee rejects a resolution for any of the above reasons, or for failure to meet a deadline, it will notify the person, board or agency submitting same of the rejection.
- 6) All resolutions properly submitted shall be submitted by the Resolutions Committee to the Pre-Conference Manual Editor for inclusion therein.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE TIPS FOR WRITING RESOLUTIONS

- 1. Prior to writing a resolution, check the index in the *Book of Resolutions* to see if there is already a resolution on that topic.
- 2. If there is a resolution on the same topic as the proposed resolution, consider recommending an amendment to the resolution rather than submitting a new resolution. Do not submit resolutions which duplicate or are inconsistent with existing Iowa Annual Conference or General Conference resolutions.
- 3. If the proposed resolution amends an existing resolution or is substantially the same as a resolution which was offered in the last Conference session and not passed, submit a citation to the existing resolution or non-passed resolution and explain your reasons for the change or the re-submission.
- 4. In drafting resolutions, one goal should be to limit the number of resolutions which deal with a specific topic. This prevents overlapping within the topic and also prevents the danger of inconsistencies within resolutions dealing with the topic. It is also more persuasive to have only one resolution on a particular topic which speaks to three or four concisely stated concerns of the Iowa Annual Conference than it is to have three or four separate resolutions, each dealing with a different aspect of the topic.
- 5. Wherever possible, there should be only one "whereas" clause for each "therefore" clause. Further, the sequence of clauses should be consistent so that the first "whereas" clause provides the basis for the first "therefore" clause, and so forth. Suggested format is as follows:

WHEREAS: _____ ,and

WHEREAS: _____ ,and

WHEREAS: _____ ,and

WHEREAS: _____ ;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. _____ ;

2. _____ ;

3. ; and

4. ;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED:

6. Avoid use of personal names or specific dates in Resolutions unless absolutely necessary to the integrity of the Resolution. The name of an individual serving in a particular political office or other capacity will in many instances not be so serving during the entire time the resolution is in force. It is preferable to refer to "the federal government's policy" and other such general terms.
7. Avoid use of statistics as much as possible in the "Whereas" clause, for persons you are trying to persuade realize that statistics may be manipulated and, if one disagrees with the figures used, one may discount the conclusion you reach as based upon erroneous information. If statistics are considered absolutely necessary, the source of the information should be included.
8. When Scripture is quoted or referred to, proper citation and version should be given.
9. Avoid the urge to sermonize in a resolution. By writing simply and to the point, your resolution will be much more forceful and will be much more likely to spur others to action. Therefore resolutions exceeding 250 words in length will be returned to the writer and will not be eligible for consideration if not rewritten to comply with the 250 word limit.
10. Resolutions should be clearly written to express a stand by the Iowa United Methodist Conference, not as an endorsement of a stated position of any given secular organization.

RESOLUTION PROPOSAL FORM

Title or Subject _____

Original Drafter _____ Church _____

Date Submitted _____ Phone _____

e-mail address _____

Submitted through the following (check and identify where appropriate):

Local Church agency _____

District agency _____

Conference agency _____

Individual _____

New Resolution _____

Resolution without change _____

Amended Resolution _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Type, double spaced on front only. Use additional sheets if necessary.
2. Only one resolution subject per form.
3. Before drafting a resolution, see Tips for Writing Resolutions and the Editor's Notes in the current *Book of Resolutions*.
4. Attach a document detailing the history of the resolution. If this refers to a resolution from a prior conference session, cite the prior resolution. If this amends an existing resolution or is substantially the same as a resolution which was presented to the last conference session and not passed, explain your reasons for the change or re-submission.
NOTE: New resolutions exceeding 250 words will be returned to the writer and will not be eligible for consideration if not rewritten to comply with the 250 word limit.
5. Return to:

Karen Nichols Dungan
Iowa Conference Center of the UMC
2301 Rittenhouse Street
Des Moines, IA 50321-3101

For Office Use Only: Legislative Section/Number _____

RESOLUTIONS

The Organization of the Resolutions is according to the six main sections of the *2008 Social Principles of the United Methodist Church*. There is also a seventh section dealing with Annual Conference administration issues. Within each of the seven sections you will find Resolutions with 9000 numbers.

100 NATURAL WORLD

9101. Agricultural Research in Iowa (1987, 2003)

WHEREAS: God has blessed Iowa with tremendous agricultural resources, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa economy has, is, and will continue to be dependent upon agriculture to a high degree, and

WHEREAS: Iowa State University has historically been a leading center of agricultural research for the state and world agricultural communities, and

WHEREAS: Past funding for much agricultural research has not reversed the trend toward larger, fewer and more capital-intensive farms;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference appeals to Iowa State University, the Governor and state legislative bodies to:

1. Make a concerted effort to maintain Iowa State University as a leading agricultural research center, appropriate for a leading agricultural state;
2. Seek ways to fund Iowa State University's agricultural research at a level sufficient to slow its growing dependence upon outside agribusiness/corporate financing; and
3. Encourage agricultural research designed to benefit and help preserve the family farm and environmental stewardship in Iowa, including support for the work of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9102. Soil Conservation (1990, 2003)

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church strongly endorses soil conserving measures world wide, knowing that all forms of life are directly linked to soil fertility, and

WHEREAS: The State of Iowa is often considered one of the richest food producing zones in North America because of its soil fertility, and many family farms have prospered since tillage of the native prairies began, and

WHEREAS: The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service was designated and charged with the duty of protecting our nation's soil resources, and

WHEREAS: The administrative procedures of the 1985 Food Security Act passed by Congress spelled out a soil loss tolerance of no more than five tons per acre of soil lost on up to and including a D slope (12 percent slope) per year, and

WHEREAS: The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service has recognized that more than five tons per acre loss per year may affect or alter family farming operations or create an intolerable burden on farming communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference strongly urges the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service not to weaken soil loss limits but rather

maintain the *five* ton per acre soil loss limit on up to and including D slopes.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9103. Sustainable Agriculture Models (1991, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference is interested in supporting various ways of promoting sustainable agriculture practices (i.e., reduced-chemical and no-chemical) through local churches, and

WHEREAS: We would seek to accomplish the following goals:

1. Generate involvement among grassroots citizens,
2. Help raise awareness about the relationship between ground water quality and current farming practices,
3. Provide interested persons with useful information and assistance regarding the 'nuts and bolts' of farming with fewer chemicals, and
4. Provide a context that is supportive of sustainable agriculture, and

WHEREAS: Accomplishment of these goals would be based on a variety of activities, including:

1. Sustainable ag farm tours,
2. Farmer-to-Farmer and Farmer-to-Student workshops,
3. Promoting and distributing sustainable ag packets and information,
4. Water testing projects,
5. Face-to-face planning sessions for developing chemical-reduction plans for particular farms,
6. Public informational meetings, and
7. Other ideas and activities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference and local churches actively support programs studying and promoting these goals, projects and educational activities;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iowa farmers be encouraged to avail themselves of the resources and networks provided by various governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to better utilize sustainable agricultural models and methods.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9104. Forests, Wetlands and Prairies in Iowa (1985, 2001)

WHEREAS: Iowa's forested land has dwindled from 6.5 million acres in the 1840's when Iowa was settled to 2.1 million acres in 1990, and

WHEREAS: Tax and financial incentives are already in place to encourage land owners to plant trees, and

WHEREAS: An excellent state tree nursery is located in Ames to provide quality seedlings at a reasonable cost, and

WHEREAS: Iowa forest land is 92 per cent privately owned, and

WHEREAS: Future generations are dependent on our actions today;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Iowa Forest Resources Plan, 1985," and in particular, endorses a similar recommendation that marginally productive lands currently under cultivation be reserved for wetlands, prairie and replanted and reforested so as to attain and

maintain a forest resource of approximately 3 million acres within the state of Iowa, and recommends that all of this be accomplished by voluntary stewardship action and cooperation by government and private owners, not by government edicts;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference challenges all United Methodist farmers and managers of Conference and church-owned farms to convert the least productive land currently tilled to wetlands, prairies and/or forests, as recommended by USDA Natural Resources Conservation personnel.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9105. Iowa's Water (1985, 2003)

WHEREAS: While we are stewards of God's gift of usable water, we must confess that our modern lifestyle is wasteful of water, and

WHEREAS: Ground/aquifer water reserves provide the primary source for both Iowa's residential and industrial water use, and

WHEREAS: Both ground and surface waters in the state are being threatened with contamination from diverse sources;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference encourages Iowa United Methodists and all Iowans to:

1. Practice conservation so as to minimize waste of pure water in churches, parsonages, homes, farms and businesses;
2. Utilize the comprehensive Iowa Department of Natural Resources water plan establishing priorities for water use in case of drought and other water emergency;
3. Carefully and regularly monitor the purity of state water supplies, especially the numerous wells located on and providing drinking water to rural farms, small rural communities and suburban and rural home sites;
4. Seek continued vigorous implementation of the Iowa Groundwater Protection Act, designed to maintain and improve the water quality for all Iowans;
5. Encourage a primary emphasis on voluntary stewardship action and be careful to use scientific information before our government spends tax monies to make rules and regulations; and
6. Urge the DNR to enforce existing rules pertaining to the size, speed and horsepower of boats in our Iowa waterways in order to alleviate the alarming erosion of our shorelines, which results in serious problems of siltation and pollution.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9106. Responsible Consumption of Natural Resources/Earth Day (1981, 2003)

WHEREAS: Our American lifestyle is among the most consumptive of natural resources in the world, and

WHEREAS: As Christians we have an obligation to share some of these resources with people in other countries and with future generations, and

WHEREAS: Renewable energy holds enormous economic and environmental opportunities for the state of Iowa because, from wind to ethanol to switchgrass, Iowa's portfolio of natural resources—combined with its agricultural expertise—makes the state an ideal leader in the development of "homegrown" energy, and

WHEREAS: The state of Iowa has a goal of 10 percent of energy being renewable energy by 2010 and 20 percent being renewable energy by 2020;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Urges all United Methodists to examine their lifestyle and eliminate unnecessary consumption of resources, including energy;
2. Encourages that every effort be made to develop affordable efficient alternate-powered vehicles instead of fossil fuel powered vehicles;
3. Encourages Iowa United Methodists to observe Earth Day also in union with persons all over the world;
4. Affirms progress that has been made in renewable energy production and energy conservation; supports a Mandatory Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) of 10 percent of energy being renewable energy by 2010 and 20 percent being renewable energy by 2020; and
5. Encourages the Iowa Legislature, the Iowa Utilities Board and the public utility companies to support legislation which funds renewable energy research and development.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9107. Oil Spills Response (1989, 2001)

WHEREAS: The United States produces, distributes, and consumes large quantities of petroleum, and

WHEREAS: At every point in the production, distribution and consumption process, the potential for an oil spill is significant, and

WHEREAS: The effects of spilled petroleum can pose serious damage to our environment such that after more than 10 years, Prince William Sound, Alaska, is still suffering from the impacts of the Exxon Valdez spill, and

WHEREAS: The pristine nature, ecological and cultural integrity of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the largest caribou breeding ground in the world, is at significant risk from oil exploration and drilling;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Calls for responsible conservation of petroleum to lessen the opportunity for damaging oil spills;
2. Calls for continued implementation of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 addressing oil spill prevention, cleanup, and liability;
3. Calls for rigorous environmental review of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline before the 2004 renewal of the Pipeline's lease of federal lands; and
4. Calls on the U.S. Congress to maintain the prohibition of oil exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge while the country solves our energy needs by conservation and other, especially renewable, sources.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9108. Animal Welfare (1991, 2003)

WHEREAS: God created people in the image of God and charged them to be faithful stewards of all creation, including the animals of the world, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference has adopted resolution #7320 (*2001 Book of Resolutions*), "Promoting the Family Farm," and many Iowa farmers raise livestock, using animal welfare methods that adequately care for the animals, and

WHEREAS: Livestock production in Iowa is extremely important to the economic stability of the State, and

WHEREAS: Careful and humane use of animals in some research situations is vital to successful medical advances in fighting diseases such as cancer and AIDS, and

WHEREAS: Animal welfarists are persons who believe in the humane care of animals, including, but not limited to, nutritious feed, sanitary water, shelter from adverse weather conditions and predators and medical attention for disease or injury;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference favors animal welfare, believing that God has given us a right to use animals for food and some medical research, but not the right to abuse them.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9109. Energy Conservation (1981, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Church is called to good stewardship and to be a positive example in all that it does;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That all church units, parsonages or any new additions planned and built in the future shall be designed to conform to energy efficient standards;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That each congregation and the Board of Trustees of all conference agencies shall evaluate existing structures and bring them, insofar as possible, to energy efficient standards;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That each Board of Trustees shall report at Charge Conference with regard to energy use and energy efficiency in buildings for which they are responsible.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9110. Iowa's Beverage Container Deposit Law (1999, 2003)

WHEREAS: A large majority of Iowans support the present Bottle Law and want to expand it to reduce litter, and landfill garbage, and encourage recycling, and

WHEREAS: Studies across the nation of alternatives to a bottle deposit law show that no alternative comes close to the effectiveness of the Iowa law, in fact studies show that a dual curbside/deposit program will remove more materials from the waste stream at less cost than a curbside program alone, and

WHEREAS: Many types of recyclable beverage containers have come on the market since Iowa first adopted the law in 1978;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports the following changes in Iowa's beverage container deposit law:

- 1 Place the 5-cent deposit on bottles and cans used for tea, water, fruit and vegetable juices and drinks, sports drinks, and other non-carbonated beverages excluding milk;
- 2 Increase the per-container handling fee paid to grocery stores and redemption centers from one to two cents and establish a schedule for future increases (this would not increase the deposit);
- 3 Create the "Robert D. Ray Beautiful Land Fund" to support local and state litter and recycling initiatives; and
- 4 Require all beverage containers sold in Iowa to be made of recycled material equal to a minimum post-consumer recycled content of 25 per cent by weight.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9111. Public Transportation (1981, 2003)

WHEREAS: Public transportation compared to individually operated vehicles uses less energy materials in the production of vehicles, and

WHEREAS: Energy use is significantly reduced when persons or goods are transported by public transportation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges its members to use public transportation for travel when a choice is available, and we urge government and business to promote and expand present public transportation systems for persons and goods (including rail transportation) and to develop improved systems;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference encourages increased public transit (bus, commuter trains, etc.) rather than adding lanes to freeway systems in expanding urban areas of Iowa.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9112. Global Climate Change (2007)

WHEREAS: God calls Christians to be good stewards of God's creation and to protect and sustain that creation for all future generations, and

WHEREAS: There is irrefutable evidence indicating that the atmosphere is warming and that the impact of global warming will become more pronounced over time, and

WHEREAS: The impacts of future changes in climate extremes are expected to fall disproportionately on the poor creating an increased incidence of hardship and serious illness in Iowa's older age groups and the poor;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges both individuals and churches to:

1. Join in covenant with people of faith in **lowa Interfaith Power and Light** to work together to halt human impact on global warming and reduce the impacts of global climate change;
2. Support energy policy legislation at local, state, and federal levels that promotes renewable energy, energy efficiency, and cleaner fossil fuel generation;

REVIEW BY: Methodist Federation for Social Action, Iowa Conference Chapter

9113. Local Congregations Participate in Carbon Footprint Evaluation (2011)

WHEREAS: The Social Principles of The United Methodist Church states in paragraph 160 D- Global Climate Stewardship : "We therefore support efforts of all governments to require mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and call on individuals, congregations, businesses, industries and communities to reduce their emissions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church encourages each and every congregation to begin this process by participating in the carbon footprint evaluation.

