

Hospitality Resolution for the 46th Annual Meeting of the Northern Plains Conference of the United Church of Christ, June 5-7, 2009 at the Congregational United Church of Christ of Minot, North Dakota

Whereas, the women's group of the Congregational UCC of Minot, ND and the men's group of the Congregational UCC of Minot, and the women's association of Hope Congregational UCC of Granville, ND, and their pastor, Frank Picard, have excelled in graciousness in most warmly welcoming the participants in the 46th Annual Meeting of the Northern Plains Conference of the United Church of Christ, feeding us so well with food superb both in quality and in quantity, at every meal and break time, and allowing us to enjoy the facilities of the Congregational UCC of Minot's building: providing us weather that not only illustrated that North Dakota had completed its Mountain Removal Project, but that here summer lasts from June 30 to July 1: and

Whereas, the leadership at our services of worship by Rich Weis, Keith Mills, Marc Stewart, and Karl Limvere and Frank Picard, the hymns composed by Marilyn Kennedy Levine, and the musical leadership of Susan Lester and Marilyn Kennedy Levine, when they led the music portions of worship did indeed enable us to celebrate "The Joy of Being Bold Disciples;" as did organist Judy Randall and pianist Joel Kanning at the Sunday Worship Service: and

Whereas, the Keynoters, the Rev. Dr. David Greenhaw and Charlene J. Smith, the speakers at the Sisters in Christ Luncheon, Jim and Jayanthi Wilson, who also led workshops, and Frank Picard, speaker at the Men's Luncheon, informed us of the work facing us as we are the church enabling us to share "The Joy of Being Bold Disciples," as they also graced us with their presence and personal conversation: and

Whereas, our other workshop leader, Wade Schemmel, ably informed us on the topics of the resolutions to be presented: and

Whereas, our irreplaceable Conference Treasurer Darla Schafer so ably presented the budget she had prepared and refined, that it passed with no amendments: and

Whereas, Conference Moderator Karl Limvere yet once again presided with grace and humor, facilitated by the work of the Standing Committee Chairs: Stephen Holmes, Church and Ministry; Frank Picard, Mission and Outreach, and Marilyn Rich and Susan Lester, Faith and Nurture; and not least the work of Beth Begg, Conference Secretary, all enabling the work of the conference to celebrate "The Joy of Being Bold Disciples:" and

Whereas, Peg Schemmel, the Administrative Assistant to the Conference Minister, so ably performed the tasks associated with the registration for, and the administration of the Conference Meeting, that we scarcely knew she was there:

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the 46th Annual Meeting of the Northern Plains Conference of the United Church of Christ does unanimously express gratitude to the Triune Still-Speaking God for the many blessings experienced and for the many and diverse ways Holy Spirit has enabled the Fruits and Gifts of the Spirit to be among us: and

Be It Further Resolved, that we express our deep thanks to the women's group of the Congregational UCC of Minot, ND and the men's group of the Congregational UCC of Minot, and the women's association of Hope Congregational UCC of Granville, ND, and their pastor, Frank Picard; our worship leaders: Rich Weis, Keith Mills, Marc Stewart, Karl Limvere and Frank Picard, our hymn writer, Marilyn Kennedy Levine, and our musical leaders Susan Lester and Marilyn Kennedy Levine; and organist Judy Randall and pianist Joel Kanning: and

Be It Further Resolved, that we express profound gratitude to our Keynoters, Luncheon speakers and our workshop leaders, our Disaster Ministry Coordinator, and our Youth Minister, Conference Council President Keith Mills, Conference Moderator Karl Limvere, Conference Secretary Beth Begg, and Conference Treasurer Darla Schafer, and the Standing Committee Chairs: Stephen Holmes, Church and Ministry; Frank Picard, Mission and Outreach, and Marilyn Rich, Faith and Nurture; and Peg Schemmel, Administrative Assistant to the Conference Minister, Wade Schemmel, our Conference Minister and all who shared knowledge, skills and talents, making it possible for this Annual Meeting to indeed be a Conference, doing together the work God has for us: to faithfully share the story, do the work and celebrate "The Joy of Being Bold Disciples."