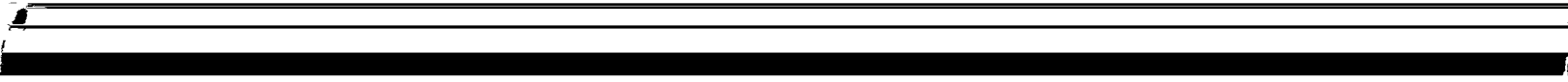


**DECEMBER 15, 2004 SESSION RESOLUTION
WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI**



WITNESS POLICY AND DENOMINATIONAL STAFF OFFICERS FOR



staff members took place during a time of declared war
by the government of the United States of America
against terrorist organizations. This includes but is not

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Jewish religious faith, a people who have been oppressed
and persecuted severely for their religious beliefs and a

(one also shared in part with Islam). It is totally
surrounded by Arab autocratic countries with strong
fundamentalist Islamic systems.

10. The Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy and its denominational staff officers are not professionally trained diplomats. They lack the skills, knowledge and experience to properly understand and participate in the delicate and difficult negotiations and international diplomacy necessary to make meaningful contributions to peace in the Middle East. Nor do they understand the motivations of the individuals with whom they meet.

12. The aforesaid actions have occurred within the larger context of irrational and inappropriate action taken earlier this year by this denomination during its General Assembly. Commissioners voted to begin a process of economic divestment of invested assets in companies doing business with Israel. Yet, we took no action against acquiring or holding invested assets in companies doing business with terrorist states, states supporting terrorism, rogue nations and governments unwilling to comply with rules of the international community regarding nuclear proliferation, development of weapons of mass destruction and governments engaged in acts of extreme inhumanity to their own

Assembly does not own the assets in question, and

social justice issues that mainline Protestant churches,

and the Disciples of Christ (D.C.)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Committee on Social Witness Policy and its salaried denominational staff who participated in the meeting with Hezbollah. Those actions are inappropriate, insensitive and horrible. Great harm has been done. It is further,

RESOLVED, that the subsequent public censure of these actions by the denomination and termination of the involved denominational staff members is to be commended. However this action alone is woefully insufficient. Rather, the denomination at its highest level is urged to issue apologies to the government of the State of Israel, to offended Jewish-American organizations, including the American Jewish Committee, the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the Anti-Defamation League, to all people of Jewish faith, and to the moderate, peace loving Palestinians and persons of the Islamic faith whose interests in a peaceful and just resolution of the conflict were severely damaged by this irresponsible action. It is further,

RESOLVED, that this denomination is urged to immediately institute structural change to prevent recurrence of such actions in the future, including but not limited to adopting a policy of absolute prohibition against meeting with or engaging in dialogue with individuals, groups or organizations recognized by the United States government as being terrorists, terrorist organizations, terrorist states or supporting terrorist states. It is further

RESOLVED that this denomination is urged to immediately institute a policy to prevent its advisory committees and any denominational committees

denominational representatives involved in this incident and offer our assurance that those individuals and their actions and views are not representative of the general membership of the Presbyterian Church (USA). We pray that our heartfelt apology and call for institutional change will be acceptable to those people we have hurt and will be acceptable in the eyes of God. Forgive us, we pray, for we have sinned. It is further

RESOLVED that upon its adoption this Resolution be given full force and effect