REVIEWED BY: Board of Church and Society

200 NURTURING COMMUNITY

9201. Abortion (2005)

WHEREAS: The Social Principles (*2004 Book of Discipline*) of the United Methodist Church (161J) clearly affirm our respect for life and concern for the life and well-being of the pregnant woman, and

WHEREAS: Many lives would be in danger if abortions became illegal and women had no access to a safe medical procedure;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports state and federal legislation that maintains the legal option of abortion under proper legal medical procedures;

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9202. Legal Definition of the Beginning of Human Life (1985, 2003)

WHEREAS: There is sharp disagreement as to when human life begins, and

WHEREAS: There is an effort to incorporate into law one specific theological position;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges members of Congress and the Iowa General Assembly to resist all efforts to change the legal definition of the beginning of human life to the time of conception.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9203. Christian Behavior Toward Gay and Lesbian Persons (1998, 2003)

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church states that "Homosexual persons...are individuals of sacred worth" and "Although we do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider the practice incompatible with Christian teaching, we affirm that God's grace is available to all" (*Social Principles, The 2000 Book of Discipline*, par. 161G), and

WHEREAS: Hate, physical violence, threats of violence, and name-calling against gay and lesbian persons deny their sacred worth, and

WHEREAS: This violence can lead to low self-esteem and self-hatred in gay and lesbian persons, resulting in many problems, including a higher suicide rate among gay and lesbian teenagers, and

WHEREAS: Insufficient condemnation by the church of violent behavior creates an environment in which those who commit violent acts often believe their behavior is not wrong;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Affirms the duty of all Christians to demonstrate Christian love for all persons, including homosexual persons;
2. Strongly condemns and opposes all kinds of hate, physical violence, threats of violence, and name-calling against gay and lesbian persons. All such behavior is un-Christian and is wrong;
3. Acknowledges differences over theological understandings about homosexuality. These beliefs should be expressed in a spirit of Christian love and non-violence;
4. Encourages local congregations of The United Methodist Church to educate themselves about the problem of violent behavior and witness to their communities about these

- problems, especially when local incidents occur; and
5. Calls on all United Methodists to refrain from violent behavior and to inform themselves and the residents of their communities about the dangers of such behavior.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9204. Support for Statutory Prohibitions from Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation (1998, 2003)

WHEREAS: Within the nurturing community, our Social Principles (*2004 Book of Discipline*, par. 161G.), insist all persons, regardless of *sexual orientation*, are entitled to have their civil rights ensured, and

WHEREAS: Under our system of government, civil rights include prohibition from discrimination in the workplace based upon personal characteristics (age, gender, race, etc.); and these civil rights are not *ensured* unless protected by law, and

WHEREAS: Discrimination in the workplace on the basis of sexual orientation is not prohibited in federal or state statute;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports the enactment of the Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) which would prohibit the use of sexual orientation as a basis for employment decisions (exempting religious organizations);

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we call upon the Iowa General Assembly to enact protection from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we commend the cities of Cedar Rapids, Ames, Iowa City and Davenport for ensuring by local ordinance the civil rights of all persons regardless of sexual orientation, and call upon other cities to ensure these civil rights where existing ordinances prohibit discrimination on the basis of other personal characteristics.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9205. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) (1988, 2003) – This resolution was renumbered to 9330 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9206. Supporting Spiritual Growth (1999, 2003)

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church needs equal and active participation by women and men, working together within the body of Christ, and

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church supports the goal of strong marriages and healthy families through the ideal of marriage as an equal, loving and sacrificial partnership, and

WHEREAS: Every Christian disciple, male or female, is called to a life of continuing spiritual growth and service to others, and

WHEREAS: Our culture too often teaches the heresy that spiritual life is of little importance;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference commends those who have taken steps to grow spiritually and, if married, to strengthen their marriages, whether individually or in groups in the church or the ecumenical community;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges all to actively seek

and advocate equality between men and women in the church and in marriage, to build up the church by supporting pastors and leaders, both male and female, and to grow disciples by encouraging people in their spiritual lives;

REVIEW BY: Board of Discipleship

9207. Post Abortion Stress (2007)

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Social Principles commit our denomination "to provide nurturing ministries to those who terminate a pregnancy, to those in the midst of a crisis pregnancy, and to those who give birth" (Paragraph 161J), and

WHEREAS: The 2004 General Conference of the United Methodist Church overwhelmingly voted to recognize that while there exists a legal right to abortion, many people who experience abortion later have significant pain as a result, and**

WHEREAS: The resultant new paragraph (161K) in the United Methodist Social Principles reads: "Ministry to Those Who Have Experienced an Abortion-We urge local pastors to become informed about the symptoms and behaviors associated with post-abortion stress. We further encourage local churches to make available contact information for counseling agencies that offer programs to address post-abortion stress for all seeking help";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference hereby calls on its elders, local pastors, deacons, and ministerial candidates to "become informed about the symptoms and behaviors associated with post-abortion stress" and to "make available contact information for counseling agencies that offer programs to address post-abortion stress for all seeking help";

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church encourages its congregations, pastors, and lay leaders to enter into dialogue with Christ-centered ministries and other agencies that provide counseling for women-and men-who experience pain because of a past abortion and to prayerfully consider how we may serve such ministries with our moral, spiritual, and material support.

** (40857-CS-Par.161 adopted as amended 5/5/2004 by 818-33 vote; 40860-CSR9999 adopted as amended 5/5/2004 by 835-26 vote);

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

300 SOCIAL COMMUNITY

9301. Alcoholic Beverage Sales to Minors (1985, 2003)

WHEREAS: The use of alcoholic beverages under legal drinking age has reached dangerous proportions, and

WHEREAS: Sales of alcohol by licensed dealers to persons under legal drinking age seriously aggravate this problem, and

WHEREAS: Adolescents may become alcoholics very quickly, and

WHEREAS: Current penalties for such illegal sales do not provide any adequate deterrent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls upon the General Assembly of Iowa to increase the penalty for selling alcohol to minors as follows:

1. Mandatory suspensions of license beginning with 30 days for the first offense and ranging up to revocation of license for a third offense within any period of time; and

2. Increasing the fines beginning with \$250 for the first offense and ranging up to \$5,000 fine for a third offense within any period of time.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9303. Affirming Diversity of Languages (1989, 2005)

WHEREAS: We wish to affirm the presence and contributions to our culture made by persons from different racial and ethnic groups and the importance of their native language(s) in maintaining their wholeness and integrity, and

WHEREAS: Certain organizations and groups are actively promoting a movement to mandate English as the official language of Iowa and the United States;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Affirms English as the "primary," but not exclusive, language of the United States of America and of the State of Iowa;
2. Opposes all attempts to deny the right of persons to use the native language that is a unifying component of the culture that is uniquely theirs by heritage and be aware of the potential of roots of racism in such attempts;
3. Expresses in writing to our state and federal officials our support for practices and policies which permit provision of essential information (such as public signs, emergency numbers, language services, bi-lingual and English as Second Language education and the like) in languages appropriate to the residents of local communities; and
4. Expresses in writing to our state elected officials our desire to repeal the English Reaffirmation Act.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9304. Inclusive Language and Imagery (1985, 2003)

WHEREAS: Language and visual images are basic to learning, thereby playing an influential role in the socialization process, and

WHEREAS: Words and images can reflect stereotypes and subtly or overtly influence people to assume roles, positions and levels of status and consequently have significant effects on human behavior and relationships, and

WHEREAS: As an expression of shared assumptions, languages and images may distort perceptions until stereotypes and myths about age, race, sex and disabilities are accepted as reality, and

WHEREAS: As Christians, we are concerned with implementing God's command to recognize the sacred worth of each individual;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That all United Methodists continue to endeavor to use language and visual images which recognize the sacred worth of each individual and endeavor to avoid communications which demean, stereotype or oppress persons in any way;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That individuals and local congregations be encouraged to acknowledge the use of inclusive language and imagery as an issue of social justice, and to become sensitive to and utilize inclusive language and imagery in regard to all persons, regardless of race, sex, age or disabilities.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9305. Giving Life/Organ and Tissue Transplants (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Donor Network reports that there is a long waiting list of persons needing organs and tissues in order to attain some normal quality of life and that many do not survive because organs are not available;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Encourages every member of the Conference to become an organ and tissue donor and so indicate on their driver's license, fill out an organ donor identification card to be carried at all times, and register with the Iowa Donor Network;
2. Emphasizes the importance of all persons who desire to be organ and tissue donors to discuss their wishes with family members now, so loved ones become aware of these desires before an accident or emergency occurs;
3. Encourages churches to publicize and take an active role, promoting a positive outcome to this social problem and utilizing the resources of the Iowa Donor Network to present programs, distribute literature and raise the awareness of all persons, to the end that positive actions affirming and giving life to others might be taken, even in the face of personal tragedies, grief and loss;
4. Encourages an annual organ/tissue donor awareness information Sunday at a date set by the local church; and
5. Encourage having organ donor identification cards available at all churches, district and conference offices, and in the future to have it included with other annual conference materials.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9306. Health Ministry in Iowa (2001, 2003)

WHEREAS: Jesus and the early church frequently reached out to lead persons toward greater health and wholeness. Jesus healed the hemorrhaging woman and Bartimaeus, and Peter and John helped the paralyzed man to walk. They ministered to persons' physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs, and

WHEREAS: In response, General Conference affirmed that the church understands itself as called by the Lord to the holistic ministry of healing: spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical (*Book of Resolutions* 2000, Resolution 96, p. 263). It challenges United Methodists to make health concerns a priority in the church, and

WHEREAS: Iowans face many challenges to health and wholeness. As of 1999, over one third of Iowans were obese, the sixth highest rate in the country. Iowa leads the nation in the percentage of persons over age 85. Aging and obesity increase Iowans' risk for many chronic diseases: diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke. Chronic diseases often significantly affect persons' mental and spiritual health;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: We challenge Iowa United Methodists to participate in health ministry as part of their calling to lead persons toward wholeness in Christ. We encourage churches to establish health and wholeness ministries, including:

- Blood pressure screening
- Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunization Clinics
- Shut-in visitation
- Mental Health education and support
- Blood Donation Drives
- Grief and Loss support
- Care giver support
- Healthy Lifestyle Promotion and
- Formal Health Ministries, such as Parish Nursing, Stephens Ministry,

and BeFrienders Ministry.

9307. Necessary Medical Care for Children (1991, 2003)

WHEREAS: We acknowledge that spirit and flesh are not enemies but are both blessed by God. Thus, medical care is a gift of God, a miracle of research and love brought through God's grace and love and human's compassion and dedication to doing good, and

WHEREAS: Several children have died in recent years because of religious beliefs against medical care, and

WHEREAS: Our courts have consistently ruled that freedom of religion does not extend to allowing harm to come to others;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference affirms prayer as an important factor in holistic healing, but it should not serve as a legal substitute for medical care when the life of a minor is at stake;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports Iowa laws that entitle children to life-saving medical care along with food, clothing and shelter regardless of their parents' religious beliefs.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9309. Pornography Law Enforcement (1985, 2003)

WHEREAS: We believe all persons to be of inestimable sacred worth as children of God, and

WHEREAS: Pornography not only ignores the worth but denigrates and debases all human beings, especially women and children, and

WHEREAS: Pornography on the Internet is especially invasive of homes and potentially harmful to young children;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports the strengthening of the existing laws and regulations governing the manufacture and dissemination of pornographic materials, with the specific goal of greatly reducing or eliminating all pornographic material from public availability;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges the enforcement branches of both state and federal government to enforce anti-pornography laws vigorously;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: Urge both state and Federal authorities to prosecute all violations of present or future pornographic laws to the fullest.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9311. The Gift of Racial and Cultural Diversity (2003)

WHEREAS: The story of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-11) challenges us to move toward a vision where people with different races, languages and cultures were communicating with each other, and

WHEREAS: The Social Principles of the United Methodist Church affirm and recognize diversity as a gift: "We rejoice in the gifts that particular ethnic histories and cultures bring to our total life," "As individuals are affirmed by God in their diversity, so are nations and

cultures" (*2000 Book of Discipline*, ¶162.A.; ¶165.A.), and

WHEREAS: We are called to embrace and appreciate racial and cultural diversity and strive toward creating an inclusive church with a diverse people of God;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church uplifts and affirms all of God's diversity expressed in humankind;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we encourage all United Methodist congregations to affirm, accept, celebrate, and welcome everyone in all our diversity with "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors."

