

Resolution in Support of the Worth of All Persons

Whereas prejudice and discrimination against persons and their families based on race, gender, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, age, gender identity, size and culture is not spiritually, morally or legally acceptable or justifiable in a church inspired by the life, teachings, and example of Jesus Christ or in a civil society and democracy founded upon inalienable equal rights for all, not just some, and

Whereas the *worth of all persons* has been one of the core values of the Community of Christ since its earliest years, and

Whereas that specific core value has been repeatedly emphasized in recent years through World Conference resolutions, Words of Counsel and the Doctrine of Covenants such as;

WC resolution 1226 in 1992 that states: "... human beings often fear, hate, and abuse each other because of ignorance about such factors as socioeconomic status, culture, race, gender, age, size, sexual orientation, and mental or physical disability. Such prejudicial behavior undermines the personal and spiritual development of both abuser and abused, and denies the mutual benefits of shared giftedness.

As persons of faith, we confess our own imperfections in attitude and action. Nevertheless, we accept the responsibility to resist fear and hate in all forms and to strive continuously to eliminate expressions of prejudice and discrimination. We declare our belief that "all are called according to the gifts of God to them." We therefore acknowledge and affirm human diversity by creating a spirit of openness and peace within our congregations where all persons may find acceptance and the opportunity to share their giftedness."

WC resolution 1266 in 2000 that requested members to "Make a concerted effort to work for the cause of the oppressed throughout the world by improving corporate and individual commitment to organizations such as Outreach International, RLDS Medical-Dental Association, the children's Peace Pavilion, World Hunger Fund, GALA, Ethnic Ministries, Urban Ministries, World Service Corps, and other organizations deemed worthy by members that further the cause of peace and justice for the poor and oppressed."

D&C 151:9 "You who are my disciples must be found continuing in the forefront of those organizations and movements which are recognizing the worth of persons and are committed to bringing the ministry of my Son to bear on their lives."

D&C 161 which affirms the inestimable worth of persons and calls the church to embrace our differences and create diverse communities.

D&C 163 that states "That which seeks to harden one human heart against another by constructing walls of fear and prejudice is not of God." and "It is not pleasing to

God when any passage of scripture is used to diminish or oppress races, genders, or classes of human beings.” and

Whereas many of this denomination’s world church leaders have demonstrated openness to organizations such as GALA by; attending GALA retreats; by placing GALA displays in prominent places at World Conference alongside such organizations as Outreach International and Graceland University; by offering classes at Congregational Leaders Workshops that educate members about the work of GALA and WCN; and by making the Temple available for WCN training, therefore be it

RESOLVED that we affirm that the Rocky Mountain Mission Center (RMMC) President is responsible for the content of the RMMC website, and be it further

RESOLVED that we support the inclusion of links to organizations that recognize and affirm the worth of all persons, affiliated or non affiliated with Community of Christ, on the “Links” page of the RMMC website, and be it further

RESOLVED that the RMMC President consider taking advantage of the World Church Diversity Workshops that have been developed and offered throughout the church and consider providing several of these workshops at different geographic locations in the mission center in 2009 and 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

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