

## No. 0318

(Sense-of-the-Assembly)

### NON-VIOLENT RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

**ADOPTED** by the General Assembly

**WHEREAS**, on September 11, 2001, the United States was attacked by organized terrorists, with dramatic consequences for the U.S.A. and for Canada and many other countries; and

**WHEREAS**, the main response to the events of September 11, 2001 by the U.S. administration has been to declare a war on terrorism and to greatly increase homeland and border security, threatening the open border between our two countries, for the first time in our memory; and

**WHEREAS**, the focus on the attack on terrorism shifted in late 2002 and early 2003 to a confrontation with Iraq; and

**WHEREAS**, while it is acknowledged that Saddam Hussein committed serious violations of human rights in Iraq, the focus of the U.S. administration has been upon a military response with relatively little discussion of the historic and root causes of hostility toward the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Canada receives a different view of world events in its media; and

**WHEREAS**, we all are vulnerable to a powerful propaganda for war;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada receives a motion of solidarity from the Canadian Region of our church, that we grieve together over the casualties of September 11, 2001, and affirm that we remain a church in two nations; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the General Assembly acknowledges that we are called to witness for nonviolent resolutions of conflict, and that we can benefit by being a church in two nations through different viewpoints, and thus hope to avoid a captivity to the particular propaganda of any one nation; and

**FURTHER, BE IT RECOGNIZED** that the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada respects other peoples and deplors negative characterizations of any religions.