REVIEW BY: Commission on Religion and Race

9313. Racism (1993, 2003)

WHEREAS: Racism still exists both individually and institutionally, and

WHEREAS: There exists a generally passive attitude in many Iowa congregations concerning racism with a non-recognition of the suffering it brings our brothers and sisters, and

WHEREAS: Racism dehumanizes both the oppressed and those who oppress;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference encourages local churches to undertake a comprehensive study of racism and how it affects church and society by using materials and resource persons already available; and report significant findings from these studies at their Charge Conference;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That as the people of God we accept a personal spiritual mission of combating racism.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9314. Racist and Tyrannical Groups (1978, 2003)

WHEREAS: Racist and tyrannical groups pose a special threat to our civil liberties, and

WHEREAS: God has created us as persons of equal stature, and intended us to love and support each other;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference stands opposed to any influence undermining this Christian understanding and specifically condemns groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, the American-Nazi Party, Posse Comitatus, Christian Identity, National States Rights Party and all other racist and tyrannical groups which are known to be preaching hatred and death toward persons differing from themselves;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference expresses strong opposition to these ideas and urges United Methodists to show by word and non-violent action their abhorrence to these concepts and to inform themselves and the residents of their communities of the dangers of these racist groups.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9315. Support of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (1989, 2003)

WHEREAS: United Methodists in Iowa have long been supporters of the Martin Luther King

Holiday, and

WHEREAS: We recognize that the King holiday is not a holiday for African-Americans only, but a holiday for all Americans;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That United Methodists in Iowa work through their local churches and in cooperation with other denominations and/or community groups to support and encourage appropriate celebrations of the Martin Luther King Holiday in their communities.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9316. Youth Combating Racism (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: The "Renunciation of Sin" and "Profession of Faith" in Christ, as a part of our Baptismal Covenant asks, "Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression, in whatever forms they present themselves?", and

WHEREAS: These evils include racism;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference encourages local church youth and District Youth Councils to help combat this evil by:

1. Encouraging acceptance of all peoples and discouraging racism and racist acts towards all people;
2. Encouraging local congregations to learn about the make-up of their community and develop ways for ethnic persons to feel more welcome in the faith community;
3. Encouraging mission trips and other learning experiences. These help to broaden cultural awareness; and
4. Being in ministry to and with ethnic local congregations and ministries in the Iowa Annual Conference.

REVIEW BY: Conference Council on Youth Ministry

9317. Bias Motivated Crimes (1999, 2001)

WHEREAS: We believe that all people are created in the image of God, and are therefore of equal and infinite value, and

WHEREAS: We deplore and condemn the violence of bias motivated crimes related to or directed to a person's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability, economic status or for any other reason, and

WHEREAS: Careless or intentional verbal abuse may be construed by some as incitement to brutality and violence, and

WHEREAS: The reluctance of Christians to challenge the rhetoric of hate and to speak out against malicious acts of violence contributes to a hostile atmosphere in which bias motivated crimes are tolerated, and

WHEREAS: Existing Iowa law presently enhances punishment for bias motivated crime rather than making bias an element of proof;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we applaud the bias motivated crime legislation currently existing in Iowa and urge law enforcement, prosecutors and the Judiciary to vigorously enforce the law in all appropriate cases;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we encourage United Methodists to speak out against

the rhetoric of hate, and the violence of bias motivated crimes, and instead to work for understanding and acceptance of all persons as children of God.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9318. Building Rural Community Outreach (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: Most of our United Methodist churches are located in farming communities and many of our churches serve farm families, and

WHEREAS: The farming community faces unprecedented socioeconomic changes, shifting growing numbers of farmers toward greater financial, social, mental, and spiritual struggles, and

WHEREAS: Prayer and evangelistic outreach have always been an important part of Christian discipleship;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That members of the Iowa Annual Conference be urged to become involved in the Safety Net Prayer project in prayer and outreach to farmers across the state, so they can be emotionally and spiritually uplifted.

REVIEW BY: Board of Discipleship

9319. Ongoing Support for Family Farms (1999, 2001)

WHEREAS: Iowa's communities are dependent upon a healthy agricultural economy for their well being and a safe, stable food supply is best supported by a broad network of independent producers, and

WHEREAS: Corporate domination of agriculture production and processing leads to decreased competition for family farmers and outside investor-driven agriculture does not contribute to the local community;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Conference supports federal farm policy that is designed to create market opportunities to help return the cost of production for crops and livestock raised by family sized farms and that this assistance should be targeted to those farms;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Iowa Conference supports antitrust, market reporting, market access and food labeling legislation to ensure that family farmers have opportunities in the marketplace and that consumers know the origin of their food;
2. That the Iowa Conference supports fair environmental standards to hold industrial farming operations accountable and that local governments should be allowed to enact common sense legislation;
3. That the Iowa Conference supports farm policy that encourages the ties between family farmers and consumers to encourage a safe and stable food supply;
4. That the Iowa Conference encourage careful study and prayerful response within our churches in order to provide an effective ministry to those affected by the rural crisis; and
5. That the Iowa Conference supports campaign finance reform that prohibits transnational corporations and/or their subsidiaries from purchasing influence of and access to political power through Political Action Committee (PAC) contributions and "soft money" donations.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9320. Second Hand Smoke (2003)

WHEREAS: Second hand smoke has been shown to be a factor in health problems for people of all ages, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference supports healthy living environments for all individuals, and

WHEREAS: Non-smokers in public areas should not be unwillingly subjected to the dangers of second hand smoke;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports any local or state ordinances restricting the allowance of smoking and the production of second hand smoke in public areas.

REVIEW BY: Youth Annual Conference.

9322. Elder Abuse and Neglect (2001, 2003)

WHEREAS: In 2001 Iowa's population ranked fourth in the nation for the largest percentage of persons over 65 years of age, and third for those over 75, and second for percentage of persons over 85, and

WHEREAS: "The National Center for Elder Abuse estimates that between 820,000 and 1,860,000 elders are maltreated each year and that many of these cases go unreported, and

WHEREAS: Maltreatment of older adults occurs both in home and family settings and in institutional settings, and

WHEREAS: Elder abuse and neglect takes many forms such as:

physical – beatings, sexual abuse, improper use of restraints or medication, and failure to provide food/fluids, shelter and clothing;

psychological – verbal abuse, improper use of medications, sexual abuse, isolation abuse;

financial – stealing possessions, misuse or waste of assets;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church calls on congregations to:

1. Offer educational programs for the church and the community to raise awareness of the issue of elder abuse and neglect;
2. Offer support groups and respite care for families caring for an elderly member;
3. Encourage members to report suspected older adult abuse or neglect to proper authorities;
4. Work with state policy makers and local officials to address abuse, neglect and other issues of older adults; and
5. Encourage Iowa United Methodist's to become advocates for older adults living in care facilities.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9323. Ministry with Persons with Disabilities (1983, 2003)

WHEREAS: Nearly fifty million Americans experience one or more disabling conditions, and

WHEREAS: A large part of Christ's ministry focused on persons with disabling conditions, and

WHEREAS: Prevailing social norms unduly glorify the conditions of youthful beauty, mental alertness and material affluence to the exclusion and avoidance of those whose disabling conditions put them outside these norms, and

WHEREAS: As we seek wholeness in Christ's church through promoting the full inclusion and participation of ALL persons, we strive to set all persons free from any barriers which limit the full expression of faith;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges its members to:

1. Work toward architectural barrier-free accessibility in all churches, parsonages and church related meeting places;
2. Advocate and work with other groups to increase awareness and sensitivity for persons with disabilities and their families;
3. Incorporate curriculum study materials and worship materials/aides to meet the needs of persons who are disabled within the congregation or community;
4. Acknowledge and encourage implementation of the Americans with Disabilities Act and recognize that United Methodists have a moral responsibility to ensure that people may participate in the worship and programs of the church without barrier; and
4. Encourage churches to regularly celebrate a Disability Awareness Sunday;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That it is recommended that each local church report its progress on the five points at the charge conference each year and that a summary be included in the District Superintendent's reports to the Annual Conference, with a copy forwarded to the Commission on Ministry to Persons with Disabilities.

REVIEW BY: Commission on Ministry with Persons with Disabilities

9324. Concern for Safety of Children (2003)

WHEREAS: The safety of all our children is critical, and

WHEREAS: Children can be in physical, mental, spiritual, and mortal danger if not removed from violent and neglectful homes, and

WHEREAS: Research has shown child abuse perpetrators without treatment have a high rate of repeating their acts;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That, in cases of alleged child abuse, the Church-places the highest priority on the safety of the child;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the people of the Church become advocates for children's safety by serving as volunteers in children's and family programs in schools and communities;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Church supports:

1. Adequate funding for emergency foster care, to create safe places for children;
2. Adequate funding of Child Protective Services to permit child abuse and neglect investigations to proceed thoroughly and with all due speed;
3. Adequate funding for appropriate treatment of abusers;
4. Careful review of the Iowa Civil and criminal statutes of limitation for child sexual abuse to determine whether any extension or change of the current time limits would be fair and helpful;
5. Education of the public on the nature of child abuse, its causes, and consequences;
6. Adequate funding to support efforts to reunite and rebuild families where appropriate through counseling and education so as to break the cycle of child abuse; and
7. By creating strong church and neighborhood community bonds as to resolve issues, thus lessening the limited resources of the Child Protective Services.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9325. Statement on Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination (2005)

WHEREAS: All students deserve a safe, supportive environment in which all students can learn;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church recommends that the state legislature enact the following anti-harassment and non-discrimination policy for all school districts in Iowa: Bullying, harassment and discrimination will not be tolerated based on any real or perceived characteristic, including but not limited to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental disability, ancestry, socioeconomic status or familial status;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That until the state legislature enacts such an anti-harassment and non-discrimination policy, the Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church recommends that individual school boards enact such policies to protect all students from bullying harassment and discrimination in their schools.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9326. Prayer for the Persecuted Church (2003, 2005)

WHEREAS: Over 200 million people in over sixty countries around the world face the reality of massacre, rape, torture, mutilation, family division, harassment, imprisonment, slavery and even death, simply because of their Christian beliefs, while another 400 million suffer from discrimination and legal impediments also because of their Christian beliefs, and

WHEREAS: Such discrimination is biblically unacceptable, unacceptable according to the Discipline and Social Principles of The United Methodist Church, and against our own nation's founding principle of freedom of religion, and

WHEREAS: Christians are enjoined to pray for one another: "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body" (Hebrews 13:3);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference strongly encourage its churches to participate in the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) to encourage prayer for the persecuted communities of Christian faith around the world;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the churches of the Iowa Annual Conference continue in their awareness of the plight of the persecuted Christians as a human rights issue and as an issue of religious injustice and seek to become involved in beneficial advocacy programs.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9327. Tobacco (2007) - This resolution was renumbered to 9517 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9328. Making Pseudoephedrine Data Base Available to Law Enforcement (2007)

WHEREAS: The Iowa General Assembly and other state legislatures have tightened the controls on Pseudoephedrine and had passed a law that the retailer must keep information pertaining to the purchase of Pseudoephedrine, and

WHEREAS: There is no common data base of this information for law enforcement to

access to prevent the makers of Methamphetamine from "Pharmacy hopping";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference encourage the U. S. Congress to create a mechanism for a common data base of the information collected by retailers to prevent "Pharmacy hopping". This data base should be available to all proper legal authorities.

Submitted by: Board of Church and Society

9329. Call to Action: Responding to Arizona SB-1070 (2010)

WHEREAS: God calls for love and justice for everyone, and

WHEREAS: Christians have differing views on the complex issues of immigration, and

WHEREAS: Arizona SB-1070 illustrates the failures of the present immigration situation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference requests continuing intercessory prayer for comprehensive immigration reform including all aspects, that are fair and just for all persons; and asks all Iowans to study this subject and express their views to lawmakers.

9330. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) (1988, 2003)

WHEREAS: AIDS is still a global epidemic, and

WHEREAS: Jesus calls us to affirm God's love for all, including those living with AIDS;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Encourages government-funded AIDS research;
2. Encourages U.S. participation in international AIDS efforts;
3. Advocates fidelity in marriage as well as chastity in singleness;
4. Encourages AIDS education in schools and churches, emphasizing prevention of infection through abstinence from sexual intercourse and intravenous drug use;
5. Communicates that although some authorities encourage sexually active persons to use condoms, the use of condoms is not a sure prevention to HIV infection;
6. Shows concern to persons with AIDS by helping relieve their physical, spiritual, legal and mental suffering;
7. Provides a ministry of presence, advocacy and care for families and friends of persons with AIDS;
8. Accepts donations to be dispersed by Wesley Foundations and private colleges for AIDS education, by hospitals for respite care and by the National Advance Special for AIDS ministries; and
9. Commends those who speak out at personal and political risk on behalf of persons with AIDS and their families;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Conference Board of Church and Society operate a clearing house and speakers' bureau for this information, enabling the Church to be in prayerful study and discussion on this issue.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9331. Enforcement and Reform of Immigration Laws (2008)

WHEREAS: Jesus called his disciples and followers to "strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness," (Matthew 6:33, New Revised Standard Version) and we are called, as disciples, to embody a new order of love and justice, and

WHEREAS: Raids on undocumented immigrants represent governmental failures in addressing complex national and international dynamics which close legal avenues and force immigrants into the shadows where they are subject to exploitation as we have a workforce, vital to our economy, without advocacy or voice, and

WHEREAS: Some employers knowingly hire undocumented immigrants, even to the point of providing false social security numbers or documents, and

WHEREAS: Raids, indefinite detention, and deportation tear families apart and create anguish and terror that is contrary to the Kingdom Jesus describes, and

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church “affirms the worth, dignity, and rights of every person regardless of their nationality or legal status;” (Welcoming the Migrant to the United States adopted by the 2008 General Conference of the United Methodist Church), and

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church believes in a process of holy conferencing that can model the sort of conversation that needs to occur in our nation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church calls upon President Bush, the Presidential candidates, and Congress to put an immediate stop to these raids and to work for a just and humane comprehensive immigration reform;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls upon the federal government to hold accountable the ownership and management of Agriprocessors for knowingly violating current immigration laws for financial gain;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church urge government officials to hold employers accountable in the hiring and documenting process of immigrants;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That employers be liable to chargeable offenses if found to be part of the illegal process of hiring undocumented immigrants;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That until immigration reform is enacted on a federal level, the Iowa Annual Conference urges Governor Culver and our State legislators to refrain from creating and enforcing legislation that would cause further disruption of the immigrant population in Iowa and to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ to individually reach out to government officials to urge just immigration reform;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges all its churches to pray for the people whose lives have been torn apart by the Postville raid, to practice holy conferencing in our local communities, and on the county and state level, to receive a special offering for their families to be sent through the Conference Treasurer to St. Bridget’s Hispanic Ministries in Postville and to encourage our brothers and sisters in Christ to individually reach out to government officials to urge just immigration reform.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9332. Issuance of Drivers Licenses (2005)

WHEREAS: We are enjoined to welcome the stranger as one born among us, and

WHEREAS: We are committed to the elimination of social and economic distress, and

WHEREAS: We recognize that access to personal transportation is essential to the pursuit of a secure, productive and ordinary lifestyle, and

WHEREAS: Persons operating a motor vehicle not having demonstrated competence to drive and knowledge of applicable law constitute a threat to public safety;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports the issuance of Drivers Licenses, with the responsibilities attached thereto, to aliens residing in the State of Iowa;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we urge the same be accomplished without unreasonable hindrance and without regard to immigration status.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9333. Supporting Sexuality Education in Schools (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Social Principles of the United Methodist Church lift up sexuality as "God's good gift to all persons" to be affirmed, and

WHEREAS: The Church recognizes the continuing need for full, positive, and factual sex education opportunities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church supports human sexuality education in Iowa schools which would include an emphasis on responsible decision-making and abstinence.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9334. Voice of Youth (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: Youth are open-minded to the ideas of others and are capable of making decisions for themselves, and

WHEREAS: Youth do think for themselves;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the youth, as full members of The United Methodist Church, are a vital part of the church of today and their word will be trusted and regarded as would the words of any other members or group of The United Methodist Church.

REVIEW BY: Conference Council on Youth Ministry

9335. Welcoming Strangers (2007)

WHEREAS: Fear tactics are being used in Iowa communities to create division and hostility toward the immigrants residing there, and

WHEREAS: We are mandated by scripture to welcome the stranger who lives among us (Leviticus 19:34, Matthew 25:40 and many other texts), and

WHEREAS: These newcomers bring many gifts that are needed by our Iowa communities, including but not limited to helping declining school enrollments, providing a workforce for economic development, helping the local economy by shopping locally, and slowing the decline in the populations of our communities and our churches;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls on all Iowa United Methodist churches to 1) study and train themselves to be advocates for immigrants in their communities and with their legislators; 2) create and support local ministries with immigrants such as Bible Studies, English as Second Language and citizenship classes; and 3) work with existing ministries such as Iowa Justice for Our Neighbors immigration clinic sites;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports state policies and laws which 1) treat immigrants with dignity and respect; 2) give immigrants the opportunity for a fair hearing; 3) provide for guest workers to receive fair wages, treatment and protection of the law; and 4) protect individuals and organizations acting as good Samaritans.

REVIEW BY: Board of Global Ministries, Standing Committee on Hispanic Ministries, Board of Church and Society, Methodist Federation for Social Action, Iowa Conference Chapter

9336. Gun Show Loophole (2003)

WHEREAS: A loophole in federal law allows firearm transfers between unlicensed individuals without a background check or record of sales (secondary sales), and 30-40% of firearm sales are estimated to take place at secondary markets, and

WHEREAS: The majority of secondary sales occur at gun shows, allowing persons in prohibited categories to purchase guns without a background check or record of sale;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges the Iowa General Assembly to support the following requirements:

- a) that firearm sales between unlicensed individuals at gun shows be conducted through a federally licensed gun dealer to meet all federal and state laws, i.e., background check and sale recorded on federal form 4473;
- b) that the gun show promoter shall provide one or more federally-licensed gun dealers to conduct said background checks on the premises;
- c) that these requirements shall apply to any part of the transaction taking place at a gun show. (It shall be illegal for someone to make an offer to purchase a firearm from an unlicensed individual, then take possession off-site); and
- d) that violators are committing an aggravated misdemeanor.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9337. Reinstate Ban of Assault Weapons (1995, 2005)

WHEREAS: The ban on assault weapons has expired;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls upon the United States Congress to reinstate the ban on the sale of assault weapons and not to weaken or overturn the Brady Gun Control Law.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

400 ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

9401. Collective Bargaining in the State of Iowa (2005)

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church supports the "right of public and private (including farm, government, institutional and domestic) employees and employers to organize for collective bargaining...", and

WHEREAS: Employees should have the freedom to choose their bargaining agents, as many Iowa employees still lack the benefits achieved from collective bargaining, and

WHEREAS: Private employers, including church-related institutions, have a moral and legal responsibility to obey the letter and spirit of the law regarding the collective bargaining right of employees;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls on its institutions and its general membership actively to support the Social Principles statement on the right of employees to bargain collectively;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That members of the Iowa Annual Conference shall support Iowa workers who strive to participate in the collective bargaining process.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9402. Striker Replacement Legislation (1995, 2005)

WHEREAS: The concern for dignity of workers and the right of employees to act collectively is stated in the Social Principles, and

WHEREAS: A number of employers have responded to work stoppages by hiring persons to replace permanently the striking workers, and

WHEREAS: This practice is a direct threat to the collective bargaining process, causing hardship in families and entire communities where employees have been fired from their jobs for engaging in collective bargaining;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls on its institutions and members to:

1. Support labor and management who engage in collective bargaining to reach acceptable agreements in their working relationship;
2. Urge all parties to commit themselves to nonviolent negotiated settlements;
3. Call for an end to recriminations against workers who participate in strikes; and
4. Support state and federal legislation and sanctions to effectively prohibit, in law and in practice, the permanent replacement of striking workers.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9403. Comparable Worth (1984, 2001)

WHEREAS: Comparable worth programs equalize wages and salaries based on necessary job skills, education level required, additional training and experience needed, working conditions, and social or organizational job value, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa state General Assembly has passed legislation supporting and implementing comparable worth in Iowa for state employees, and

WHEREAS: The elimination of wage discrimination on the basis of gender would promote equity for all employees;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports comparable worth legislation in this state and encourages other states, private industry and church institutions in further research and application of comparable worth legislation and programs.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9404. Gambling in Iowa (1993, 2003)

WHEREAS: Gambling is a means of seeking material gain only by chance and at the neighbor's expense, and too often is funded by using monies that are needed elsewhere, and is a menace to personal character and social morality, and

WHEREAS: Organized and commercial gambling is a threat to business, leads to an

increase in crime and poverty and is destructive to the interests of good government, and

WHEREAS: Dependence on gambling revenue has led many states to encourage and exploit the weakness of their own citizens, neglect the development of more equitable forms of taxation and thereby further erode citizens' confidence in government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges members of the Iowa General Assembly and Boards of County Supervisors to resist further attempts to expand any gambling activities and utilize any opportunity to reduce or eliminate legalized gambling in Iowa;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges the Iowa General Assembly and Boards of County Supervisors to require all gambling advertisements in Iowa to disclose the odds conspicuously.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9405. Gambling Not to be Used for Fund Raising (1993, 2007)

WHEREAS: Gambling has reached a morally dangerous level in Iowa, encouraging a false hope and fostering addictions, crime and other unhealthy excesses in society and individuals, and

WHEREAS: The Church has a responsibility to refrain from encouraging unhealthy practices and damaging social customs, and a key role in nurturing a wholesome and responsible moral climate within the community, and

WHEREAS: Gambling establishments have non-profit organizations that distribute grants to communities and organizations, and Iowa provides a direct annual allocation from gambling revenues to Community Foundations located in counties without a gambling establishment, while Foundations in a county with a gambling establishment can seek funding from such an establishment, and

WHEREAS: In 2007 Iowa passed a law allowing card game tournaments sponsored by non-profit organizations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference, churches, groups and individuals abstain from the use of lotteries, raffles, card game tournaments and other forms of gambling to raise revenues and witness to the community by developing other forms of funding which do not depend on gambling;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Conference, its churches and institutions not knowingly accept money from any gambling sources;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: From the date of the passage of this resolution, if it is found that an Iowa Conference church has applied or accepted a grant from a gambling establishment or Community Foundation, that the Bishop of the Iowa Annual Conference may encourage that church to rescind their application or return the grant.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9406. Support for Low Income Housing (1995, 2003)

WHEREAS: Over 115,000 Iowa households either pay over 50 per cent of their income for housing costs (when Federal HUD guidelines suggest not more than 33 per cent of family income should go for housing costs) or live in substandard housing, and

WHEREAS: On average, an Iowan must earn a minimum wage of \$9.10 per hour to afford a two bedroom apartment at current fair market rents, while in some parts of the state the minimum wage needed is as much as \$11.19 per hour, and

WHEREAS: More than 550 Project-Based Section 8 housing units in Iowa have been lost due to owners taking the units to full market rents, and

WHEREAS: Almost 19,000 Iowans are homeless annually—59 percent of whom are children;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports government legislation and funding for:

1. Construction of new low-income housing;
2. Rehabilitation of decaying low-income housing; and
3. Replacement of Section 8 housing going to full market rent;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: The Annual Conference will communicate this resolution annually to the Governor, the Iowa General Assembly and Iowa's Congressional Delegation;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: We encourage individual churches to participate in Iowa's annual Housing Sabbath organized by the Iowa Coalition for Housing and the Homeless.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9407. Welfare (1981, 2003)

WHEREAS: Concern for the welfare of the poor, the widowed, the orphan and the alien is deeply rooted within the prophetic tradition and the New Testament message;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls for social welfare programs and reforms which would:

1. Respect the dignity and integrity of all persons;
2. Contribute to the strengthening of family life;
3. Affirm the responsibility of the human community to assure that all its members have the basic necessities of life (affordable housing, food, clothing, health care and utilities);
4. Provide the opportunity to earn an adequate minimum income to all persons, or where this is impossible, provide the income itself;
5. Provide useful employment and job training for all who are able to work and give incentive for employment by private sectors;
6. Encourage recipients to participate in creation of the programs and provide them with grievance procedures when they feel their needs do not receive proper attention;
7. Help persons to move from dependence to independence whenever possible by providing access to affordable child care, transportation and further educational opportunities through adequate funding of programs;
8. Be administered adequately, responsibly, uniformly and compassionately; and
9. Provide for low and/or no cost legal advice to low-income persons such as currently provided by Legal Services;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That this resolution be communicated annually to our Iowa and United States legislators.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9408. Local Food Systems (2003)

WHEREAS: Iowa is a world leader in agricultural production and Iowa's communities are dependent on a healthy agricultural economy, and

WHEREAS: Iowa continues to decrease its number of acres in horticultural crops and increase its dependence on the importation of fruits and vegetables;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church:

1. Encourage support for and participation in Community Supported Agricultures (CSA) which promotes direct farmer to consumer marketing;
2. Encourage local churches to purchase communion juice from Iowa grape growers;
3. Encourage public policies which promote environmentally sound and economically viable farming practices; and
4. Encourage local churches to help build public awareness and understanding of local food systems and their implications for Iowa's economy, communities and natural environment.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9409. Youth Awareness of Hunger/Poverty (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: We are called as Christians to minister to the needs of the hungry and poor among us, and

WHEREAS: There is hunger and poverty in our communities, state, nation, and world, and

WHEREAS: Youth are members of the laity of the church;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Encourage youth to respond to requests for material and labor resources and participate in activities that help in eliminating hunger and poverty;
2. Encourage youth to claim the Thanksgiving In-Gathering as a way to support mission activities by collecting items for the kits, volunteering to work on-site and be visible in worship; and
3. Encourage youth, when gathered at the local church, district, or Conference level to promote mission activities and report and share with each other;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we encourage youth to participate in work trips (e.g. Appalachia Service Project or Mountain T.O.P.), Volunteer-In-Mission (VIM) projects, United Methodist, and other community-based projects (e.g. Habitat for Humanity, food cupboards/kitchens).

REVIEW BY: Conference Council on Youth Ministry

9410. A Tithing Church (1995, 2001)

WHEREAS: The principle of the tithe is set forth some 500-600 years before the Mosaic Law in the exchange between Abram and Melchizedek, Genesis 14:18-19; was affirmed by Jesus, Luke 11:42; and the Apostle Paul taught proportional giving, 1 Corinthians 16:2, and

WHEREAS: There is blessing for the individual and the church when Biblical principles are taught and practiced, and

WHEREAS: Tithing has been the Christian minimum standard of giving for many years, and

WHEREAS: The General Conference of the United Methodist Church resolved in 1988 that we will be a tithing church, and

WHEREAS: Our response to God is not measured by legalism, but by the joy of giving back to God;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will actively promote the principle of the tithe as an integral part of Christian financial stewardship programs. That the practice of tithing be lifted up to each congregation from the pulpit and through other channels of parish communication, and that the conference Board of Discipleship be encouraged to continue to strengthen their efforts to teach the spiritual blessings of tithing. That the concept of proportional giving be stressed, with emphasis on continued growth. That all be encouraged to grow in discipleship and giving, whether they are currently at 10%, less than 10% or more than 10% of their income.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9411. Support of the DREAM Act (2005)

WHEREAS: Tens of thousands of America's brightest high school graduates have grown up in the U.S. and have succeeded academically, but are prevented from pursuing a college education because they were brought to this country as young children and have lived here almost their entire lives, yet do not have adequate immigration papers, and

WHEREAS: It is un-Christian to punish children for their parent's actions, and

WHEREAS: Iowa's success is dependent on a strong and educated labor force, and

WHEREAS: The U. S. Congress has considered bills known as the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education of Alien Minors) Act (S. 1545) and the Student Adjustment Act (H.R. 1648). The Iowa State Legislature has considered (HSB 610). These bills would permit undocumented students who successfully graduated from a public or accredited non-public high school or received the equivalent high school diploma in the state to attend public colleges and universities, paying in-state tuition, and

WHEREAS: Our church seeks to practice a ministry of hospitality following Biblical scriptures which admonish us to "love the foreigner..." (Deuteronomy 10:19) remembering Christ's words when he said, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me..." (Matt. 25:35);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Iowa Annual Conference supports these DREAM Acts and other legislative acts which would permit undocumented immigrant students who have successfully graduated from a public or accredited non-public high school or received the equivalent high school diploma in the state to attend public colleges and universities paying in-state tuition; and
2. Local churches, our Conference Advocate, and church members are hereby encouraged to support these efforts by communicating with their respective legislators.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

500 POLITICAL COMMUNITY

9502. Support of the DREAM Act (2005) - This resolution was renumbered to 9411 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9503. Issuance of Drivers Licenses (2005) - This resolution was renumbered to 9332 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9504. Adequate Funding for Public Schools (1983, 2003)

WHEREAS: Continuation of adequate levels of instruction in public schools costs more each year due to inflation and rising costs, and

WHEREAS: The deterioration of buildings and equipment in public schools makes it more difficult to provide an educational environment that is most conducive to learning, and

WHEREAS: There is still much need for progress in moving Iowa public schools into the electronic age, and

WHEREAS: Historically, Iowa has been a leader in providing quality public education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That we support legislation continuing state government financing of public education at a level commensurate with the increased cost of quality education; We also favor initiatives to reduce class size and increase teacher pay;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we favor direct support at the state level for school infrastructure repair;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That such funding should come from general funds, and not from the uncertain source of dedicated gambling revenue.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9505. Student Free Press (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Legislature passed the Student Free Press Act of 1989 which states "that all school districts shall maintain a written policy of student free press";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference affirms the free press rights of youth and strongly encourages all Iowa school districts to adopt and/or maintain a student free press policy.

REVIEW BY: Conference Council on Youth Ministry

9506. Student Rights (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Supreme Court of the United States has affirmed the freedom of speech through expression, and

WHEREAS: The General Conference of The United Methodist Church has already supported the first amendment rights of freedom of speech and expression in the Social Principles ¶164.V.A, and

WHEREAS: Some school districts, boards, and other leadership have denied these rights to some students by banning items such as religious hats, shirts, stickers, and other items;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference

1. Encourage students to be active in their local school district's establishment of rules and regulations concerning free speech and expression; and
2. Discourage bans on any items containing religious sentiment as long as those sentiments do not disparage the beliefs of others.

REVIEW BY: Conference Council on Youth Ministry

9507. Supporting Sexuality Education in Schools (1997, 2003) - This resolution was renumbered to 9333 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9508. Iowa Corrections (1992, 2003)

WHEREAS: There is need for correctional institutions which provide adequate facilities, staff and programs, and

WHEREAS: Prisoners are children of God having sacred worth and Christ instructed us to visit those who are in prison;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Supports community-based facilities, halfway houses and other measures that diminish alienation between prisoners and society, thus facilitating re-entry upon release from prison;
2. Supports alternatives to imprisonment when feasible, such as fines, restitution, community service, mediation, probation, and restorative justice programs;
3. Supports management of facilities in keeping with federal and state laws, and investigation of any alleged violation of laws or Department of Corrections policy;
4. Supports the provisions to all prisoners of adequate food, health care, safe conditions, protection from physical and mental abuse, access to religious services and materials, drug/alcohol rehabilitation and education programs, legal counsel, visitation, educational activities, recreation and vocational training;
5. Supports housing for youthful offenders and those charged with minor crimes separate from housing for repeat offenders or those charged with serious offenses; and
6. Encourages our members through ministries of love and support to help share the burden of prisoners, offenders, ex-offenders, victims, and the families involved.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9510. Reinstate Ban of Assault Weapons (1995, 2005) - This resolution was renumbered to 9337 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9511. Gun Show Loophole (2003) - This resolution was renumbered to 9336 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9512. Taxation of Institutional Churches (1988, 2003)

WHEREAS: It has long been regarded as an appropriate function of government to encourage institutional churches by exempting them from the payment of property taxes because institutional churches, as clear manifestations of the body of Christ, greatly contribute to the moral climate and well-being of society as a whole;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges the Iowa General Assembly to resist any efforts on the part of legally constituted taxing bodies to expand their property taxing authority to include institutional churches.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9513. Welcoming Strangers (2007) - This resolution was renumbered to 9335 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9514. Federal Budget Priorities (2007)

WHEREAS: In Iowa there are 43,000 children without health insurance;¹ Iowa schools are badly in need of repair ²; workers (7,800 in 2004) are being laid off and need training and support ³ and Iowa has the potential to be a leader in renewable energy industries, and

WHEREAS: Each year 15%, or \$60 billion, of the military budget is spent by the Pentagon

on obsolete and unneeded weapons systems ⁴; and

WHEREAS: Military advisors including retired admirals and generals, both Republican and Democrat, assert that this wasteful spending could be cut without hurting our national security; and

WHEREAS: Iowa's share of this \$60 billion could be better used for health, education, energy and job training programs in Iowa;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That local Iowa churches educate their congregations about federal budget priorities and inequities; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iowa United Methodists be encouraged to contact legislators to support redirecting 15% of the Pentagon's discretionary budget toward health, education, energy, job training and starting to repay the national debt.

- (1) (2) National Priorities Project
- (3) Bureau of Labor Statistics
- (4) The Korb Report: A Realistic Defense of America

REVIEW BY: Methodist Federation for Social Action, Iowa Conference Chapter

9515. Voter-owned Elections in Iowa (2007)

WHEREAS: The *Book of Discipline* declares that "we hold governments responsible for the protection of the rights of the people to free and fair elections (Paragraph 164 A, p.118f, *The Book of Discipline 2004*), and

WHEREAS: The influence of special interest money in Iowa politics is well documented, and

WHEREAS: Challengers now need to raise an average of \$100,000 to compete for the Iowa Senate and \$65,000 for the Iowa House, and

WHEREAS: It is also well documented that "money talks" and results in legislation not in the general public interest;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urge members of the Iowa General Assembly to legislate full publicly funded elections that allow citizens to run financially competitive campaigns based solely on their character, ideas and experience, rather than their wealth or ability to raise large sums.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9516. Support for the Voting Rights of Ex-Felons (2011)

WHEREAS: The goal should be to help offenders become more responsible, productive citizens, and

WHEREAS: Part of being a responsible citizen is participating in the election process;.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church supports actively helping ex-felons through the process of restoring their right to vote.

REVIEWED BY: Board of Church and Society

9517. Tobacco (2007)

WHEREAS: 23.1 % of adults smoke in Iowa and 27% of Iowa high school students smoke, and

WHEREAS: On average, 4,600 Iowans die each year due to their own tobacco usage, and at the current smoking levels 80,000 children who are alive today will die from smoking, and

WHEREAS: Iowa health care cost due to tobacco usage at a low estimate is \$794 million, and Iowa Medicaid Program (Iowa dollars) is \$235 million for health care due to tobacco usage, and

WHEREAS: Iowa in 2002/2003 tobacco prevention spending was 32nd, and prevention dollars are frequently reallocated cutting prevention programming budgets by the Iowa legislature, and

WHEREAS: We affirm the decision by the 2007 Iowa State Legislature to increase the State tobacco tax by \$1.00 per pack;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church encourages legislators to monitor and evaluate the impact of this increase;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we urge Iowa United Methodists to

1. Ask their legislators to give the public an account of the amount of funds received and the amount spent on prevention and cessation programs;
2. Ask legislators to consider laws prohibiting sales, advertising and access to tobacco products and paraphernalia to underage persons; and ask all agencies charged with the enforcement of existing or future laws to use all available resources to do so;
3. Support smoking cessation programs offered affordably to smokers; and
4. Abstain from tobacco products as a life-affirming response.

** ** Statistics taken from <http://tobaccofreekids.org/reports/settlements>

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9518. Prisoner's Rights (2007)

WHEREAS: The torture of prisoners violates the humanity of both the tortured and the torturer, and

WHEREAS: The United States government has signed the Geneva and other international conventions against torture, and

WHEREAS: The ancient right of *habeas corpus* was established in the *Magna Carta* in 1215, and

WHEREAS: Coerced evidence is by nature suspect and unreliable;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church calls upon the United States government to renounce and reject all forms of torture in all circumstances;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The right of *habeas corpus* should be restored so that all prisoners have the right to challenge their detention;
2. The accused should have the right to see all evidence presented against him/her and the right to discovery (although the sources may be withheld if disclosing them threatens national security);

3. Coerced evidence should not be admitted to the proceedings of military commissions;
4. The courts have final authority to interpret both treaties and laws; and
5. Individuals who have tortured or approved torture should be answerable to the courts of the United States, including military courts, and/or international law.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9519. United Nations (1983, 2003)

WHEREAS: Nations are becoming more interdependent in meeting their needs of commerce, resources, economics and international policy;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference:

1. Reaffirms its support of the United Nations;
2. Calls upon the United States government and the International community to take more seriously the United Nations as a reconciling body and to sacrifice short-term self-interest for longer-term mutual interests with other nations and peoples;
3. Endorses the United Nations annual observance of World Disarmament Day; and
4. Urges the U.S. government to pay its back dues to the United Nations and to keep these up to date.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

600 WORLD COMMUNITY

9601. Nuclear Disarmament (1989, 2005)

WHEREAS: We as Christians care about all people as children of God, and

WHEREAS: Nuclear weapons are indiscriminate weapons of mass destruction that cannot be used without killing innocent civilians, and

WHEREAS: Nuclear weapons continue to kill their victims long after the cessation of hostilities, as evidenced by the cancer deaths among Hiroshima and Nagasaki survivors even today, and

WHEREAS: Nuclear winter would likely result even if only 5% of our nuclear stockpile were detonated, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That United Methodists of the Iowa Annual Conference urge the United States toward immediate nuclear disarmament.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9602. Weapons of Mass Destruction and Peace (1981, 2003)

WHEREAS: The United States strives to be a leader among nations in the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, and

WHEREAS: The United States continues to be among the leading producers and suppliers of weapons to the world and thus limits its ability to demonstrate that peace is a primary objective of our national policy;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls upon the President of the United States, the Secretary of State and Congress to:

1. Negotiate and ratify comprehensive treaties reducing all armaments, particularly nuclear, biological and chemical weapons;

2. Reduce the development, manufacture, transfer, deployment, use and sale of all conventional and strategic weaponry; and
3. Encourage and support efforts by the United Nations and other international agencies to reduce and prevent the international development, proliferation and use of nuclear, chemical, biological or other weapons of mass destruction.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9603. Peace (2002, 2003)

WHEREAS: War against any country would likely result in very high casualties on both sides, generate increased hostility and hatred towards the United States and foster additional terrorist attacks against our country, and

WHEREAS: Jesus commands us: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:44-45), and Paul states, "If your enemy is hungry feed him; if he is thirsty give him drink. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:20,21), and

WHEREAS: The 2000 *Book of Discipline* states, "We deplore war and urge the peaceful settlement of all disputes among nations." (§164.G.) And "We believe war is incompatible with the teaching and example of Christ" (§165.C);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: We urge our country's leaders to direct our time and resources to work with the international community to resolve differences with any country through diplomatic and in a non-violent way means, and in a manner consistent with international law.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9604. Peace Education (1981, 2003)

WHEREAS: The United Methodist Church continues to grow in our understanding of peace as an essential element for human survival;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the local United Methodist Churches utilize the Board of Church and Society, the Iowa Peace Network and other related resources for their Christian education programs concerning:

1. The problems created by the constant emphasis on and glamorization of violence through toys and media;
2. Military spending and national priorities;
3. Conversion to a peace-oriented economy;
4. United Nations sessions on disarmament;
5. Conflict resolution alternatives; and
6. Military conscription including draft registration.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9605. World Peace (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: We as Christians should be called to leadership in world peace development, and

WHEREAS: Starvation, ethnic elimination, religious persecution, warfare, nuclear proliferation, and tyranny are serious problems throughout the world;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference promote peaceful

actions to better the world.

REVIEW BY: Conference Council on Youth Ministry

9606. Food Resources as Political Weapons (1980, 2003)

WHEREAS: The United States is a major food producer, and

WHEREAS: We believe that food is a God-given resource, and

WHEREAS: We believe that proper nutrition is a human right;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference discourages the use of food as a political weapon by the United States and all other governments.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9607. United States Non-Intervention (1983, 2005)

WHEREAS: The traditional Christian attitude has been support for people who are hurting in their search for a life of peace and justice, and

WHEREAS: The United States government has supported military dictatorships which have tyrannized and exploited their people for the economic benefit of small ruling classes and foreign investors, and

WHEREAS: The United States government continues to support a number of repressive governments, and

WHEREAS: The United States government has been known to covertly undermine sovereign governments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference go on record as opposing military aid to repressive regimes or covert intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign nations;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That economic aid be directed by our government to legitimate non-governmental agencies toward those who are in real need: the poor, the hurting, the malnourished, the victims of the repressive governments which now receive the aid;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we join interfaith efforts in educating the people in their rights and obligations regarding freedom and justice as human beings and in responding to the biblical mandate to side with the oppressed and oppose oppression;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iowa United Methodists will communicate this resolution to Iowa's congressional delegation.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9608. United Nations (1983, 2003) - This resolution was renumbered to 9519 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9610. Peace With Justice in the Holy Land (2003, 2005)

WHEREAS: Resolution of the Palestine-Israeli conflict is a major key to a more stable Middle East and therefore to a safer and more secure United States, and

WHEREAS: While we as Christians are called to be concerned and well-informed about the plight of our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, news reports from the region are often superficial and incomplete, and

WHEREAS: Leaders from that region have repeatedly asked for help from the U.S. in restarting dialog and working toward peace;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference encourages local churches to study and discuss both the historical background and the present suffering of all involved in the Palestine-Israeli conflict, using materials from the General Boards of Church and Society and Global Ministries, and other recommended sources;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we pray, as congregations and as individuals, for our Palestinian and Israeli brothers and sisters who are caught up in a cycle of increasing violence, repression, and retaliation in the land we call Holy;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference calls upon our elected leaders to:

1. Re-examine and reshape the U.S. role in this conflict; and
2. Continue working for peace talks leading to a lasting, peaceful relationship between Israel and an established Palestinian state, each to be a fully autonomous, free, and democratic nation with secure borders.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9611. Repeal of Embargo Against Cuba (1993, 2005)

WHEREAS: The Cuban people have suffered more than 30 years from the U.S. embargo which includes medicine, food and all other goods of primary necessity, and

WHEREAS: The U.S. policy as defined by the Torrecelli bill tightens the embargo against Cuba by restricting all United States subsidiary trade, and

WHEREAS: This U.S. policy now places sanctions on third nations trading with Cuba, or "assisting" Cuba in any way, including barter agreements, loan guarantees and tariff agreements, and

WHEREAS: This U.S. policy increases suffering of Cuban people in order to bring down the present government, and

WHEREAS: This U.S. policy does not respect the sovereignty of Cuba nor the sovereignty of other nations who choose to trade or enter into other agreements with Cuba, and

WHEREAS: The United Nations overwhelmingly denounced the U.S. embargo against Cuba in November 1992, and

WHEREAS: The embargo not only hurts the Cuban people but Iowa farmers and industries wishing to trade freely and fairly with Cuba;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urges the U.S. government to end the embargo against Cuba and work toward normalization of relations between Cuba and the United States;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference supports the Pastors for Peace U.S.-Cuba Friendship caravans to Cuba;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iowa United Methodists communicate this resolution to

Iowa's congressional delegation.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9612. United States Policy Toward Central America and the Caribbean (1985, 2005)

WHEREAS: The United States policy toward Central America and the Caribbean nations is one that encourages the exploitation of the people and resources, frequently marked by military intervention to protect our economic interests, and

WHEREAS: This exploitation and military intervention continues today, and

WHEREAS: We affirm the principle of self-determination for the nations of Central America, and

WHEREAS: U.S. policies supporting oppressive governments and directing covert military intervention have been condemned by human rights organizations and religious groups including the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the General Board of Church and Society and the Iowa Annual Conference;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference urges the United States Government to take the following steps to bring peace and justice to the area:

1. Respect the sovereignty of the Central American nations;
2. Support continuing efforts for negotiated settlements of conflicts;
3. Refrain from military intervention;
4. Develop assistance programs to improve the living standards of the majority of the people - the poor, the malnourished; and
5. To close the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security and Cooperation (formerly the School of the Americas) at Ft. Benning, Georgia;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iowa United Methodists communicate this resolution to the President, the Secretary of State and the Iowa congressional delegation.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9613. DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, and Africa (2004, 2005)

WHEREAS: The 2004 General Conference of the United Methodist Church passed resolutions concerning the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic, urging education, advocacy and support of HIV/AIDS programs and raising money through the United Methodist Global AIDS Fund, and

WHEREAS: The Board of Church and Society of the Iowa Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church has been working to educate United Methodists about issues of debt relief and fair trade, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference has a strong history of support for Africa through the Iowa/Nigeria Partnership;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church commits to continue the established partnership with DATA --Debt, Aids, Trade, Africa, -- for the purpose of education and advocacy on issues of AIDS and poverty in Africa;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That local churches of the Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will encourage members to join theONEcampaign, in partnership with DATA, Bread for the World and World Vision and to encourage contributing \$1.50/member to the Global Aids fund Advance Special.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9614. Refugee Crisis Response (1989, 2003)

WHEREAS: The General Council on Ministries has recommended that the Council of Bishops involve The United Methodist Church in refugee crisis response in the southern part of the United States so that our government will suspend deportation of asylum-seekers from Latin America including the Caribbean and that the President and Attorney General of the U.S. be urged to implement a policy of extended voluntary departure status for the refugees from Latin America, and also U.S. economic policies, and

WHEREAS: These people are at greatest risk because of the low intensity conflict in their countries or dictatorial governments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference pledges support to the Council of Bishops to bring about these changes in our government's policy with the belief that the Latin American countries need to be places of sanctuary for their own population, so that refugees need not flee across borders;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That Iowa United Methodists write to their representatives in Congress and to the President urging these two changes of policy (suspension of deportation of asylum-seekers and extended voluntary departure status for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean).

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9615. Terrorism (1988, 2003)

WHEREAS: Terrorism is violence directed against non-combatants causing untold suffering and death, and

WHEREAS: Terrorist violence has increased and become sanctioned by government and political groups;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the United Methodists of the Iowa Annual Conference abhor and condemn:

1. Acts of aggression when war has not been declared;
2. Acts of war against non-combatants, either by intent or blatant disregard for their safety;
3. Bombings, shootings or other acts of violence in public places;
4. Kidnapping and/or the taking of hostages;
5. All acts of war and violence "in retaliation" for previous acts; and
6. The escalation of violence and terrorism depicted in media programming;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The United Methodists of the Iowa Annual Conference urge the leaders of all nations, and especially of the United States, to make negotiated settlement of disputes the first priority of international relations;
2. Nations, groups or individuals which refuse to take part in negotiations or abide by the terms of agreements, and so turn to terrorism to achieve their ends, be regarded as outlaws; and
3. Persons convicted of terrorism after a fair trial be incarcerated humanely and groups or nations guilty of terrorism be isolated and sanctioned.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9616. Jubilee USA Network (1999, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Jubilee USA Network draws its inspiration from the book of Leviticus in the Hebrew Scriptures, which describes a Year of Jubilee every fifty years in which social inequalities are rectified: slaves freed, land returned to original owners, and debts canceled, and

WHEREAS: Although the Jubilee USA Network has made significant strides toward debt relief in developing nations, much work remains to be done, and

WHEREAS: The burden of paying the debt often continues to fall upon the most impoverished members of society, exacting a great social and environmental toll; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference affirm steps Congress has taken toward cancellation of debt owed to the US by poor countries;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference endorse the ongoing work of the Jubilee USA Network campaign, calling for:

1. Cancellation of crushing international debt where countries are burdened with high levels of human need and environmental distress;
2. Action to recover resources diverted to corrupt regimes, institutions, and individuals; and
3. Establishment of a process to monitor international monetary flows to prevent recurring destructive cycles of indebtedness.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9617. Landmines (2007)

WHEREAS: We are called as Christians to be and support peacemakers, and

WHEREAS: Both pacifist and just war Christians agree that the lives of civilians must be protected and indiscriminate killing is never acceptable, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (IAAP) in Middleton, Iowa has been in operation since 1941. IAAP produced landmines in the past but no longer does. This gives reason to be thankful and to pray that the IAAP will never produce land mines again;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference calls for a ban on the production, especially at IAAP, and the use of all anti-personnel land-mines;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Conference calls on all elected officials, President and members of Congress, to sign and ratify the Treaty to Ban Land-mines;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Conference offers solidarity and prayerful support for persons in mine-affected countries whose lives are threatened daily by the scourge of land-mines, and also support for treatment and rehabilitation of victims.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9618. Prisoner's Rights (2007) - This resolution was renumbered to 9518 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9619. Withdrawal from Iraq (2007)

WHEREAS: The United States' preemptive war against Iraq was based on data now known to be mistaken, and violated the Social Creed position that rejects "war as an instrument of national foreign policy" and insists "that the first moral duty of all nations is to resolve by

peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them, (Paragraph 165, C, p. 123f, *Book of Discipline 2004*), and

WHEREAS: The presence of foreign occupying troops is not the will of the majority of Iraqi citizens ⁽¹⁾ and is in violation of the Social principle that affirms that it is "the right and duty of people of all nations to determine their own destiny"⁽²⁾;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference call upon the United State to remove all troops as soon as logistically practical and to relinquish all military bases on Iraqi soil;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference urge the United States to cooperate with the United Nations in rebuilding the infrastructure of Iraq and healing the deep wounds inflicted upon the Iraqi citizens.

- (1) Program on International Policy Attitudes, University of Maryland, January. 2006
- (2) Ibid

REVIEW BY: Methodist Federation for Social Action, Iowa Conference Chapter

9620. Enforcement and Reform of Immigration Laws (2008) - This resolution was renumbered to 9331 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

700 ANNUAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION

9701. Cross at Annual Conference (1999, 2001)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference and The United Methodist Church are part of the body of Christ, and we honor Jesus Christ as our risen Lord and Savior, remembering His sacrificial death for us on the cross;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That during all current and future regular or special sessions of the Iowa Annual Conference, a cross will always be visible and prominent on the platform in the meeting place of the Annual Conference.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9703. Evangelism (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: One of the directives of our Lord was to "strive first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness," (Matthew 6:33, NRSV) which led him to preach and heal, and leads us to a concern for both the social and spiritual needs of our society, and

WHEREAS: There are many highly emotional issues and many valid points of view that divide Iowa United Methodists at local, conference and public levels, and

WHEREAS: An ongoing concern for proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been an important and unifying part of our Wesleyan heritage, and

WHEREAS: In a time of profound spiritual hunger and need in our society, many people are turned away by our visible divisions and seek other answers to their spiritual seekings;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That all persons, boards and agencies responsible for programming in the conference, districts and local churches be encouraged to evaluate their public statements to consider how they:

1. Promote the forgiving, saving message of Jesus Christ; and

2. Promote the unity of believers, being sensitive to those issues that divide.

REVIEW BY: Board of Discipleship

9704. Full Participation of All Persons (1975, 2003)

WHEREAS: We as an Annual Conference have taken steps to insure the participation of women in the church and recommended one-third of the members on our boards and agencies be lay women, and

WHEREAS: The call to serve Christ with all our gifts, time and abilities is made to every human being;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That all persons, boards and agencies responsible for programming in the conference, districts and local churches be encouraged to evaluate their programs and take such steps necessary to affirm programs which encourage full personhood for everyone.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9705. Lay Employees Pension Plan (1990, 2001)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference views Diaconal Ministers, as well as full-time employees of our United Methodist Churches, as dedicated and valued servants of Christ and the Church, and

WHEREAS: Diaconal Ministers and other full-time lay employees are subject to the natural process of aging and to the possibility of catastrophic disabilities, and

WHEREAS: The local and larger church recognizes the value of their services and its responsibilities regarding their welfare, and

WHEREAS: The Internal Revenue Service has directed that if the local church offers a pension plan to any full time lay employee, it must offer a plan to all full time lay employees;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference take appropriate steps to inform all local churches of the Iowa Annual Conference of this requirement and urge them to offer The Lay Employees Pension Plan of The United Methodist Church to any Diaconal Minister and other full time lay personnel employed by them.

REVIEW BY: Board of Ordained Ministry

9706. Modeling John Wesley's Means of Grace (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: Jesus Christ said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations." Matthew 28:19 (NKJ), and

WHEREAS: The stated mission of the local church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ, and

WHEREAS: The primary task of the Board of Discipleship is to assist the local church in making disciples for Christ, through Wesley's Means of Grace: prayer, study of scripture, fasting, celebrating the Lord's Supper, Christian conferencing, and acts of mercy;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Discipleship consider the Great Commission, the mission of the local church, and Wesley's "Means of Grace," when discerning its response to the culture and/or the church as we place ourselves in partnership with the local church;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That we challenge the Iowa Annual Conference boards and agencies to model their ministries after Wesley's Means of Grace.

REVIEW BY: Board of Discipleship

9707. Personnel Policy for Diaconal Ministers and Other Lay Employees in the Local Church (1995, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference has not had personnel policies in place for hiring and nurturing Diaconal, certified and non-certified lay employees in the local churches, and

WHEREAS: There are not procedures in place for a lay employee to follow in case of conflict within the staff and/or termination proceedings begin, and

WHEREAS: Each person in ministry should be treated with Christian love and respect of their personhood;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That our local churches recognize the value of lay employees in the life of the church and that each local church be encouraged to consider the following:

1. Staff Parish Relations Committee write an adequate job description which would include:
 - a. Expectations to be met in fulfillment of position and how to be measured;
 - b. A provision that during the first year of employment there be a quarterly review of work done, goals set and reviewed and thereafter reviewed one or more times each year by the pastor and Staff Parish Relations Committee;
 - c. A process to be followed if there is conflict within the staff; and
 - d. A provision that should the decision be made to terminate the employee, a minimum of a 30-day period shall be given or compensated for; and
2. Staff Parish Relations Committee study "Guidelines for Employment of Diaconal, Certified, and Non-Certified Lay Employees" for additional information provided by the Board of Ordained Ministry.

REVIEW BY: Board of Ordained Ministry

9708. School for Lay Ministry (1997, 2003)

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference recognizes the role of lay persons in ministry, and

WHEREAS: The School for Lay Ministry provides training for lay persons, and

WHEREAS: The School for Lay Ministry equips laity for shared ministry, and

WHEREAS: A three-year course of study provides and sustains the identification, equipping and enabling of lay persons of the Iowa Annual Conference to serve with other professionals in ministry to the church and to communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference affirms the School for Lay Ministry as a viable and specialized ministry for lay persons and continues its operation in the future for the training and betterment of our laity.

REVIEW BY: Board of Laity

9709. Retention of Native American Ministries (2003)

WHEREAS: We are committed to honor and respect Native American people and the sacred truths revealed by God within the context of native prayers, ceremonies, songs, and languages, and

WHEREAS: We remember our historic commitment to bring Christ to the native people living in the land between the two rivers, and

WHEREAS: We seek to improve relationships between Native American people of Iowa and the peoples in our local communities and United Methodist congregations, and

WHEREAS: We seek to be a Christian witness among the Native American peoples of Iowa and to be present for mutual respect and dialogue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference asks its delegates to the 2004 General Conference to vote in support of the continuance of Native American Ministries Sunday as a General Advance Special offering;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: We call for the continuance of the Iowa Annual Conference Committee on Native American Ministries as an imperative for ministry and ask our General Conference delegates to vote for Disciplinary wording to sustain structures for similar leadership in annual conferences throughout the General Church.

REVIEW BY: Committee on Native American Ministries

9710. Peace With Justice (1981, 2007)

WHEREAS: The UMC has designated Peace With Justice Sunday as one of six special church-wide Sundays, and

WHEREAS: Offerings given to Peace With Justice support Iowa ministries, such as Iowa Peace Network, Restorative Justice Ministries and the Iowa Conference Social Witness and Education Ministry;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Iowa Annual Conference promote and encourage local congregations to celebrate Peace With Justice Sunday annually and support the Board of Church and Society as it actively works locally and globally toward peace with justice.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society.

9711. Radon Hazards in Iowa (1989, 2001)

WHEREAS: The Iowa State University Extension Service has issued a sheet on “radon facts” (available at any extension office) which estimates that up to 150 lung cancer deaths per year may be linked to the radioactive gas, radon, which occurs naturally in Iowa, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa Department of Health, provides an excellent free packet of information on radon measuring and reduction methods, a list of state certified laboratories, technicians and specialists and other pertinent facts, and

WHEREAS: Radon detection kits are reasonably priced and readily available in local communities, and

WHEREAS: It is often a relatively simple matter to reduce radon hazards in living/working quarters;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference directs the appropriate Boards of Trustees at the conference, district and local church levels to test parsonages, church offices and other working/living areas where persons are exposed for more than 20 hours per week;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That prudent precautions be made to reduce radon levels in

those buildings/spaces where radon is detected above 10 picocuries per liter with a goal of reducing all areas to a medium to low category of less than 4 picocuries per liter;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That all charges report test results, reduction measures implemented and subsequent test results verifying a lowered radon risk to District Superintendents at Charge Conferences with the reports becoming part of permanent files available to pastors, church workers, the Board of Church and Society and anyone else who requests the information;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Church and Society encourage and enable local churches to complete their radon testing and appropriately reduce their hazard to safe levels.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9713. Voice of Youth (1997, 2003) - This resolution was renumbered to 9334 in 2011 to parallel the General Conference Book of Resolution categories

9715. Car Pooling to United Methodist Meetings (1988, 2001)

WHEREAS: Iowa United Methodists have expressed an ongoing concern for wise stewardship of our natural resources, and

WHEREAS: Car pooling saves both fuel and reduces meeting expenses;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That each agency of the Iowa Annual Conference continues to intentionally organize car pooling for its members whenever possible.

REVIEW BY: Board of Church and Society

9716. Giving Voice to the Annual Conference and its Members (2007)

WHEREAS: The *Book of Discipline* is the law of the church, Annual conferences may not legally negate, ignore or violate provisions of the *Discipline* with which they disagree, even when that disagreement is based upon conscientious objection. All actions of an Annual Conference must be faithful and consistent with the *Discipline*; but Annual Conferences are free to express their ideals and opinions within these guidelines¹, and

WHEREAS: Only the General Conference of the United Methodist Church has the authority to speak officially for the Church; each general Church agency may speak only for itself, and individual members called to testify in Legislative settings to represent the church are permitted only to read the resolutions and positions adopted by the General Conference and the Iowa Annual Conference, and

WHEREAS: The Iowa Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church expresses its ideals and opinions through resolutions and advocacy, and through individual Iowa United Methodists who are encouraged to express their ideals and opinions through voice and action;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That all Iowa United Methodists are called to affirm those principles and resolutions they find persuasive and to advocate those positions to Legislative Bodies and Administrative Agencies and to the Community at large as permitted by the *Discipline* and Judicial Council;

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED: That this resolution shall be applicable to all of the Social Principles, *General Book of Resolutions* or *Iowa Book of Resolutions*, as if contained within the body of such principles and resolutions.

Ref. 1: Judicial Council Decisions 1044 & 1052; Ref. 2: ¶509 *2004 Book of Discipline*

REVIEW BY: Resolutions Committee

9717. Inclusive Local Church Membership (2007)

WHEREAS: We believe the official position of the United Methodist Church regarding membership is contained in Division One, Article IV of the Constitution of the United Methodist Church, and

WHEREAS: We believe that Judicial Council Decision 1032 is inconsistent with Division One, Article of IV of the Constitution of the United Methodist Church and that it is a departure from the historical direction of the United Methodist Church regarding membership;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Iowa Annual Conference model inclusive behavior by expecting and encouraging its congregations and clergy to abide by the principle: Membership in any local church in the Iowa Annual Conference shall not be denied on the basis of race, color, national origin, economic condition, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, ability or disability, or any other status.

Review by: Methodist Federation for Social Action, Iowa Conference Chapter

HOW TO BE A UNITED METHODIST ADVOCATE

There are four main options for contacting your state legislators and U.S. congresspersons: e-mail, letter writing, telephone calls and personal visits. More often than not, a handwritten letter makes a greater impact on legislators than form emails or postcards. Personalized notes let legislators know you are deeply invested in an issue(s), and it allows them to see a more personal and community specific perspective on why they should support or oppose an issue or piece of legislation. When communicating with your elected officials, identify yourself by name and Iowa address, and inform them of the subject about which you wish to speak (bill numbers are helpful but not necessary). Since legislators receive hundreds of communications each week, it is important to be concise and use your own words. Elected officials value hearing from their constituents because they are working on behalf of your community/the communities within their state. As a constituent, you have a powerful impact on legislators, so it is deeply important to voice your perspectives and work with others in your congregation collaboratively to contact your state and local elected officials on an ongoing basis. An excellent time to have your voices heard and make a personal connection is to meet with your local and state legislators when they are not in session, participating at local community forums or coffees. Additionally, you and others from your congregation and community can work to organize an event such as a panel discussion or gathering where you can dialogue with legislators.

If you are unsure who your Iowa and/or U.S. legislators are, or to obtain their names and contact information, please visit: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/Legislators/find.aspx>.

NATIONAL ELECTED LEADERS Numbers

Addresses / Phone

<u>Official</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
President	The President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500 <i>"Dear Mr./Madam President..."</i>	202-456-1414 (Switchboard) 202-456-1111 (Public Opinion) 202-456-2461 (Fax)
Vice President	The Vice President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500 <i>"Dear Mr./Madam Vice President..."</i>	202-456-1414

To contact the President and Vice-President electronically, please visit the following:

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/WhiteHouse>
 Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/whitehouse>
 Email: www.whitehouse.gov/contact/

Senators	The Honorable _____ United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510 <i>"Dear Senator..."</i>	202-224-3121
Representatives	The Honorable _____ House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 <i>"Dear Representative..."</i>	202-224-3121

To contact your U.S. Congresspersons via email please visit the following:
http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm (Senators) or
<https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml> (Representatives)

STATE ELECTED LEADERS

<u>Official</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Governor and Lt. Governor	The Honorable _____ The Governor's Office State House Des Moines, IA 50319 <i>"Dear Governor/Lt. Governor..."</i>	515.281.5211
Senators and Representatives	The Honorable _____ State Capitol Des Moines, Iowa 50319 <i>"Dear Senator/Representative..."</i>	
Senator Switchboard		515.281.3371
Representative Switchboard		515.281.3221

During the legislative session, the Senate and House telephones are answered by a clerk who will take your name and phone number. Legislators should then return your call. However, be sure to follow-up with them if you do not get a response.

For legislator specific contact information please visit
<http://www.legis.iowa.gov/Legislators/find.aspx>.

RESOURCES ON CURRENT LEGISLATION

The **Iowa General Assembly's** website offers a plethora of legislative material. Tracking bills, locating legislator contact information and obtaining district maps are just three of the services available. Please visit <http://www.legis.iowa.gov>.

A division within the Iowa General Assembly, the **Legislative Services Agency (LSA)** makes available nonpartisan information and materials concerning the Iowa General Assembly and the legislative process in Iowa to interested persons, including the general public. The LSA also provides *Sessions Daily*, a publication of all legislative actions by both chambers during the previous day while in session. To receive this free publication, visit <http://coolice.legis.state.ia.us/cool-ice/default.asp?Category=BillInfo&Service=SDaily> or call 515.281.5129.

For **The United Methodist Church's** positions on social justice and mission issues, please refer to the Social Principles, located in *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, 2008, or as a separate booklet, which is available for \$2.00 from the Social Justice and Mission office in Des Moines. Additionally, *The Book of Resolutions of the United Methodist Church 2008-2012* provides a more comprehensive overview of scriptural, theological, and denominational perspectives on a given issue along with action recommendations for United Methodists and Annual Conferences. The **Iowa Annual Conference** also produces a *Book of Resolutions* every two years that addresses topics that are specific to Iowa communities.

The Conference Connectional Ministries Council (CCMC) includes the ministries of **Social Justice and Mission**. The ministries of this Leadership Development area provide opportunities for training and educating laity and clergy about local, national, and global issues important to our denomination. These ministries are focused on identifying key leaders in our local churches and districts who can receive training and support as they become the catalysts for transformation in their congregation and community, and mobilize others from their church to join them in ministries that include direct outreach paired with legislative advocacy (state and federal) on a given social justice and mission area. United Methodists can get involved and connected with these ministries through state-wide events; local and regional trainings, and through direct requests to the LDM for Social Justice & Mission for support and training on specific ministries they are developing or would like to learn more about within the areas of social justice and mission. The mission of this Conference ministry area is to empower United Methodist individuals and groups to live out holistic ministry that does both direct outreach and mission (alleviating the effects of injustices) along with working on issues of *justice* (eliminating the cause of injustices), so there is co-mutual learning and growth that upholds our doctrinal heritage as listed in ¶ 101 in the 2008 Book of Discipline, "we insist that personal salvation always involves Christian mission and service to the world. By joining heart and hand, we assert that personal religion, evangelical witness, and Christian social action are reciprocal and mutually reinforcing." Our hope is that this ministry area will empower all Iowa United Methodists to live out our Iowa Annual Conference mission statement of "making disciples and developing leaders who will transform the world."

Social Justice and Mission Ministry
Iowa Conference of The United Methodist Church
2301 Rittenhouse Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

Naomi Sea Young Wittstruck
 Leadership Development
 Minister, Social Justice
 and Mission Ministry
 P: 515.974.8908
 F: 515.974.8958
nsy.wittstruck@iaumc.org

Kristin Clark
 Assistant to the Leadership
 Development Minister, Social
 Justice and Mission Ministry
 P: 515.974.8911
 F: 515.974.8961
kristin.clark@iaumc.org

IOWA CONFERENCE ACTION ALERT NETWORK

The Iowa Conference Action Alert Network consists of a group of people from around the state who care about social justice and mission issues and feel led to speak to Iowa's state and federal legislators in support of The United Methodist Church's positions. This network is coordinated by the Social Justice and Mission Ministry of the Iowa Annual Conference Connectional Ministries Council (CCMC) and is done in association with the Board of Church and Society and the Board of Global Ministries. Its purpose is to enable Iowa United Methodists to (1) know our denomination's General and Annual Conference positions on key legislative and social issues and (2) support and advocate for those positions by direct written and telephone communications to state and federal legislators while these issues are being debated. The Action Alerts also provide updates on upcoming state and district events, trainings, educational and direct engagement opportunities from partner coalition groups and for United Methodist specific opportunities.

MISSIONAL JUSTICE NEWSLETTER

The Social Justice and Mission Ministry of the Iowa Annual Conference provides a monthly educational and resource newsletter created for laity, clergy, and local churches on a specific social or global issue each month. The newsletter includes narratives and reflections from staff and local church laity and clergy on the issue of the month; our denominational perspectives on the topic area; multiple resources for opportunities, continued education, and ways to get involved and take action on the featured issue area; existing ministries and organizations that are providing leadership and other engagement opportunities that people can connect with around the state; and ideas for how to create awareness, outreach, and ministries within one's local church on the issue of the month. This resource (and archived editions of the newsletter) is available by going to www.iaumc.org/advocacy and scrolling to the bottom of the page to the section on "Missional Justice Newsletters."

'LIKE' US ON FACEBOOK: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND MISSION FACEBOOK PAGE

The Social Justice and Mission Ministry of the Iowa Annual Conference also has a Facebook page that provides additional resources, educational materials, local church and district listings for events or outreach opportunities in the areas of social justice and mission; as well as direct action opportunities for laity and clergy to get involved in service and justice work in various areas of the state with United Methodist, ecumenical, interfaith, coalition groups, and non-profit organizations. To 'like' the Social Justice & Mission Ministry, either search on Facebook for "Social Justice & Mission—IAUMC" or visit:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Social-Justice-Mission/226860630677144?sk=wall>

JOINING THE ACTION ALERT NETWORK

Persons who sense God's leading in this vital area of Christian mission and ministry are invited to join the Iowa Conference United Methodist Action Alert Network by completing the registration information form, or by contacting:

Iowa Conference Action Alert Network
% Kristin Clark
United Methodist Conference Center
2301 Rittenhouse Street
Des Moines, IA 50321
515-974-8911
kristin.clark@iaumc.org

ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution Number and Title	Page Number
9201 Abortion (2005).....	14
9330 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) (1988, 2003)	26
9504 Adequate Funding for Public Schools (1983, 2003).....	34
9303 Affirming Diversity of Languages (1989, 2005)	17
9101 Agricultural Research in Iowa (1987, 2003)	8
9301 Alcoholic Beverage Sales to Minors (1985, 2003)	16
9108 Animal Welfare (1991, 2003).....	11
9317 Bias Motivated Crimes (1999, 2001).....	21
9318 Building Rural Community Outreach (1997, 2003).....	22
9329 Call to Action: Responding to Arizona SB-1070 (2010)	26
9715 Car Pooling to United Methodist Meetings (1988, 2001).....	50
9203 Christian Behavior Toward Gay and Lesbian Persons (1998, 2003).....	14
9401 Collective Bargaining in the State of Iowa (2005)	29
9403 Comparable Worth (1984, 2001)	30
9324 Concern for Safety of Children (2003)	24
9701 Cross at Annual Conference (1999, 2001).....	46
9613 DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, and Africa) (2004, 2005)	43
9322 Elder Abuse and Neglect (2001, 2003)	23
9109 Energy Conservation (1981, 2003)	12
9331 Enforcement and Reform of Immigration Laws (2008).....	26
9703 Evangelism (1997, 2003).....	46
9514 Federal Budget Priorities (2007)	36
9606 Food Resources as Political Weapons (1980, 2003)	41
9104 Forests, Wetlands and Prairies in Iowa (1985, 2001)	9
9704 Full Participation of All Persons (1975, 2003)	47
9404 Gambling in Iowa (1993, 2003).....	30
9405 Gambling Not to be Used for Fund Raising (1993, 2007)	31
9311 The Gift of Racial and Cultural Diversity (2003).....	19
9305 Giving Life/Organ and Tissue Transplants (1997, 2003).....	18
9716 Giving Voice to the Annual Conference and its Members (2007).....	50
9112 Global Climate Change (2007)	13
9336 Gun Show Loophole (2003).....	29
9306 Health Ministry in Iowa (2001, 2003)	18
9304 Inclusive Language and Imagery (1985, 2003).....	17
9717 Inclusive Local Church Membership (2007).....	51
9508 Iowa Corrections (1992, 2003)	36
9110 Iowa's Beverage Container Deposit Law (1999, 2003)	12
9105 Iowa's Water (1985, 2003).....	10
9332 Issuance of Drivers Licenses (2005).....	27
9616 Jubilee USA Network (1999, 2003).....	45
9617 Landmines (2007).....	45
9705 Lay Employees Pension Plan (1990, 2001).....	47
9202 Legal Definition of the Beginning of Human Life (1985, 2003)	14
9113 Local Congregations Participate in Carbon Footprint Evaluation (2011)	13
9408 Local Food Systems (2003).....	32
9328 Making Pseudoephedrine Data Base Available to Law Enforcement (2007)	25
9323 Ministry with Persons with Disabilities (1983, 2003)	23
9706 Modeling John Wesley's Means of Grace (1997, 2003).....	47
9307 Necessary Medical Care for Children (1991, 2003)	19
9601 Nuclear Disarmament (1989, 2005).....	39
9107 Oil Spills Response (1989, 2001)	11
9319 Ongoing Support for Family Farms (1999, 2001).....	22
9603 Peace (2002, 2003)	40

9604 Peace Education (1981, 2003).....	40
9710 Peace With Justice (1981, 2007)	49
9610 Peace With Justice in the Holy Land (2003, 2005).....	41
9707 Personnel Policy for Diaconal Ministers and Other Lay Employees in the Local Church (1995, 2003)	48
9309 Pornography Law Enforcement (1985, 2003).....	19
9207 Post Abortion Stress (2007).....	16
9326 Prayer for the Persecuted Church (2003, 2005).....	25
9518 Prisoner's Rights (2007).....	38
9111 Public Transportation (1981, 2003)	13
9313 Racism (1993, 2003).....	20
9314 Racist and Tyrannical Groups (1978, 2003)	20
9711 Radon Hazards in Iowa (1989, 2001).....	49
9614 Refugee Crisis Response (1989, 2003)	44
9337 Reinstate Ban of Assault Weapons (1995, 2005).....	29
9611 Repeal of Embargo Against Cuba (1993, 2005).....	42
9106 Responsible Consumption of Natural Resources/Earth Day (1981, 2003)	10
9709 Retention of Native American Ministries (2003)	48
9708 School for Lay Ministry (1997, 2003).....	48
9320 Second Hand Smoke (2003).....	23
9102 Soil Conservation (1990, 2003).....	8
9325 Statement on Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination (2005).....	25
9402 Striker Replacement Legislation (1995, 2005).....	30
9505 Student Free Press (1997, 2003)	35
9506 Student Rights (1997, 2003)	35
9406 Support for Low Income Housing (1995, 2003)	31
9204 Support for Statutory Prohibitions from Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation (1998, 2003)	15
9516 Support for the Voting Rights of Ex-Felons (2011)	37
9411 Support of the DREAM Act (2005)	34
9315 Support of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (1989, 2003).....	20
9333 Supporting Sexuality Education in Schools (1997, 2003)	28
9206 Supporting Spiritual Growth (1999, 2003)	15
9103 Sustainable Agriculture Models (1991, 2003).....	9
9512 Taxation of Institutional Churches (1988, 2003)	36
9615 Terrorism (1988, 2003)	44
9410 A Tithing Church (1995, 2001)	33
9517 Tobacco (2007).....	38
9519 United Nations (1983, 2003)	39
9607 United States Non-Intervention (1983, 2005)	41
9612 United States Policy Toward Central America and the Caribbean (1985, 2005).....	43
9334 Voice of Youth (1997, 2003).....	28
9515 Voter-Owned Elections in Iowa (2007)	37
9602 Weapons of Mass Destruction and Peace (1981, 2003)	39
9335 Welcoming Strangers (2007).....	28
9407 Welfare (1981, 2003)	32
9619 Withdrawal from Iraq (2007).....	45
9605 World Peace (1997, 2003)	40
9409 Youth Awareness of Hunger/Poverty (1997, 2003)	33
9316 Youth Combating Racism (1997, 2003)	21

CATEGORICAL INDEX OF RESOLUTIONS

100. THE NATURAL WORLD (¶ 160)

9101 Agricultural Research in Iowa (1987, 2003)	8
9108 Animal Welfare (1991, 2003)	11
9109 Energy Conservation (1981, 2003)	12
9104 Forests, Wetlands and Prairies in Iowa (1985, 2001)	9
9112 Global Climate Change (2007)	13
9110 Iowa's Beverage Container Deposit Law (1999, 2003)	12
9105 Iowa's Water (1985, 2003)	10
9113 Local Congregations Participate in Carbon Footprint Evaluation (2011)	13
9107 Oil Spills Response (1989, 2001)	11
9111 Public Transportation (1981, 2003)	13
9106 Responsible Consumption of Natural Resources/Earth Day (1981, 2003)	10
9102 Soil Conservation (1990, 2003)	8
9103 Sustainable Agriculture Models (1991, 2003)	9

200. THE NURTURING COMMUNITY (¶ 161)

9201 Abortion (2005)	14
9203 Christian Behavior Toward Gay and Lesbian Persons (1998, 2003)	14
9202 Legal Definition of the Beginning of Human Life (1985, 2003)	14
9207 Post Abortion Stress (2007)	16
9204 Support for Statutory Prohibitions from Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation (1998, 2003)	15
9206 Supporting Spiritual Growth (1999, 2003)	15

300. THE SOCIAL COMMUNITY (¶ 162)

9330 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) (1988, 2003)	26
9303 Affirming Diversity of Languages (1989, 2005)	17
9301 Alcoholic Beverage Sales to Minors (1985, 2003)	16
9317 Bias Motivated Crimes (1999, 2001)	21
9318 Building Rural Community Outreach (1997, 2003)	22
9329 Call to Action: Responding to Arizona SB-1070 (2010)	26
9324 Concern for Safety of Children (2003)	24
9322 Elder Abuse and Neglect (2001, 2003)	23
9331 Enforcement and Reform of Immigration Laws	26
9311 The Gift of Racial and Cultural Diversity (2003)	19
9305 Giving Life/Organ and Tissue Transplants (1997, 2003)	18
9336 Gun Show Loophole (2003)	29
9306 Health Ministry in Iowa (2001, 2003)	18
9304 Inclusive Language and Imagery (1985, 2003)	17
9332 Issuance of Drivers Licenses (2005)	27
9328 Making Pseudoephedrine Data Base Available to Law Enforcement (2007)	25
9323 Ministry with Persons with Disabilities (1983, 2003)	23
9307 Necessary Medical Care for Children (1991, 2003)	19
9319 Ongoing Support for Family Farms (1999, 2001)	22
9309 Pornography Law Enforcement (1985, 2003)	19
9326 Prayer for the Persecuted Church (2003, 2005)	25
9313 Racism (1993, 2003)	20
9314 Racist and Tyrannical Groups (1978, 2003)	20
9337 Reinstate Ban of Assault Weapons (1995, 2005)	29
9320 Second Hand Smoke (2003)	23
9325 Statement on Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination (2005)	25
9315 Support of Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday (1989, 2003)	20
9333 Supporting Sexuality Education in Schools (1997, 2003)	28
9334 Voice of Youth (1997, 2003)	28
9335 Welcoming Strangers (2007)	28

9316 Youth Combating Racism (1997, 2003)	21
400. THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (¶ 163)	
9401 Collective Bargaining in the State of Iowa (2005)	29
9403 Comparable Worth (1984, 2001)	30
9404 Gambling in Iowa (1993, 2003)	30
9405 Gambling Not to be Used for Fund Raising (1993, 2007)	31
9408 Local Food Systems (2003)	32
9402 Striker Replacement Legislation (1995, 2005)	30
9406 Support for Low Income Housing (1995, 2003)	31
9411 Support of the DREAM Act (2005)	34
9410 A Tithing Church (1995, 2001)	33
9407 Welfare (1981, 2003)	32
9409 Youth Awareness of Hunger/Poverty (1997, 2003)	33
500. THE POLITICAL COMMUNITY (¶ 164)	
9504 Adequate Funding for Public Schools (1983, 2003)	34
9514 Federal Budget Priorities (2007)	36
9508 Iowa Corrections (1992, 2003)	36
9518 Prisoner's Rights (2007)	38
9505 Student Free Press (1997, 2003)	35
9506 Student Rights (1997, 2003)	35
9516 Support for the Voting Rights of Ex-Felons (2011)	37
9512 Taxation of Institutional Churches (1988, 2003)	36
9517 Tobacco (2007)	38
9519 United Nations (1983, 2003)	39
9515 Voter-Owned Elections in Iowa (2007)	37
600. THE WORLD COMMUNITY (¶ 165)	
9613 DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, and Africa) (2004, 2005)	43
9606 Food Resources as Political Weapons (1980, 2003)	41
9616 Jubilee USA Network (1999, 2003)	45
9617 Landmines (2007)	45
9601 Nuclear Disarmament (1989, 2005)	39
9603 Peace (2002, 2003)	40
9604 Peace Education (1981, 2003)	40
9610 Peace With Justice in the Holy Land (2003, 2005)	41
9614 Refugee Crisis Response (1989, 2003)	44
9611 Repeal of Embargo Against Cuba (1993, 2005)	42
9615 Terrorism (1988, 2003)	44
9607 United States Non-Intervention (1983, 2005)	41
9612 United States Policy Toward Central America and the Caribbean (1985, 2005)	43
9602 Weapons of Mass Destruction and Peace (1981, 2003)	39
9619 Withdrawal from Iraq (2007)	45
9605 World Peace (1997, 2003)	40
700. ANNUAL CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION	
9715 Car Pooling to United Methodist Meetings (1988, 2001)	50
9701 Cross at Annual Conference (1999, 2001)	46
9703 Evangelism (1997, 2003)	46
9704 Full Participation of All Persons (1975, 2003)	47
9716 Giving Voice to the Annual Conference and its Members (2007)	50
9717 Inclusive Local Church Membership (2007)	51
9705 Lay Employees Pension Plan (1990, 2001)	47
9706 Modeling John Wesley's Means of Grace (1997, 2003)	47
9710 Peace With Justice (1981, 2007)	49
9707 Personnel Policy for Diaconal Ministers and Other Lay Employees in the Local	

Church (1995, 2003)..... 48
 9711 Radon Hazards in Iowa (1989, 2001) 49
 9709 Retention of Native American Ministries (2003)..... 48
 9708 School for Lay Ministry (1997, 2003) 48

TOPICAL INDEX OF RESOLUTIONS

Abortion 13, 16
 Agriculture (Sustainable, Family Farms) 8, 9, 22
 AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, DATA) 26, 43
 Air 49
 Alcohol..... 16
 Animal Life..... 11
 Beverage Container Deposit..... 12
 Bullying (Discrimination)..... 25
 Car Pooling 50
 Carbon Footprint..... 13
 Children (Medical Care, Safety) 19, 24
 Churches (Persecuted, Tithing, Taxation) 25, 33, 36
 Collective Bargaining 29
 Comparable Worth..... 30
 Crimes (Bias Motivated, Corrections, Restorative Justice)..... 21, 36
 Cross 46
 DATA (Debt, AIDS, Trade, and Africa)..... 43
 Debt (DATA, Jubilee USA Network)..... 43, 45
 Disabilities..... 23
 Discrimination (Sexual Orientation, Bullying) 15, 25
 Diversity 17, 19
 Drivers Licenses 27
 Drugs 25
 Earth Day..... 10
 Education (Sex Ed, DREAM Act, Funding Public Schools) 28, 34, 35
 Elder Abuse 23
 Elections (Voter-Owned)..... 37
 Embargo (Repeal)..... 42
 Energy 12
 Evangelism 46
 Family Farms (Agriculture)..... 22
 Federal Budget Priorities..... 36
 Food (Local Systems, Resources as Political Weapons) 32, 41
 Gambling 30
 Global Climate Change..... 13
 Guns (Assault Weapons, Gun Show Loophole) 29
 Human Sexuality..... 15
 Hunger (Youth) 33
 Immigration (Reform) 26, 27, 27, 29
 Inclusion..... 47, 50
 Iraq (Withdrawal from) 45
 Healthy Ministry 18
 Hospitality (Welcoming Strangers)..... 28
 Housing (Low Income) 31
 Human Life (Beginning of) 14
 John Wesley’s Means of Grace (Modeling)..... 47
 Land 9
 Landmines 44
 Language (Diversity, Inclusive)..... 17, 19
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday..... 20

Medical Care	19
Native American Ministries	48
Nuclear Disarmament.....	39
Oil Spills	11
Organ and Tissue Transplants	18
Peace (Education, in Holy Land, with Justice).....	40, 41, 49
Pension Plan (Lay Employees).....	47
Persecuted Church.....	25
Personnel Policy (Diaconal Ministers, Other Lay Employees)	48
Pornography.....	19
Poverty (Youth)	33
Prisoner's Rights	38
Public Transportation.....	13
Racism	20, 21
Radon.....	49
Refugee Crisis.....	44
Rural Community Outreach	22
School for Lay Ministry	48
Smoking (Tobacco)	23, 38
Soil Conservation	8
Spiritual Growth.....	15
Students (DREAM Act, Free Press, Rights)	34, 35
Strangers (Welcoming).....	28
Striker Replacement	30
Taxation (Churches)	36
Terrorism.....	44
Tithing	33
Tobacco	23, 38
United Nations.....	39
United States (Non-Intervention, Policies)	41, 43
Voice (Annual Conference).....	28, 50
Voting Rights	37
Water.....	10
Weapons	39
Welfare.....	32
Youth/Young People (Racism, Giving Voice to, Hunger/Poverty, Free Press).....	21, 28, 33, 35